

Student Learning

KSA Data coming soon- Mid October

IReady testing has been completed in all schools with the exception of the Panther Academy.

MAP baseline testing has been completed at the High School

Academic Updates

Progress Toward EIS Goals

Mathematics Instruction

The Elementary and District leaders have continued their work with Numeracy Academy.

We are working with our Elementary Principals and intervention teachers to provide support for small group math instruction. We have spent time the last two weeks assessing our youngest students for number sense and will be working with our teachers to create and utilize math activities that will improve students core mathematical practices. All K-5 teachers will have math training on September 18th during the early release time.

We have begun utilizing common assessments in mathematics in grades K-8 to measure and understand our students progress.

Profile of a Panther

The district hosted a large community meeting at the end of August designed to begin our work on the Profile of a Panther. This meeting allowed for us to hear from the community what they valued and wanted from our students as they become graduates. This information has been utilized to further develop our profile. Our next steps will be to take an outline of the plan to our schools and meet in small groups over the next few weeks receiving their feedback and suggestions as we refine our profile.

Paxton/Patterson Labs

The **Paxton/Patterson labs at the middle school have been installed**, and our first students have now entered the classrooms and begun experiencing these new learning opportunities. Students have completed the first task of the program learning how to utilize the modules. The practical hands-on work has begun.

These labs provide exciting opportunities for students to engage in hands-on, career-connected learning and explore skills and pathways in ways that extend beyond traditional classroom experiences. We are excited to see the labs in action and, most importantly, to see how our students respond to these opportunities. We hope to have a ribbon cutting ceremony in the next few weeks.

District Writing Plan

We begin training on September 13th for our pilot program at the Elementary, Middle and High School on the ThinkCerca platform that will support writing across the curriculum. This will be one step for us to take as we continue building our writing plan. This will allow us to evaluate the support provided and determine if it would meet our needs as part of the accountability system for writing.

Moving Forward

The beginning of this school year reflects a significant investment in our people and in the quality of instruction our students receive each day. From writing and foundational literacy to mathematics, data use, career exploration, and leadership development, these initiatives are connected by a common goal: building consistent, high-quality instructional experiences for every student across our district. We have begun meeting in PLCs at the Middle School and Elementary schools as we have begun utilizing the Unit and Lesson internalization protocol to help us better utilize and understand our current HQIR's

Our work now shifts from initial training to implementation, support, monitoring, and continuous improvement. We are committed to staying alongside our teachers throughout this process, providing the resources and professional learning they need, and ensuring

	that the work we have begun translates into stronger classroom instruction and improved outcomes for students.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	District Walkthroughs- September 16th- TK Stone and Helmwood POL School Meetings- September/October September 23rd- New Teacher Training

Personnel Highlights - August 2026

❖ Since our last meeting.

- Mr. Mullins distributed Payday candy bars to all employees with Adam Hinton and me.
- Our first community event to begin work on our Profile of a Panther kicked off on August 25th with over 60 school and community members in attendance.
- We were represented at the WKU Student Teacher Fair on Aug 27th by Wesley Hatfield and Jill Valentine
- Our New Teacher Coaches have been hard at work helping our new teachers with setting up classroom procedures, management systems, and completing their Professional Growth Plans (PGPs).
- Working on organizing our Distinguished Alumni Celebration weekend. This is our first celebration since 2019-20. Our five recipients will spend Friday, October 2nd at EHS and TKS, ride in the Homecoming Parade, then will be acknowledged at the Homecoming game that evening. Saturday evening, October 3rd, they will attend a dinner in their honor at House on Helm (begins at 6pm).

Operational Updates

- Hired 16 new Substitute Teachers and 7 Classified (IA) substitutes (so far and continuing to hire this week)
- Rolling with School Status Boost for our evaluations for the 26-27 school year and working through the kinks. We plan to include our classified staff in our electronic evaluation system.
- Utilizing Public SchoolWorks for our compliance training. This system should provide mandatory training in a more succinct way and maintain multi-year cycles, with most of our staff on their way to completing them. We are still working on our coaches (who aren't employees) and substitutes

Staffing Updates

Please see the Board Personnel Report

Staff Recognition

- District - John Williams, Custodian (Panther Academy)
- Panther Academy - Erin Lee, Kindergarten Teacher
- Helmwood Heights Elementary - Dallas Gambrel, Custodian
- Morningside Elementary - Samantha Henderson, Assistant Principal
- T.K. Stone Middle - Ben Stewart, Social Studies Teacher
- Elizabethtown High - Cathy Spalding, Chorus Teacher

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- Seeking an Elementary Teacher (for Morningside Elementary) and a Science Teacher (for T.K. Stone Middle)
- Bus routes are only 1 short but are covered by sub drivers

Upcoming Priorities

- Preparing for Distinguished Alumni weekend
- Continuing work on our Local Accountability work - Profile of a Panther
- Ensuring all SBDM council members have completed their annual/initial training
- Working to ensure all staff members complete required trainings

Special Programs

Current # of students with IEPs	400	Current # of English Language Learners	96
Current # of gifted students	393	Current # of students in Pre-K	70

Department Highlights

Additional trainings were provided on Sept. 9 & 10, focusing on building education programs that support individual students. We will have additional training on Oct. 12.

There is continued work with Mr. Lockwood, Mrs. Hatfield, and Ms. Wilson to further develop our system of interventions. We have completed the first draft of our MTSS procedures and practices and have begun sharing that with building administrators and intervention staff.

Operational Updates

Continued review of MTSS procedures and practices to enhance interventions across the district.

I am beginning preparations for staff training on IDEA compliance and supports to allow teachers to focus more of their time on instruction.

Staffing Updates

I would like to welcome Mrs. Lauren Hinton to the district as a speech-language pathologist. Mrs. Hinton was hired before the school year began but has officially joined at the end of August.

Collaboration

I have worked closely with the Superintendent, Asst. Superintendent, and Director of Student Services to ensure our systems and processes align to the work of others, and ensure our interventions and supports allow students to increase their ability to access the general education curriculum.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

We are continuing our work in ensuring our instruction in the special education setting and through co-teaching meets Kentucky Academic Standards. Walkthroughs will begin this year in the co-taught and resource setting to provide feedback to teachers to increase their effectiveness in the special education setting.

Upcoming Priorities

We will continue to find instructional resources that support access to the general education curriculum for students with disabilities. Along with providing instructional feedback to teachers.

Communications Department

Important Data

1.78M combined Facebook + Instagram views since Aug. 1: 1,199,169 on Facebook (+187.8%) and 577K on Instagram (+77%).

Important Data

28.8K combined content interactions: 21K on Facebook (+357.9%) and 7.8K on Instagram (+348.6%).

Department Highlights

Since Aug. 1, EIS social content has generated nearly 1.8 million views across Facebook and Instagram, with strong results driven by people-centered storytelling, timely school updates and visual content. Top Facebook posts included the Sept. 3 EIS story (37,615 views), the free-admission announcement (25,482 views) and the 2026-27 countdown post (25,257 views). On Instagram, "Great Morning at EHS!" led with 19.4K views, while "Adulting 101" and "The Show Has Begun" each topped 10K views.

Operational Updates

The department continues to lean into video, photo storytelling, cross-posting and timely district news. Facebook recorded 19.6K three-second video views (+508.5%) and 5 days, 5 hours of watch time (+830.1%). All 1,199,169 Facebook views during the period were organic, with no paid distribution. These results reinforce the value of consistent, people-centered content and fast turnaround around school moments.

Staffing Updates

We haven't added anyone to the department.

Collaboration

The Communications Department continues to work closely with schools and departments across the district to identify and share stories that highlight students, staff, programs and accomplishments. That collaboration has helped broaden the mix of content — from classroom and student-life stories to athletics, board news, school events and behind-the-scenes moments — and has been a major factor in the district's organic growth.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

Audience growth and engagement remain strong. Facebook recorded 97,011 viewers, 34.7K page visits (+140.9%) and 284 follows (+94.5%). Instagram reached 22.9K accounts (+211%), logged 4.8K profile visits (+200.2%) and added 146 follows (+124.6%). Instagram now has 1,692 lifetime followers; 65.8% are women and 34.2% are men. The data shows continued progress in awareness, engagement and community connection.

Upcoming Priorities

Maintain momentum by prioritizing video and high-performing people-centered stories, increasing strategic cross-platform use of strong content, and strengthening calls-to-action that convert reach into visits, follows and website traffic. Continue tracking performance by story type so the department can identify which narratives most effectively build awareness, engagement and connection.

Nutrition Services

Important Data

DC information:
Free & Reduced: 35.96%
Paid: 64.04%

Important Data

NLSP Participation:
Breakfast - 43.75%
Lunch - 71.17%
15,161 Breakfasts Served
24,660 Lunches Served

Department Highlights

Summer Food Service Program monitor review was completed on 8/21 by KDE. We were successful in this review and had one finding that related to a community sponsor that will not affect us fiscally. Great job by our team and a very special shout out to our Assistant Director Kristin Conover for her great work with the summer program this year.

Operational Updates

- Our Administrative and Procurement Reviews from KDE-SCN are underway and we have begun to submit requested paperwork to the agency.
- Actively searching for a new Preventative Maintenance company for kitchen equipment. The current company we have been working with needs to be replaced due to many inconsistencies in service.

Staffing Updates

We are still fully staffed in Nutrition Services. Very pleased with our new employees and everyone is working hard to service our students.

Collaboration

Thanks to Tim Vowels for his quick action and help with getting a portable trailer set up when our walk in freezer compressor failed at EHS. Through the efforts of Mr. Tim, we were able to save our product from going bad.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

Upcoming Priorities

- Annual Sponsor On-Site Monitor review period will begin on October 1. We will visit and monitor all program operations at each school to monitor for compliance.
- Major menu changes have been placed on hold while we await guidance from the USDA on the new changes coming down in relation to the updated Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Changes to protein expectations, scratch cooking and whole milk are expected and we are delaying changes in our department until clear direction is received to avoid backtracking new initiatives.

Elizabethtown High School

Enrollment

711

Average Daily
Attendance

92.06%

School Highlights

Elizabethtown High School has much to celebrate as we close out another outstanding school year. During the 2025-26 school year, EHS continued to demonstrate excellence across academics, activities, and athletics, further strengthening our proud tradition as one of Kentucky's premier high schools.

Academically, Elizabethtown High School was recognized as the 7th highest academic public high school in Kentucky based on accountability results. EHS was also named a U.S. News & World Report Gold High School, a distinction that reflects the hard work of our students, staff, families, and community. These recognitions are a direct result of a shared commitment to high expectations, student achievement, and continuous improvement.

Our students also excelled in state and national competitions. EHS earned multiple awards through Kentucky Beta and FBLA, showcasing student leadership, academic talent, creativity, and career readiness. In addition, our engineering program continues to gain attention for the incredible opportunities it provides students. Most recently, EHS Engineering was represented on WLKY, highlighting the innovation and hands-on learning taking place in our classrooms.

Beyond academics, our Panthers have continued to make us proud through accomplishments in the arts, athletics, leadership, service, and extracurricular programs. From state-level recognition to local impact, Elizabethtown High School students continue to represent our school and district with pride, character, and excellence.

We are incredibly proud of the momentum at EHS and grateful for the dedication of our students, staff, families, and community partners. Elizabethtown High School remains committed to preparing students for success while continuing our Tradition of Excellence.

Academic Updates

1. KDE is opening the procurement process again for a state college exam vendor. We will still purchase CERT for SAT, ACT, and KSA prep. We should know which test we are administering in October.
2. EHS has bought School Links to replace ACE as an ILP platform for EHS students.
3. EHS is on a 7 period day. The advisory period will meet only on Mondays. This gave us the availability for students to take more electives and lessened class size numbers in core classes so MTSS could be done with more fidelity.

Staffing Updates	Needs: Bass Fishing Coach
Community & Family Engagement	All after-school events are posted on Eventlink, and athletic schedules can be found on the KHSAA website. Our social media accounts also list important events for our stakeholders to know.
Progress Toward EIS Goals	• PLCs are meeting discussing real time data and lag data to make instructional decisions for the school year. • New elective offerings for a 7 period day have been successful. • State accountability released October 15th.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	• 9/23 Parent Night at EHS with counselors • 9/30 College Application Day for Seniors • 10/2 EHS Football Homecoming

TK Stone Middle School

Enrollment	602	Average Daily Attendance	94.76
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School Highlights

Our new EIS period- Enrichment, Intervention and Success- is up and running and is proving to be a valuable time to increase instructional time. ELA and Math teacher are teaching intervention classes which use a balance of individual skill work, small group focus on identified gaps, and whole group lessons on essential standards. Students who do not need interventions are enrolled in enrichment classes. 8th graders are in Social Studies enrichment, 7th graders are in Science, and 6th graders rotate between Science, Social Studies, and Careers.

Academic Updates	iReady testing is complete. Data has been used to plan for intervention and classes. District Instructional Walkthroughs have been conducted. Teachers are meeting every other week in Professional Learning Communities to plan standards based instruction using high quality instructional resources, create rigorous common assessments, and strategize to maximize student growth.
Staffing Updates	Resignation- Sydney Brown, Science Teacher
Community & Family Engagement	PTO meeting- We had a great group of parents who focused on planning for the year, fundraising ideas, and new ways to get parents involved. PTO is planning to participate in our Power Hour, which come every 4.5 weeks. Parents will offer breakout rooms for students (art, crafts, physical activities etc)
Progress Toward EIS Goals	PLCs, EIS, and Instructional Walkthroughs have been helpful in raising the bar instructionally. Teachers are using iReady data and Panorama for targeted interventions.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	Girls Basketball 8th Grade Night September 17th Football 8th Grade Night October 1st Student Showcase November 12th

Helmwood Heights Elementary

472 Enrolled

Average Daily
Attendance - 96%

School Highlights

- August Attendance Champ!
- Gia Marchiony - Student of the Month

Academic Updates

- Completed iReady Testing
- Our 2nd Grade was observed on Sept. 15 by KDE Early Literacy Division - focus on Phonics
- The District Writing Committee met in early Sept. We should be meeting throughout the year to complete a vertically aligned writing plan k-12

Staffing Updates

- Congratulations to Jacob Maile on the birth of his son, Braxton. Mr. Maile is an aide in our behavior unit.
- Congratulations to Dallas Gambrel, our August Staff Person of the Month

Community & Family Engagement

- Sept. 17 - Fall Festival - you all are more than welcome to come out and support Helmwood!

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- KSA Testing Scores - we went up again in Math and Reading - 2 points in Math and 8 points in Reading!!!!
- We went up 12 points in Science from last year!

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

- We have the most enrolled at Helmwood since the early 2000's - over 470 students
- Progress reports go home this week
- 2nd Grade went to Mammoth Cave last week and 3rd Grade went to the Ky Derby Museum this week.
- 5th Grade went to the Ky State Fair at the end of August

Morningside Elementary

Enrollment

470

Average Daily
Attendance

School Highlights

- We celebrated our students who had perfect attendance in the month of August by allowing them to visit the prize cart!
- We started a special birthday lunch for students who had a birthday in July or August; we will continue this each month!

Academic Updates

- All of our students have completed their iReady testing for reading and math. Reports will be sent home to parents next week so they can understand their student's current strengths and how to help them in areas they struggle with.
- We have started our reading and math stations where students are receiving targeted instruction on skills they are missing.

Staffing Updates

- Mrs. Gray will be transitioning to the role of our LI teacher as soon as we hire a replacement for her third grade classroom.

Community & Family Engagement

- Our Day in the Life Of events were successful and beneficial for our parents; it provided them with insight into what the day looks like for their students. We also shared these presentations on dojo for those parents who could not attend.
- We have had good participation in the weekly challenges that Mrs. Goodman has been including in the family newsletters each week.

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- Grade level teams are working on lesson internalization for our math units; these discussions have helped us see some areas where we need to adjust our instructional practices.
- We have been working with Dr. Tudor to focus on number sense strategies because our initial assessments show this continues to be an area of concern for most students.

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

- All Pro dad kickoff with FRYSC
- Fall Festival 10/1

PANTHER ACADEMY

School Name

Enrollment	PS - 68 K - 170 1st - 8	Average Daily Attendance	94.52%
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School Highlights

Preschool students started school on August 20. The enrollment numbers for them continue to grow each week. We sponsored a Scholastic Book Fair that put \$5800 worth of reading materials into our students' hands.

Academic Updates	The intervention team is working to get Brigance data finalized to share next month.
Staffing Updates	Lauren Hinton officially started with us on August 30. Amanda Johnson was hired as an instructional assistant in preschool to replace Cheryl Morris who plans to retire at the end of September.
Community & Family Engagement	On Thursday, September 10, we hosted a Title 1 family event to kick off the Watch DOGS and MOMS volunteer program for our school. DOGS stands for Dad of Great Students and MOMS stands for Moms of Marvelous Students. Parents and other family members are encouraged to help at the school at various times during the school day.
Progress Toward EIS Goals	Preschool completed their first of 6 trainings for Unpacking the Pyramid Model as a component needed to help our program be ranked a 5-star program in the spring. During early release Friday on September 18, our kindergarten teachers will participate in math training focused on small group interventions.
Upcoming Events & Additional Information	The kindergarten students will start their first iReady testing the week of September 21.

Valley View

Enrollment	13 in PRIDE Program 3 in Middle School Program 4 in High School Program	Average Daily Attendance	11.92 ADA 18.42 ADM
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School Highlights

- We have two students who will earn the opportunity to transition back to their home school within the next three weeks.

Academic Updates

- All of our students have completed at least one half credit since the beginning of the school year.

Staffing Updates

- *Derek Pfeiffer attended Certified Evaluation Training at GRREC September 9-10.*
- *All staff are CPR certified.*

Community & Family Engagement

- *One of our PRIDE students is working full time while also making progress toward earning her high school diploma.*

Progress Toward EIS Goals

- *Our students now have access to courses through our online learning platform, Edmentum, that more closely align with career/technical interests and pathways.*

Upcoming Events & Additional Information

- One of our PRIDE students is planning on starting cosmetology school in January. Three other students are planning on attending ECTC. We will schedule a Junior-Senior field trip to ECTC in the future.