



KENTUCKY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (KTAC)

Minutes of the January 28, 2025 meeting

Draft

Attendance

Kentucky Technical Advisory Committee (KTAC) Members: Elena Diaz-Bilello, Pete Goldschmidt, Corinne Huggins-Manley, Leslie Keng, Suzanne Lane

Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) Staff: Melissa Chandler, Tiffany Christopher, Brandy Hackney, Kevin Hill, Helen Jones, Jennifer Larkins, Krista Mullins, Kevin O’Hair, Mike Prater, Ben Riley, Christen Roseberry, Shara Savage, Rhonda Sims, Jennifer Stafford, Chris Williams, Haley Williams

KDE Guests:

Bill Auty, EDMeasure

Pearson: Tracy Gardner, Likun Hau, Jennifer Kash, Lisa Persels, Sharon Staples,

Facilitators: Brian Gong, Laura Pinsonneault, Center for Assessment

Meeting Summary

The Kentucky Technical Advisory Committee (KTAC) provided advice to the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) regarding the state’s assessment and accountability programs. This included discussion of science assessment design and implementation and related standard setting plans. It also included review and discussion of results of a recent pre-equating study conducted by Pearson. The group also heard updates from KDE regarding accountability and assessment innovation work informed by the Kentucky United We Learn Council.

The KTAC provided recommendations on the above topics, approved October 15-16, 2024 meeting minutes, and approved recommendations from this meeting.

Agenda Item: Welcome and Introductions

Presenters: Kevin O’Hair, Academic Program Manager, Kentucky Department of Education, Rhonda Sims, Associate Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education, Brian Gong, Senior Associate, Center for Assessment

Summary: O’Hair opened the meeting and welcomed the group at 11:01am. He then provided background about KTAC and statutory requirements for the group, noting that the meeting must comply with requirements of the open meetings act. He explained that minutes will be shared on the KDE website following the meeting.

Introductions included KTAC members, KDE staff, and invited guests.

Agenda Item: Review Agenda and Approve Minutes from October 15 and 16, 2024 Meeting

Presenter: Brian Gong, Senior Associate, The Center for Assessment

Summary: KTAC members reviewed the minutes from the October 15-16, 2024 meeting. The motion to approve minutes passed unanimously and the meeting notes will be considered final.

Action: Lane moved to approve. Gong invited discussion. Keng noted that the summary was helpful in setting the context for today’s meeting. Huggins-Manely seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item: KSA Science Assessment Design and Implementation

Presenters: Kevin O’Hair, Academic Program Manager, Kentucky Department of Education, Rhonda Sims, Associate Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary: KDE provided background about the Kentucky state assessment system, including recent changes to academic content standards that necessitated updates to the science assessment. KTAC provided recommendations regarding changes to the science assessment design and future areas for study and consideration.

Agenda Item: Science Standard Setting Plans for 2025

Presenter: Tracy Gardner, Senior Measurement Advisor, Pearson

Summary: KDE shared state priorities for assessment standard setting and Pearson provided an overview of the proposed standard setting plan. KTAC members provided feedback about development of a new scale, messaging around the standard setting event and recommendations, and additional feedback on the plan including plans regarding development of new performance level descriptors and borderline descriptors.

Agenda Item: KSA Item Bank Update (Status on Three Year Plan)

Presenter: Sharon Staples, Senior Test Development Manager, Pearson

Summary: KTAC members discussed ideal properties of an item bank plan.

Agenda Item: Pre-Equating/Plans Moving Forward

Presenter: Likun Hou, Senior Research Scientist, Pearson

Summary: Pearson provided an extensive overview of results from the pre-equating study and plans resulting from the study findings. KTAC members discussed the approach, results, and Pearson's recommendations. The group also discussed a calibration rule change and KTAC provided recommendations to Pearson.

Agenda Item: KDE Updates

Presenters: Rhonda Sims, Associate Commissioner, Jennifer Stafford, Division Director, Division of Assessment and Accountability Support, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary: KDE provided information about Kentucky United We Learn, highlighting feedback from recent town hall meetings and plans for resulting next steps. KDE also provided information about draft state legislation that may impact aspects of ESSA accountability.

KTAC had no questions or comments in response to the KDE updates.

Agenda Item: Confirmation of Recommendations

Presenter: Laura Pinsonneault, Associate, The Center for Assessment

Summary: KTAC members reviewed the recommendations drafted during the meeting and suggested edits. The group reviewed updated recommendations and voted to approve them unanimously.

Action: Huggins-Manely motioned to approve. Goldschmidt seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item: Summary/Final Thoughts

Presenter: Brian Gong, Senior Associate, The Center for Assessment

Summary: The Center facilitators and KDE staff thanked KTAC members and guests for their participation and reminded the group of upcoming meeting dates.

Adjournment

Action: Lane motioned to adjourn. Goldschmidt seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 4:42 pm ET.