

**MEETING MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AT
JULY 2025 MEETING**



**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE)
SCHOOL CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT AND
ACCOUNTABILITY COUNCIL (SCAAC)
MEETING SUMMARY
MARCH 18, 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Artavia Acklin, Heather Aldrich, Deborah Atherton, Carrie Ballinger, Jana Beth Francis, Frank Hall, Brenda McGown, Jason Reeves, Josh Trosper, Alan Young

MEMBERS ABSENT: Houston Barber, Renee Boss, Martha Emmons, Chuck Fletcher, Leslie Jeffries, Allison Tamme

SUMMARY: The March 18, 2025, virtual School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council (SCAAC) meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. ET by Chairperson Jana Beth Francis. The council charge and member responsibilities were shared. Roll call was taken, and Melissa Chandler, program consultant in KDE's Office of Assessment and Accountability, informed the council of public meeting protocol.

A quorum of members was present. The open meeting was recorded and made available for viewing on the [KDE Media Portal](#).

All materials were made available in the [SCAAC Members Google Folder](#).

Agenda Item: Approve Minutes from November 2024 Meeting

Presenter: Jana Beth Francis, Chair, SCAAC

Summary of Discussion: Heather Aldrich made a motion to approve the November 2024 meeting minutes. Carrie Ballinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Numeracy Counts Act Implementation Update

Presenter: Jennifer Fraley, Director of Mathematics, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Fraley provided a brief overview of numeracy, numeracy myths and how numeracy is a part of daily life. She shared the status of the K-12 Numeracy Counts Implementation Timeline. Currently, a list of universal screeners and diagnostics is available on the KDE Numeracy Screening Assessments webpage. Districts are required to select their screeners and diagnostics by January 2026, with training for teachers to follow. High-quality instructional resources for K-3 mathematics must be adopted by the start of the 2026-2027 school year.

Fraley detailed professional learning academies, including the Epic Numeracy Alliance, AdvanceKY Access to Algebra, Kentucky Center for Mathematics (KCM) Numeracy Counts Academy and Partnership Institute for Math and Science Education Reform (PIMSER) Numeracy Counts Administrator Academy.

Feedback: Francis commended Fraley and the Office of Teaching and Learning for the resources that have been provided to date. She requested a family guide to accompany student math plans, similar to the family guides that were provided with literacy plans.

Alan Young shared the desire for authentic and practical methods for students to demonstrate proficiency in real world ways other than tests.

Josh Trosper questioned whether the assessments outlined in the Numeracy Counts Act will be compatible with possible changes in assessment and accountability as outlined in the Kentucky United We Learn work. Chief Academic Officer Micki Ray Marinelli shared that all the resources and assessments are intended to support schools and districts in how to best serve students on an individualized level.

Young asked for more details about plans to integrate the Kentucky Numeracy Counts work with the Profile of a Learner (PoL). Marinelli and Fraley provided specific district examples of vibrant student learning that is happening with KY Numeracy Counts in connection with PoL.

Agenda Item: Legislative Update

Presenter: Brian Perry, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Perry provided a legislative update, covering various bills and resolutions that impact education, including the Numeracy Counts Act, virtual programs and teacher scholarships.

Agenda Item: Kentucky United We Learn Framework Update

Presenter: Jennifer Stafford, Director, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Stafford provided an overview of the Assessment and Accountability Town Halls that took place at the beginning of 2025. She presented the updated Framework 3.0, highlighting the differences from 2.0, including optional state-developed interim assessments, off-grade science testing and K-2 assessments.

Stafford discussed the importance of legislative awareness and support for a new assessment and accountability system. The goal is to propose legislation in the 2026 legislative session.

Stafford emphasized the importance of local accountability systems. A revised balanced accountability system will include components that reflect local priorities, areas of choice and components that are the same for all schools.

Feedback: Francis suggested that both grades 9 and 10 be included in federal accountability for reading and math. She voiced concerns about the possibility of science not being an accountability requirement. Commissioner of Education Robbie Fletcher shared that science will still have to be assessed and reported. The decision to not include science in federal accountability was based on stakeholder feedback during framework development.

Young shared a desire for the framework to have more specific details related to the PoL included. He voiced concerns about the framework being subject-centered versus learner-centered.

Francis asked if any time requirements were being considered for local accountability measures (i.e., are districts required to keep a specific local accountability measure in place for a specific length of time.) She voiced concern about lack of consistency if a requirement is not specified. Stafford shared that with the current version of the framework there is not a specified time to keep a local measure in place and this would be a local decision.

Agenda Item: Assessment and Accountability Updates

Presenter: Jennifer Stafford, Director, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Stafford provided an update on the current accountability system, including updates on the assessment programs. She highlighted opportunities for educators to participate in various assessment-related activities, such as range finding, standards setting and item development and review. A Committee Work Application link was provided for those interested.

Debby Atherton made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried. The next SCAAC meeting is scheduled for.