



**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE)  
SCHOOL CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COUNCIL (SCAAC)  
MEETING SUMMARY  
JULY 18, 2023**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Heather Aldrich, Deborah Atherton, Renee Boss, Martha Emmons, Chuck Fletcher, Jana Beth Francis, Leslie Jeffries, Lisa Kear, Brenda McGown, Jason Reeves, Allison Tamme

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Artavia Acklin, Houston Barber, Kristin Putnam, Jenny Urie, Henry Webb

**SUMMARY:** The July 18, 2023, virtual School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council (SCAAC) meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. by Chairperson Jana Beth Francis. Members and guests were welcomed, roll call was taken and Melissa Chandler 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 [SCAAC Members Google Folder](#).

**Agenda Item:** Approval of March 21, 2023, Meeting Minutes

**Presenter:** Jana Beth Francis, Chair, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Daviess County Public Schools

**Summary of Discussion:** Chuck Fletcher made a motion to approve the March 21, 2023, meeting minutes. Jason Reeves seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Agenda Item:** Kentucky United We Learn Council Update

**Presenters:** Karen Dodd, Chief Performance Officer, Office of the Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education; Audrey Gilbert, Kentucky United We Learn Council Chair

**Summary of Discussion:** Dodd provided background on the development of the Kentucky United We Learn Council. The council is comprised of 75 members led by interim chair, Audrey

Gilbert. Three standing committees, Vibrant Learning Experiences, Accelerating Innovation and Bold New Future, have been established and meet monthly. Gilbert provided updates for work that is taking place in each of the committees as well as next steps for the council. The Kentucky United We Learn Council will reconvene as a full group in November.

**Feedback:** Chair Francis acknowledged the work that is taking place on the Kentucky United We Learn Council to transform the high school experience and inquired about conversations that have occurred surrounding elementary and middle school. Gilbert shared that the Portrait of a Learner is focused on development of skills over the course of the kindergarten through grade 12 experience. Sarah Snipes shared that the Vibrant Learning Committee is spending time in elementary, middle and high school classrooms across the state to capture resources and examples of vibrant learning. Jennifer Stafford shared that much conversation has taken place in the Accelerating Innovation Committee about early literacy and numeracy.

**Agenda Item:** Portrait of a Learner Update

**Presenter:** Meredith Brewer, Director, Office of the Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education; Sarah Snipes, Program Manager, Office of Continuous Improvement, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:** Brewer highlighted the Portrait of a Learner (POL) background as shared in the March SCAAC meeting. Kentucky has a state level portrait and many districts have already adopted or have plans to develop local portraits. She shared that the next step is to determine how to operationalize the portraits that have been adopted by districts.

Snipes shared a POL Implementation Continuum developed by the University of Kentucky (UK) Center for Next Generation Leadership. Using this resource, KDE developed a survey to determine current implementation status for districts that currently have a portrait of a learner in place. Data has been collected and is being analyzed to determine how KDE can best provide support and resources for local communities.

**Feedback:** Chair Francis inquired as to whether research is being collected to determine the impact of POL outcomes. Snipes explained that the districts that are furthest along in the POL development and implementation process are just beginning to develop academic competencies. It will be after this step in the process that data will be available to determine the impact of the POL outcomes.

Brewer invited members to provide feedback on the recently drafted Call to Action document that the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) developed. Members will receive an email with the document to review and provide feedback via a Google form.

**Agenda Item:** Assessment and Accountability Updates

**Presenter:** Jennifer Stafford, Director, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education; Helen Jones, Program Manager, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:** Stafford explained that Rhonda Sims was not able to attend the SCAAC meeting due to attending a legislative subcommittee meeting and Helen Jones would be presenting in her place. Stafford reviewed Senate Bill 158 and the changes that will be fully implemented as of fall 2023. She shared examples of how overall performance will be reported at the elementary, middle and high school levels, along with the numbers that are used to determine the overall performance.

Jones shared the calculations that will be used to determine overall performance scores at the elementary, middle and high school levels. The next accountability standard setting is scheduled for early September to determine the specific scores that will correspond to the color level of each indicator and overall score.

Stafford shared the tentative timeline for Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) and Alternate Kentucky Summative Assessment (AKSA) data release. Individual student data will be made available to districts during the first week of August, earlier than in past years.

**Feedback:** Member Fletcher inquired about what steps are taken both at the state and local levels to prepare families and community members for the release of assessment data. Stafford explained that KDE allows time for district level administration to prepare for release of the school report card by providing early viewing access of assessment results before they are made public. Francis shared that districts use the school report card to develop school improvement plans which are publicly posted.

**Agenda Item:** 2023 Standards Setting

**Presenter:** Jana Beth Francis, Chair, School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council

**Summary of Discussion:** Francis shared the 2023 standards setting process. During the initial meeting in June, the panel used performance level descriptors to think about change from a holistic standpoint. The group proposed a model for change that will honor any and all improvement. At the next meeting in September, the panel will review actual data and set cut points for the color levels.

**Agenda Item:** Expiring SCAAC Member Terms

**Presenter:** Jana Beth Francis, Chair, School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council

**Summary of Discussion:** Francis shared that several members have terms that will be expiring in October 2023. All members will receive an email in the upcoming weeks with term expirations. Members with expiring terms should respond via email with interest in continuing the council or exiting. Chair Francis and the Office of Assessment and Accountability staff will work with the Governor's Office to renew memberships and fill vacancies.

Chuck Fletcher made a motion to adjourn the July 18 SCAAC meeting. Martha Emmons seconded the motion. Motion carried. The next SCAAC meeting is scheduled for Sept. 19, 2023.

DRAFT