



**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE) SCHOOL
CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY
COUNCIL (SCAAC)
MEETING SUMMARY
SEPT. 17, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Artavia Acklin, Heather Aldrich, Carrie Ballinger, Renee Boss, Chuck Fletcher, Jana Beth Francis, Leslie Jeffries, Brenda McGown, Jason Reeves, Josh Trosper, Alan Young

MEMBERS ABSENT: Deborah Atherton, Houston Barber, Martha Emmons, Kristin Putnam, Allison Tamme

SUMMARY: The Sept. 17, 2024, virtual School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council (SCAAC) meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. ET by Chairperson Jana Beth Francis. New SCAAC members were introduced and the council charge and member responsibilities were shared. 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 the [SCAAC Members Google Folder](#).

Agenda Item: Approve Minutes from July 2024 Meeting

Presenter: Jana Beth Francis, Chair, SCAAC

Summary of Discussion: Heather Aldrich made a motion to approve the July 2024 meeting minutes. Chuck Fletcher seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Greetings

Presenter: Robbie Fletcher, Commissioner, Office of the Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Fletcher welcomed members and expressed gratitude for their service to the council. He shared his experience in working with other advisory groups and provided updates about events taking place at KDE. He gave a brief update on the study phase of the Kentucky United We Learn prototype 4.0.

Agenda Item: House Bill (HB) 162 (2024) *Kentucky Numeracy Counts Act*

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

Summary of Discussion: Fraley provided a brief background of HB 162, the *Kentucky Numeracy Counts Act*. The legislation focuses on kindergarten (K) through grade 3 numeracy but does provide funding for professional learning opportunities for teachers of students up to grade 8.

The *Kentucky Numeracy Counts Act* implementation action plan includes development of a published list of approved numeracy screeners and diagnostics, teacher academies and a high-quality instructional resources (HQIR) grant. For each of these action items, progress is already being made. A list of approved numeracy screeners and diagnostics will be available to districts in Feb. 2025. Registration for the teacher academies, EPIC Numeracy Alliance and AdvanceKY's Access to Algebra, is currently open and accepting participants. HQIR grant awards are planned for fall 2025.

Feedback: Jason Reeves requested an update at a future meeting about the Educator Preparation Program (EPP) connections. Micki Ray shared that Melissa Diebel is leading the numeracy EPP working group with action items aligned to the legislation.

Agenda Item: Kentucky United We Learn Prototypes

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

Summary of Discussion: Stafford provided a brief background of Kentucky United We Learn (KUWL) including the "moonshot" vision of the KUWL council. The KUWL Council has been tasked with developing an assessment and accountability system which focuses on vibrant student experiences, encouraging innovation and community collaboration.

Prototypes for a reimagined assessment and accountability system have been developed over recent months, with many revisions being implemented based on stakeholder feedback. Currently the council is moving into the study phase for prototype 4.0.

Prototype 4.0 provides "flightpaths" that include the possibilities for through-course assessments, a local-accountability emphasis, an accreditation-style model, vibrant learning implementation and other aspects that promote continuous improvement with a broad set of school quality domains. This would work alongside the basic requirements needed to meet federal law.

During the study phase for prototype 4.0, KDE is seeking input from all districts through Kentucky's education cooperatives and conducting focus groups with 36 school districts.

SCAAC members were encouraged to share feedback on prototype 4.0 via a survey. The survey will be open through Oct. 4 and data will be presented to the KUWL Council on Oct. 21-22.

Feedback: Alan Young inquired about how student growth will be defined in a new assessment and accountability system. Stafford shared that the Technical Advisory Committee is supporting the work of the KUWL Council and decisions about student growth measures are still being considered.

Josh Trosper asked for details related to through-course assessments. Stafford shared that specific decisions have not been made, and that stakeholder feedback will be valuable in making considerations.

Renee Boss expressed excitement about the proposed innovation and inquired about the districts that are participating in the focus groups. Rhonda Sims shared that the list of participating districts has not been made public, but will be made available soon.

Chairperson Francis asked for clarification on the timeline for approved legislation. Stafford shared that the goal is to present legislation during the 2026 legislative session.

Agenda Item: Assessment and Accountability Reporting Timeline

Presenter: Rhonda Sims, Associate Commissioner, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education; Jennifer Stafford, Director, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Sims shared that district assessment coordinators (DACs) will have an opportunity to review accountability data from spring 2024 on Quality Control (QC) Day. QC Day is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 19.

Stafford shared the tentative date for public release of accountability data is Thursday, Oct. 3. Due to a new vendor, this year, the data will be available in Open House. The new School Report Card (SRC) will be released later in 2024.

Agenda Item: 2025 SCAAC Meeting Dates

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

Summary of Discussion: Francis shared the tentative 2025 SCAAC meeting dates of March 18, July 15, Sept. 16 and Nov. 18.

Heather Aldrich made a motion to adjourn. Chuck Fletcher seconded the motion. Motion carried. The next SCAAC meeting is scheduled for Nov. 19, 2024.