



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Family Partnership Council

SUMMARY

MARCH 19, 2024

ATTENDANCE: Marsha VanHook, Laura Beard, Britney Faulkner, Elizabeth Ashley Bruce, Tara Truckor, Jamie Helton, Leah Marcum, Amy Nickerson, Amity Kukla, Melissa Goins, Rhonda Logsdon, Erin Weaver, and Chris Medley

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alisha Miller and Tom Haggard

Agenda Item: Legislative Update

Presenters: Brian Perry, Director of Government Relations, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Council members heard updates about the legislative bills, the current session, and the budget process from Perry. Bills that have passed both chambers are House Bill (HB) 2 which proposes to create a new section of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to education funding, HB 446 which deals with student conduct on school buses, and Senate Bill (SB) 8 related to diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging (DEIB) initiatives at postsecondary institutions. Session began on Jan. 2, and the final two session days (#29 and #30) are scheduled to be held on April 12 and 15. The budget bill discussions will be held March 29 through April 9.

Agenda Item: Kentucky Multi-Tiered System of Supports (KyMTSS)

Presenters: Melissa Wainwright, Ed.D., KyMTSS Coordinator, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: The Kentucky Multi-Tiered System of Support branch is responsible for supporting student achievement and social-emotional behavior competencies through an integration of differentiated core instruction, assessment and intervention. KyMTSS has six essential elements that help students be successful. These essential elements are equitable access and opportunity; collaborative problem-solving teams; evidence-based instruction; intervention and supports; data-based decision making with comprehensive screening and assessment; family, school and community partnerships; and tiered delivery system.

Agenda Item: Supporting Student Attendance

Presenters: Florence Chang, Ph.D., Educational Program Consultant, Division of Student Success, Kentucky Department of Education.

Summary of Discussion: Chang spoke about the impact chronic absenteeism is having across the state and nationally. Students are chronically absent if they present 90% or less of full-time

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equivalency. Students are considered chronically absent if they miss more than 10% of the school year. Chronic absenteeism is connected to students of all ages including preschool and kindergarten. Since the pandemic, chronic absenteeism has increased by 30%. Some of the biggest challenges that educators are faced with are the number of chronically absent students, building relationships, instructional and intervention continuity, and instructional approaches. To address chronic absenteeism KDE has created five strategies to help reduce the number of absent students. The first strategy is to foster a welcoming and supportive culture for students and adults. Second strategy, ensure an academically engaging and challenging environment. Third strategy, create an attendance campaign. Fourth strategy, track and utilize and lastly, engage with families and community.

Agenda Item: Overview and Update on the Family Partnership Councils Recommendations to the Kentucky Department of Education

Presenters: Marsha VanHook, Full-Service Community Schools Manager and Council Chair

Summary of Discussion: The Family Partnership Council encourages districts and schools to develop local webpages that include more robust relationship-building and communication metrics regarding meaningful family and community engagement. KDE will help create the one-stop webpage for parental and student's rights, school-based decision making council information, legislative updates, specific English learner resources, etc. To expand this work, it will include organizations that provide widely accessible, age-appropriate strategies for schools to enable families to be more actively engaged and effectively support their student's success.

Next Meeting:

June 18, 2024

Sept.24, 2024