



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PRINCIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (PrAC)
SUMMARY

MARCH 4, 2025

Members Present: Brian Eerenberg, Jarrod Hankins, Lynn Petrey, Liz Kirk, Geco Ross, Jeff Blythe, Sarah Williams, Tim Cline, Amanda Nokes, Amanda Fields, Martina Skidmore, Heather Roaden, Hubert Schroer

Members Absent: Robert Lightening, Peggy Sinclair-Morris

Agenda Item: Welcome

Presenter: Robbie Fletcher, Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Fletcher welcomed everyone to the meeting, discussed the unusual challenges (i.e., flooding, snow, high winds) faced during the school year, and shared updates on his visits to various districts affected by natural disasters. He also mentioned the productive conversations with legislators and the tracking of education-related bills.

Agenda Item: Approve Agenda

Presenter: Brian Eerenberg, Principal Advisory Council (PrAC), Chairperson, Boyd County Schools

Summary of Discussion: Liz Kirk made a motion to approve the agenda. Tim Cline made a second. Members verbally approved.

Agenda Item: Approve Summary from Last Meeting

Presenter: Brian Eerenberg, Principal Advisory Council, Chairperson, Boyd County Schools

Summary of Discussion: Tim Cline made a motion to approve the summary minutes from the December 2024 meeting. Amanda Fields made a second. Members verbally approved.

Agenda Item: Legislative Updates

Presenter: Cassie Trueblood, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Trueblood provided an update on the current legislative session, mentioning the high number of bills and the importance of tracking their progress. She also shared resources for following committee schedules and bill statuses with the group.

Feedback: Jarrod Hankins, PrAC member, asked for a status update about the legislation related to making up time for schools that have had to cancel in person learning. Fletcher shared the progress of House Bill 241 which emphasizes a requirement change from 170 days to 1062 hours. Trueblood shared the link to House Bill 241.

Agenda Item: Needs of School Principals

Presenter: Joseph “Rocky” Wallace, Campbellsville University, and Nicholas Brake, Western Kentucky University

Summary of Discussion: Wallace and Brake represent the University Principal Preparation Initiative (UPPI) group which is comprised of principal preparation providers who meet eight times each year. The UPPI group partners with the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to ensure strong principal preparation programs are in place across the Commonwealth. The UPPI group has recently started research for a Whitepaper focused on the needs of Kentucky school principals that will be shared with state partners. Wallace and Brake are excited to be part of the PrAC group and hope to learn much from the PrAC meetings that will ultimately support the development of the UPPI research project.

Feedback: None

Agenda Item: Effective Student Transitions and Updated Title I Parent and Family Engagement Guidance

Presenter: Erin Sudduth, Office of Continuous Improvement and Support, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Sudduth shared the importance of effective student transitions and provided examples of transition activities, such as kindergarten camps and mentoring programs. PrAC participants were asked to share their own transition activities. Sudduth also provided information on the recently updated parent and family engagement guidance, highlighting the importance of building parent capacity and seeking parent input in designing and implementing programs.

Feedback: Eerenberg shared the House system that Boyd County implemented. He noted its purpose is to create a small family within the large family of the school population. Additional examples were provided by the group and Sudduth encouraged PrAC members to share their innovative practices through a Google form. The link form is [Success Stories of Effective Partnerships with Families survey](#).

Agenda Item: Standards Review Update

Presenter: Chrystal Rowland and Thomas Clouse, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Rowland and Clouse provided an update on the standards review process and timeline for reading and writing, social studies, mathematics, visual and performing arts, health education and physical education. They shared specific details for each content area and corresponding steps in the approval process along with the resources available to support implementation.

Feedback: Sarah Williams, PrAC member, suggested the creation of a document that highlights what is new in the revised standards and what did not change.

Agenda Item: Kentucky Educator Mentorship (KEMP) Guidance

Presenter: Sharon Salsman, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Salsman discussed the Kentucky Educator Mentorship Program (KEMP), which requires districts to create and implement induction and mentoring programs for new teachers. She outlined the required components and the roles of mentors, new teachers and specifically school administrators.

Feedback: None

Agenda Item: Student Wellbeing and Mental Health Initiatives

Presenter: Christina Weeter, Office of Continuous Improvement and Support, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Weeter provided an overview of various student well-being and mental health initiatives, including the interconnected systems framework, Youth Mental Health First Aid, Psychological First Aid, Sources of Strength, trauma-informed practices and Medicaid reimbursement for school-based mental health services.

Feedback: None

Agenda Item: Principal Partnership Project (P3) Updated Webpage

Presenter: Keith Griesser and Emily Satterly, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Griesser discussed the transition of the Principal Partnership Project (P3) website to the new Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness (OELE) website and requested feedback on the resources and content that should be included on the new site. PrAC members were encouraged to email any member of the P3 team with suggestions regarding the most valuable items of the current P3 webpage that should be moved to the new site. Also, a call for suggestions of missing topics/resources was also shared.

Feedback: None

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Presenter: Brian Eerenberg, PrAC Chairperson, Ponderosa Elementary School, Boyd County

Summary of Discussion: Sarah Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tim Cline made a second to adjourn. Members verbally agreed.