



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PRINCIPALS ADVISORY COUNCIL SUMMARY

DEC. 10, 2025

ATTENDANCE: Brian Eerenberg, Jarrod Hankins, Robert Lightening, Lynn Petrey, Liz Kirk, Geco Ross, Sarah Williams, Amanda Nokes, Amanda Fields, Jaziel Guerra, Heather Roaden, Hubert Schroer, Jeremy Kidd, Jimica Howard, Ginger Estes, James Hood, Bonnie Spears, Josh Henderson, Nikki Gearheart, Beth St. Bernard, Peggy Sinclair-Morris, Jeff Blythe, Nicholas Brake, Joseph "Rocky" Wallace

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tim Cline

SUMMARY:

Agenda Item: Welcome

Presenter: Meredith Brewer, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion:

Brewer welcomed the new Principal Advisory Council (PrAC) members and extended gratitude to those members who are rotating off the council. She shared a reminder with the group about the open window for the Impact Kentucky Survey and encouraged all certified personnel to participate before the survey window closes Dec. 19.

Feedback:

None

Agenda Item: Roll Call of Members

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

Summary of Discussion:

Eerenberg led the roll call of members and asked the new members to do a brief introduction. Eerenberg led the council in approving a volunteer process to determine the new PrAC chairperson. Geco Ross was approved as the PrAC chairperson.

Feedback:

None

Agenda Item: Approve Agenda

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

Summary of Discussion:

Geco Ross made a motion to approve the agenda. Amanda Fields made a second. PrAC members verified agreement in the chat.

Feedback:

None

Agenda Item: Approve Summary from Last Meeting

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

Summary of Discussion:

Sarah Williams made a motion to approve the agenda. Peggy Sinclair Morris made a second. PrAC members verified agreement in the chat.

Feedback:

None

Agenda Item: Retention Tools

Presenter: Justin Edwards, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion:

Edwards shared an optional tool that principals could use to support analysis of teacher turnover. PrAC members were asked for feedback on how to make the tool more meaningful for users. Brewer emphasized that the tool is completely optional, and the Kentucky Department of Education has no access to data entered. Edwards volunteered to edit the tool to better meet the needs of school leaders and offered to work with each principal to personalize the tool for the data they want to highlight.

Feedback:

Geco Ross suggested the addition of columns to allow for the inclusion of context. For example, a column for Impact Kentucky Survey Data. Edwards will follow up with a revised version to meet that request.

Agenda Item: New Curriculum Implementation Monitoring Toolkit

Presenter: Chrystal Rowland, Misty Higgins and Fox DeMoisey, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion

Rowland, DeMoisey and Higgins from the Office of Teaching and Learning presented the new Curriculum Implementation Monitoring Toolkit, explaining its components, use cases, and how it supports monitoring high quality instructional resource (HQIR) implementation.

The toolkit includes an introduction, six key aspects for monitoring curriculum implementation, recommended tools for each aspect, and a sample annual monitoring calendar to support continuous improvement.

The tools include resources for monitoring system conditions, curriculum-based professional learning, classroom instruction, educator and student mindsets, and student outcomes, with surveys and observation guides provided for various aspects.

Feedback:

Jamika Howard asked about ensuring alignment with Kentucky Academic Standards, and Rowland explained that alignment is addressed during resource adoption and curriculum mapping, with most HQIRs being at least 80% aligned.

Peggy Sinclair Morris inquired about alternate standards, and DeMoisey clarified that while the toolkit is designed for core content areas, its tools could be adapted for special education contexts.

Bonnie Spears and others discussed the importance of capturing educator mindsets and connecting toolkit resources with existing school practices, such as the PLC observation tools and leadership reflection.

Agenda Item: Ed Camp

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

Summary of Discussion

Griesser announced the upcoming Ed Camp on Jan. 14, 2026, inviting council members to attend or present breakout sessions, and provided registration links and an overview of the event structure. Ed Camp is an online conference with keynote speakers and multiple breakout sessions, open to all school leaders, with opportunities to present or attend sessions. Participants are encouraged to propose and lead breakout sessions, sharing successful practices or initiatives from their schools.

Feedback: None

Agenda Item: Certification Structure: Content Discussion

Presenter: Todd Davis, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion

Davis provided an update on the Certification Structure Work Group's recommendations regarding grade bands and content area certifications, followed by breakout discussions among council members on the implications and challenges of proposed changes.

The work group, including principals, teachers, HR directors, legislators, and educator preparation providers, recommended maintaining current preschool and kindergarten structures, expanding elementary certification to grade 6, allowing middle school teachers to teach down to grade 4, and adjusting secondary certifications to reflect current district practices.

The group discussed the possibility of a general science certification to address teacher shortages and compared Kentucky's approach to neighboring states, as well as the complexities of special education certification.

Feedback:

Council members in breakout groups discussed challenges such as the attractiveness of teaching for specialized degree holders, the impact of emergency certifications, the need for flexibility in master scheduling, and the difficulties in staffing special education positions, including suggestions for financial incentives.

Todd Davis invited ongoing feedback from council members on the recommendations and challenges, providing contact information for further input and emphasizing the importance of considering both intended and unintended consequences of certification changes.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

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

Summary of Discussion

Jarrold Hankins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Geco Ross made the second. Council members expressed agreement in the chat.

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