



**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SUPERINTENDENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)
SUMMARY
MAY 14, 2025**

ATTENDANCE: Amanda Abell, Matt Baker, Carrie Ballinger, Doug Bechanan, Robin Cochran, Thom Cochran, Ralph Hamilton, Damian Johnson, Matthew Madding, Sheri Satterly, Wayne Sizemore, Seth Southard, Tim Spencer Robert Tuck, Leonard Whalen

MEMBERS ABSENT: Will Begley, Buddy Berry, Joe Buerkley, Bob Lawson, Barry Lee, Chad Molley, Charles Morton, Todd Neace, Marty Pollio, Mike Rowe

Agenda Item: Support Education Excellence in Kentucky (SEEK) Funding Forecast

Presenters: Matt Ross, Associate Commissioner Sheila Miller, Program Manager
Office of Finance and Operations Division of District Support

Summary of Discussion: Miller provided an outline of the FY2026 SEEK funding forecast, noting that transportation is currently funded at 81.75%, but this may change after the final SEEK calculation. The tentative calculation, which determines payments for October-March, will incorporate prior-year actual data, except for the 2nd month growth factor. The final SEEK calculation, released by March 1, will include all actual data and adjustments, setting payments for April-June.

Agenda Item: Course Assessments and Diagnostic Possible Linking for K-2

Presenter: Micki Ray Marinelli
Chief Academic Officer
Office of Teaching and Learning

Summary of Discussion: KRS 158.305 and KRS 158.8402 require each superintendent to select a universal screener and diagnostic assessment for reading and math that have been determined by the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to be reliable and valid to be administered as part of a multitiered system of supports for students in kindergarten through grade three. Marinelli shared the [Literacy Assessment Flowchart](#) to illustrate the process of using the universal screener to assess student performance on the essential components of reading, identifying students who may at risk for not meeting grade-level benchmarks in reading, implementing interventions in instruction, and monitoring progress of specific reading deficits identified on the diagnostic assessment and the student's reading improvement plan. She clarified that interim assessments as described in Assessment and Accountability Framework 4.0 are part of a comprehensive assessment system and are standards based. They would be aligned to the scope and sequence of the grade-level content students are expected to meet by end-of-year or end-of-course. Curriculum-embedded assessments and performance tasks found within KDE-approved high-quality instructional resources also are aligned to the academic standards and serve as formative measures in advance of the Kentucky Summative Assessment for reading or mathematics.

Agenda Item: Facilities Funding – Other States

Presenter: Matt Ross, Associate Commissioner
Office of Finance and Operations

Steve Lyles, Assistant Director
Division of District Support

Summary of Discussion: Lyles reviewed how Kentucky's approach to facilities funding is compared to other states, highlighting their similarities and differences. Kentucky relies on a 5-cent equivalent tax, formula-based metrics, prioritization criteria, bond-assisted offers, and an urgent needs ranking system, as determined by the Kentucky Facilities Inventory and Classification System (KFICS) to support facility funding in districts. Different states employ different strategies to fund school facilities. Some rely on competitive grants, prioritization methods, and others offer incentives for efficiency and cost-effectiveness. Additionally, states tap into various revenue streams like lotteries, casinos, and sales taxes to support facility funding.

Next Meeting:
Aug. 26, 2025