



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE)
SUPERINTENDENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)
SUMMARY

Aug. 26, 2026

ATTENDANCE: Amanda Abell, Wayne Ackerman, David Arvin, Carrie Ballinger, Larry Begley, Wes Bradley, Charlie Brock, Thom Cochran, Ralph Hamilton, Damian Johnson, Vicki Jones, Justin Kaiser, Bob Lawson, Matthew Madding, Todd Neace, Sheri Satterly, Wayne Sizemore, Seth Southard, Mark Wade, Sarah Wasson, Leonard Whalen, Brian Yearwood

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brian Robinson, Mike Rowe, Henry Webb

Agenda Item: Update on Fall 2026 Accountability

Presenters: Jennifer Stafford, Associate Commissioner; Shara Savage, Division Director, Division of Assessment and Accountability Support, Office of Assessment and Accountability

Summary of Discussion: The KDE Office of Assessment and Accountability – represented by Associate Commissioner Jennifer Stafford and Division Director Shara Savage – presented the proposed revisions to [703 KAR 5:270](#), which come after the passage of [House Bill 257](#) during the 2026 legislative session. The key regulatory changes beginning in 2026–2027 school year, means Kentucky will use new individual student growth and chronic absenteeism indicators, proposed indicator weights, revised accountability calculations and changes affecting first-year English Learners. The bill reduced testing by removing on-demand writing and editing and mechanics from Kentucky’s assessment exams. KDE will continue gathering stakeholder feedback before the proposed amendments to 703 KAR 5:270 return to the Kentucky Board of Education in October.

SAC members devoted time to discussing the proposed table to measure growth from year to year, the values assigned within it and whether the chart adequately promotes growth. Members also spent time discussing how much each indicator is weighted in the accountability system, including chronic absenteeism.

Agenda Item: Overview of Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) Educator Misconduct Case Process

Presenters: Norah Softic, Deputy General Counsel; Casandra Rosa-Burgos, Program Coordinator; Madison Snelling, Staff Attorney, Office of Legal Services

Summary of Discussion: The Office of Legal Services presented an overview of the Education Professional Standards Boards (EPSB) misconduct case process once a complaint has been filed. The EPSB receives complaints against certificate holders alleging violations of [KRS 161.120\(1\)](#)

from superintendents and from other sources. A [superintendent's duty to report educator misconduct](#) in his or her district is pursuant to [KRS 161.120\(3\)](#). The district's additional duty to report potential child abuse and neglect cases as required by KRS 620.030 was also discussed. The EPSB utilizes the [Kentucky Educator Credentialing System](#) (KECS) for a superintendent or his or her designee to file these reports. Please note that the EPSB does not accept anonymous complaints. Council members also received information on accessing complaints and complaint notifications.

Agenda Item: Individual Learning Plan (ILP) Showcase

Presenter: Karen Dodd, Chief Performance Officer, Strategic Planning and Research Team, Office of the Commissioner

Summary of Discussion: Karen Dodd, Chief Performance Officer, discussed a new project aimed at promoting Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) with direct input from students and educators. KDE is seeking videos from students across the state, ranging from 30 seconds to two minutes long, showing how the ILP helps students explore careers, set goals, and map out their futures. The ILP Video Showcase is open to all middle and high school students, teachers and counselors. Submissions will be accepted between Aug. 17-Oct. 23. More details, including how to submit a project, can be found on [KDE's ILP webpage](#).

Agenda Item: Research Blogs

Presenter: Leslie McKinney, Strategic Data Analyst, Strategic Planning and Research Team, Office of the Commissioner

Summary of Discussion: Leslie McKinney, Strategic Data Analyst, presented information regarding the launch of the [KDE Research Blog](#)—a new online resource dedicated to sharing research, data, and strategic insights on the issues shaping education across the Commonwealth.

New articles will be published approximately every two weeks, offering research-based perspectives, practical resources, and data visualizations designed to support educators, school and district leaders, policymakers, and anyone interested in Kentucky education. It will be promoted through Kentucky Teacher Magazine and the e-Commissioner's Weekly Message and deliberately includes reflection questions to prompt public comments and gather stakeholder perspectives. The Research Blog webpage will serve as a central hub where readers can explore the latest posts as well as past blog series and archived articles.

Next Meeting:

Nov. 4, 2026