

This meeting will be recorded. It is requested that TAC members please enable video during the meeting.

Teacher Advisory Council (TAC)

June 10, 2025

Thomas Tucker, Deputy Commissioner,
Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)

Justin Edwards, KDE Liaison

TAC WEB PAGE LINK

- [CLICK HERE TO ACCESS TAC WEBPAGE](#)

I. Welcome

- **Chrystal Rowland**, Division Director, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)

II. Roll Call of Members

- **Justin Edwards**, TAC Liaison, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness

Role Call

Name	Representing	Term Expiring
Melanie Callahan, Chair	Laurel Co.	Dec. 2025
Chad Davidson	McCracken Co.	Dec. 2025
Carla Criswell	Jefferson Co.	Dec. 2025
Becky Spies	Kentucky School for the Blind	Sep. 2027
Toni Prater	Kentucky School for the Deaf	Dec. 2027
Rosa Cubero-Hurley	Fayette Co.	Dec. 2025
Carla Lawson	Whitley Co.	Dec. 2025
Mandy Perez	Crittenden Co.	Sep. 2026
Kevin Dailey	Boone Co.	Mar. 2027
Kristen Morgan	Danville Ind.	Sep. 2027
Corey Burns	Mercer Co.	Sep. 2027

Name	Representing	Term Expiring
Sarah Lizer	Fayette Co.	Sep. 2027
Casey Page	Shelby Co.	Sep. 2027
Brooke Leffingwell	Campbell Co.	Sep. 2027
Megan Hall	Letcher Co.	Sep. 2027
Joseph Stivers	Jefferson Co.	Sep. 2027
Emmanuel Anama-Green	Harlan Co.	Sep. 2027
Wendy Young	Fayette Co.	Sep. 2027
Nick Shoffner	Middlesboro Ind.	Sep. 2027
Jessica Hobson	Christian Co.	Sep. 2027
Shane Baker	Warren Co.	Sep. 2027
Scot Bratcher	Breckinridge Co.	Sep. 2027

III. Approve Agenda

- **Justin Edwards**, TAC Liaison, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness

IV. Approve Minutes from Last Meeting

- **Justin Edwards**, TAC Liaison, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness
 - [Click here to access March summary](#)

V. Exploring Portraits of Learner & Defenses of Learning: How Teachers Might Use These Frameworks to Empower Students

- Rob Collins, Innovative Programs Consultant and Robert Meacham, Division of Innovation Program Manager, Office of Continuous Improvement and Support

The background of the slide is a composite image. The top left portion shows two yellow school buses parked outdoors. The bottom left portion shows the interior of a classroom with blue walls, decorated with colorful balloons and framed pictures. Several student desks and chairs are visible in the foreground of the classroom.

Exploring Portraits of Learner & Defenses of Learning

How Teachers Might Use These Frameworks to Empower Students

Rob Collins, Ed.D. and Robert Meacham
*Innovative Programs Consultant /
Innovative Programs Manager, Division of
Innovation, OCIS*

Session Goals

- Share the purpose of Portrait of a Learner and its impact on teaching and learning
- Discuss Defenses of Learning as a meaningful assessment practice
- Receive feedback on needs for professional learning

Session Norms

- Show up as your full self
- Ask the next hard question

A Couple of Questions Before We Begin

- Has your district developed and adopted a Portrait of a Learner?
- Does your school or district implement defenses of learning?



CPE and KDE Partnership



- This work is a partnership between the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education and the Kentucky Department of Education.
- We aim to align the competencies of the Kentucky Portrait of a Learner with the Postsecondary Graduate Profile to ensure Kentucky's students have the skills necessary to be successful in life and work.



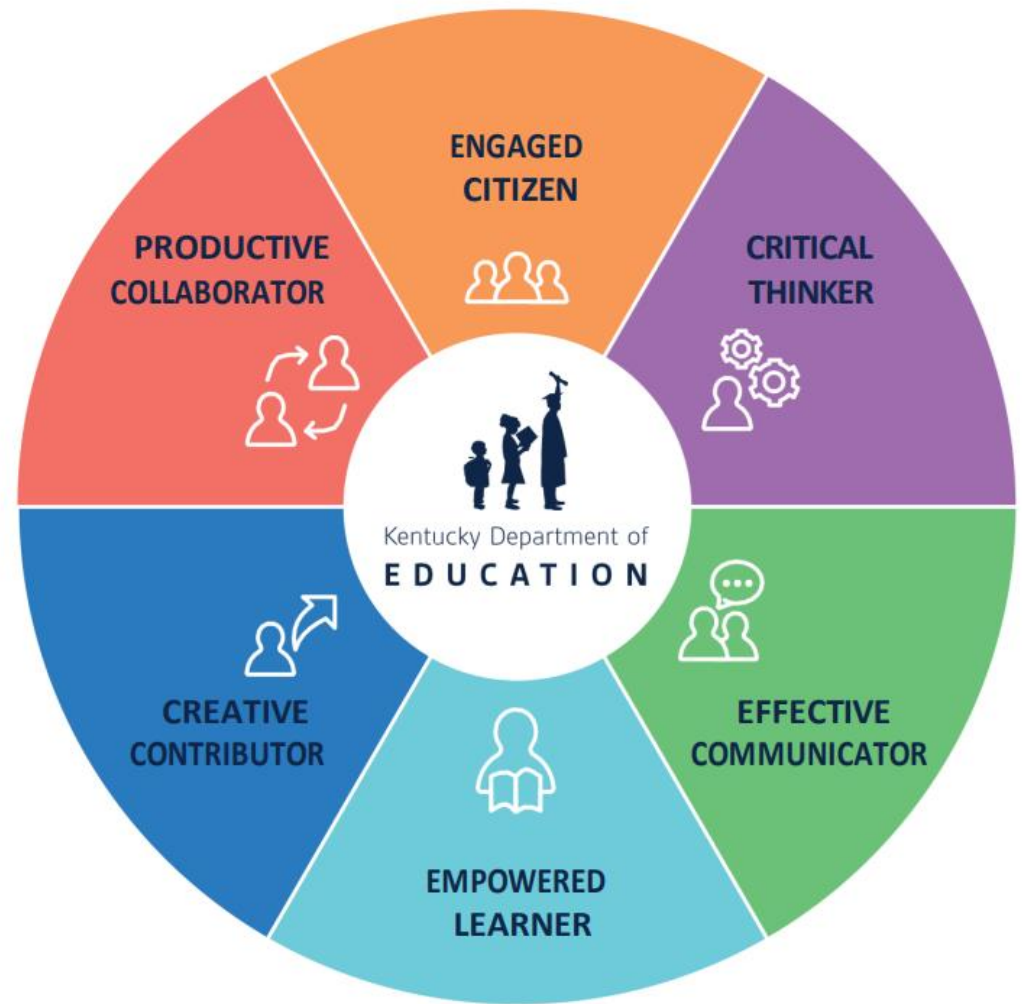
Benefits of Statewide Learning Frameworks

- Communicates the value of education
- Provides structure and coherence to learning experiences
- Helps students understand knowledge, skills and abilities gained
- Helps students communicate their knowledge, skills and abilities to others
- Allows employers to understand students' knowledge, skills and abilities



K-12 Portrait of a Learner

- Represents the **knowledge, skills and dispositions** we wish to develop in our students for a successful life post K-12 career
- Many districts are designing performance assessment systems to capture, organize and share student learning and competency development
- Though the Kentucky Board of Education has adopted a statewide portrait, each local district has the autonomy to work with their communities to create a portrait that reflects local values and needs



KENTUCKY PORTRAIT OF A LEARNER



150+

Greenup County School District

CLARK COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bourbon
County Schools
Educate | Empower | Equip

BELLEVUE
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Jessamine County Schools
Tradition and Innovation

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Postsecondary Kentucky Graduate Profile

- Essential Skills needed for post-graduation success
- Aligned with national frameworks
- 10 Skills are embedded in both general and major education courses, as well as co-curricular experiences
- The goal is for graduates to articulate and demonstrate these skills to prospective employers
- All 24 community/technical colleges and public universities are working with this framework



Essential Skill 1:
Communicate effectively



Essential Skill 2:
Think critically in order to solve problems
and create new ideas and solutions.



Essential Skill 3:
Apply quantitative reasoning skills to
analyze and solve numerical problems.



Essential Skill 4:
Interact effectively with people
from diverse backgrounds.



Essential Skill 5:
Adapt to changing circumstances while
leading and supporting others.



Essential Skill 6:
Perform professionally within their
chosen field of study or occupation.



Essential Skill 7:
Engage in civic life to
improve society.



Essential Skill 8:
Collaborate and work
in teams.



Essential Skill 9:
Apply academic knowledge, skills,
and abilities to their chosen career.



Essential Skill 10:
Use information for
decision making.



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How Kentucky's Learning Frameworks Align

Kentucky Graduate Profile skills and corresponding Kentucky Portrait of a Learner outcomes

Communications	Critical Thinking	Quantitative Reasoning	Cultural Competency
Effective Communicator	Critical Thinker Creative Contributor	Empowered Learner Critical Thinker	Engaged Citizen Effective Communicator Productive Collaborator
Leadership & Adaptability	Professionalism	Civic Engagement	Teamwork
Empowered Learner Creative Contributor Productive Collaborator Effective Communicator	Effective Communicator Empowered Learner Productive Collaborator	Engaged Citizen	Productive Collaborator Creative Contributor
Applied & Integrated Learning	Information Literacy		
Empowered Learner	Effective Communicator Critical Thinker		

Defenses of Learning

A Defense of Learning is a performance-based assessment where they synthesize their academic, personal, and professional growth into a presentation delivered to a panel of educators, family, and community members. Students:

- Explain what they've learned
- Reflect on how they've grown
 - a. Connect learning to frameworks like Portrait of a Learner
- Show evidence of their learning
- Share it with a real audience
 - a. Audience provides feedback as assessment



Defenses of Learning, cont.

- Defenses are often culminating events for transitional grades (5th, 8th, and 12th)
- Include documentation and reflection on learning over time, across disciplines
- Many districts use Exhibitions of Learning to prepare students for transitional Defenses
- ALL students participate meaningfully
- Success stories of defenses



What questions do you have? Questions we have for you:

- 1) What barriers might teachers face in bringing the Portrait or Defenses into practice—and what support would help overcome those?
- 2) What would meaningful professional learning look like to help teachers try this work in real, manageable ways?

VLCs

- Vibrant Learning Collaboratives
 - July 16- Clark Co.
 - July 17- Laurel Co.
 - July 22- Hopkins Co.
 - July 23- Nelson Co.
- Register [HERE!](#)
- Submit a proposal [HERE!](#)
- Link to [flyer](#)
- Link to [informational site](#)



Explore vibrant learning, discover strategies to enhance your curriculum, and learn how these approaches align with the Kentucky United We Learn vision. Choose from a variety of breakout sessions and leave with practical tools to transform your classroom!



June 18th, 2024 · 8 am - 3:30 pm

at **STEAM ACADEMY** in Lexington,

KY **HEAR** from a diverse panel of students about their experiences with deeper learning.

LEARN from Kentucky educators making impactful shifts in their classrooms.

DISCOVER strategies that can bring your Portrait of a Learner to life.

LEARN MORE AT
bit.ly/MMNTM25

VI. Kentucky United We Learn Framework 4.0

- **Shara Savage**, Education Administration Program Manager, Office of the Assessment & Accountability

The background of the slide is a collage of two images. The top-left portion shows a line of yellow school buses, with the number '32' visible on the front of one. The bottom-right portion shows a classroom with blue walls, decorated with colorful balloons and framed pictures. There are several small tables and chairs arranged in the room.

Kentucky United We Learn Framework 4.0

The Future of Assessment and Accountability in Kentucky

June 2025





Model Framework 4.0 Overview

Shara Savage

Education Administration Program Manager
Division of Assessment and Accountability Support
Office of the Assessment and Accountability



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Difference Between Framework 3.0 and 4.0

- Changed Federal Accountability to State Accountability Indicators - Meets Federal Requirements
- In the technical document, modified social studies and writing testing to: “Districts are encouraged to develop and administer their own competency-based or other authentic local measures for social studies, or they may use the state-provided measures once per grade band (elementary, middle, high) at grades 5, 8 and 10.”



The Future of Assessment and Accountability in Kentucky

In Service to the Kentucky United We Learn Council's Moonshot:

To build a prosperous Kentucky, we will launch an accountability system that is meaningful and useful for all our learners.

In the past, systems prioritized...

Standardization

- Standardized tests for all subjects
- Instruction developed around testing offers little variance

Comparison

- Limited collaboration across districts or within communities
- Schools rated using the color system

State Control

- The state decides all measures used for accountability
- The same state accountability system for all schools

Compliance

- Accountability system designed to “meet requirements” in state and federal law
- Local improvement efforts align to requirements

Going forward, systems will support more...

Vibrant Learning

- Students have agency to demonstrate knowledge and skills in a variety of ways
- State tests meet students where they are



Collaboration

- Districts collaborate in partnership with communities
- The state supports networks of peer districts
- No more color ratings



Local Innovation

- Districts engage with communities to design custom accountability systems reflecting local values
- Some state requirements allow local choice



Feedback and Support

- All schools receive peer and expert external feedback to support improvement
- Local flexibility and data lead to customized support



The balanced accountability system will include components that reflect local priorities, areas of choice and components that are the same for all schools.

Flexibility in Administration and Inclusion

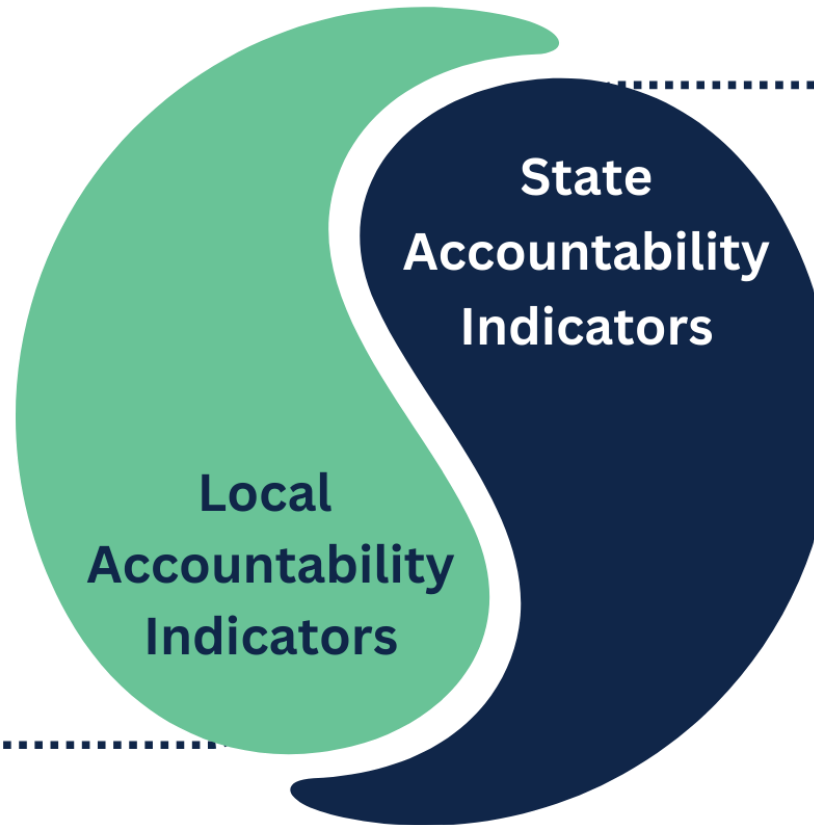
- Locally-Determined Indicators
- Interim Assessments
 - Reading
 - Math
- Science Off-Grade Testing

Required with Options

- Vibrant Learning Experiences
- Writing
- Social Studies



Scan or click for more details.



Meets Federal Requirements

- Summative Performance
 - Reading
 - Math
- Individual Student Growth
- Transition Readiness & Graduation Rate
- English Language Progress
- Climate and Safety Survey
- *Science Assessment -*

Students must be tested in science using a common statewide measure.

However, districts may choose to include it in local accountability and add additional competency based measures.

Together, these components support a local Portrait of a Learner, drive continuous improvement, and foster personalized, student-centered experiences.

Districts will design and implement local accountability systems - with state and peer support - on a timeline that sets everyone up for success.

1

Pilot Phase

Continue with a representative pilot group of districts to design and implement local accountability systems. This phase focuses on testing key components, gathering feedback, identifying challenges, and refining processes.

2

Expansion Phase

Expand local accountability systems to more districts, applying lessons from the pilot. State invests in high-quality professional learning systems and strong communities of practice for local system design and stakeholder engagement.

3

Sustainability Phase

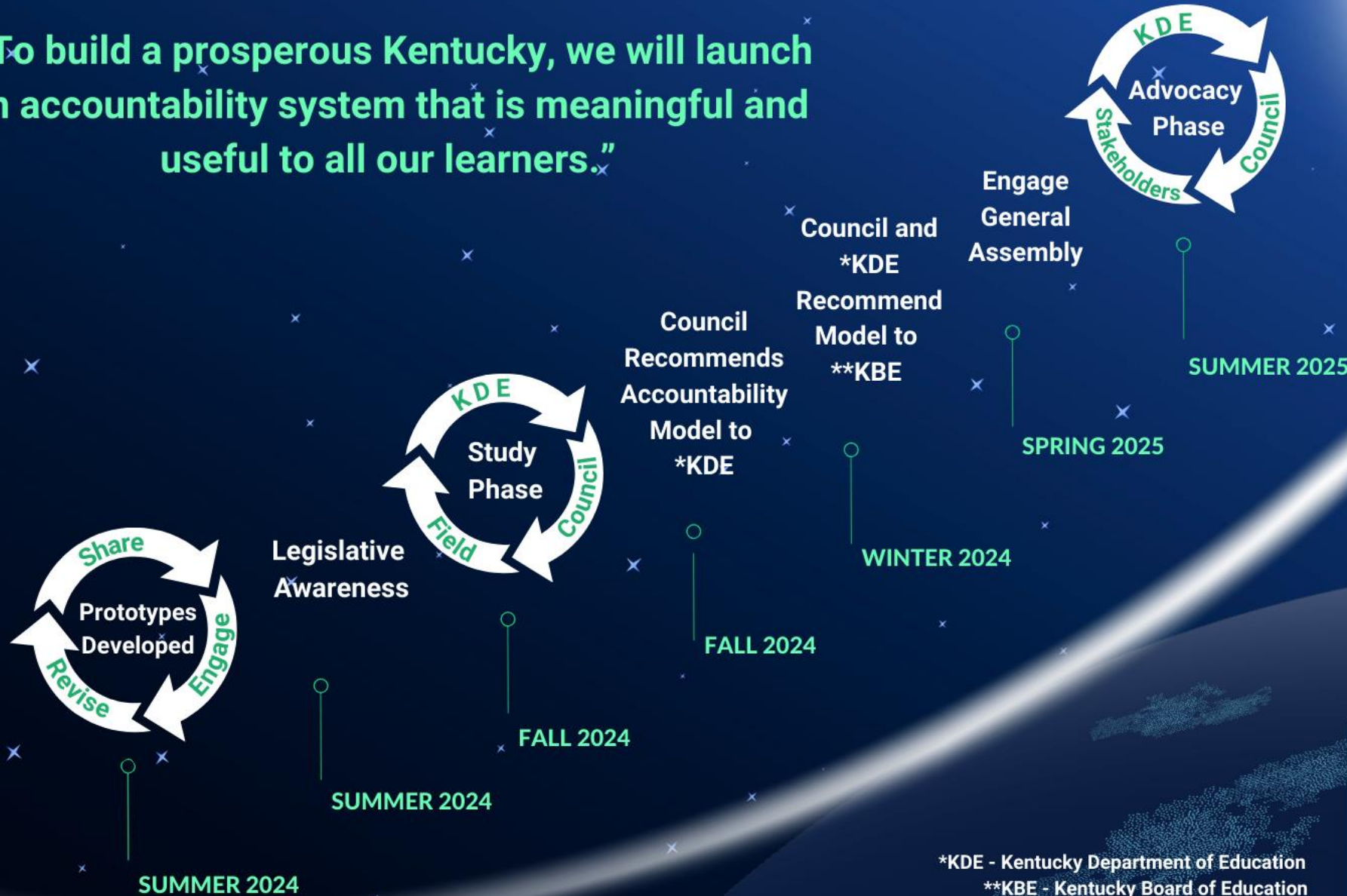
Local accountability systems are scaled across the state with active networks for shared learning, system review, and continuous improvement.

KENTUCKY UNITED WE LEARN COUNCIL'S: JOURNEY TO THE MOON

"To build a prosperous Kentucky, we will launch an accountability system that is meaningful and useful to all our learners."

Goal:
Approved Reimagined
Accountability System

SUMMER 2026



Kentucky
UNITED WE LEARN
COUNCIL

VII. Teacher Emotional Well-being

- **Elly Gilbert**, Assistant Director, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness

Teacher Emotional Well-being

Using the Impact Kentucky survey data and Panorama resources to explore and address teacher well-being

What does Impact Kentucky tell us about teachers and their emotional well-being?

QUESTION



How concerned are you about the emotional well-being of your colleagues as a result of their work?

34% 

responded
favorably

 **8**

from 2021-22
Impact Kentucky



QUESTION



How concerned are you about your own emotional well-being as a result of your work?

44% 

responded
favorably

 **8**

from 2021-22
Impact Kentucky



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What influences emotional well-being?

1. Positive interpersonal relationships with colleagues
2. Workload
3. School culture
4. Resources
5. Administrative support

Hazard Independent

How did teachers & staff respond to each question?

Sorted by Survey order ▾ First to last ▾ [Use full width charts](#)

QUESTION ➤ How effective do you feel at your job right now?	92% responded favorably	▲ 9 from 2021-22 Impact Kentucky	
QUESTION ➤ How concerned are you about the emotional well-being of your colleagues as a result of their work?	72% responded favorably	▲ 21 from 2021-22 Impact Kentucky	
QUESTION ➤ How concerned are you about your own emotional well-being as a result of your work?	73% responded favorably	▲ 16 from 2021-22 Impact Kentucky	
QUESTION ➤ Overall, how much do you feel like you belong at your school?	91% responded favorably	▲ 2 from 2021-22 Impact Kentucky	

What sets Hazard apart?

- “Tightly connected”
- “When one person is dealing with something, we all are.”
- “Hazard Family”
- Extends to students and community as well
- Low staff and leadership turnover

What works in your school/district?

- Discussion and sharing time?

Resources from Panorama

- <https://secure.panoramaed.com/impactky>
- Create an account
- Search PLAYBOOK for resources

Results

Browse survey results for:



Kentucky



178 Districts



1505 Schools



9 Educational
Cooperatives



7 School Types



Admin

Create and manage surveys and projects.



Playbook

Explore resources for educators to improve student outcome.



Bookmarks (0)

Save survey results for later, visible only to you.

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E D U C A T I O N

57 Results

Number of Results

12 per page

Sort By

Relevance

Filters

☐ Show new content only (off) ?

Domain

- ☐ Attendance (2)
- ☐ Behavior (12)
- ☒ Climate (57)
- ☐ Social-Emotional Learning (45)

Focus Area

Curriculum Partner

Rating

Developmental Stage

- ☒ Adult (57)
- ☐ High School (69)
- ☐ Lower Elementary (51)
- ☐ Middle School (93)

Embracing Brave Conversations



Panorama Education

Average rating: 5.0/5.0 (2 votes)



This activity aims to establish a nurturing environment where educators can engage in frank and respectful dialogue on sensitive topics, promoting personal gro...

Adult Check-Ins



Digital Promise

Average rating: 4.8/5.0 (6 votes)



Beginning meetings with check-ins and maximizing opportunities for informal check-ins, whether live or online, can foster a sense of belonging while building s...

Communities of Practice



Digital Promise

Average rating: 5.0/5.0 (2 votes)



A community of practice is a group of individuals who work together to improve skills related to a shared passion through regular interactions.

Job Shadowing for Educators



Digital Promise

Average rating: 5.0/5.0 (2 votes)



This practice allows educators to shadow a colleague to gain firsthand experience of the role and insights into decisions that are made.

Educator Reflective Practice



Panorama Education

Average rating: 5.0/5.0 (2 votes)



This strategy enhances emotional intelligence and professional practice among educators through structured, varied reflection opportunities.

Staff Shout-Outs



Panorama Education

Average rating: 5.0/5.0 (4 votes)



Implementing a "Staff Shout-Out" ritual during staff meetings or through a dedicated communication channel. This ritual allows staff members to recognize and a...



EDUCATION

Questions?

Elly Gilbert

Assistant Director, Educator Recruitment and Development

Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness

Kentucky Department of Education

elly.gilbert@education.ky.gov

VIII. Legislative Update

- Brian Perry, Director of Government Relations, KDE

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Legislative Update

Brian Perry, Ph.D.

Director of Government Relations



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KDE Non-regulatory Legislative Guidance

- Initial guidance on passed bills has been released.
- Supplemental guidance on specific bills will follow as needed.
- All materials will be posted here:
<https://www.education.ky.gov/districts/LegislativeGuidance/Pages/default.aspx>
- Please let KDE staff know if you have specific questions on bills.
- Per Attorney General opinion OAG 25-05, the effective date of legislation passed during this session, other than general appropriation bills and acts containing emergency or delayed effective date provisions, is Friday, June 27, 2025.

Senate Bills

[SB 4](#) - AN ACT relating to protection of information and declaring an emergency.

[SB 9](#) - AN ACT relating to teacher benefit provisions and declaring an emergency.

[SB 19](#) - AN ACT relating to moments of silence and reflection.

[SB 68](#) - AN ACT relating to education.

[SB 73](#) - AN ACT relating to sexual extortion.

[SB 77](#) - AN ACT relating to the Education Professional Standards Board.

[SB 120](#) - AN ACT relating to interscholastic athletics

[SB 181](#) - AN ACT relating to school employee and volunteer misconduct.

[SB 207](#) - AN ACT relating to public school innovation.

House Bills

[HB 48](#) - AN ACT relating to education.

[HB 73](#) - AN ACT relating to employers of the Teachers' Retirement System.

[HB 132](#) - AN ACT relating to home and hospital instruction.

[HB 190](#) - AN ACT relating to advanced educational opportunities.

[HB 193](#) - AN ACT relating to dual credit scholarships.

[HB 208](#) - AN ACT relating to technology in public schools.

[HB 240](#) - AN ACT relating to primary school.

[HB 241](#) - AN ACT relating to school district calendars and declaring an emergency.

[HB 251](#) - AN ACT relating to the evaluation of educator preparation programs.

[HB 263](#) - AN ACT relating to teacher scholarships.

[HB 298](#) - AN ACT relating to schools identified for comprehensive support and improvement in schools.

House Bills

[HB 342](#) - AN ACT relating to financial literacy.

[HB 422](#) - AN ACT relating to administrative regulations.

[HB 430](#) - AN ACT relating to school bus safety training.

[HB 441](#) - AN ACT relating to re-employment after retirement in the Teachers' Retirement System.

[HB 544](#) - AN ACT relating to disaster relief, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring an emergency.

[HB 566](#) - AN ACT relating to the Kentucky Horse Racing and Gaming Corporation and declaring an emergency.

July 1, 2025

[HB 606](#) - AN ACT relating to general obligation bonds

[HB 622](#) - AN ACT relating to government contracts and declaring an emergency.

[HB 694](#) - AN ACT relating to Teachers' Retirement System benefit funding.

[HJR 32](#) - A JOINT RESOLUTION authorizing the release of funds.

Interim Period

- Interim calendar: <https://legislature.ky.gov/Documents/2025%20Interim%20Calendar.pdf>

IJCE will meet at 11 a.m. ET on the following dates:

- June 3
- July 14
- Aug. 19
- Sept. 16
- Oct. 14
- Nov. 4

IJC A&R will meet at 1 p.m. ET on the following dates:

- June 4
- July 15
- Aug. 20
- Sept. 17
- Oct. 15
- Nov. 5

2026 Session

- Budget session
- Kentucky United We Learn/Assessment and Accountability
- Teacher scholarship(s)
 - [Senate Bill 253 \(RS2025\)](#)
- Virtual programs

Questions

- Brian Perry, Ph.D., Director of Government Relations, Office of the Commissioner
- brian.perry@education.ky.gov

IX. Adjournment

- **Justin Edwards**, TAC Liaison, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness
- Future Meeting:
 - Sept. 10, 2025
 - Dec. 12, 2025
 - March 18, 2026
 - June 17, 2026