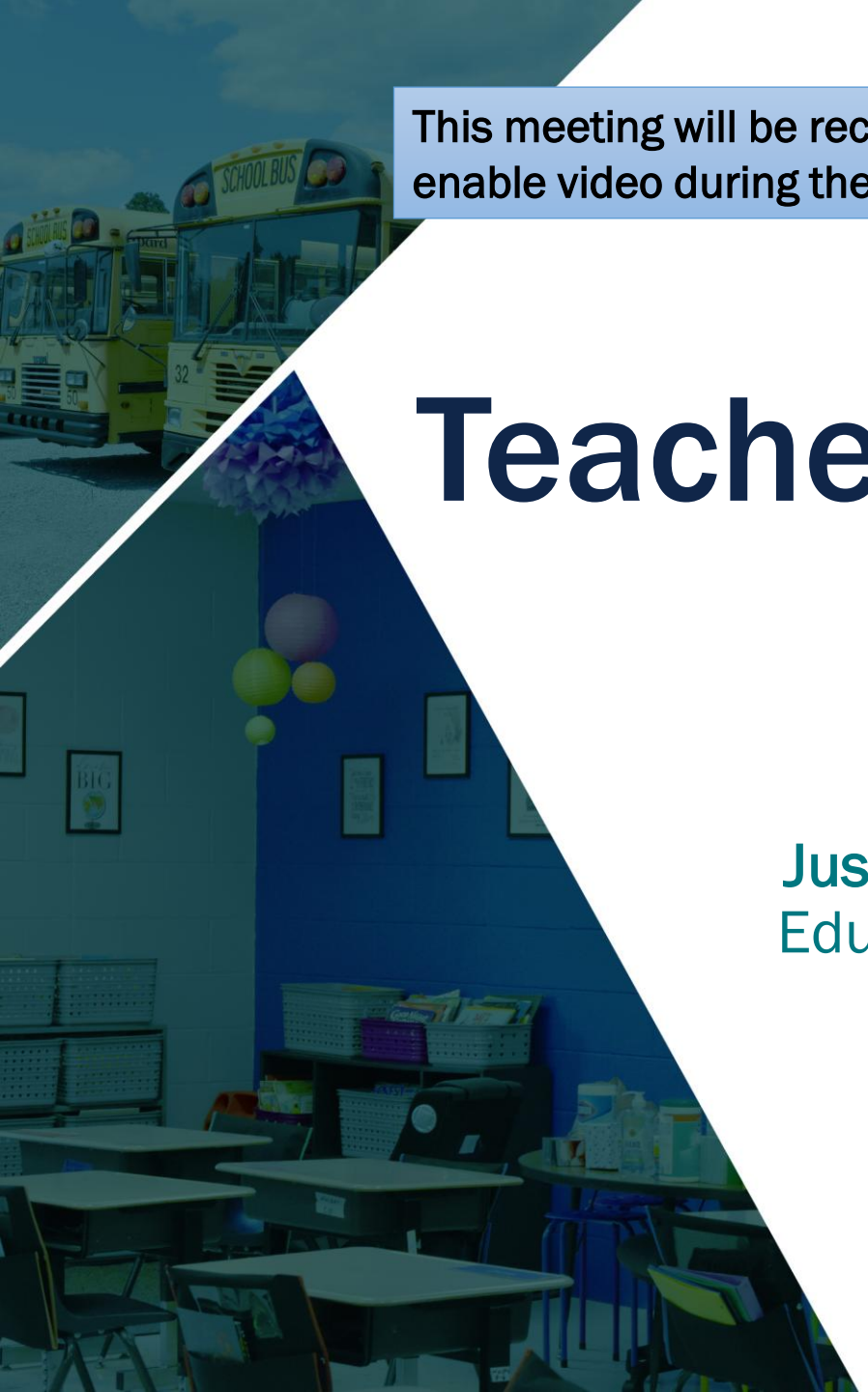


This meeting will be recorded. It is requested that TAC members please enable video during the meeting.

Teacher Advisory Council (TAC)

Sept. 9, 2026

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

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TAC WEB PAGE LINK

- ACCESS THE TAC WEBPAGE

I. Welcome

- **Veda Stewart,** Division Director, Division of Educator Recruitment and Development

II. Roll Call of Members

- **Megan Hall,** TAC Chairperson, Rosa Parks Elementary, Fayette County

Name	Represents	Term Expiring
Megan Hall, chair	Fayette County	September 2027
Amber Hinkle	Bell County	March 2029
Kevin Dailey	Boone County	March 2027
Scot Bratcher	Breckinridge County	September 2027
Amy Leasgang	Bullitt County	March 2029
Brooke Leffingwell	Campbell County	September 2027
Jessica Hobson	Christian County	September 2027
Mandy Perez	Crittenden County	September 2026
Kristen Morgan	Danville Independent	September 2027
Sarah Lizer	Fayette County	September 2027
Wendy Young	Fayette County	September 2027
Emmanuel Anama-Green	Harlan County	September 2027

Name	Represents	Term Expiring
Tyler Saylor	Harlan Independent	March 2029
Joseph Stivers	Jefferson County	September 2027
Robyn Ballinger	Jefferson County	March 2029
Becky Spies	Kentucky School for the Blind	September 2027
Toni Prater	Kentucky School for the Deaf	December 2027
Corey Burns	Mercer County	September 2027
Nick Shoffner	Middlesboro Independent	September 2027
Jason Davidson	Russell County	March 2029
Casey Page	Shelby County	September 2027
Shane Baker	Warren County	September 2027

III. Approve Agenda

- **Megan Hall,** TAC Chairperson, Rosa Parks Elementary, Fayette County

IV. Approve Minutes from Last Meeting

- **Megan Hall,** TAC Chairperson, Rosa Parks Elementary, Fayette County
  - Access the June summary

V. Kentucky Academic Standards Update

- **Chrystal Rowland,** Division Director, Division of Program Standards
- **Sara Merideth,** World Language Consultant, Division of Program Standards



Standards Update

Chrystal Rowland
Director of Academic Program Standards
Office of Teaching and Learning

Kentucky Department of EDUCATION

Review of the Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS)

- KRS 158.6453 calls for the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to implement a process for reviewing all academic standards and aligned assessments beginning in the 2017-2018 school year. The schedule calls for one or two content areas to be reviewed each year and every six years after that on a rotating basis.



Kentucky Academic Standards for World Language

Kentucky Department of EDUCATION

Sara Merideth

- Currently serving in my 25th year in education. Previous roles include French teacher, PBIS Teacher Coach, and School-Based Instructional Coach
- Previously served on the Kentucky World Language Association (KWLA) board from 2008 – 2018 and again 2020 – 2022
- Nationally served in the inaugural cohort of the Leadership Initiative for Language Learning (LILL)
- Previously served on the Advisory Panel for the most recent KAS for World Language
- Currently live in Lexington with husband, three children, and multiple pets

KDE Seeks Public Comment on Current World Language Standards



- The KDE seeks input from all stakeholders including teachers, administrators, students, families, business and community members.
- The public comment survey will be open through **Oct. 5.**
- Information will be coming soon via KDE press release, Commissioner's Weekly Message and the Standards Newsletter.
- Please share with those within your local community.

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OTL Seeks Standards Committee Members

- Application for classroom teachers to serve on the world language standards review committees will be open through **Oct. 5.**
- Please share the application with world language teachers, instructional leads and building administrators.
- More information coming soon via KDE press release, Commissioner's Weekly Message and the Standards Newsletter.





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Any Questions?



Chrystal Rowland

Division Director

Office of Teaching and Learning

Chrystal.Rowland@education.ky.gov



Sara Merideth

World Language Consultant

Division of Program Standards

Sara.merideth@education.ky.gov

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VI. K–8 Social Studies Curriculum Project

- **Lauren Gallicchio,** Assistant Director, Division of Program Standards

Kentucky Department of EDUCATION



K-8 Kentucky Social Studies Curriculum Project

Lauren Gallicchio

Assistant Director

Division of Program Standards

Kentucky Department of EDUCATION



A New High-Quality Instructional Resource for K-8

Our Commonwealth
A K-8 HQIR for Kentucky

- Acronym: OCNW
- Aligned to revised *KAS for Social Studies* (2026)
- Developed through partnership between KDE and Core Knowledge Foundation
- Responds to district requests for social studies HQIR
- Built FOR Kentucky
- OER, free for districts

Core Knowledge®

CKHG™

Core Knowledge History and Geography™

in partnership with

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Curriculum Design Features

- Organized around coherent knowledge building across K–8.
- Integrates civics, economics, geography and history.
- Reflects Kentucky communities, history and civic life.
- Supports disciplinary inquiry and civic thinking.
- Builds literacy through knowledge rich social studies instruction.

What to Expect

- 2027-2028: K, Grade 3, Grade 5, Grade 8
- 2028-2029: Grades 1, 2, 4, 6, 7
- Comprehensive professional learning will accompany release:
- Regional in-person curriculum-based PL (CBPL) summer sessions
- Live, virtual follow-up CBPL throughout the academic year
- Self-paced asynchronous modules on KyLearningHub.org
- Ongoing updates from KDE as development progresses

Where to go for updates



bitly

Kystandards.org

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Questions?



Lauren Gallicchio

Assistant Director

Division of Program Standards

Lauren.gallicchio@education.ky.gov

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VII. Individual Learning Plan (ILP) Showcase

- **Susan Strange,** Strategic Plan Program Manager, Office of the Commissioner



Individual Learning Plan (ILP) Video Showcase

Karen Dodd, Chief Performance Officer

Susan Strange, Strategic Plan Program Manager

Michelle Sircy, Program Coordinator for Comprehensive School Counseling

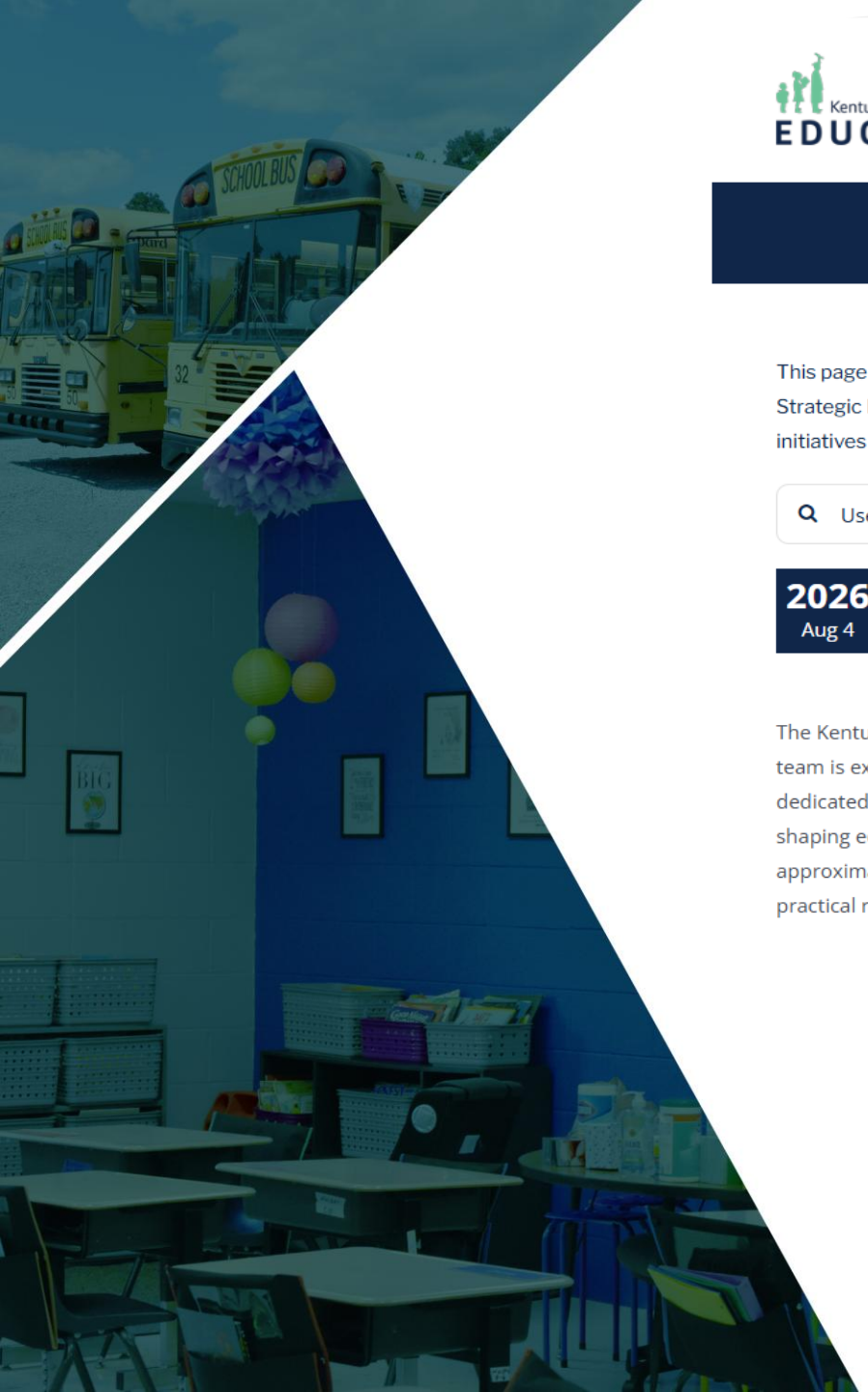
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ILP Webpage

https://www.education.ky.gov/educational/compschcouns/ILP

VIII. Research Blogs

- **Leslie McKinney,** Education Academic Program Manager, Office of the Commissioner



Kentucky Department of EDUCATION

Research Blog

LAUNCHED AUG 11

Research Blog

This page is maintained by the **Strategic Planning and Research (SPR) Team** in the Office of the Commissioner at the Kentucky Department of Education. The Strategic Planning and Research Team collects, analyzes, and reports data to develop high-quality research that drives strategic decisions and supports KDE initiatives to make the greatest impact on our children and our future.

Use the search bar for keywords or scroll down for the most recent posts.

2026 Aug 4 — **Beyond a Definition- The True Scale of Kentucky's At**

By Leslie Mckinney | Current Research |

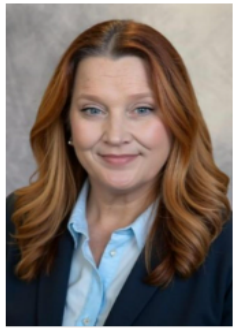
The Kentucky Department o
team is excited to launch th
dedicated to sharing resear
shaping education across th
approximately every two we
practical resources, and dat

2022 — **How are the Local Education Agencies**

Kentucky Department of EDUCATION

Research Blog Meet the SPR Team

Beyond a Definition- The True Scale of Kentucky's Attendance Crisis



By Leslie Mckinney
Published On: August 4, 2026
0 Comments

Categories: Chronic Absenteeism, Current Research Tags: Chronic Absenteeism

The Kentucky Department of Education's Strategic Planning and Research team is excited to launch 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. 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.

The inaugural series explores one of Kentucky's most pressing educational challenges—chronic absenteeism. Through research, data, and real-world examples, the series examines how attendance has changed since the pandemic, the factors driving chronic absenteeism, and the statewide efforts, partnerships, and policy changes helping schools reconnect students and improve attendance outcomes.

If you work in the field of education or are the parent or guardian of a student in Kentucky public schools, chances are you don't need another article explaining what chronic absenteeism is. You have likely heard it discussed in meetings or seen it in school communications and newsletters, or experienced the impact of it in the classroom.

But even for those who have followed the issue closely, it can be hard to understand the true scale of the problem. While many students attend school regularly, far too many miss school enough to place their academic success, future opportunities, and their sense of belonging at risk.

Access Hub: KDE Website → Research Blog Page

Purpose and Series Structure

Translates complex research papers into digestible, bi-weekly series featuring data visualizations and actionable insights for educators, leaders and policymakers.

Bi-Weekly Publication

Data Visualizations

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Distribution and Interactive Feedback

Promoted through *Kentucky Teacher Magazine* and the e-Commissioner's Weekly Message. Deliberately includes reflection questions to prompt public comments and gather stakeholder perspectives.

KY Teacher Magazine | e-Commissioner Message | Public Feedback

Kentucky Department of EDUCATION

Kickoff Series: Chronic Absenteeism

Examines post-pandemic attendance shifts, key factors, and policy efforts. Features debut post *“Beyond a Definition—The True Scale of Kentucky’s Attendance Crisis”* by Leslie McKinney.

Author: Leslie McKinney

Statewide Attendance Study

Kentucky Department of EDUCATION

IX. Priority Setting for TAC

- **Megan Hall,** TAC Chairperson, Rosa Parks Elementary, Fayette County

Goals of Exercise

- Surface what matters most to teachers right now.
- Build ownership: these priorities will become our focus for advising the Commissioner. Members with connections/expertise share with others.
- Establish a shared sense of direction and an annual through-line for the Council's work.
- Create clarity about how these priorities will inform future agendas, guest speakers, and resource development.

Frame the Purpose

- Identify
- Prioritize
- Use to Guide Councils Work

Individual Reflection

5 minutes



Small Group Clustering

10 minutes



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Whole-Group Synthesis

1. KSA Achievement 0 votes
2. Workload affecting wellbeing of Teachers **9 votes**
3. CTE/College Track keeping students engaged **4 votes**
4. Family Engagement **2 votes**
5. Joy of Learning with Scripted Resources **2 votes**
6. Artificial Intelligence (using it in classroom) **7 votes**
7. Truancy / Attendance **9 votes**
8. Textbooks and Resources **6 votes**
9. Gap in student readiness **10 votes**
10. Portrait of a Learner **3 votes**
11. Ensuring students are employable when they graduate **3 votes**
12. Teacher Mentorships (KTIP) **8 votes**

Priorities for the Next Year

1. Gap in student readiness
2. Workload affecting wellbeing of Teachers
3. Truancy / Attendance
4. Teacher Mentorships (KTIP)
5. Artificial Intelligence (using it in classroom)

X. Adjournment

- **Megan Hall**, TAC Chairperson, Rosa Parks Elementary, Fayette County
- **Future Meetings:**
  - Dec. 10, 2026
  - March 10, 2027
  - June 9, 2027