



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
TEACHER ADVISORY COUNCIL (TAC)  
SUMMARY

MARCH 7, 2024

**Members Present:** Chad Davidson, Jen Davis, Jamaal Stiles, Erica Deal, Rosa Cubero-Hurley, Jane Modlin, Melanie Callahan, Carla Lawson, Charlene Martin, Amy Leasgang, Mandy Perez, Kevin Dailey

**Members Absent:** Jennifer Stewart, Donnie Wilkerson, Susan Cintra, Amanda Klare, Byron Wilson, Gregory Smith, Kennita Ballard, April Jackson, Misty Bivens, Carla Criswell

**Agenda Item: Welcome**

**Presenter:** Robin Fields Kinney, Interim Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:** Kinney provided an update on the search process for Kentucky's new Commissioner of Education and expressed gratitude to the members for their work in the classroom and for serving on the council.

**Agenda Item: Approve Summary from Last Meeting**

**Presenter:** Jamaal Stiles, Teacher Advisory Council (TAC) Chairperson, Washington County Schools

**Summary of Discussion:** Chad Davidson made a motion to approve the summary minutes from the December 2023 meeting. Jan Modlin made a second. Members used the chat to approve.

**Agenda Item: Legislative and Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) Updates**

**Presenter:** Cassie Trueblood, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:** Trueblood shared some highlights from the December 2023 and February 2024 EPSB meetings. Teachers were selected to serve as EPSB chair and vice chair. A review of the flexibility measures related to PRAXIS assessments was discussed.

An explanation regarding Emergency Teacher Certification was provided. Emergency Teacher Certification is in statute and only available when a district does not have a qualified candidate. Renewal of Emergency Teacher Certification was previously only permitted once, but now the

certificate can be re-issued for a total of two issuances. Emphasis about Special Education Emergency Teacher Certification was noted. Federal law related to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) does prohibit the use of Emergency Teacher Certification in special education. Beginning in the next school year (2024-2025), the EPSB will no longer issue Emergency Teacher Certifications in any special education area to ensure compliance with federal law. Guidance documents have been developed by the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to support districts in dealing with this change. The documents were shared with the members of TAC.

Trueblood also shared information about the current legislative session. Following the session, the KDE will be releasing guidance regarding education bills. A link to the landing page for the 2024 Legislative Session was shared with the group as well as a link to bills that have been flagged as education related. Trueblood offered to answer any questions.

**Feedback:** Chad Davidson inquired about House Bill 694. Trueblood noted it was still in committee and has not been assigned or had readings on the floor. She provided the link to the bill in the chat so members could follow its progress.

#### **Agenda Item: Artificial Intelligence: Educator Insights**

**Presenter:** Kristal Doolin and Renee Hibbard, Southeast Southcentral Education Cooperative

**Summary of Discussion:** Kristal Doolin, a deeper learning educational consultant from the Southeast South-Central Education Cooperative, spoke to the council on how to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) as an educator and within the classroom.

Doolin said that most people are already using tools with AI in them without even knowing. Since the launch of Chat GPT, Doolin said that there has been a flood of AI technology apps and systems that have been launched.

Doolin said she believes teaching AI literacy will provide an opportunity for students to learn about the technology, how to use it properly, evaluate the systems and understand the ethical considerations when using it.

She showed council members examples of how they can use AI within their classrooms, such as asking the technology to take a lesson and turn it into a song for the students to remember, or reviewing papers based on a rubric and giving feedback to students on their writing.

**Feedback:** None

#### **Agenda Item: Educator Wellbeing: What's going well? What needs to change?**

**Presenter:** Annalee Jackson, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:** Annalee Jackson, a Leadership for Educational Equity (LEE) Public Policy Fellow in the KDE Office of Teaching and Learning, spoke to the council about educator well-being.

On Feb. 6, KDE released results from the 2023 Impact Kentucky Working Conditions Survey, which asks all certified school staff a variety of questions about their working conditions.

The survey is administered every two years. Certified educators working at least half-time are given the opportunity to provide input on teaching conditions that can be used to inform improvements within schools, districts and statewide.

In the survey, educators responded 78% favorably to questions about staff-leadership relationships, 2% higher than the previous report. The greatest increase was seen in emotional well-being and belonging, with a 7% increase.

The survey also shows that a total of 34% of educators reported a favorable response regarding the emotional well-being of their colleagues because of their work, and 55% reported a favorable response regarding their own emotional well-being.

Jackson asked council members to discuss areas in their schools that were doing well in supporting educators' well-being and areas in which some schools may need to improve upon.

Kevin Dailey, a teacher in Boone County and the 2024 Kentucky Teacher of the Year, said the support and trust built between other educators, administration and staff is extremely important.

"My principal particularly does an incredible job of valuing the teacher's expertise," said Dailey. "She trusts her teachers and that trust is incredibly important for me, but it also builds our culture within our building."

Jamaal Stiles, an educator in Washington County, said something to keep in mind when it comes to emotional well-being is knowing when an educator's plate is full and finding ways to protect their time.

Jackson acknowledged the demanding work that educators do and the long hours that come with it. She said that finding that balance and creating resources for educators is one of her priorities.

"I hear that there's so much that teachers need to prioritize, and everything feels so important. So, I would encourage deprioritizing things and then prioritizing things which we know are more pressing," said Jackson.

**Feedback:** None

**Agenda Item:** Kentucky Teacher of the Year

**Presenter:** Kevin Dailey, Ballyshannon Middle School, Boone County

**Summary of Discussion:** Dailey is Kentucky's Teacher of the Year and is on sabbatical working on a project that focuses on great teachers. He is soliciting recommendations from teachers, parents, community members, students, and others in his quest to showcase classrooms where students want to be. His goal is to visit all 172 school districts in Kentucky. A nomination form was shared with the group.

Dailey also shared takeaways from the Educators Rising State Competition.

**Feedback:** None

**Agenda Item:** Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) Non-voting Teacher Member

**Presenter:** Stacy Noah, TAC Liaison, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:** Noah shared information about the application process for the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) Non-voting Teacher Member to represent the 2nd Congressional District. A link to apply was shared with all TAC members.

Members of TAC (who were not interested in applying for the position) were encouraged to volunteer to serve on the special committee to score and identify three finalists for the KBE to consider. TAC members who volunteered were Jamaal Stiles, Carla Lawson, Melanie Callahan, Rosa Cubero Hurley and Chad Davidson.

**Feedback:** Chad Davidson asked about the number of volunteers needed for the special committee. Noah shared that there was no minimum or maximum number of volunteers.

**Agenda Item:** Teacher Advisory Council Application Process

**Presenter:** Stacy Noah, TAC Liaison, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

Noah shared that 11 TAC members would be rotating off in June 2024. A discussion of the application process focused on ways to ensure applicants had a complete understanding of the requirements to serve and the meeting structures.

**Feedback:** None

**Agenda Item:** Adjournment

**Presenter:** Jamaal Stiles, TAC Chairperson, Washington County Schools

**Summary of Discussion:** Chad Davidson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Melanie Callahan made a second motion to adjourn. Members noted agreement in the chat.

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