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Superintendents Webcast

March 14, 2023



Kentucky Department of
EDUCATION

Agenda

Welcome

Jason E. Glass, Ed.D., Commissioner of Education and Chief Learner

KDE Updates

Toni Konz Tatman, KDE Chief of Communications

Legislative Oversight and Investigations Committee Survey

Micki Ray, Chief Academic Officer, KDE Office of Teaching and Learning

Legislative Update

Robin Kinney, Associate Commissioner, KDE Office of Finance and Operations

Chay Ritter, Division Director, KDE Office of Finance and Operations

Brian Perry, KDE Director of Government Relations

Educators Rising Statewide Conference

John Paise, Program Consultant, KDE Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness

Question and Answer Session

KDE Leadership

(Submit Questions via Google Form)

Important Dates



KDE Updates

Toni Konz Tatman

KDE Chief Communications Officer



Update: Competitive Grants from KDE

The [competitive grants page on the Kentucky Department of Education's website](#) has been redesigned to be more user-friendly. The following improvements were implemented after discussions with stakeholders, grant professionals and grant reviewers.

- Quick link from the KDE homepage to make grants page easier to find.
- Removal of outdated materials.
- At-a-glance details provided for each active grant opportunity.

In addition, starting with last month's Superintendents Webcast, we will be providing you an update on any competitive grants that are currently available.

Do you have other ideas on how we can improve our process? Send your suggestion to [Jennifer Bryant](#) in KDE's Procurement Branch.

Competitive Grants from KDE

Reading Diagnostic and Intervention Fund (RDIF)

Grant applications due: April 25 at 4 p.m. ET

Award Amount: \$40,000 one-time award.

Matching Funds Requirement: No

Technical Assistance session: Tuesday, March 21, at 10 a.m. ET

Stronger Connections Grant

Grant applications due: May 15 at 4 p.m. ET

Award Amount: Varies by student population served, \$300,000 – \$3 million

Matching Funds Requirement: No

Technical Assistance session: Wednesday, March 22, at 9 a.m. ET

Applications Close for KBE, Student Advisory

- Thank you for your help in sharing the word of open seats on the Commissioner's Student Advisory Council and the open student and teacher ex officio members on the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE).
- Seven students and eight teachers will be considered for the KBE.
- There also were 103 students from 41 school districts who applied to become part of the student advisory.

Johnson County Breaks Ground on New High School, CTE Center

- Johnson County Schools representatives, including employees and students at Johnson Central High School, broke ground atop an eastern Kentucky mountain on March 7 on a project slated to expand access to opportunity for students in the region.
- The project, positioned on reclaimed mine land, is a \$126 million high school and integrated career and technical center.
- It will include a new studio for media arts students, state-of-the-art facilities for engineering and technology students, and resources for instruction and collaboration outside of the traditional classroom setting.



Two Cooperatives to Receive More Than \$18 Million in Federal Funding for Student Mental Health

- Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman joined students and local educational leaders on Feb. 21 to announce federal funding that will increase access to school-based mental health services for more than 100,000 students.
- The U.S. Department of Education selected two educational cooperatives that applied for funding.
- The Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services (NKCES) will receive \$13,263,481 over five years, and the Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative (OVEC) will receive \$5,281,577 over five years.



CTE Students Showcase Their Programs at Kentucky State Capitol

- Students participating in one of 32 different career and technical education (CTE) programs across Kentucky got the chance to show what they are learning at the Kentucky State Capitol on Feb. 21.
- KDE had been celebrating the benefits of CTE throughout February as part of Career and Technical Education Month.
- Kentucky currently offers over 135 state-wide career pathways, many in Kentucky's top 5 in-demand industry sectors.
- In the 2021-2022 school year, 71% of Kentucky high school students – nearly 140,000 people – participated in CTE programs.



KDE Testifies on Literacy Programs, Initiatives to Legislative Committee

- Representatives of KDE's Office of Teaching and Learning updated state lawmakers on March 7 about the progress of new early literacy initiatives.
- The legislature passed Senate Bill 9, the Read to Succeed Act, last year in an effort to accelerate student progress toward reading proficiency.
- Each year, approximately half of Kentucky's 3rd-graders score below proficiency.
- Overall, the Read to Succeed fund provides \$22 million over the current two-year budget, plus another \$15.9 million in Read to Achieve grants each year.



KDE Family Partnership Council Hears Update on ‘Read at Home’ Guidance

- KDE’s Family Partnership Council discussed new guidance for the “Read at Home” plans the department has started rolling out for schools and districts during its meeting on March 9.
- “Read at Home” guidance came about as part of Senate Bill 9 (2022), which requires KDE to provide supports around “Read at Home” plans, among several other reforms to help with reading proficiency.
- Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, if a student’s rate of progress toward proficiency in reading needs accelerated, the local school district shall provide the families of such identified kindergarten through grade 3 students with a “Read at Home” plan (KRS 158.305).



KDE Teachers Advisory Council Discusses Educator Retention Efforts with Teacher of the Year

- 2023 Kentucky Teacher of the Year Mandy Perez joined KDE's Teachers Advisory Council on March 7 to discuss advocacy efforts related to teacher retention.
- Perez, a 6th-grade English language arts teacher at Crittenden County Middle School, is currently on sabbatical at KDE as a part of her Teacher of the Year achievement.
- She is using part of her platform to encourage teachers to “shine a light” on why they choose to stay in the classroom.
- Perez invited teachers to share their own ideas for teacher retention strategies.



Kentucky School for the Deaf Hosts Warmup to Regional Academic Bowl

- KSD kicked off the Gallaudet University 2023 East Regional Academic Bowl with a mock contest between students and staff on March 8.
- The Gallaudet University Academic Bowl was established to foster academic excellence, healthy competition and sportsmanship among Deaf and hard-of-hearing youth.
- Eighteen schools came to participate in the actual regional academic bowl March 9-12.
- Every year, Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., hosts the regional competitions. The winners will compete in the nationals at Gallaudet University April 20-24.



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Legislative Oversight and Investigations Committee Survey

Micki Ray

Chief Academic Officer

KDE Office of Teaching and Learning



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Legislative Update

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Associate Commissioner, KDE Office of Finance and Operations

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 Kentucky Department of
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Educators Rising Statewide Conference

John Paise, Program Consultant
KDE Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness

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Next Superintendents Webcast

April 18, 2023* from 2-4 p.m. ET

*This is the THIRD Tuesday of the month in April

