

The background of the slide is a collage of two images. The top-left portion shows a line of yellow school buses, with the front of one bus clearly visible, displaying the number 32 and the words 'SCHOOL BUS'. The bottom-right portion shows a classroom interior with blue walls, decorated with colorful balloons and framed pictures. Several small, square tables with chairs are arranged in the room.

Superintendents Webcast

July 15, 2025



Kentucky Department of
EDUCATION

Agenda

Welcome and Updates

Dr. Robbie Fletcher, Commissioner of Education

Kentucky Department of Education Update

Jennifer Ginn, KDE Director of Communications

Agriculture Education Week

Bethany Mattingly, Kentucky Department of Agriculture

Impact KY

Elly Gilbert, Assistant Director, Division of Educator Recruitment and Development

Violence Prevention in Youth Dating Relationships

Indica Meeks, Behavioral Health Liaison, Administrative Office of the Courts

Nakela Cleveland, Senior Program Specialist, ZeroV.org

College Admissions Exam

Associate Commissioner Jennifer Stafford, KDE Office of Assessment and Accountability

Senate Bill 181 Questions and Answers

Deputy Commissioner Todd Allen, KDE Chief Legal Counsel

Important Dates

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Welcome and Updates

Dr. Robbie Fletcher
Commissioner of Education



Important Due Dates

- The [Important Due Dates for Superintendents](#) document is updated and available on SharePoint.

Wolfe County Ranks First in the Nation on Education Recovery Scorecard

- The Wolfe County school district ranked as the number one district in the nation in math growth on the 2024 Education Recovery Scorecard by Stanford and Harvard.
- The [Education Recovery Scorecard](#) is a collaboration between the Center for Education Policy Research at Harvard University and The Educational Opportunity Project at Stanford University. Each year, they issue a report on district-level student growth in math and reading.
- The 2024 edition measures education recovery efforts in nearly 7,500 districts post COVID-19.
- Wolfe County placed number one in math growth with 1.45 grade levels gained between 2022 to 2024. They placed as the number four district in reading scores with 1.03 grade levels gained between 2022 to 2024.



Kentucky Educators Complete NISL Leadership Program



- A group of 68 Kentucky educators successfully completed the nationally recognized National Institute for School and System Leadership (NISL) program during the 2024-2025 school year.
- Offered through a long-standing partnership between the KDE and the National Center on Education and the Economy, this leadership development experience equips school and district leaders with skills, strategies and vision to drive meaningful and sustainable change in their learning communities.
- [Learn more about the NISL program on Kentucky Teacher.](#)

Educators Rising Kentucky Names State Officers for 2025-2026 Academic Year

- Educators Rising Kentucky named six students to its team of state officers for the 2025-2026 academic year. This leadership team will begin their term on July 1.
- The student state officers include:
 - President: Hunter Carr, Graves County High School – Region 1;
 - President-elect: Lily Russell, Ignite Institute (Boone County) – Region 6;
 - Director of Membership: Alyssa Pollard, Ballard High School (Jefferson County) – Region 3;
 - Co-director of Communications: Haley Chowning, Seneca High School (Jefferson County) – Region 3;
 - Co-director of Communications: Kelly Esquivel Hernandez, Central High Magnet Career Academy (Jefferson County) – Region 3; and
 - Director of Outreach and Service: Nia Serikali, Central High Magnet Career Academy (Jefferson County) – Region 3.
- Educators Rising Kentucky is the career and technical student organization for middle and high school students interested in education-related careers.



Jennifer Stafford Takes Over as KDE's Associate Commissioner for OAA

- Stafford began her new position on July 1, replacing longtime Associate Commissioner Rhonda Sims, who is retiring on June 30.
- Stafford brings more than two decades of experience in education and assessment to her new role.
- A long-time leader within KDE, she has served as the director of the Division of Assessment and Accountability Support since 2015. She also has been actively involved with the Kentucky United We Learn Council and its efforts to help transform the Commonwealth's assessment and accountability systems.



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KDE Updates

Jennifer Ginn

KDE Director of Communications



Kentucky Department of
EDUCATION

Competitive Grants from KDE

The FY26 grant year begins on July 1, 2025, and ends on June 30, 2026. FY26 refers to when the grant will be awarded, not when projects will begin. Refer to the posted RFA for specific timelines.

FY26 Community Education RFA

- **Grant applications due:** July 17, 4 p.m. ET
- **Award Amount:** \$20,000 per awarded district
- **Matching Funds Requirement:** Yes, \$5,000 salary match.

KDE is issuing a request for application (RFA) to implement local community education initiatives. Community education allows all members in a community to become meaningfully involved in the decisions that impact community support of public education, helps students acquire the skills and competencies needed for success after high school, expands the use of public facilities to meet the needs of all community members, provides programs and services that address the needs of all ages, creates a spirit of collaboration among community agencies and works to improve home, school and community relations.

Current grantees do not need to reapply.

Competitive Grants from KDE (2)

FY26 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP)

- **Grant applications due:** July 25 at 4 p.m. ET
- **Award Amount:** Varies by # of students served.
- **Matching Funds Requirement:** No

The purpose of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable program is to increase fresh fruit and vegetable consumption in elementary schools. Elementary schools that represent the state's highest free and reduced-price enrollment are eligible to participate in the program and are given priority for being selected due to their high level of need.

FY26 CTE Innovation and Support Grant(CTEI)

- **Grant applications due:** Nov. 20 at 4 p.m. ET
- **Award Amount:** \$100,000
- **Matching Funds Requirement:** No

The purpose of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Innovation and Support grant is to support innovation in new or emerging career fields. The school district must submit a separate application for each CTE school or CTE program in a comprehensive high school. Area Technology Centers (ATC) can submit an independent application.

Applicants are responsible for monitoring KDE's Competitive Grants webpage for amendments and updates to the posted RFAs and supporting materials. More information about grants can be found on the [KDE Competitive Grants webpage](#) or by emailing [Jennifer Bryant](#).

Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) Professional Learning

- Over 6,000 Kentucky educators and administrators in Cohorts 1-3 of LETRS professional learning.
- [Cohort 4 \(2025-2027\) registration](#) closes in August.
 - LETRS for Educators Cohort 4: This course is recommended for K-5 teachers, interventionists, reading specialists, instructional coaches and anyone providing reading instruction or intervention supports to early readers.
 - LETRS for Administrators Cohort 4: This course is recommended for instructional coaches who have completed LETRS for Educators, district leaders and building administrators.





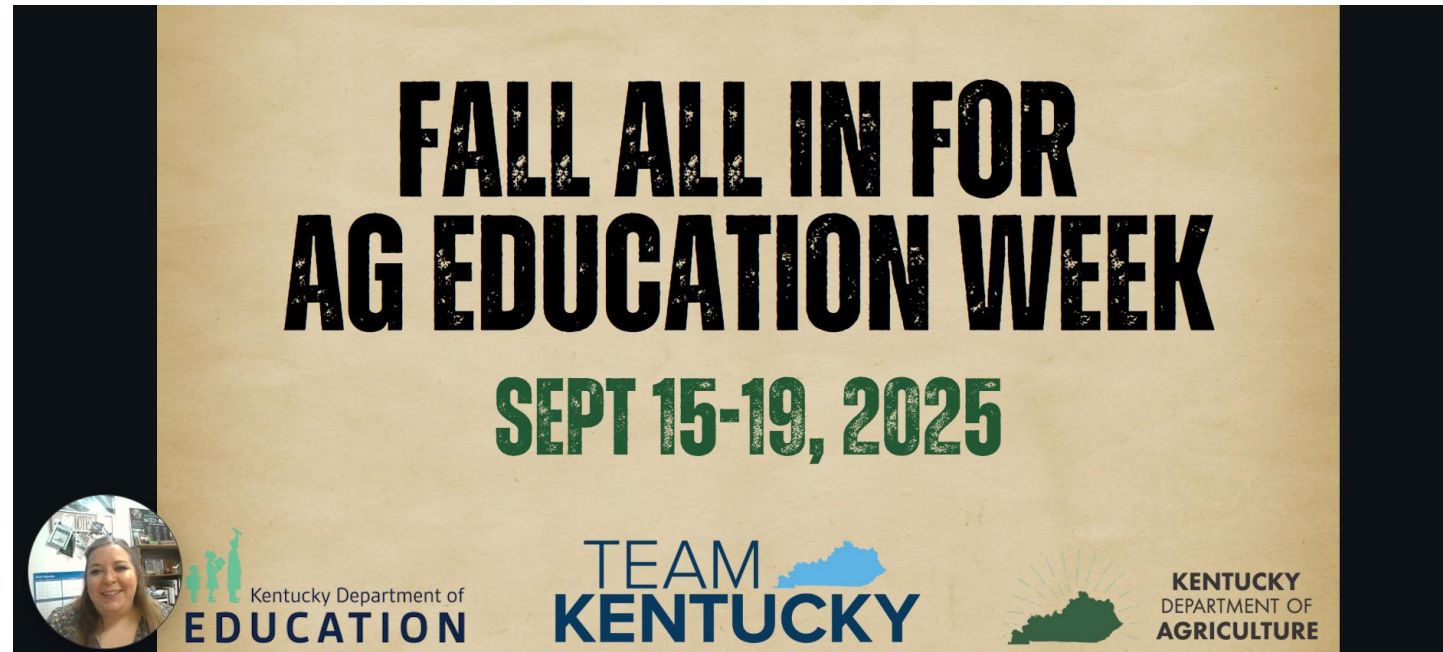
Agriculture Education Week

Bethany Mattingly
Kentucky Department of Agriculture



Kentucky Department of
EDUCATION

Next Ag Education Week Set for Sept. 15-19





Impact KY

Associate Commissioner Meredith Brewer, Ph.D.

Elly Gilbert, Assistant Director, KDE Division of Educator
Recruitment and Development



Impact Kentucky 2025-2026

- A statewide working conditions survey for certified public school staff
- Administered Nov. 10 – Dec. 19, 2025
- Implemented by KDE in partnership with Panorama Education
- Collects educator voice on key priorities and concerns

Why is this survey important?

- Trusted, data-driven tool for over 10 years (from TELL to Impact)
- Shapes school and district improvement
- Empowers educators to be heard
- Results guide decisions around professional learning, culture and working conditions

Who makes it happen?

- KDE and Panorama Education oversee statewide implementation
- **Aug. 15:** Superintendents receive an email with survey instructions
- Superintendents (or designees) contact principals
- Principals, in partnership with their SBDM council, appoint a **school survey coordinator**
- Coordinators support survey rollout at the school level

Each School Needs One Coordinator

- Distributes survey access codes
- Monitors participation
- Main contact for survey-related communication
- Must be a teacher leader

Steps to Identify Survey Coordinators

- SBDM coordinators will contact all schools by **Friday, Oct. 3**
- Schools will choose a teacher leader as survey coordinator
- Two options to register:
 - Have each coordinator register themselves via survey form
 - Principal can register coordinator via survey form

Principals and Coordinators Should Work Together to:

- Provide an accurate count of **certified staff** working at least half-time in your building
- Include teachers, counselors, assistant principals, principals, therapists
- *Do not overestimate – more codes can always be requested!*

Important Dates

- **Aug. 15:** Superintendent email goes out
- **Sept. 15:** Principal email goes out
- **Oct. 3:** All principals have been contacted to identify coordinators
- **Oct. 10:** Deadline to register school survey coordinators
- **Nov. 10-Dec. 19:** Survey administration window
- **February 2026:** Results available

For Questions or Support

Elly Gilbert

Assistant Director, Educator Recruitment and Development

Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness

Kentucky Department of Education

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Violence Prevention in Youth Dating Relationships

Indica Meeks, Behavioral Health Liaison,
Administrative Office of the Courts

Nakela Cleveland, Senior Program Specialist,
ZeroV.org



KENTUCKY JUDICIAL COMMISSION ON **MENTAL HEALTH**

Administrative Office of the Courts

The Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health



KENTUCKY JUDICIAL COMMISSION ON
MENTAL HEALTH



August 11, 2022, a Supreme Court initiative



Chaired by Deputy Chief Justice Robert B. Conley,
Kentucky Supreme Court



10 workgroups



Charged with exploring, recommending and
implementing transformational changes to improve
system wide responses

The Domestic Violence Workgroup



KENTUCKY JUDICIAL COMMISSION ON
MENTAL HEALTH

- Chaired by Judge Denise Brown, 30th Judicial Circuit
- Comprised of 62 members
- Workgroup's goal is:

To understand, explore and implement trauma-informed and evidence-based solutions to assist the court community and stakeholders in best serving persons involved in domestic violence or interpersonal violence cases, including individuals who are or may be experiencing mental illness, substance use disorder, or intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, through a lens of physical and psychological safety, accountability, and effective implementation techniques.



KJCMH Domestic Violence Advocacy in Schools Subgroup: Healthy Relationships Initiative

The KJCMH Domestic Violence Advocacy in Schools Subgroup aims to strengthen awareness of dating violence and promote collaboration between schools and advocacy organizations. This effort underscores the importance of early education and support for youth who may be impacted. The initiative seeks to foster safe and supportive environments by promoting awareness and the promotion of healthy relationship education across school communities.

Two evidence-based curricula identified to support the KJCMH Subgroup's Healthy Relationships initiative are Safe Dates and the Fourth R Program. Please explore each curriculum via the hyperlinks provided: [Safe Dates](#) and [4th R Program](#).



Safe Dates

- 10 session program
- 45–50 minutes
- Middle/high school students
- Topics: defining caring relationships, defining dating abuse, why people abuse, helping friends, overcoming gender stereotypes, equal power through communication, how we feel/how we deal, and preventing sexual assault
- Can be presented by classroom teachers or advocacy center certified presenters

4th R Program

- Taught in the classroom
- Skill-focused and relationship-based
- Grades 7, 8 and 9
- Topics: personal safety & injury prevention, substance use, addictions & related behaviors, human development & sexual health, and healthy eating
- Grade 7: 27 lesson plans; 40-45 minutes
- Grade 8: 28 lesson plans; 35-40 minutes
- Grade 9: 26 lesson plans; 70 minutes
- Can be presented by classroom teachers

KENTUCKY JUDICIAL COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH



Contact Us

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KENTUCKY JUDICIAL COMMISSION ON
MENTAL HEALTH

We value your input—please take a moment to complete the evaluation form using the QR code provided. Your feedback helps us better understand and serve the unique needs of your community.

KJCMH Domestic Violence
Advocacy in Schools Subgroup -
Healthy Relationships Initiative



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College Admissions Exam

Associate Commissioner Jennifer Stafford,
KDE Office of Assessment and Accountability

College Admissions Exam – New Vendor

- Beginning with the 2025–2026 school year, College Board was awarded the contract to provide the SAT for the state administration of the college admissions exam as required by [KRS 158.6453](#).
- Rising seniors (Class of 2026) took the ACT. Rising juniors (Class of 2027) will be impacted by this contract.
- Many districts are already familiar with College Board through the Advanced Placement (AP) courses and exams. This existing relationship is expected to ease the transition and support a smooth implementation across Kentucky high schools.
- This transition will provide students with a high-quality assessment that continues to support Postsecondary Readiness. The [SAT benchmark scores](#) that determine academic readiness are established by the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education. More information can be found on how [SAT assesses college and career readiness](#).

College Admissions Exam – SAT Assessment

- The SAT Junior State Administration is an adaptive exam. It is a two hour and 14-minute exam that assesses students' reading, writing, math and science skills. The test has two sections, Reading & Writing and Math, generating a score for each section on a 200-800 scale. Through its unique design, the SAT also delivers an Analysis in Science score generated by students' performance on relevant questions within the Reading & Writing and Math sections.

College Admissions Exam – Resources & Schedule of Events

- More details to come



Senate Bill 181

Questions and Answers

Deputy Commissioner Todd Allen,
KDE Chief Legal Counsel

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Question and Answer Session

(Submit Questions in Teams)

KDE Leadership



Kentucky Department of
E D U C A T I O N

Important Dates

Education Professional Standards Board

July 28

Local Superintendents Advisory Council

July 29

Kentucky Board of Education

Aug. 6-7

Superintendents Webcast

Aug. 12



Kentucky Department of

E D U C A T I O N