SUMMARY MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT KTAC MEETING,
SCHEDULED FOR January 17&18, 2024

Kentucky Department of
EDUCATION
Kentucky Technical Advisory Committee

Minutes of the June 13, 2023 KTAC Meeting
DRAFT

ATTENDANCE:

KENTUCKY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (KTAC): Elena Diaz-Bilello, Corinne Huggins-Manley, Pete Goldschmidt, Suzanne Lane, Phoebe Winter

KTAC MEMBERS ABSENT: None

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE): Kevin Hill, Helen Jones, Jenni Larkins, Kevin O'Hair, Michael Prater, Ben Riley, Jennifer Stafford, Rhonda Sims, John Wickizer

KDE GUESTS: Bill Auty (EdMeasure), Chris Domaleski (Center for Assessment), Brian Gong (Center for Assessment), Laura Pinsonneault (Center for Assessment), Art Thacker (HumRRO)

SUMMARY:

The Kentucky Technical Advisory Committee (KTAC) provided advice to the Kentucky Department of Education regarding principles and options for various aspects of setting performance standards for the state's school accountability system in 2023; received an introduction to the design and body of documentation for the Kentucky assessment system; and commented on the upcoming validity studies planned by HumRRO. The KTAC also set a future meeting date.

Agenda Item: Welcome and Introductions

Presenter: Rhonda Sims, Associate Commissioner, Office of Assessment and Accountability, KDE

Summary of Discussion: Sims started the meeting at 11:00am (Eastern). Sims welcomed the KTAC members and presenters. She introduced the KDE staff and presenters, and reviewed the procedures for complying with Kentucky's open meetings requirements.

Agenda Item: Review Agenda and Approve Minutes from February 14, 2023 KTAC Meeting

Presenter: Brian Gong, Center for Assessment

Summary of Discussion: Gong reminded KTAC members they had reviewed the draft minutes previously. Suzanne Lane moved to approve the minutes. Phoebe Winter seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved unanimously by the KTAC members.

Feedback/Action: The minutes for the February 14, 2023 KTAC meeting are approved by KTAC.

Agenda Item: 2023 Accountability Standard Setting Updates

Presenter: Brian Gong, Laura Pinsonnault, and Chris Domaleski, Center for Assessment

Summary of Discussion: In response to questions and comments from KTAC members, KDE and the Center for Assessment staff described details about the measures and indicators that would be included in Kentucky's accountability system, how Change would be calculated, and how the recruitment of people to be members of the standard setting committee responded to KTAC's encouragement to be representative along several important demographic and educational dimensions. The Center for Assessment staff presented three policy questions about which guidance had been sought from KDE and the Local Superintendents Advisory Committee (LSAC). KTAC members discussed the questions and provided advice to strengthen the standard setting process.

Feedback/Action: KTAC thought the standard setting procedures were reasonable. KTAC encouraged the Center for Assessment to include an overview of Kentucky's accountability system, including a basic theory of action, in the standard setting so committee members could be aware of how the parts are intended to fit together and influence each score and rating in the accountability system about which the committee will be making cut score recommendations. KTAC encourage the Center for Assessment to provide a simple, visual way for committee members to see the influence of each indicator on scores/ratings, if possible. KTAC suggested several analyses that might be considered to learn about relationships between indicator performance and ratings, and possible ways to scale and combine Status and Change scores for multiple indicators and levels of ratings.

KTAC would like to learn more about Kentucky's ongoing work on developing innovative assessment and accountability systems in future KTAC meetings.

Agenda Items: Overview of Kentucky's Assessment Design and KSA 2022 Technical Manual

Presenter: Bill Auty (EdMeasure)

Summary of Discussion: Auty presented an overview of Kentucky's assessment system, including federal accountability assessments for general education, English learner, and students with severe cognitive disabilities; as well as other assessments required by law. Auty also provided links to several areas where documentation is publicly available on the KDE website, including general information, technical manuals, and research reports. KTAC members indicated their willingness to review and discuss in greater depth at future KTAC meetings the assessments and documentation.

Feedback/Action: KTAC members suggested that it might be helpful for KDE to ensure the documentation for each assessment program has the best, complete set of features and organization drawn from across the programs. One example was to include various aspects of a validity argument in the technical documentation, such as not only having a chapter on Validity, but drawing in validity throughout (e.g., a theory of action and claims for the assessment program in the introduction; and an interpretive/use argument in discussions of item and test design, scoring, and reporting). KTAC suggested that documentation would be especially welcome of the least common aspects of Kentucky's assessment programs (e.g., matrix sampling's effect on scoring and reporting), and on use and impact (e.g., how reports are used).

Agenda Item: 2023-2024 Human Resources Research Organization (HumRRO) Research Plan

Presenter: Art Thacker (HumRRO)

Summary of Discussion: Thacker presented an overview and summary of the several studies HumRRO planned to conduct in 2024 in the major area of CTE assessment, validity research, consistency across measures, school classification accuracy, and the implementation and characteristics of Kentucky's new school accountability system. Thacker responded to several questions from KTAC members and acknowledged suggestions for several of the planned studies.

Feedback/Action: KTAC members complimented KDE and Kentucky on having a long-standing research program. KTAC suggested aspects that HumRRO might consider for several studies, such as in addition to looking at CTE assessment items flagged for DIF, to look at fit by student group or person-fit; considering checking how well the information provided by the accountability system provides feedback users find understandable and useful, as well as what common misinterpretations and misuses are. KTAC encourage KDE to consider warning users about possible misinterpretations until research can be conducted. KTAC stated they would encourage HumRRO and KDE to take advantage of KTAC members' methodological expertise prior to finalizing the selection and design of research and validity studies.

Agenda Item: Next Steps and Adjournment

Presenter: Brian Gong (Center for Assessment)

Summary of Discussion: Sims and Gong thanked the KTAC members and presenters. Gong reminded KTAC members of the date for the next KTAC meeting, which had been modified from previous discussions. KTAC members indicated that an in-person meeting had advantages including in terms of the depth of discussion and developing relationships and would welcome an in-person KTAC meeting. Gong replied that KDE suggested an in-person KTAC meeting be held other than when winter might interrupt travel.

Feedback/Action: The next KTAC meeting was set for January 17-18, 2024. It will be a virtual meeting. Gong will poll KDE and KTAC members for additional possible KTAC meeting dates.

The KTAC meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm (Eastern).