

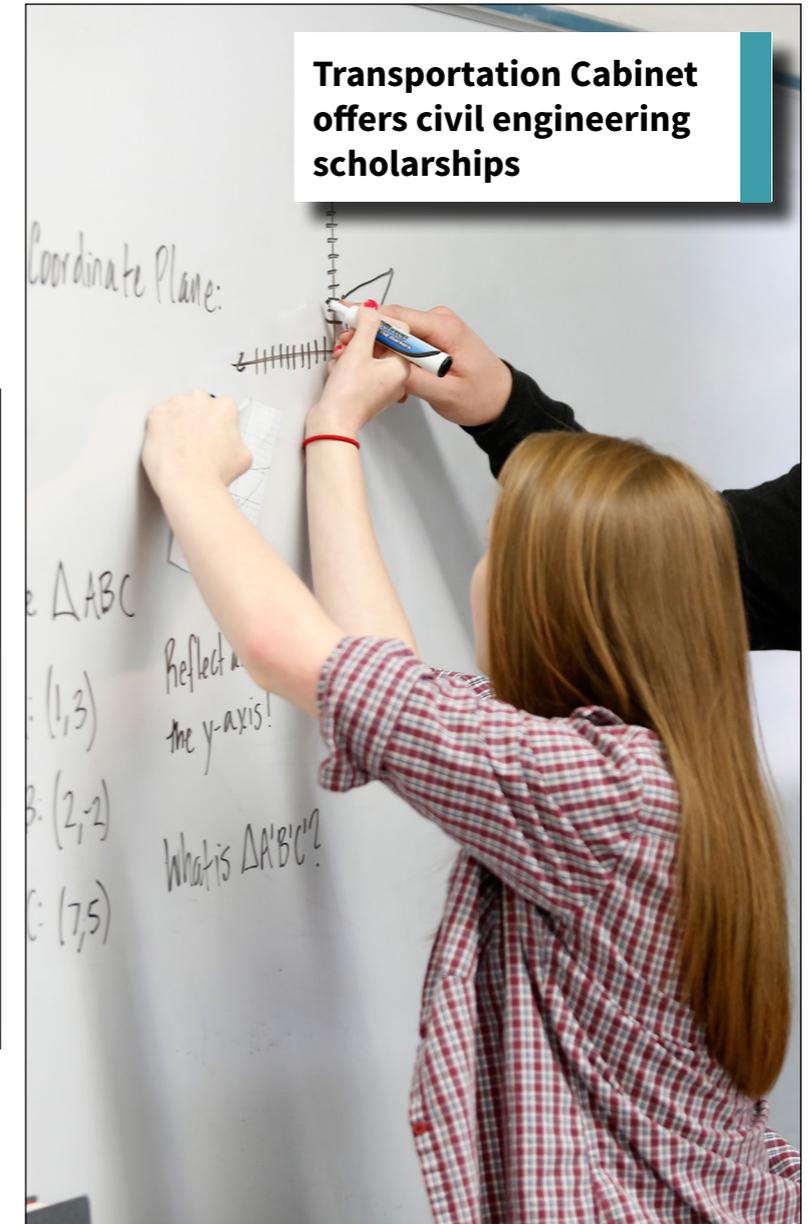
ParentInfo

News for a child's most important educator

November 30, 2015



Children can learn to code with Hour of Code



Transportation Cabinet offers civil engineering scholarships



Summer Food Service Program seeks sponsors; training set

Links:

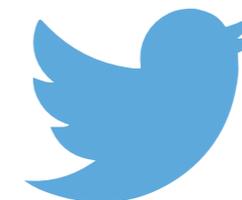
- [Kentuckians selected as finalists for math, science teaching](#)
- [Student Technology Leadership Regionals scheduled](#)



All photos by KDE unless otherwise noted

Additional content:

- [Lewis County student's poster wins national recognition](#)
- [KACE accepting nominations for annual awards](#)
- [Education foundation training scheduled in Danville](#)
- [Check colleges' net price calculators to get idea of costs](#)
- [Free 'Getting the Facts' from KHEAA will help Kentucky families with college search](#)



Twitter chat

Parents: Want to chat with educators? A parent/teacher Twitter chat takes place at 9 p.m. every Wednesday. To participate or just follow the conversation, use the hashtag #PTchat.

Children can learn to code with Hour of Code

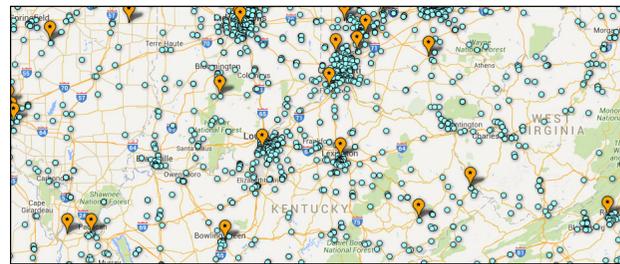
Students across Kentucky will work on their computer science skills as the [Hour of Code](#) is celebrated as part of [Computer Science Education Week](#), Dec. 7-13. Hour of Code is a designed to broaden global participation in computer science.

To date, more than 100 million students across 180 countries and 40 languages have participated in the Hour of Code, including 1 in 3 students in U.S. schools. This year, the campaign expects to exceed 100,000 events and to continue introducing more girls and underrepresented students of color to this foundational 21st century field.

Anyone, anywhere can organize an Hour of Code event. One-hour tutorials are available in more than 40 languages. One public school in every U.S. state will win \$10,000 worth of technology and every organizer will receive \$10 to Amazon.com, iTunes or Windows Store as a thank-you gift.

This year, Microsoft Corp., Mojang AB and

Code.org unveiled a “Minecraft” coding tutorial for students and educators, created especially for the third-annual Hour of Code. The new tutorial, available at <https://www.code.org/mc>, introduces players to basic coding within the fun and popular “Minecraft”



environment.

Created by “Minecraft” game designers together with Code.org, the tutorial features “Minecraft” characters Steve and Alex and “Minecraft”-inspired challenges that will be familiar to its more than 100 million players

around the world.

“A core part of our mission to empower every person on the planet is equipping youth with computational thinking and problem-solving skills to succeed in an increasingly digital world,” said Satya Nadella, Microsoft’s chief executive officer. “With ‘Minecraft’ and Code.org, we aim to spark creativity in the next generation of innovators in a way that is natural, collaborative and fun.”

In support of Code.org and the global Hour of Code campaign, Microsoft also will lead thousands of Hour of Code events in more than 50 countries around the world.



Transportation Cabinet offers civil engineering scholarships

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet is accepting applications for its Civil Engineering Scholarship and Civil Engineering Technology Scholarship programs.

In the Civil Engineering Scholarship Program, the cabinet awards 10 to 20 new scholarships each year to qualifying students interested in attending the University of Kentucky, Western Kentucky University or the University of Louisville to obtain a bachelor’s degree in civil engineering.

Students may also take pre-engineering courses at Kentucky State University, in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System or at other Kentucky colleges and universities, then complete their degree at one of the accredited schools.

In the Civil Engineering Technology Scholarship Program, five to 10 new scholarships are awarded annually to qualifying students interested in attending Bluegrass Community and Technical College in Lexington or Big Sandy Community and Technical College in Prestonsburg to obtain an associate’s degree in civil engineering technology.

The application deadline is Feb. 1. Click [here](#) for more information and links to applications.



Summer Food Service Program seeks sponsors; training set

Sponsors are being sought and training has been scheduled for the 2016 Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) for school and nonprofit organizations. School districts, nonprofit organizations – including churches and faith-based organizations – and government entities are encouraged to participate as sponsors in the Summer Food Service Program.

From May until September, when schools are not in session, the SFSP provides nutritious meals and/or snacks free of charge to children under the age of 18 without regard to race, color, national origin, age (within regulatory limits), sex or disability.

Qualified sponsors are reimbursed for program operating and administrative expenses based on the number of eligible meals served. To qualify, sponsors must:

- provide continuing service to the community
- serve meals to children in eligible areas or to groups of designated eligible children
- show they are financially and administratively capable of operating the program

Different training dates are offered for new and returning school and nonprofit sponsors. The date and location for new and returning private nonprofit sponsors is:

- Jan. 12: Capital Plaza Tower, 23rd Floor, 500 Mero St., Frankfort, Ky.
- The date and location for new and returning school sponsors is:
- Jan. 14: Capital Plaza Tower, 23rd Floor, 500 Mero St., Frankfort, Ky.

Training will be 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. ET. Interested participants should register for the training at <https://cnips.education.ky.gov/cnips/Splash.aspx> and select “Training Registration” under the links section on the left side of the page.

For experienced sponsors, there is an option of viewing recorded online training, which will be available in March 2016. Registration for access to recorded trainings will be done through the same website as live training and will be open after January 2016.

For questions or additional information, please call Mike Sullivan at (502) 564-5625, ext. 4930.



Lewis County student's poster wins national recognition

Callie Lykens, a student at Lewis County Central Elementary, placed second in the National Association for Pupil Transportation's (NAPT) poster contest for Division 2, Grades 3-5.

Callie's poster promotes a bully-free zone on school buses and encourages students to have compassion for those who are different. Prominent individuals in the field of pupil

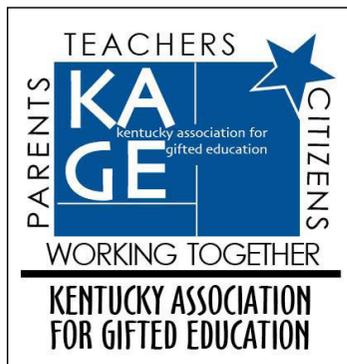
transportation evaluated the entries during the annual NAPT Conference and Trade Show.

Posters were judged on originality, design, artwork, execution, visual impact and the relationship of the design to school bus safety practices.

Callie will receive a \$100 check from NAPT for her work.



KAGE accepting nominations for annual awards



The Kentucky Association for Gifted Education (KAGE) is accepting nominations for its 2015-16 KAGE Service and Advocacy Awards. The awards recognize exceptional service and/or advocacy in support of educating Kentucky's gifted and talented children.

KAGE will award the Michael Caudill Educator Award to an administrator, counselor, teacher or other education professional and Service and Advocacy Awards to anyone, including educators, who

has made significant positive contributions to gifted education.

The nomination deadline is Dec. 1. Click [here](#) for more information and a nomination form. KAGE will announce the award recipients during its annual conference Feb. 22 in Lexington.

Education foundation training scheduled in Danville

The Danville Schools Education Foundation, in conjunction with the National School Foundation Association, is sponsoring an education foundation training Dec. 10-11 at the Danville-Boyle County Public Library in Danville.

The meeting is open to any district or community member who wants to start a nonprofit education foundation and/or has a struggling education foundation and needs ideas and strategies to motivate and promote their organization.

Sessions will be 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. both days. The fee is \$149 for one day or \$189 for two days. Email [Kathy Belcher](#) for more information.



Check colleges' net price calculators to get idea of costs

Kentucky high school students headed for college can get an idea of how much it costs to attend a college using the school's net price calculator, according to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

The U.S. Department of Education requires colleges to have a calculator on their websites.

The calculator will require information about a student's academic standing and about parents' finances. It is important to remember that the result is an estimate that may be off by thousands of dollars.

Be sure to look at the net price, not the net cost. The net price is the amount a family can expect to pay toward a student's college education, including any loans. The net cost takes into account student loans, which must be repaid, so it will look lower than the net price.

KHEAA is the state agency that administers Kentucky's student financial aid programs, including the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship. Its sister agency, the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority, offers Advantage Loans to help students and parents pay for college. For more information about Advantage Loans, visit [www.kheslc.com](#).

To find links to other useful education websites, go to [www.gotocollege.ky.gov](#).



Free 'Getting the Facts' from KHEAA will help Kentucky families with college search

Kentucky students and their families can get a free, personalized "Getting the Facts" report to help them choose the right college. The report is provided by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

"Getting the Facts" provides estimates of how much the family can expect to spend and how much financial aid the student may receive.

Students can get estimates for up to six colleges across the United States.

To get their free report, students must log into or set up an account at [www.kheaa.com](#). They should select their state of residence, enter the date they expect to graduate from high school and click on the "Getting the Facts" link.

Students and parents must provide information about estimated income and assets, and students must provide their Social Security number to set up the account.

For more information, call a member of the KHEAA College Access Team at 800-928-8926.