



The Wildcat Monthly



April 2017

This publication highlights the monthly activities and events that take place on campus and across the state.



April, 2017

12	Friday	Varsity Swimming and Forensics Meet: Indianapolis, IN
18	Tuesday	Eye Can Derby, Bowling Green
21	Friday	Low Vision Clinic, Hazard
28/29	Fri-Sat	Varsity Swimming and Forensics Meet, Columbus, OH

May, 2017

5	Friday	No School KSB (Derby)
9	Tuesday	KSB Founder's Day, 175 th Birthday Dinner and Celebration 6-8 PM
19	Friday	Low Vision Clinic, KSB
24	Wednesday	KSB Graduation, 6:30 PM
25	Thursday	Field Day and Last Day of School for Students 4 th Quarter Grading Period Ends
26	Friday	No School for Students (Closing for Teachers)

175th ANNIVERSARY



KSB will host a 175th Celebration Dinner and Founder's Day Program on Tuesday evening, May 9, 6-8 PM. This special celebration will take place on campus in the cafeteria (Dorothy Hartford Hall). The program will feature several musical selections by former and current KSB students, a look at KSB's rich history, the announcement of the Countdown to 175th Statewide Essay winners and the presentation of the Paul J. Langan Distinguished Service Award. See www.ksb.kyschools.us to register.

GATEWAYS 2017 – REGISTRATION OPEN

TO REGISTER, VISIT: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gateways-2017-tickets-33399067510>

Welcome to registration for Gateways 2017. Gateways is a Professional Development for Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVI), Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists (COMS) and Service Providers Working with Students who are Blind and Visually Impaired

Tuesday, July 11: TECH TUESDAY - SESSIONS WITH APH, BRIAN GOEMMER & GERALD ABNER – INCLUDES A MAKE AND TAKE IT

Wednesday-Thursday, July 12-13: ROUTINES, ASSESSMENTS, CALENDARS & INTERACTIVE EVALUATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH COMPLEX NEEDS

- ***Have you ever considered how a person with DeafBlindness, or MIVI, establishes the concepts that you and I (as sighted hearing people) learn incidentally, through our distance senses.... From observation? We will investigate how to initiate conversation and in-turn develop meaningful shared experiences. Strategies for developing and implementing routines and calendar systems as part of a holistic “communication system” will be shared so that participants can infuse the ideas discussed in meaningful programming for their students.***

Chris Montgomery, Education Consultant with the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Deaf Blind Outreach Team, will be presenting a 2-day workshop for students with complex needs including Deaf-Blindness.

Learning Objectives:

- Human Connectedness - Participants will gain understanding of the importance of Co-presence, mindfulness, and moments of joy, and learn strategies for incorporating them into their daily programming.
- Participants will gain understanding of the importance of “significant emotional moments”, and how these relate to a person’s sense of self, and sense of place (one’s life story).
- Participants will gain an understanding of the tactile learner’s perspective – typical vs. sensorially impaired learners.
- Language vs. Communication - Participants will gain an understanding of the *student’s* communication vs. the *Adult’s* formal language, and what this may mean from the Deafblind perspective/concept of the world – how does your student communicate? And, how do I introduce *my* formal language?
- Routines for conceptualization: a framework for life - Participants will learn basics of the Interaction model and how this fits with the ideas of conversation as a routine, greeting rituals, “acknowledgement of the *you*”. We will discuss how to organize and design routines for the classroom, and discuss how routines fit within the framework of a holistic “Communication System”.
- Participants will gain an understanding of the importance of the calendar system as tool for literacy, gain understanding of the concepts of “time frames”, and how to design and setup a calendar system for the home and classroom.

BIOGRAPHY

Chris Montgomery went to Austin in 1993 to play guitar and make his way as a professional musician. He began substitute teaching at the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired to supplement his income. It didn't take long until he was hooked and applied for a full-time job as a teaching assistant. During his first three years, he worked in a self-contained DeafBlind classroom.

While working as a teaching assistant, he enrolled at Southwest Texas State University and obtained a Masters degree and teaching certificate in Special Education. In 1999 he became a certified teacher and taught in a self-contained deafblind classroom working with emerging language students. In 2001 he obtained my certification in Visual Impairment (TVI) and went on to teach DeafBlind and multiply impaired students whose focus was on transition to adult life. This program, called the "Exit Program", is for students ages 18-22.

In 2006 he became a DeafBlind education specialist with the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Outreach department, as a member of the Texas DeafBlind Project.

Get your tickets now! Please register by June 1. Registration is a little different this year. You can register online with a CC or mail us a check or invoice. Your ticket options are 1-day (Tech Tues); 2 days (Chris Montgomery) or Full Conference. If you are a KSB employee, please use that ticket option.

After June 1, a \$25 late fee will be added to the ticket price.

KIMRC COMPLETES 2017 FEDERAL QUOTA REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS

By: Paula Penrod, KIMRC Program Coordinator

I am pleased to report that the 2017 Federal Quota Registration of Kentucky Students who are Legally Blind and Visually Impaired has been completed by the Kentucky Instructional Materials Resource Center (KIMRC). And, I want to thank all the Teachers of the Visually Impaired and Directors of Special Education who took the task to heart and registered their students.

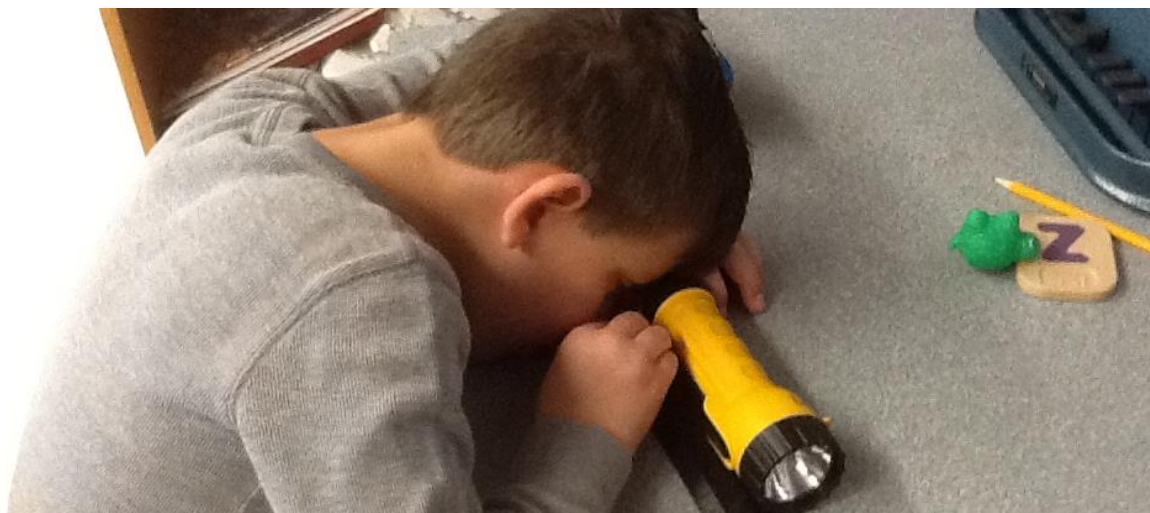


Photo caption: A student from northern Kentucky, uses a Braille ruler from the KIMRC to obtain a measurement. This photo was sent in by Joan Etter, Teacher of the Visually Impaired, who commented that the student loves measuring

Here is a breakdown of the figures:

Numbers of students attending Public Schools:

Approved (Legally Blind): 553

Visually Impaired: 677

Need Eye Reports: 209

Total All Public School Students: 1439

Number of students (Birth-Grade 12) attending Private Schools/Agencies and/or Home Schools:

Approved (Legally Blind): 43

Visually Impaired: 33

Need Eye Report: 31

Total All Private/Agencies and/or Home School Students: 107

Number of students attending Kentucky School for the Blind (FQ Account 78):

Approved (Legally Blind): 50

Visually Impaired: 13

Need Eye Reports and/or Cannot Obtain Eye Report: 0

Total All KSB Students: 63

All KY Students Registered with the KIMRC: 1609

KY Students who are Legally Blind: 646

KY Students who are Visually Impaired: 723

KY Students who Need Eye Reports: 240

The KIMRC provides textbooks in braille and large print and other educational materials needed by students who are blind and visually impaired for use in local school programs, private and home schools and or agencies and KSB. To access these materials from the KIMRC, students must be registered by the school district, agency or private/home school they are enrolled.

Check out our Facebook page for some historical KSB photos and current events

<https://www.facebook.com/KYschoolfortheblind>

KSB SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

The Kentucky School for the Blind (KSB) is excited to offer three Summer Enrichment Programs to students who are blind or visually impaired throughout Kentucky from Monday, June 19 – Friday, June 23 and Monday, June 26 – Friday, June 30, 2017. Registration will be held Sunday, June 18th for dorm students. The three programs include the following:

1. Elementary program for students that completed grades K-5 during the 16-17 school year.
2. Middle School/High School program for students that completed grades 6-11 during the 16-17 school year.
3. Work Program for students that completed grades 9-12 during the 16-17 school year. Work Program applicants must be between the ages of 16-20 and must also be a consumer of

KY Office for the Blind. Students must be 16 by June 1st. Students will be assigned to work at either Kentucky Kingdom or Louisville Zoo.

Openings for the work program will be filled based on resume, letters of recommendation, and phone interview by job coaches. Priority will be given to non-KSB students. Elementary and MS/HS applications will be reviewed by program coordinator and admissions committee for acceptance into the program. Since this is a Summer Enrichment Program we are not required to meet IEP goals during the program. The purpose of this program is to enhance the vision specific skills that students already know while also having fun and interacting with visually impaired peers.

To apply for any of the programs, please complete the attached application form or go to the KSB website at www.ksb.kyschools.us under "summer programs" for an application. **A copy of the student's current IEP and most recent eye report must accompany the application** (IEP and eye report not required for full-time enrolled KSB students). **Applications submitted without an IEP or eye report will be considered incomplete.** For work program applicants, in addition to the application, resume, and 2 letters of recommendation, you must also complete the additional paperwork required by Louisville Zoo. Since we do not know which students will be placed at which jobsite until after interviews, it is better to have paperwork ready ahead of time as to not delay the hiring process.

Work Program students are not required to reside in the dorm as in previous years; therefore, students living close enough for daily transportation that do not reside in the dorm must make transportation arrangements. There will be designated drop off and pick up times and locations. Anyone, other than parent/guardian picking up your student must be on the pick-up list on your registration form. Any changes to this information must be in writing. Dorm space is limited so get your applications in early.

Another change to the KSB Summer program this year is that no students will be staying over the weekend. All students will depart the afternoon of Friday, June 23rd and those residing in the dorm will return Sunday, June 25th. We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause related to transportation, but it is truly for the safety of students. Otherwise dorm staff ends up working 12 days straight in addition to working 12-hour shifts on the weekend.

Since transportation to and from KSB is the responsibility of the parent, we realize this change may cause a hardship for some families. In the past, some districts have assisted parents with transportation. This is determined on an individual basis by the district. Please contact your Director of Special Education and/or Director of Transportation from your local district if you need assistance with transportation.

This change will also affect the weekend trip for students to Kentucky Kingdom. A big field trip will take place on Friday, June 23rd for Elementary and MS/HS students to replace the weekend field trip. Since the work program students will be working every day, they will not be able to participate in this field trip.

This year, again, there will be no part-time dorm allowed for any student. If a student signs up and is approved to stay in the dorm, they must stay Monday-Thursday night. Having students coming and going from the dorm on different nights is a safety issue and makes scheduling adult coverage difficult.

**WORK PROGRAM at THE KENTUCKY KINGDOM and LOUISVILLE ZOO!
(AGE 16 to 20)**

Students must be 16 years old and a consumer of the Office for the Blind
Students will be interviewed via phone or face-to-face and must supply 2 letters of recommendation and a resume. Based on the interview, recommendations, and resume, students will be "hired"
Students will be paid minimum wage through the Office for the Blind

**MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM
(GRADES 6-11)**

Focus is on independent living skills as well as academics
Dorm space is limited and provided on a first come basis with priority to non-KSB student

**ELEMENTARY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM
(GRADES K-5)**

Focus is on academics, socialization, and daily living skills
Dorm space is limited and provided on a first come basis with priority to non-KSB student

The summer programs will be implemented on the campus of KY School for the Blind. Transportation is not provided to and from home by KSB, but will be provided for all field trips and activities held during the program. The program, including room accommodations, are provided without cost. However, a **non-refundable** activity fee of \$100 is required which also helps cover the cost of food, field trips, and classroom supplies/activities. If you need assistance with the activity fee, please contact the Director of Special Education or Teacher of the Visually Impaired from your home school district to see if the district can assist. If your student attends KSB full-time, please contact Dr. Freeman at the number below if you need assistance with the activity fee.

If accepted into the KSB summer program parents will be required to complete additional paperwork before your student can attend. That paperwork will be sent out with acceptance letters.

If you have questions please contact Dr. Anna Freeman at 502-897-1583, ext. 0202 or email anna.freeman@ksb.kyschools.us

BELL ACADEMY (BRAILLE ENRICHMENT LITERACY AND LEARNING)



Braille Enrichment for Literacy and Learning, BELL Academy is coming to Louisville this summer, July 24-28. Come join us for this wonderful experience where your child can build their Braille skills through fun filled activities, while also gaining valuable self-help skills, all while interacting with positive blind role models. The program is designed for children ages 4-12. Applications are now being taken online at the link below. Contact: Jayne Seif at (502)500-7675 or jayneseif@att.net
<https://nfb.org/bell-academy-faqs-affiliate/ky>

ART NEWS

By: Tabathia Roark, Arts and Humanities Teacher

Thursday, April 20 6:30 PM

KSB Middle/High String and Piano Concert

Students who will be participating in this concert are:

Abdulrazzak Delati, Shawn Smith, Corbin Graviil, Allie Johnson, Gabe Smith, Logan Armstrong, Haley Hall, Jolean O'Connell, Willie Barksdale, Xac Abercrombie, Mickie Foard, Gracie Smith, Brock

Fannin, Eric Echeverria, Alex Hitzelberger, Alex Stine, Jaden Smalley, Michael Davis, and Cody Barnes

Thursday, April 27 6:30 PM

KSB Middle/High Percussion and Choir Concert

Students who will be participating in this concert are:

Shawn Smith, CJ Phipps-Gibson, Jaden Smalley, Michael Davis, Mari Durrett, Madison Souders, Cory Wallace, Brevin Fannin, Mickie Foard, Heather Anthony, Justin Hedges, Raymond Gonzalez, Daniel King, Taryn Seif, Riley Seif, Jontae Moore, London Henry, Alex Hitzelberger, Zack Adams, Allie Johnson, Allie Irwin, Logan Rovinski, Logan Armstrong, Danielle Hardiman, and Beth Stephens.

Tuesday, May 23 12:30 PM

KSB Elementary Recital (followed by the Elementary Awards Ceremony)

All elementary students will be performing on their musical instrument (piano, strings, percussion).

ATHLETICS

Swimming & Forensics

April 12 Indiana Invitational Day Meet, Indianapolis, IN

April 28-29 Annual NCASB Conference Championships, Columbus, OH

WKEC (Western Kentucky Educational Cooperative)

By: Robbin Cox, Outreach Consultant

iTeam events are open to students ages 14 to 21 that are clients or potential clients with Office for the Blind. They are events planned with transition or orientation & mobility emphasis. Beginning in May there will be one event each month until school starts. Plans are to include a family dinner at the Ohio River in Paducah with the August event.

All events are open to the West KY Educational Cooperative region which includes counties from Fulton to Muhlenburg. Contact your OFB counselor if interested in attending: Ron Devillez in Paducah (575-7315), Darla Smith (800-334-6929) in Owensboro, and Amanda Herron (270-202-0478) in Bowling Green or Robbin Cox with KSB Outreach (270-994-3395). The events are planned in collaboration with Office for the Blind and KSB Outreach.

OFB-Paducah & KSB Presents iTeam Events

We invite you to join us in our events this year. You will learn life skills as you are having a fun time.

May 13, 2017 Public Transportation (Bus & Trolley) with a Scavenger Hunt**

June 20th ** Murray State University – Campus Day

July 18th ** Baptist Health of Paducah

August 1st ** Dinner & Walk – Lowertown Paducah at Night

September 21st iTeam PASSPORT – Build Inclusion training at MSU Paducah Campus

October 15 White Cane Event

If you have any questions, please call us.

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270-575-7315

KY School for the Blind Outreach
Robbin Cox
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Fax ~ Classroom Office: 502-897-2850
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www.ksb.kyschools.us

We're on Facebook! We would love for you to like our page!
<https://www.facebook.com/KYschoolfortheblind>

We're also on Twitter! Follow us!
<https://twitter.com/KSBWildcats>





KSB Mission Statement:

“The mission of the Kentucky School for the Blind is to provide comprehensive educational services to all Kentucky students who are blind and visually impaired, birth to 21.”

KSB Vision Statement:

“Empowering Students who are Blind and Visually Impaired to Command their Future”

KSB Beliefs

We believe students who are blind and visually impaired...

- ... can become college and career ready through world class instruction and services
- ... have unique needs that must be met
- ... have a right to knowledge, tools and relationships necessary to build successful lives
- ... deserve to be taught in a safe and caring environment by competent professionals
- ... are meaningful contributors to society

