



# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## NEWS RELEASE

No. 13-020

March 5, 2013

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## **SECOND TELL KENTUCKY WORKING CONDITIONS SURVEY UNDERWAY**

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – From now through March 29, school-based certified educators in all 174 Kentucky districts will be able to share their thoughts about the working conditions in their schools through the second statewide TELL (Teaching, Empowering, Leading and Learning) Kentucky Survey.

The TELL Kentucky Survey is designed to gather a variety of information from teachers, counselors, principals and other administrators who deal with teaching and learning conditions every day -- including the adequacy of facilities and resources; time; empowerment; school leadership; community support; student conduct; professional development; mentoring and induction services; and student learning. The web-based survey is voluntary, anonymous and confidential.

As when the survey was first given in 2011, the results will be used to enhance school improvement efforts and student outcomes.

“The 2011 TELL Kentucky Survey gave us a robust roadmap to improve our schools – including fine tuning professional development and providing data to integrate into school improvement plans and evaluations of administrators,” said Governor Steve Beshear. “There is more work to do and we know we can count on Kentucky educators to tell us what they need to do their jobs well.”

The survey provides each Kentucky school with a 50 percent or greater response rate its own data that can become a part of its ongoing improvement planning process.

(more)

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At the state level, the data is useful to the Governor, the state board and department of education, legislators and other policymakers who are committed to listening to the voices of educators as they develop and implement education reform policies.

“We saw significant change in our schools, districts and at the state level as the result of the first survey,” said Kentucky Education Commissioner Terry Holliday. “As one example, the Kentucky Board of Education adopted new [teaching conditions standards](#), the conditions that should be in place in every school to maximize teacher effectiveness. Kentucky is just the second state in the nation to have such standards,” Holliday said.

Kentucky had an 80 percent response rate to the TELL Kentucky Survey in 2011; state and local leaders are hoping for an even better response rate this year. The survey takes approximately 30 minutes to complete.

To encourage greater participation, the Kentucky Education Association, Kentucky Association of School Administrators, Kentucky School Boards Association and the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents are once again contributing prize money for weekly drawings. Every school that reaches a 50 percent response rate will be entered into a drawing for a \$1,000 cash award for the school. Schools that reach a 100 percent response rate will be entered into a drawing for a \$1,000 cash award that will go to an individual educator. School- and district-completion rates are posted on the [www.tellkentucky.org](http://www.tellkentucky.org) website in real time.

The TELL Kentucky Survey is administered by the [New Teacher Center](#) (NTC), a national non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the development of a high-quality teaching force.

NTC has conducted similar surveys in other states. Since 2008, the NTC has heard from more than 840,000 educators in 22,000 schools in 18 states and select school districts.

(more)

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NTE will aggregate and report results from the 2013 TELL Kentucky survey no later than June 1. These reports will be a compilation of educator responses to all questions and will be presented as bar charts and in Excel format for the school (if at least 50 percent of educators respond), district and state.

TELL Kentucky is conducted under the leadership of the Kentucky Department of Education and supported by a coalition of education organizations, all of whom believe that it is critically important to listen to educators' views when shaping school improvement strategies.

The Coalition Partners are:

- Governor Steve Beshear, Commonwealth of Kentucky
- Kentucky Board of Education
- Kentucky Department of Education
- Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board
- Kentucky Education Association
- Kentucky Association of School Councils
- Kentucky Association of School Administrators
- Jefferson County Teachers Association
- Kentucky PTA
- Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
- Kentucky School Boards Association
- Kentucky Association of School Superintendents
- Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
- Prichard Committee

For more information about the 2013 TELL Kentucky Survey, visit [www.tellkentucky.org](http://www.tellkentucky.org).

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