



ISN Contact: Felicia Cumings Smith, Associate Commissioner
Office of Next Generation Learners
felicia.smith@education.ky.gov

The Kentucky Department of Education's mission is to prepare all Kentucky students for next-generation learning, work and citizenship by engaging schools, districts, families and communities through excellent leadership, service and support.

Senate Bill 1 Update

Kentucky Core Academic Standards: During the 2010-11 academic year, schools and districts will begin to implement the Kentucky Core Academic Standards for mathematics and English/language arts. In order to assist with the transition to these standards, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has produced a crosswalk resource that will present the alignment of the Common Core State Standards, which were used to develop the *Kentucky Core Academic Standards*, and the current Kentucky standards found in the *Program of Studies*. While developing this crosswalk, KDE staff members used a tool and process designed by Achieve, Inc. This crosswalk matrix will benefit educators by presenting the standards alignment along with the strength of the alignment.

In response to district feedback, a more teacher friendly tool has been developed as an instructional resource to enhance implementation of the new standards. It is important to note that the alignments have not changed; therefore, both versions of the crosswalk resources present the same information. Please remember that, for accountability purposes, students will not be assessed on the *Kentucky Core Academic Standards* until the 2011-12 academic school year. Click [here](#) to view both crosswalk resources.

For more information, please contact Cherry Boyles at (502) 564-2106 cherry.boyles@education.ky.gov.

Science Standards: A committee, funded by the Carnegie Corporation, has developed a science framework which will be used to guide the development of the Next Generation Science Standards. The purpose of this tool is to establish the conceptual and content underpinnings which will be in the upcoming set of revised science content standards. The key components that are presented as separate dimensions in the framework are intended to be integrated in the resulting standards. This is a first draft and is subject to revision. The framework document is close to 200 pages, however, KDE has developed an abbreviated version which outlines key components and it may be accessed [here](#).

Assessment and Accountability System: Four new members have been appointed by Governor Steve Beshear to the School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council (SCAAC). The 17-member council meets at least four times each year to advise the Kentucky Board of Education and the Legislative Research

Commission. **The council reviews and makes recommendations concerning Kentucky's system of setting academic standards, assessing learning, holding schools accountable for learning and assisting schools to improve their performance.**

The new members are:

- Jon R. Akers Jr., Versailles, represents principals
- David R. Higgins, Georgetown, represents parents
- Polly Lusk Page, Villa Hills, represents members at-large
- Phyllis E. Young, Georgetown, represents school board members

Re-appointed members to the council are

- Sheldon Berman, Louisville, represents superintendents
- Sara B. Call, Frankfort, represents school board members
- Jana Beth Francis, Owensboro, represents school district assessment coordinators
- Catherine Hacker, Salt Lick, represents school district assessment coordinators
- Joseph L. Hicks, Bardstown, represents employers in the state
- Patrice McCrary, Bowling Green, represents teachers
- Ben Oldham, Lexington, represents university professors with expertise in assessment and measurement
- Edward Reeves, Morehead, represents university professors with expertise in assessment and measurement
- Penny Rogers, Greenville, represents teachers
- Sandra Shepherd, Erlanger, represents parents
- Denise Whitaker, Murray, represents principals
- Carl Wicklund, Independence, represents employers in the state
- Lu Young, Nicholasville, represents superintendents

The next meeting of the council is set for August 25. SCAAC meets at the Capital Plaza Tower in Frankfort. A press release with an agenda is available prior to each meeting. Meetings are open to the public.

College and Career Readiness: As mentioned in earlier newsletters, the *Unified College and Career Readiness Plan* offers four strategies for improving college and career readiness. These are:

- Accelerated Learning Opportunities (focusing on the expansion of AP/IB access and dual credit opportunities)
- Secondary Intervention Programs (focusing on the development of transitional coursework)
- College and Career Readiness Advising (focusing on the full implementation of the Individual Learning Plan [ILP] and comprehensive advising programs)
- Postsecondary College Persistence and Degree Completion (focusing on bridge programming, accelerated learning opportunities, and student support and intervention systems)

The third strategy highlighted in this newsletter focuses on college and career readiness advising. As a part of this goal, an Advising Toolkit, utilizing the Individual Learning Plan (ILP), will be designed to assist schools in the development of a comprehensive advising program for students in 6th through 12th grades.

- The advising programs will focus on academic, career, financial and personal/social development.
- Students will be advised based on chosen career pathways identified in their ILPs.

Goals:

- By May 2011, all secondary school personnel will have access to professional development (PD) to support the utilization of the Advising Toolkit. This PD will ensure that secondary staff is trained in the implementation of a comprehensive advising program.

- By August 2011, all secondary students will have access to a comprehensive advising program.
- By August 2012, all secondary schools will collaborate with postsecondary regional partners to develop advising programs as integral components of the curriculum.

Update on College and Career Readiness Plan Intervention Strategy (Transitional Courses): As part of the charge of Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), schools and districts are given the responsibility of ensuring students are college- and career-ready by the end of their high school experience. One avenue to determine students' progress toward that goal and the interventions needed is monitoring student progress on the ACT exam. As a means to address this measure, the minimum graduation requirements regulation (704 KAR 3:305) has recently been revised. The revised regulation contains a requirement that any student not meeting benchmark on the 11th-grade administration of the ACT be provided a transitional course **OR** other intervention in the 12th grade in order to assure a greater opportunity for success as students transition to college and career.

In order to assist districts, KDE, in conjunction with outside partners, is developing mathematics and reading transitional course frameworks that schools may use as resources. These two courses are intended to address the needs of students within three points of that benchmark score. The transitional course frameworks will be ready by the middle of August 2010. The course materials will be offered, free of charge, through the KDE website. The instructional materials available will include the course frameworks and training guidance to help teachers and administrators implement these courses. The courses are designed to be flexible and can be offered in a variety of formats: as full courses for credit, embedded into existing courses or offered in skill sections as intervention activities. KDE is planning professional learning sessions to help schools and districts understand and be able to implement these transitional courses.

For more information, please contact April Pieper at april.pieper@education.ky.gov.

Update on New Regulations

The Interim Joint Committee on Education reviewed the following regulations at its July 12 meeting:

- 703 KAR 5:060, Interim Assessment and Accountability Process
- 704 KAR 3:540, Uniform Academic Course Codes
- 703 KAR 5:180, Intervention System for Persistently Low-Achieving Schools

The regulations were approved by the committee and became effective on July 12. The official compiling and codification of all regulations are made by Legislative Research Commission (LRC) staff. This process may take several days to weeks after the effective date. The following website will list the final and official versions of the regulations: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/kar/titles.htm>

All final versions appear in blue, proposed new or amended versions appear in green, and emergency regulations appear in red. The regulations discussed above will not be "official" until there is no longer a green version below the blue version (old version) of the regulation.

Update on Great Teachers and Leaders

New Teacher Standards: At a recent Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) meeting, the Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (INTASC) proposed standards were released. This work reflects a major collaboration nationwide to revise the former "new" teacher standards to address "all" teachers. This is very timely work and aligns closely with the work we are doing in Kentucky on teacher effectiveness. To see the proposed standards and provide comments, see the information below from CCSSO:

The draft standards will be circulated from now until October 15, 2010 to gather comments and feedback which will be used to refine and finalize the standards. Individual and focus group feedback is planned. To download, review the document and submit comments, please go to www.ccsso.org/intasc. To view a video webcast of the release, please click [here](#). If your organization is interested in hosting a focus group to provide input on the standards, please contact Kathleen Paliokas, Director, INTASC at CCSSO by e-mail at kathyp@ccsso.org.

Statewide Principal and Teacher Steering Committees: The Principal and Teacher Statewide Steering Committees were appointed by Education Commissioner Terry Holliday. The purpose of this essential group of stakeholders is to guide the design, development and deployment of our state professional growth and evaluation system. The committees will work closely with school districts and a national facilitator to ensure we create a system that is valid and reliable. Each steering committee is comprised of teachers, principals, superintendents, education association members, parents and Chamber of Commerce representatives.

Kentucky's Working Conditions Coalition: The Working Conditions Coalition includes representation from the Kentucky Education Association (KEA), Kentucky Association of School Administrators (KASA), Kentucky Association of School Superintendents (KASS), Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA), Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB), Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), teachers, principals, superintendents, parents, legislators and Chamber of Commerce representatives. Commissioner Holliday formed this group to work closely with the New Teacher Center to develop Kentucky's Teaching and Learning Conditions Survey. For virtually any business or organization, the conditions in which employees work drive their satisfaction and productivity. Schools are not any different. Research continues to show that a school's teaching and learning conditions have a powerful influence on student achievement and teacher retention. By documenting and analyzing how teachers and principals view their teaching and learning conditions, policymakers can make data-driven decisions on policies and practices that will improve student achievement. As part of a recent decision by the Kentucky Board of Education and the state's application for the second round of the Race to the Top fund, KDE will design and deploy the Kentucky Teacher and Principal Working Conditions Survey.

For more information about this work, please contact Michael Dailey at michael.dailey@education.ky.us.

Update on Transforming Education in Kentucky Task Force

The Governor's Transforming Education in Kentucky (TEK) Task Force met Tuesday, July 13, at the Scott County Career and Tech Ed Center in Georgetown. The focus of the meeting was career and technical education.

The meeting was webcast, and the archived version of that may be accessed at the links below.

Archived video and audio:

mms://video1.education.ky.gov/On-Demand2010/TEK_7-13-2010.wmv

Downloadable audio podcast:

http://media.education.ky.gov/video1/On-Demand2010/TEK_7-13-2010.mp3

The group is preparing to recommend ways to channel all of the efforts discussed into an integrated and comprehensive system of education in Kentucky. The goal is to formulate recommendations by the end of 2010 for consideration during the 2011 legislative session.

Governor Beshear and the TEK Task Force will use the public input from TEK Talk (mentioned in the announcement section below) as guidance for the work of Transforming Education in Kentucky.

Resource Section

New Book Review: *Curriculum 21: Essential Education for a Changing World.* (2010) Edited by Heidi Hayes Jacobs. ASCD.

“The concept of what a school is does not need reform — it needs new forms” (9). Are schools’ curricula preparing students for success now and in the future? In addition to contributions by the editor, Jacobs, leading education thinkers provide ideas in the chapters that comprise the book, focusing on issues such as habits of mind, technology, program structures (use of time/space, staffing, grouping of students), media literacy and globalization.

Jacob says, “In some ways it appears that each state education department will ultimately have the greatest influence over school boards and policies in the years ahead...it is important to acknowledge some promising signs of state departments showing 21st century leadership in curriculum policy development.” States cited are New Jersey (for specific goals to enhance the new standards), Rhode Island (for digital portfolios of student self-selected work throughout schooling, required for graduation) and Hawaii (for video modules for PD and video conferencing that connects isolated island districts).

What role will Kentucky take in leading 21st-century learning? Kentucky recently joined the Partnership for 21st Century Skills, which is a coalition of 15 states dedicated to infusing 21st-century skills into their respective standards, assessments, curriculum and instruction, Read *Curriculum 21* as a guide for transforming schools.

Articles of Interest: Two articles from the *New York Times* by David Leonhardt related to kindergarten and effective teaching - [Kindergarten and Class](#) and [The Case for \\$320,000 Kindergarten Teachers](#).

Announcements

Transforming Education in Kentucky (TEK) Community Forums: Recognizing the value of public support of education throughout the Commonwealth, Governor Steve Beshear will host [Transforming Education in Kentucky \(TEK\) community forums on Tuesday, Aug. 17](#). Kentuckians are invited to gather at 10 locations across the state to discuss transforming education in Kentucky. The local events will take place in Paducah, Owensboro, Bowling Green, Elizabethtown, Louisville, Lexington, Highland Heights, Somerset, Prestonsburg and Ashland.

“The success of our education system in Kentucky is dependent upon the involvement of our communities,” said Governor Beshear. “Local participation and support reinforces our united commitment to improving educational opportunities statewide.”

In addition to the local discussions, KET will stream a live panel discussion with the Governor, First Lady Jane Beshear, Education Commissioner Terry Holliday and Council on Postsecondary Education President Bob King. The panel will address questions posed at the community forums and discuss issues that emerge from local events. Bill Goodman of KET will moderate the panel for his program, *Education Matters*.

Did you miss a newsletter?

Click [here](#) for archived copies of the *ISN Newsletter*.