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# Superintendents Webcast

June 20, 2023



Kentucky Department of  
**EDUCATION**

# Agenda

## *Welcome*

*Thomas Woods-Tucker, Ph.D., KDE Deputy Commissioner*

*Toni Konz Tatman, KDE Chief Communications Officer*

## ***KDE Updates and Stories From Our Districts***

*Toni Konz Tatman, KDE Chief Communications Officer*

## ***ESSER Updates from the KDE Office of Finance and Operations***

*Robin Kinney, KDE Associate Commissioner*

## ***Kentucky Board of Education Updates***

*Meredith Brewer, Ph.D., KDE Director of Education Policy*

## ***Overview of Regulatory and Non-regulatory Legislative Guidance from the 2023 Regular Session***

*Brian Perry, KDE Director of Government Affairs*

## ***Update on Accountability Standards-Setting Process***

*Rhonda Sims, KDE Associate Commissioner, Office of Accountability and Assessment*

## ***Questions and Answers***

*(Submit Questions via Google Form)*

*KDE Leadership Staff*

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# KDE Updates

Toni Konz Tatman

KDE Chief Communications Officer



# 2023 Continuous Improvement Summit

- Registration for KDE's 2023 Continuous Improvement Summit is open!
- The summit will be held on Sept. 25-26 at the Central Bank Center, formerly the Lexington Convention Center.
- This year's keynote is Mike Rutherford. He will engage participants with conversation on high-performance teaching and learning, leadership development, creating and leading team-based organizations, and results-based organizational improvement.
- The registration form can be found on the [2023 Kentucky Continuous Improvement Summit event webpage](#).

# LETRS – Phase 2 Registration Now Open

Registration for the second cohort of the Kentucky Reading Academies will be open through Aug. 31.

*Phase 1 participants will not need to register for Phase 2, as they are already enrolled in the professional learning.*

[LETRS for Educators Phase 2 Registration](#): This course is recommended for K-5 teachers, interventionists, reading specialists and anyone providing reading instruction or intervention supports to early readers.

[LETRS for Administrators Phase 2 Registration](#): This course is recommended for district leaders, building administrators and instructional coaches.

As of today, we have 1,785 people registered (1,500 for educators, 285 for administrators).



# What Makes the Kentucky Reading Academies Unique?

- Removes financial barriers to create equitable access statewide
- Invests in people, not programs
- Comprehensive and evidence-based
- Transferrable to align with the local curriculum
- Proactive and sustainable
- The Kentucky Reading Academies is being implemented in three phases:
  - **Cohort/Phase 1:** Fall 2022 – Spring 2024
  - **Cohort/Phase 2:** Fall 2023 – Spring 2025
  - **Cohort/Phase 3:** Fall 2024 – Spring 2026

# Who is Eligible to Participate?

- Phase 2 open to Kentucky public school educators who work with K-5 students:
  - General K-5 teachers
  - Special educators, English learner teachers
  - Reading specialists (interventionists, coaches)
  - Administrators (340 additional participants)
- CEO rank change opportunities through educational cooperatives



# Update on Kentucky School for the Deaf Principal Search

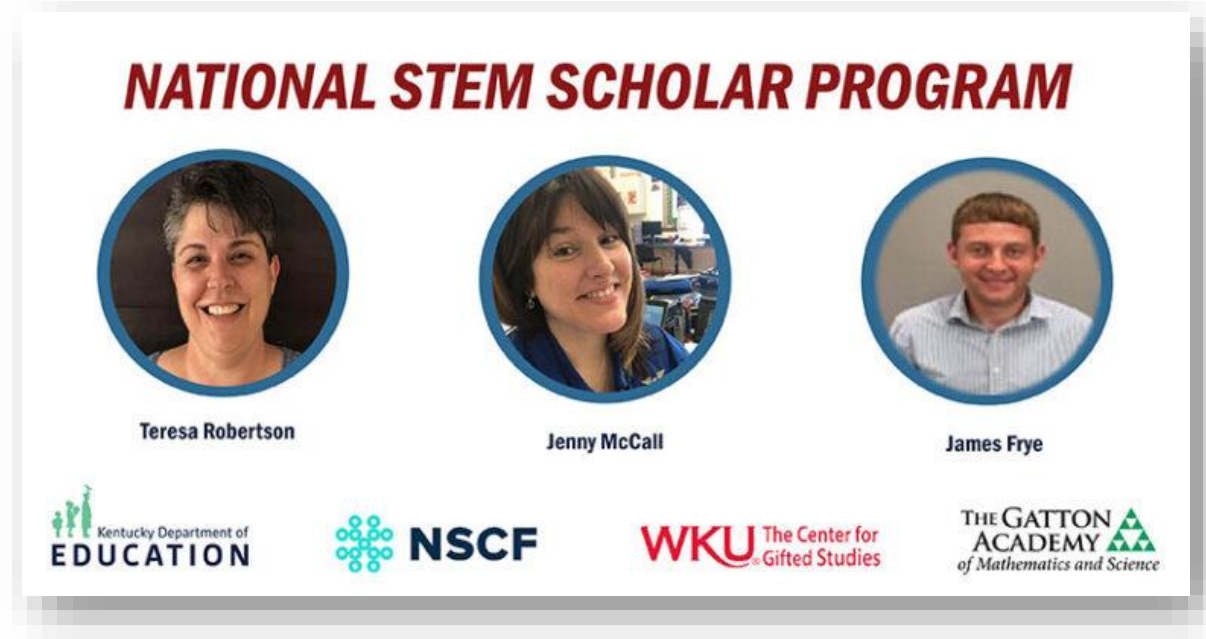
- Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) supporters got the chance to express their opinions on the search for a new principal during a series of forums in May.
- The two forums – [one virtual forum on May 24](#) and [one in-person forum on May 31](#) – served as opportunities for stakeholders in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities to inform KDE and help the hiring committee make critical and informed decisions throughout the process.
- More than 100 people participated in the two forums.
- [Current KSD Principal Toyah Robey is retiring on June 30](#) after six years with the school.
- All the information gathered from the [KSD Principal Profile Survey](#) (which June 2) and the two forums will be used by the hiring committee as it is interviewing candidates.
- Interviews are being conducted this week.
- KDE hopes to have a new principal in place at KSD by July 1.





# Three Kentucky Teachers Named National STEM Scholars

- [Three Kentucky teachers were selected as National STEM Scholars](#), a collaborative professional development opportunity for middle school science teachers.
- The program was created in partnership between the National Stem Cell Foundation and Western Kentucky University's Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science, which selects the applicants and leads the program.
- Each year, 10 National STEM Scholars are selected from across the country. The program, now in its eighth year, has recognized 80 teachers from 33 states.
- The Kentucky teachers are: **James "JJ" Frye** from Grayson County Middle School; **Teresa Robertson** from Munfordville Elementary School (Hart County); and **Jenny McCall** from Winburn Middle School (Fayette County).



# Jonathan Jett, Carol Ann Morrison Named Acting Director and Co-Director of State Schools

- [Jonathan Jett and Carol Ann Morrison have been named acting director and co-director of the Division of State Schools at KDE.](#)
- Both currently serve in the KDE Office of Special Education and Early Learning. Jett and Morrison were named to the positions temporarily amid a search for a new permanent director of the division.
- Previous Director Jane Paynter announced her retirement earlier this month.
- [The job posting for Director of State Schools can be found on the KDE website](#)



# ESSER Funding Brings New Science Program to Bourbon County Elementary Schools

- When Bourbon County elementary students return to their classrooms this fall, they will notice a new science program that will inspire their curiosity and foster a deep understanding of scientific principles through hands-on experimentation.
- The district has launched a partnership with Discovery Education, which will allow teachers to integrate the company's suite of innovative digital resources into instruction to create dynamic learning environments that more deeply engage students in science.
- The program, set to be implemented into daily coursework, is being made possible by Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding from the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act.
- [Read more about Bourbon County on Kentucky Teacher.](#)



# Competitive Grants from KDE

## FY24 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

Grant applications are due June 22 at 4 p.m. ET

**Award Amount:** Varies by # of students served.

**Matching Funds Requirement:** No

**Purpose:** Increase fresh fruit and vegetable consumption in elementary schools. Elementary schools that represent the state's highest free and reduced-price enrollment are eligible to participate in the program and are given priority for being selected due to their high need level.

[Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Request for Applications](#)

[FY24 FFVP FAQ](#)

Questions? Email Jennifer Bryant at [jennifer.Bryant@education.ky.gov](mailto:jennifer.Bryant@education.ky.gov)



# How is your district using ESSER funds?

- The Kentucky Department of Education is sharing how schools and districts are using funds they received through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding.
- If you would like to share how your schools or district is using ESSER money to help students succeed, send your information to Chief Communications Officer Toni Konz Tatman at: [toni.tatman@education.ky.gov](mailto:toni.tatman@education.ky.gov).

# KDE Uses ESSER Funds to Award Scholarships to 306 Students with Disabilities in 2023

- [KDE's Office of Special Education and Early Learning used \\$765,000 in federal funding to award scholarships to 306 Kentucky high school students with disabilities during the 2022-2023 year.](#)
- The KDE Powered by Inclusion scholarship was made possible with Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding from the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. The federal funding supports the safe and sustained return to in-person learning and expands equity by supporting students who need it most, particularly those most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Seniors or grade 14 students who have an Individual Education Program and have obtained postsecondary readiness through Kentucky's accountability model were eligible for a single \$2,500 award for use at any postsecondary education or training program. Local boards of education could nominate up to four eligible students per public school district.





# Danville Independent Schools using ESSER funds to provide after-school strings program for students

- [Danville Independent Schools using ESSER funds to provide after-school strings program for students.](#)
- Edna L. Toliver Intermediate School (Danville Independent) has partnered with the Heritage Area Strings Program (HASP) to create a free after-school program where students have the choice of learning how to play the violin, viola or cello.
- Once the basics are covered, students have the opportunity to receive further instruction through community-based classes offered by HASP. The program has a lending library of instruments so students do not have to buy their own.
- The music classes are offered once a week for 2nd-through-5th-grade students at Toliver.



# ESSER-Funded Math Intervention Program Makes Learning Fun for Whitley County Elementary Students

- Math intervention might not seem like much fun for a 2nd-grader, but an innovative approach in Whitley County has students eager to attend class.
- Help for these students came from Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funding from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act.
- Whitley County Superintendent John Siler said officials have been using the federal relief money in a variety of ways to benefit the district's 4,000 students, where roughly 70% qualify for free and reduced-price meals.
- Students are selected based on the data from the different assessments, including the Measures of Academic Progress test, which is designed to measure student achievement in the moment and growth over time.
- [Read more about Whitley County on Kentucky Teacher.](#)



# ESSER funding brings new science program to Bourbon County elementary schools

- When Bourbon County elementary school students return to their classrooms this fall, they will notice a new science program that will inspire their curiosity and foster a deep understanding of scientific principles through hands-on experimentation.
- The district has launched a partnership with Discovery Education, which will allow teachers to integrate the company's suite of innovative digital resources into instruction to create dynamic learning environments that more deeply engage students in science.
- At the end of May, teachers from all three Bourbon County elementary schools gathered to learn more about Discovery Education and received training on how to use it in their classrooms.
- [Read more about Bourbon County on Kentucky Teacher.](#)





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# ESSER Updates from the KDE Office of Finance and Operations

Robin Kinney, KDE Associate Commissioner

# ESSER I

- ESSER I KY Allocation: \$193,186,874
- Grant period ended Sept. 30, 2022
- Liquidation period ended Jan. 28, 2023
- No late liquidation requests
  - 90% to local education agencies \$173,868,187
  - State set-aside \$19,222,094
  - State administration \$96,593
- Balance returned to USED **\$ 15,660**

# ESSER and GEER Annual Performance Report

## U.S. Dept. of Education Correction Periods

- ESSER FY2022 Data Collection July 3 to July 20, 2023
- ESSER FY2023 Data Collection July 24 to Aug. 10, 2023
  
- GEER FY2022 Data Collection Aug. 14 to Aug. 24, 2023
- GEER FY2023 Data Collection Aug. 28 to Sept. 7, 2023



# ESSER II and ARP ESSER Grant Periods

- ESSER II grant period ends Sept. 30, 2023
  - *All reimbursement requests are due to KDE no later than Nov. 17, 2023*
- ARP ESSER grant period ends Sept. 30, 2024
- Through May 2023:
  - Districts have been reimbursed for 85.5% of ESSER II allocations
  - Districts have been reimbursed for 72.3% of ESSER II LEA state set-aside funds
- If you don't plan to use all ESSER II funds allocated to your district, notify Robin Morley ([robin.morley@education.ky.gov](mailto:robin.morley@education.ky.gov)) as soon as possible.

# ESSER II - Liquidation Extensions

- IF granted, a liquidation extension requires that the funds be OBLIGATED (contracts finalized and signed) before Sept. 30, 2023.
- Extensions will end no later than March 31, 2025.
- EXTENSIVE documentation will be required to be submitted and maintained in KDE throughout the extended liquidation period.
- [U.S. Department of Education Guidance May 2023](#)

# ESSER II - Liquidation Extensions (cont.)

- Uses of Funds:

Examples include construction contract(s), HVAC contract(s), delayed materials/supplies or for other allowable uses.

All funds must be properly obligated by Sept. 30, 2023, and for allowable uses. Requests must be aligned to particular projects or specific circumstances at the subrecipient level.

- Justification:

**Needing more time to expend funds is not an adequate reason or justification for a liquidation extension request.** Examples might include delays related to supply or labor shortages.

# District Interest ESSER II Liquidation Extension?

- Send an email to Katina Garr ([Katina.Garr@education.ky.gov](mailto:Katina.Garr@education.ky.gov)) by July 7
- Include a brief statement about (1) The nature of each project, (2) Why the district needs an extension, and (3) How much money might be needed.
- Note: *This is NOT an application for late liquidation; it is an indication of potential need or interest.*

# ARP ESSER Liquidation Extensions

- Liquidation extensions are NOT currently available for ARP ESSER funds.
- Unlikely an ARP liquidation extension will be available before next spring.
- U.S. Department of Education *“strongly encourages states and local educational agencies (LEAs) ... to obligate and liquidate ARP Act funds with urgency for activities that support students’ academic recovery and mental health.”*

# Questions?

Robin Kinney

KDE Associate Commissioner, Office of Finance and Operations

[Robin.Kinney@education.ky.gov](mailto:Robin.Kinney@education.ky.gov)

Robin Morley

KDE Program Manager, Office of Finance and Operations

[Robin.Morley@education.ky.gov](mailto:Robin.Morley@education.ky.gov)



A collage of educational images: school buses in the top left and a classroom with desks and a blue wall in the bottom left, separated by a white diagonal line.

# Kentucky Board of Education Updates

Meredith Brewer, Ph.D.

KDE Director of Education Policy



Kentucky Department of  
**E D U C A T I O N**

# New members named to Kentucky Board of Education



**Julie Pile, At-Large Member**  
[Pile's Biography](#)



**Diana Woods, At-Large Member**  
[Woods's Biography](#)

[KBE SPOTLIGHT | Family engagement advocate Julie Pile joins the Kentucky Board of Education](#)

[KBE SPOTLIGHT | Diana Woods wants students to be educated and elevated](#)

# June 2023 Regular Meeting - Action Items

- Amendment to 702 KAR 7:065, Designation of Agent to Manage Middle and High School Interscholastic Athletics
- Certification of Non-Public Schools
- 2023-2024 Preschool Grant Allotment System and Funding Rates
- Kentucky Tech Policy 09.12 Admissions and Attendance





# June 2023 Regular Meeting - Review Items

- 2024-2026 Biennial Budget Request Discussion
- Spanish Immersion Project
- Kentucky United We Learn Council Update
- Portrait of a Learner Performance Outcomes



# KBE Call to Action

- Discussion on legacy, accountability and practice
- Call to Action value statements framed around the Inclusive Learner Experience
- Document will be shared with shareholders for refinement throughout the summer in advance of KBE's final review and possible approval in August



# 2023 Karem Award for Excellence in Education Policy

Congratulations to our  
winners:

**Sarah Vivian**

Franklin County Public Schools

**Jeremy Camron**

Daviess County Public Schools





# 2023 Kentucky Teacher of the Year Reflection

**Mandy Perez**  
Crittenden County  
Public Schools



# Thank You, Joud and Joanna!



**Joud Dahleh**

**2022-2023 KBE Non-Voting Student  
Boone County Public Schools**



**Joanna Stevens**

**2022-2023 KBE Non-Voting Teacher  
Garrard County Public Schools**

# Welcome, R.J. and Alissa!



**R.J. Osborne**

**2023-2024 KBE Non-Voting Student**  
Whitley County Public Schools

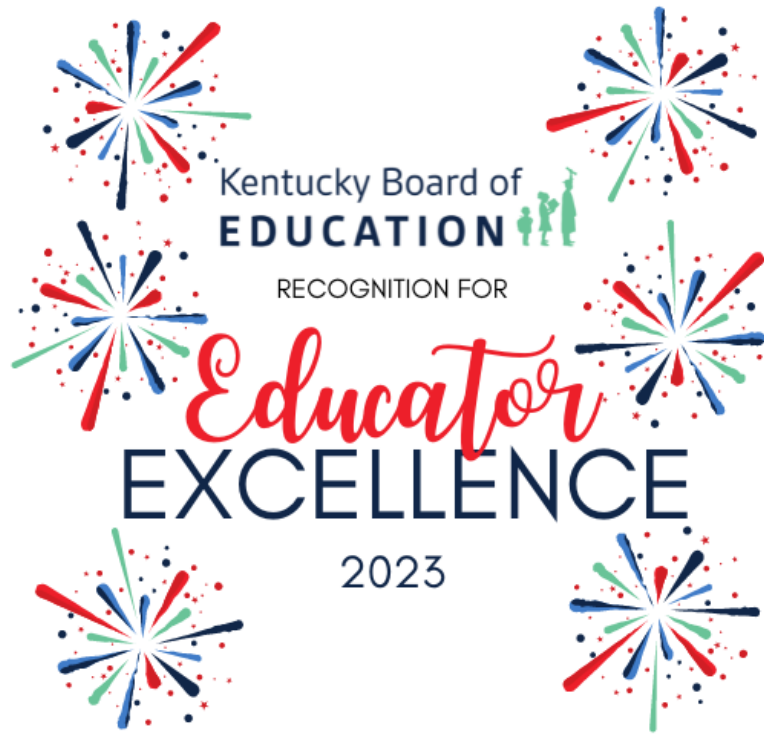


**Alissa Riley**

**2023-2024 KBE Non-Voting Teacher**  
Christian County Public Schools



# 2023 Educator Excellence Reception



# Looking Ahead

## KBE Retreat and Regular Meeting Aug. 2-3, 2023

Dale Hollow State Park  
Burkesville, KY



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# Overview of Regulatory and Non-regulatory Legislative Guidance from the 2023 Regular Session

*Brian Perry, KDE Director of Government Affairs*





# Legislative Process

- Barring the governor calling lawmakers in for a special session, they won't be back in session again until January 2024.
- Any bill, or any section of a bill, with an emergency clause becomes effective immediately upon enrollment.
- Bills without an emergency clause become effective 90 days after sine die (March 30).
  - AG opinion 23-03: The effective date of legislation, other than general appropriation bills and acts containing emergency or delayed effective date provisions, passed during this session is Thursday, June 29, 2023.
- KDE's non-regulatory guidance can be found at here:
  - <https://education.ky.gov/districts/LegislativeGuidance/Pages/default.aspx>

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# Update on Accountability Standard-Setting Process

Rhonda L. Sims, KDE Associate Commissioner  
Office of Assessment and Accountability



# Key Steps

## Responsive to 2022 LSAC Feedback

Note separate events for performance-level descriptor work and the standard setting workshop

Note additional time between standard-setting workshop and LSAC approval

### January/February 2023

- Initial development
- Feedback from KDE and KTAC

### March and May 2023

- Policy guidance from KDE and LSAC

### June 22-23, 2023

- Indicator Performance Level Descriptors and School Performance Level Descriptors workshop

### Sept. 13-15, 2023

- Standard-setting workshop

### October 2023

- KDE/LSAC review/approve recommendations
- Accountability reports issued
- Final standard-setting report

↑ We are here.

# 2023 Committee Members

*Kentucky has a strong history of setting accountability performance standards through an open process that involves a broad group of stakeholders.*

- The committee will include 30 panelists.
- The diverse panel includes members from all Kentucky geographic regions serving in a variety of statewide, district, school and community roles.
- Most panelists who served on the 2022 committee are returning to participate in 2023.

# Components of Accountability Reports

**Status:** Outcome on the given metric in the current year

*Five ratings (in statute):* Very High, High, Medium, Low, Very Low

**Change:** Difference in Status outcomes from the current year to the prior year

*Five ratings (in statute):* Increased Significantly, Increased, Maintained, Declined, Decreased Significantly

**Indicator Performance Rating:** Combination of Status and Change

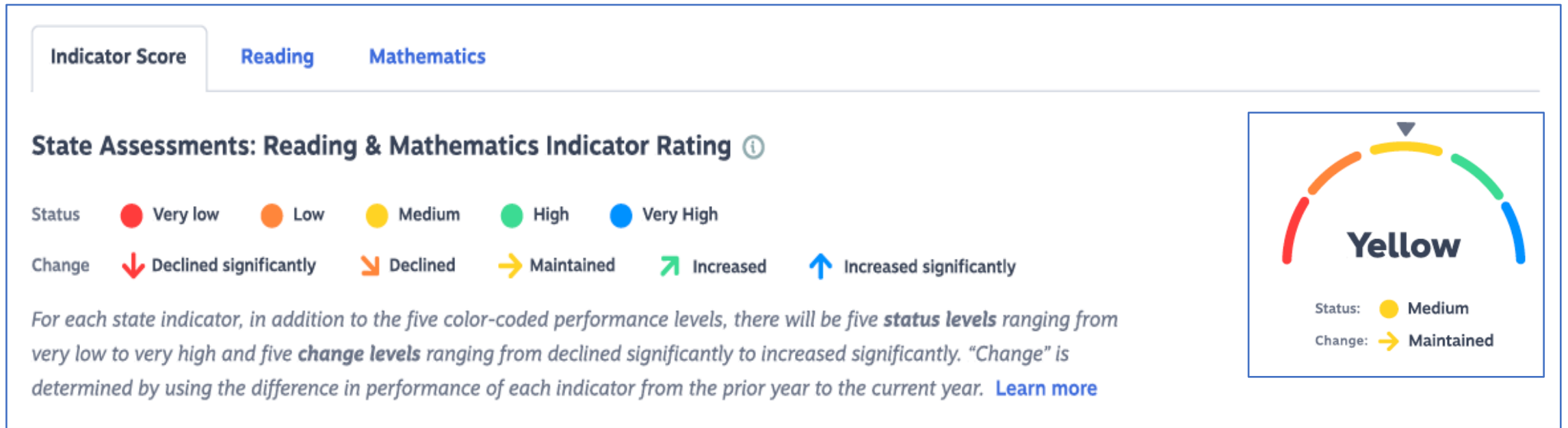
*Rating:* Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange, Red

**Overall Performance Rating:** Combination of Indicator outcomes by grade span

*Rating:* Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange, Red

# Sample Indicator Report

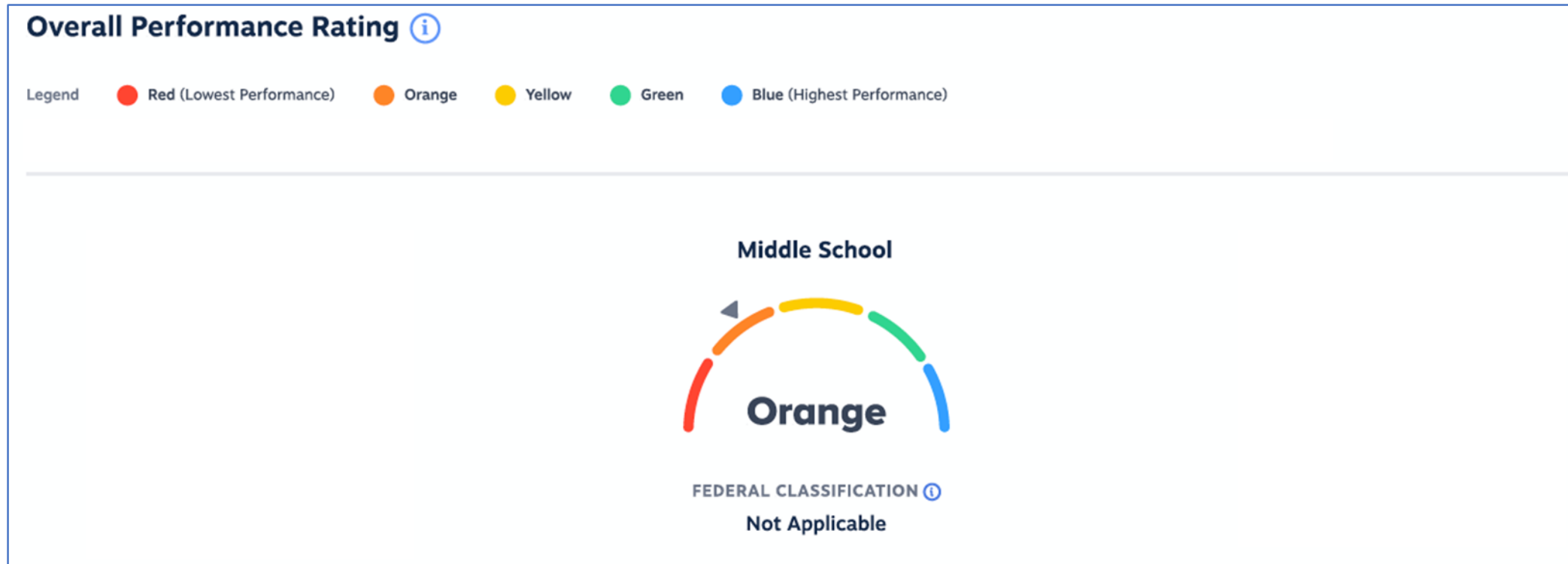
Components: Status Rating, Change Rating, Indicator Performance Rating





# Sample School: Overall Performance Rating

Component: Overall Performance Rating (Blue to Red)



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# Question and Answer Session

*(Submit Questions via Google Form)*

KDE Leadership



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# Next Superintendents Webcast

Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2023

2-4 p.m. ET



Kentucky Department of  
**EDUCATION**