



**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE)
SCHOOL CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT AND
ACCOUNTABILITY COUNCIL (SCAAC)
MEETING SUMMARY
JULY 16, 2024**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Artavia Acklin, Heather Aldrich, Deborah Atherton, Houston Barber, Martha Emmons, Chuck Fletcher, Jana Beth Francis, Leslie Jeffries, Brenda McGown, Jason Reeves

MEMBERS ABSENT: Renee Boss, Lisa Kear, Kristin Putnam, Allison Tamme, Jenny Urie, Henry Webb

SUMMARY: The July 16, 2024, virtual School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council (SCAAC) meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. ET by Chairperson Jana Beth Francis. Members and guests were welcomed, roll call was taken and Melissa Chandler informed the council of public meeting protocol.

A quorum of members was present. The open meeting was recorded and made available for viewing on the [KDE Media Portal](#).

All materials were made available in the [SCAAC Members Google Folder](#).

Agenda Item: Approval of July 2023, September 2023 and November 2023 Meeting Minutes

Presenter: Jana Beth Francis, Chair, SCAAC

Summary of Discussion: Houston Barber made a motion to approve the July 2023 meeting minutes. Artavia Acklin seconded the motion. Motion carried. Chuck Fletcher made a motion to approve the September 2023 meeting minutes. Martha Emmons seconded the motion. Motion carried. Jason Reeves made a motion to approve the November 2023 meeting minutes. Brenda McGown seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Agenda Item: Greetings

Presenter: Robbie Fletcher, Commissioner, Office of the Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Fletcher expressed his excitement about the role of Commissioner and the two assessment and accountability prototypes that have been developed through the Kentucky United We Learn (KUWL) Council. He clarified that as the prototypes are presented, council members should not view the two prototypes as mutually exclusive and instead look for valuable aspects in each prototype. Fletcher stressed the importance of members being candid and open in their feedback.

Agenda Item: Kentucky United We Learn Prototypes

Presenter: Jennifer Stafford, Director, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Stafford provided a brief background of Kentucky United We Learn (KUWL) including the “moonshot” vision of the KUWL council. The KUWL Council has been tasked with developing an assessment and accountability system which focuses on vibrant student experiences, encouraging innovation and community collaboration.

The first prototype is an accreditation-style model that would allow for ongoing collection and submission of evidence of learning throughout the school year. In this model, schools would submit evidence to an external evaluator and the local board of education and receive ratings on rubrics with feedback for improvement.

The second prototype values vibrant learning experiences. This system would focus on making sure students, families and communities are engaging in “authentic, joyful and relevant learning opportunities.” This system also allows students to be creative in their learning and apply their knowledge and skills through their personalized projects and experiences.

Stafford shared that there are policy considerations for each of these prototypes along with considerations for school finances and support efforts.

Members were encouraged to share feedback on both prototypes via a survey. The survey will be open through July 19 and will be presented to the KUWL Council on July 29.

Feedback: Members shared positive feedback about the development of prototypes and the potential of a new assessment and accountability model. Personal experiences for both prototypes, specifically accreditation models and student defenses of learning were discussed. Members posed questions for consideration including how to ensure an accreditation model would not become a compliance measure and the possibility of incorporating student growth as a component for a future system.

Agenda Item: Proposed Amendments to 703 KAR 5:240 (Accountability Administrative Procedures and Guidelines)

Presenter(s): Rhonda Sims, Associate Commissioner, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education; Jennifer Larkins, Policy Advisor, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Sims provided a summary of 703 KAR 5:240. Larkins shared the amendments that are being proposed to the regulation as a result of the addition of full-time enrolled online, virtual and remote learning programs as defined by 704 KAR 3:535.

Martha Emmons made a motion to approve the proposed amendments to 703 KAR 5:240. Jason Reeves seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item: Proposed Amendments to 704 KAR 3:535 (Full-Time Enrolled Online, Virtual and Remote Learning Programs)

Presenter: Marty Park, Chief Digital Officer, Office of Education Technology, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Park provided a brief history of online, virtual and remote learning programs in Kentucky and the enrollment in these programs. The proposed amendments to 704 KAR 3:535 would require students in these programs to be enrolled in an accountable school and their accountability to be attributable to that school in accordance with other accountability guidelines.

Chuck Fletcher made a motion to approve the proposed amendments to 704 KAR 3:535. Deborah Atherton seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item: Proposed Amendments to 704 KAR 3:305 (Minimum Requirements for High School Graduation)

Presenter(s): Micki Ray, Chief Academic Officer, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education; Sarah Peace, Policy Advisor, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Ray shared that the amendments being proposed to the SCAAC are in response to a piece of legislation, House Bill 535 (2024), on the significance of civics education. Peace reviewed the proposed amendments to modify the civics requirement for high school graduation, including some technical amendments.

Heather Aldrich made a motion to approve the proposed amendments to 704 KAR 3:305. Chuck Fletcher seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item: Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) Review and Revision Updates

Presenter(s): Chrystal Rowland, Director, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education; Jessica Greene, Program Consultant, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Rowland shared an update on the standards review process as determined in KRS 158.6453. The *KAS for Visual and Performing Arts (VPA)* began the regulatory process on June 6 after being approved by the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE). The regulatory process will take approximately six to nine months to complete. Greene shared highlights from the *KAS for VPA* revision including a color-coded design layout, document reorganization and addition of content and vocabulary.

Rowland updated members on the *KAS for Health Education and Physical Education* standards review process. A first draft of the standards document will be released in the fall of 2024 for a 30-day public comment period.

The *KAS for Reading and Writing*, *KAS for Social Studies*, *KAS for Mathematics* along with the Computer Science standards will be reviewed in 2025 as part of the rotating standards and assessment review process.

Feedback: Chair Francis commended the standards team for their work in the standards development process, indicating that the one-page document is a great resource for administrators observing classrooms. She proposed the development of an additional document that would provide a protocol for administrators. Additionally, Francis encouraged members to share the standards and assessment review application with teachers to participate in the process.

Agenda Item: Proposed Amendments to 703 KAR 5:080 (Administration Code for Kentucky’s Educational Assessment Programs)

Presenter(s): Rhonda Sims, Associate Commissioner, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education; Jennifer Larkins, Policy Advisor, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion: Sims shared that this regulation pertains to the annual training for the administrations of all assessments that are included in accountability reporting. Larkins shared the amendments that are being proposed to the regulation primarily as a result of online testing platforms.

Feedback: Chair Francis suggested the addition of “training” language on the signature page and inquired about documentation that would need to be collected and reported for potential allegations. Allegation coordinator, Beth Bales, clarified that the regulation language is only being modified to align with what districts are already doing as part of the allegation reporting process.

Deborah Atherton inquired about the Good Faith Effort language in the regulation. Francis suggested that the proposed language is confusing. Larkins and Sims agreed with comments and plan to review the regulation language and clarify in the final revisions.

Sims shared that the regulation review process is lengthy, and the updated regulation will not go into effect until the 2025-2026 school year.

Heather Aldrich made a motion to approve the proposed amendments to 703 KAR 5:080. Chuck Fletcher seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item: New SCAAC Member Updates

Presenter: Jana Beth Francis, Chair, School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council

Summary of Discussion: Francis shared that although several SCAAC members had terms that expired in October, all members are still considered active until new appointments are made by the governor’s office. Francis encouraged all members to attend the September meeting.

Heather Aldrich made a motion to adjourn. Martha Emmons seconded the motion. The next SCAAC meeting is scheduled for Sept. 17, 2024.