



Kentucky Department of
EDUCATION

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COUNCIL (SCAAC)
MEETING SUMMARY
NOV. 15, 2022**

PRESENT: Artavia Acklin, Deborah Atherton, Renee Boss, Martha Emmons, Chuck Fletcher, Jana Beth Francis, Brenda McGown, Jennifer Urie, Henry Webb

ABSENT: Heather Aldrich, Houston Barber, Leslie Jeffries, Lisa Kear, Kristin Putnam, Allison Tamme, Jason Reeves

SUMMARY:

The Nov. 15, 2022, virtual School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council (SCAAC) meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. 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 [SCAAC Google Folder](#).

Agenda Item: Approval of Sept. 20, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Artavia Acklin made a motion to approve the Sept. 20, 2022, meeting minutes. Chuck Fletcher seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Presenter: Jana Beth Francis, Chair, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Daviess County Public Schools

Agenda Item: *Kentucky Academic Standards Update*

Presenters: Chrystal Rowland, Director, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education; Thomas Clouse, Branch Manager, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion:

Rowland and Clouse shared an update on the *Standards* review process and were seeking feedback about the implementation supports that may be needed for standards implementation.

The *Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Science* is nearing the end of the review process and will be presented to the Standards and Assessment Process Review Committee (SAPRC) in November before moving to the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) in December. Comments and feedback solicited from stakeholders surrounding the new *KAS for Science* indicated the need for resources and document readability, therefore the redesign of the standards document focused on making the document clear and concise.

The *KAS for Social Studies* will be presented to the SAPRC in November before moving to the KBE in December. Implementation of the standards will begin in August 2023. Clouse shared the *KAS for Social Studies* document and the new 8th grade and high school standards created.

The *KAS for Visual and Performing Arts* is in the initial stages of the review process. The Advisory Panel will be meeting virtually on Nov. 16 to review public comments and feedback.

Feedback:

Chair Francis commended the standards team for their work in the standards development process, indicating that the standards documents are among the best resources available for educators. She asked about the development of a one-page document like a checklist highlighting the additional fundamental documents per grade level.

Francis inquired about the implementation date of the standards. Rowland shared that the *KAS for Social Studies* will be finalized in July of 2023 and will be ready for implementation in August 2023.

Council members expressed educators' desire to have the standards documents as early as possible in the summer of 2023 to prepare for implementation.

Agenda Item: Work Based Learning Components as an Option in Postsecondary Readiness Accountability

Presenter: Scott U'Sellis, Data Manager, Office of Career and Technical Education, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion:

U'Sellis was seeking feedback from the council on the proposed work-based learning career readiness indicator.

Senate Bill 59 (2022) modified the postsecondary readiness indicator within Kentucky's accountability system – which signals a student's readiness for the next step in their postsecondary plans – by one of the following indicators:

- Meeting or exceeding a college readiness benchmark score on the college admissions examination or an examination approved by the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education;

- Achieving three hours of college credit or postsecondary articulated credit by completing a course approved by the KBE;
- Achieving a benchmark score on a nationally recognized exam approved by the KBE that generally qualifies the student for three or more hours of college credit;
- Completing a required number of hours or achieving a benchmark within an apprenticeship, cooperative or internship that is aligned with a credential or associate degree and approved by the KBE after receiving input from KDE’s Local Superintendents Advisory Council (LSAC); or
- Achieving any industry-recognized certifications, licensures or credentials, with more weight in accountability for ones identified as high demand.

The Offices of Career and Technical Education and Assessment and Accountability created a committee with a superintendent, principals and work-based learning coordinators to address the work-based learning indicator. The goal was to develop a new career readiness indicator that is of equal rigor to other existing career readiness options. The committee met in August and October of 2022.

The proposed guidelines created by the committee are not final, and will be presented to LSAC followed by the KBE. Upon KBE approval, the guidelines will go into effect immediately.

The committee proposed that:

- Apprenticeship remains its own career readiness indicator with the established benchmark of achieving the Tech Ready Apprentices for Careers in Kentucky certificate; and
- Cooperative/internship/experienced-based work become a new career readiness indicator measured by a required number of hours and a minimum letter grade.

Both career and technical education (CTE) pathway students and non-CTE students could pursue career readiness through the work-based route by completing at least 300 work hours. The committee has proposed those hours only be earned during the standard school year and during the standard school week. However, a student may count hours connected to the work experience completed outside of the school day.

Data for students participating in cooperative/internship/experience-based work will be collected in Infinite Campus (IC). Additionally, the committee suggests documentation, including work agreement, employer evaluation and safety training if applicable, should be kept on file at the school level. Documentation will not be uploaded to IC but should be available for auditing.

Feedback:

Chuck Fletcher suggested the committee consider adding an agreement between the school and student as required documentation. Fletcher also inquired about the work experience pathway options for a freshman. U’Sellis shared that it is possible that a freshman participate, but not probable, however CTE dual credit is available for 9th graders. Fletcher shared one potential problem is liability in industry experiences due to age limitations. Henry Webb shared that typically this is an employer specific decision.

Martha Emmons asked about the business and industry members that participated in developing the proposal. U'Sellis shared that business and industry members were included in the committee and expressed value in their input to the process.

Emmons and other SCAAC members further inquired about the age restrictions for students completing the indicator and whether freshmen would be able to pursue work-based learning as a postsecondary readiness indicator. U'Sellis said the current committee guidelines do not restrict any grade level from completing the work-based option, but it is up to districts, students and employers to come to an agreement that is suitable for all parties.

Jennifer Urie expressed gratitude to the committee for the effort to develop the proposal. She inquired about students that are in a business pathway being able to work in a retail setting (e.g., grocery cashier.) U'Sellis explained that this could work, but may not necessarily be connected to a business pathway. U'Sellis shared that one option many districts take advantage of is student employment within the school system (e.g., help desk positions, classroom aides, etc.)

Chair Francis inquired about the next steps and reminded the council that the information shared is still in the development process and details are not final. SCAAC is in favor of the proposed changes moving forward.

Agenda Item: Kentucky's Portrait of a Learner

Presenter: Meredith Brewer, Director, Office of the Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion:

Brewer shared that a state-level Portrait of a Learner subcommittee of the KBE was formed in the summer of 2022 to model the process of developing a Portrait of a Learner for districts. The subcommittee developed the skills/dispositions identified for the Kentucky Portrait of a Learner. The KBE approved the proposed portrait during its October 2022 regular meeting.

Brewer shared that KBE chair, Lu S. Young, wrote a guest column for *Kentucky Teacher* that frames the importance of a state level portrait and why it is necessary to have one.

Brewer explained that the Kentucky United We Learn Council will be heavily involved in the implementation process of the Kentucky Portrait of a Learner. The KBE has already approved the implementation plan. The goal of the Portrait of a Learner is not to supplant the work that has already been done in districts, but instead to provide support to districts in their own portrait development.

Feedback:

Artavia Acklin said that the skills and dispositions align with the requirements of her district's Portrait of a Graduate. Several committee members shared that their districts and regions are also developing or already have developed a portrait.

Chair Francis appreciated the “creative contributor” addition to the skills/dispositions and felt that the subcommittee has done their due diligence in soliciting feedback in the development along the way.

Agenda Item: Assessment and Accountability Updates

Presenter: Rhonda Sims, Associate Commissioner, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education; Jennifer Stafford, Director, Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education

Summary of Discussion:

Sims and Stafford were seeking input on how the Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) released items and the assessment blueprint for science may be utilized in districts as instructional resources.

Stafford shared that released items from KSA are being posted to the KY Portal. Currently, items have been released for social studies and on-demand writing. Items are presented in a test booklet format along with scoring rubrics, anchor sets, practice sets and items statistics. The resources may be used in a variety of ways across the districts.

Sims reviewed the standards and assessment review process. The assessment blueprint will be presented to the SAPRC in November before moving to the KBE in December. Comments and feedback solicited from stakeholders did not indicate the need for many revisions. Changes that were proposed included the following:

- Additional language and hyperlink to released items and,
- Lower the grade 7 boundary of earth and space science to 20% to better reflect the content taught leading up to the assessment.

Stafford shared that it takes a while after new standards are adopted before they are assessed. Since standards will be in effect in August 2023 it will likely be 2025 before new standards are included in the operational assessment.

Feedback:

Council members shared that released items will be valuable for schools and teachers. Deborah Atherton said that the released items presented look similar to the old assessment format (i.e., paper books). Sims verified that KSA will continue to be administered online. The printed book format ensures that users understand that these were official operational items.

Francis encouraged the council to share samples with KDE of ways released items are used in districts.

Agenda Item: Open Discussion

Summary of Discussion:

No further discussion was initiated.

Check Fletcher made a motion to adjourn the Nov. 15 SCAAC meeting. Deborah Atherton seconded the motion. Motion carried. The next SCAAC meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2023.

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