



# Monday DAC Email

August 12, 2019

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

- Q:** How will Kentucky’s new 5-star school rating system and indicator rating of very low to very high be determined?
- A:** An Accountability Standards Setting will take place over the course of three days, August 23, September 4 and 5. Led by the Center for Assessment, a panel of Kentucky educators and policy makers will make recommendations on Kentucky’s new 5-star school rating system and indicator rating of very low to very high to the Commissioner of Education, Dr. Wayne Lewis. At the Kentucky Board of Education’s meeting on August 7, Dr. Lewis stated that his intention was to adopt the recommendations of the panelists.

Kentucky’s school accountability system specifies that schools will be rated on the basis of their overall performance on a set of indicators. Specifically, schools will receive an Overall Accountability Score that brings together all indicators into one score. During the standard setting process, panelists will use the Overall Accountability Score by level (elementary, middle, and high) to set the cuts for 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 stars. The Overall Accountability Score includes the following indicators and weights,

[Assessment Calendar](#)

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|                                      |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Elementary and Middle Schools</b> | <b>Proficiency (35)</b>                | <b>Separate Academic (26)</b>                                | <b>Growth (35)</b>   |  | <b>School Climate and Safety (4)</b>     |
|                                      | Performance in reading and mathematics | Performance in science, social studies and writing           | Annual progress in reading, mathematics and English language proficiency |  | Perception data based on student surveys |
| <b>High Schools</b>                  | <b>Proficiency (45)</b>                | <b>Separate Academic (15)</b>                                | <b>Transition Readiness (30)</b>   | <b>Graduation (6)</b>                              | <b>School Climate and Safety (4)</b>     |
|                                      | Performance in reading and mathematics | Performance in science, writing (and social studies in 2021) | Graduates and EL students who earn qualifying readiness outcomes         | Four and five year adjusted cohort graduation rate | Perception data based on student surveys |

Panelists will also make recommendations on each indicator. Schools will receive an Indicator Score for Proficiency, Separate Academic, Transition Readiness, Graduation, and Quality of School Climate and Safety (coming in 2019-2020) based on student performance in each of these areas. During the

standard setting process, panelists will use the Indicator Score by level (elementary, middle, and high) to set the cuts of very low, low, medium, high and very high on each indicator. These ratings will give context to the indicator scores each school earns.

### Standard Setting Process

On August 23, panelists will discuss School and Indicator Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs). School Performance Level Descriptors (SPLDs) and Indicator Performance Level Descriptors (IPLDs), similar to student performance level descriptors of novice, apprentice, proficient and distinguished, will provide descriptions of each star rating and each indicator rating. These PLDs will provide information about the expectations for each star rating and indicator. The PLDs give educators, teachers, parents/guardians, and students more information about a typical school and the performance level for each indicator.

Once the PLDs are crafted, they will be used to inform the decision of panelists during the standard setting on September 4 and 5. Panelists will use the PLD along with school and indicator data to set the cutscores for star (1 to 5) and indicator (very low to very high) rating. Panelists will use actual school performance data to determine cutscores. However, no school names will be used and panelists will not be able to identify any schools.

### Additional Information

More information on the upcoming Accountability Standard Setting has been shared.

[Kentucky Board of Education](#) meeting on August 7 – The discussion can be viewed on the Media Portal between hours 1:42 and 2:20.

[August Monthly DAC Webcast, August 8](#) – The discussion can be viewed on the Media Portal between 1:06 and 1:13.

[OSAA Training Series: 2018-2019 Accountability Reporting and Spring 2020 Testing](#) - The discussion can be viewed on the Media Portal between 7:10 and 14:18.

## **Important Dates**

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| August 6-<br>September 5: | Feedback on Draft Assessment Blueprints   |
| August 13:                | Advanced Placement & International Baccalaureate Scores Released to Infinite Campus   |
| August 15:                | Deadline for <a href="#">Assessment Item Review Applications</a>                      |
| August 16:                | Pre-Quality Control (QC) Data Review Closes   |
| August 23:                | Standard Setting Panelists Discuss SPLDs and IPLDs                                    |
| August 26:                | Alternate K-PREP Overview and Attainment Tasks Combined Training Available/Quiz Opens |
| August 30:                | Deadline for Entering Data into SRC Collection Tool                                   |
| September 4-5:            | Overall Accountability Standard Setting   |
| September 16-17:          | Continuous Improvement Summit   |

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAURETE (IB) SCORES IN INFINITE CAMPUS (IC)

KDE strives to publish student data results in IC as they become available. In this spirit, 2018-2019 AP and IB scores have been imported into the State Edition of IC. KDE will publish these scores to all districts beginning on Tuesday, August 13. Please email [Tania Arnett](#) with any questions on this matter.

## AUGUST MONTHLY DAC WEBCAST RECORDING

The Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability (OSAA) hosted its monthly District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) webcast on Thursday, August 8. The webcast was hosted by Jennifer Stafford, Director, in the Division of Assessment and Accountability Support (DAAS). DeDe Connor, Director, in the Division of School Data Services, provided important updates regarding the School Report Card. Thomas Clouse highlighted aspects of the Profile Report in the School Report Card. Chris Williams provided a preview of the upcoming data review, and Helen Jones shared other important assessment and accountability topics.

The August DAC Webcast [PowerPoint](#) and recorded [video](#) are available on the [KDE Media Portal](#) and the [KDE Meetings and Trainings](#) page with any pertinent materials.

## CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT SUMMIT

Registration Is Now Open for the Continuous Improvement Summit-September 16 and 17 (KEYNOTE by Dr. Anthony Muhammed)

Join AdvancED | Measured Progress and the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) at the Continuous Improvement Summit for practical information and inspiring stories to drive improvement. Learn how Kentucky educators and administrators apply research-driven insights to their unique educational environment. Connect school quality to better outcomes for learners. The conference will be held Monday, September 16, 10am - 3:30 pm and Tuesday, September 17, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm at the Lexington Convention Center. Featuring keynote speaker, Dr. Anthony Muhammed. To register or for additional information reference the [Registration Link and Summit Flyer](#). #KYCIS2019

## TEACHERS AND CONTENT SPECIALISTS NEEDED TO SUPPORT FUTURE KENTUCKY ASSESSMENTS (DEADLINE – AUGUST 15)

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability (OSAA), is seeking current classroom teachers (grades 3-12) and content specialists working in support of teachers, to review items for future Kentucky assessments in reading and writing, mathematics and social studies. Senate Bill 1 (2017) requires that the department implement a process to review Kentucky's Academic Standards (KAS) and the alignment of corresponding assessments for possible revision or replacement.

A pool of candidates is being gathered for this critical work and participants will be notified if accepted. Currently, [applications](#) are being accepted through **Thursday, August 15**. Applicants who are selected will be required to meet in Frankfort or Lexington for multiple days. Substitute teacher expense along with travel will be

## Applications

[SDRR](#)

[Secure Web App](#)

[SRD](#)

PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup>

• [ACT](#)

• [K-PREP](#)

@KDE

[ACCESS for ELLs](#)

[ACT](#)

[Alternate K-PREP](#)

[K-PREP](#)

[Kindergarten Screener](#)

[DAC E-Mails](#)

[School Report Card](#)

[Open House](#)

## Helpful Links

[ACT](#)

[Admin Code Training](#)

[Registration](#)

[KAAC](#)

[NAEP](#)

[Pearson](#)

reimbursed. Timeline of activities will be communicated to individuals once they are determined, with work taking place in early fall.

If you have any questions, please email them to [dacinfo@education.ky.gov](mailto:dacinfo@education.ky.gov).

### **THROUGH-COURSE TASK GUIDANCE 2019-2020**

Kentucky's Through-Course Tasks (TCTs) are an important component of Kentucky's Science Assessment System. Designed to provide formative information about a school's curriculum, TCTs should be utilized two to three times per year. Grade-level student work can then be used to determine appropriate adjustments to the curriculum to ensure that students have experiences utilizing the dimensions of science as intended by the *Kentucky Academic Standards for Science*. The recommended process for [administering the tasks](#) and the [TCT bank](#) may be accessed on KDE's website. For questions, contact [Rae McEntyre](#), Science Consultant, at 502-564-2106, ext. 4104.

### **DAC Spotlight**

Lawrence County Schools is comprised of six schools nestled in the beautiful hills of Eastern Kentucky. Louisa West Elementary (Pre K-1), Louisa East Elementary (2-5), Blaine Elementary (Pre K-8), Fallsburg Elementary (Pre K-8), Louisa Middle (6-8), and Lawrence County High School (9-12) provide educational services to approximately 2,500 students.

For the 2019-2020 school year, the district will continue to emphasize Personalized Learning, with a focus on the area of goal setting for all stakeholders and the importance of monitoring success toward accomplishing those goals. This is the district's second year of formalizing this process of coaching and providing feedback to students to guide the achievement of their goals. K-5 students maintain and update student data notebooks with current local assessment and state assessment data after each assessment. During parent/teacher conferences, students lead the discussions with their parents regarding the progress toward their goals, and the next steps they need to be successful before the end of the school year. Students in grades 6-12 will continue to use their ILP to personalize their learning. This year Lawrence County Schools will utilize ACE as an organizational tool for ILPs to guide discussions with parents and teachers regarding college and/or career readiness goals. This tool will allow the students at this level to monitor their pathway and to determine the progress made toward transition readiness.

To better ensure transition readiness is attainable for all high school level students, the school will continue to have career and technical opportunities by offering classes in nursing, engineering, agriculture, welding, carpentry, electricity, auto-mechanics, industrial maintenance, computerized manufacturing, and more. The district's JROTC program, which has been evaluated as a program of high distinction, will continue to be available for students pursuing the military pathway. Through the support of local businesses, students can obtain multiple hours of job-shadowing with surgeons, veterinarians, optometrists, family physicians, engineers, and many other careers. Also, Lawrence County Schools will be offering apprenticeships for students in culinary arts and in computer technology.



[Mary Hall](#)

Lawrence County  
Schools

As always, the Lawrence County School District will continue to promote the involvement of all stakeholders to ensure that all students are educated to the highest level possible and that parents, teachers and staff maintain a culture of being “All In” for LC Schools.

*Disclaimer: Any views or opinions presented in the article are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE).*

## Previous Topics

On Friday, August 9, a Special DAC Email was sent regarding Pre-Quality Control (QC) data review, updated Accountability and Fall Trainings available along with a press release from August 8 concerning the school rating system beginning in September.

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### **PRE-QUALITY CONTROL (QC) DATA REVIEW OPENS**

The Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability (OSAA) has opened the [Student Data Review and Rosters \(SDRR\)](#) application for review of individual student data, Cohort, and Transition Readiness scores. This process allows schools and districts the opportunity to double-check individual student accountability, request non-participations and mark accommodations for Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and English Learner (EL) students before public reporting.

Districts will be able to scan and upload Medical and Extraordinary Circumstance Non-Participation forms in SDRR instead of re-typing the information. Districts will be able to make demographic changes to 2018-2019 student data such as IEP, EL, and lunch status in Infinite Campus (IC) and it will now be reflected the next day in SDRR. If a student had an accommodation during testing for the spring rosters and that is not reflected in SDRR, then districts will be able to mark that as a yes or no under the accommodations column even if there is a yes or no in the IEP or EL column. Student assessment scores will be made available once all data has been received from every vendor on the KDE secure web application.

SDRR is now open to begin Pre-QC review. All tickets need to be submitted by 12 noon, Friday, August 16 and resolution of all open tickets must be completed by Friday, August 16, at 5 p.m. ET. This data review period is the **last opportunity to request changes to individual student level data** before 2018-2019 data are reported publicly. OSAA knows August is a hectic time, but encourages districts to submit data review changes *early* in the data review period. Early submission allows ample time to resolve any problems a school or district might experience before data review closes.

When reviewing Transition Readiness Scores, if SDRR shows that a student did not meet the academic [benchmarks](#), districts will be able to upload a copy of the individual student score report from the vendor to show that they did meet the benchmarks. Per OSAA policy, a transcript or screenshot of scores in IC will not be adequate for approval.

### **Assistance**

Possible systemic issues should be e-mailed as soon as possible to [kdeassessment@education.ky.gov](mailto:kdeassessment@education.ky.gov).

For general information and assistance, review the information in the Help button at the top of each internal page and the tools linked in the Announcements box on the home page in SDRR. If these tools don't answer your question, please contact the [Division of Assessment and Accountability Support](#) by phone at 502-564-4394.

The Pre-Quality Control Data Review allows one more chance to change student level data prior to the public data release. A training [video](#) and [PowerPoint](#) have been released to assist districts and schools in this process.

If you are unable to access the KDE secure application site, check with your WAAPOC and/or the KDE Help Desk. The [KDE Help Desk](#) can be reached at (502) [564-2002](#).

### **NEW ACCOUNTABILITY AND FALL TRAININGS AVAILABLE**

The Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability (OSAA) has released several training videos and PowerPoints. The accountability trainings and the Alternate K-PREP Overview [[Video](#) & [PowerPoint](#)] are available on the [Meetings and Trainings](#) page. Additional trainings will be added to the page as they become available.

Beginning in 2018-2019, an overall 5-star rating will be determined by setting standards for low to high performance on six indicators, except for the Quality of School Climate and Safety indicator, which will not be a part of accountability until 2019-2020. These indicators will also determine if a school is considered as Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) or Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI).

- Proficiency and Separate Academic [[Video](#) & [PowerPoint](#)]
- Growth – Elementary and Middle School [[Video](#) & [PowerPoint](#)]
- Graduation – High School [[Video](#) & [PowerPoint](#)]
- Transition Readiness – High School [[Video](#) & [PowerPoint](#)]
- 2018-2019 Accountability Reporting and Spring 2020 Testing [[Video](#) & [PowerPoint](#)]
- Quality of School Climate and Safety [Coming in 2019-2020]

Achievement Gap [[Video](#) & [PowerPoint](#)], though not an indicator, will be used to reduce a 4- or 5-star rating by one star, if significant achievement gaps are found in schools or districts.

### **SCHOOL RATING SYSTEM TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER**

The following timely media release concerning the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) implementation of its new 5-star school rating system was sent yesterday, Thursday, August 8, and may be of interest to District Assessment Coordinators (DACs).

School rating system to begin in September

(Frankfort, KY) -- At its August 7 meeting in Frankfort, the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) discussed the development and implementation of Kentucky's new 5-star school rating system, which will go live in September after the 2018-2019 K-PREP test scores are released.

Associate Commissioner Rhonda Sims and Division Director Jennifer Stafford of the Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability provided an update on the system. Using data from the 2018-2019 school year, Kentucky's accountability system will provide an overall rating for each school, district and the state ranging from 1 (the lowest) to 5 (the highest) stars. The star rating, along with other important education data, will be available on the new [Kentucky School Report Card](#).

Elementary and middle schools will receive star ratings based on student assessments in reading, mathematics, science, social studies and writing; and student growth in reading and mathematics. High schools will be rated based on student assessments in reading, mathematics, science and writing; transition (academic or career) readiness; and graduation rate. Elementary and middle school accountability will contain a measure of growth on (and high schools for attainment of) English language proficiency for English learners on an exam that includes speaking, listening, reading and writing in English.

The 5-star accountability system is designed to focus attention on the need to close achievement gaps. A school or district that would have been a 5- or 4-star will be reduced by 1 star if it has significant achievement gaps between the performances of groups of students.

"If a school has very high scores, for example, but also has a group of low income students who aren't seeing that same academic success as their peers, the school's 5-star rating would be lowered to a 4-star," Sims said.

In other business, the KBE unanimously approved applications from Owensboro Independent and Owsley County school districts to continue as Districts of Innovation.

Both districts were first approved as Districts of Innovation for five years beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. As permitted by 701 KAR 5:140, both districts submitted a renewal application in May requesting to continue their innovation status for up to five additional years.

The board also approved the following:

- Re-election of Hal Heiner and Milton Seymore as chair and vice-chair to a 1-year term
- Amendment to 703 KAR 5:240, Accountability Administrative Procedures and Guidelines (Second Reading)
- Quality of School Climate and Safety Measures
- Amendment to 703 KAR 5:280, School Improvement Procedures (Second Reading)
- Adoption of Kentucky School for the Blind and Kentucky School for the Deaf General Policies

- Annual Updates to Kentucky Tech Policies & Procedures
- New District Facility Plans
- District Facility Plan Amendments
- 2018-2019 Local District Tax Rates Levied
- KETS K-12 Operational Technology Needs for School Year 2019-2020
- KETS Operational Plan for School Year 2019-2020
- Dates for the 2022 KBE meetings.

The next state board meeting will be held in October at the Laurel County Board of Education in London.

The following timely media release concerning the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) seeking feedback on draft assessment blueprints was sent in a Special DAC Email on Tuesday, August 6, and may be of interest to District Assessment Coordinators (DACs).

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### **KDE SEEKING FEEDBACK ON DRAFT ASSESSMENT BLUEPRINTS FOR READING AND WRITING, MATHEMATICS AND SOCIAL STUDIES**

(FRANKFORT, KY) – The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is seeking feedback on draft assessment blueprints for reading and writing, mathematics and social studies. This is the second opportunity for public review and comment on the assessment blueprints.

Senate Bill 1 (2017) calls for KDE to implement a process for reviewing all academic standards and aligned assessments with one or two content areas to be reviewed each year, and every six years after that on a rotating basis.

Beginning Aug. 6 and continuing through Sept. 5, people may review the draft blueprints and share feedback and suggestions for use in the review process for the new assessments. Feedback and comments will be thoughtfully considered and any needed revisions made before bringing forward a final set of proposed blueprints for further comment and eventual approval by the Kentucky Board of Education.

Interested individuals can view the assessment blueprints and provide feedback by clicking [reading and writing](#), [mathematics](#) and [social studies](#). Due to the amount of text within the survey, it is recommended that surveys be completed on a full-size computer or laptop.

#### **Contact Information**

Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability  
Division of Assessment and Accountability Support  
(502) 564-4394

[KDE DAC Information](#)