

## **Kentucky Department of Education**

### **School Counselor Advisory Council**

**Oct 20, 2022, 2 p.m. ET**

#### **Virtual Meeting**

**Purpose:** The School Counselor Advisory Council (SCAC) is designed to provide the commissioner of education direct input from school counselors who serve in Kentucky public schools. Bridging the gap between policy and practice, the SCAC advises the commissioner on educational priorities that meet the needs of the whole child, ensuring the provision to our community of a transition-ready workforce.

#### **I. Welcome**

Heather Bushelman, Program Coordinator of Comprehensive School Counseling, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE): Members of the advisory group shared celebrations from their school/district and in their role.

#### **II. Roll Call of Members**

Caryn Scheiding, School Counseling Advisory Council Chairperson

Members in Attendance: Sarah Akin, Caryn Schneiding, Karen Dodd, Kaet Barron, Malia Gibson, Travis Kern, Megan Osborne, Zoran Raduka, Damien Sweeney Ed. D., Tammy Cole, Melinda Banks, Thomas Tucker Ed.D., Nicole Fields Ed.D., Aimee Pike, Elizabeth Barnett

#### **III. Kentucky Department of Education Updates**

Heather Bushelman, Program Coordinator for Comprehensive School Counseling, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

- Self-care (counselors, colleagues, students): Bushelman led a discussion with the advisory group about what is being implemented, coached, modeled with staff and students. Advisory group members shared ideas for self-care. It was a great conversation and space sharing ideas.
- Updated Use of Time Template/Survey: Bushelman discussed Senate Bill 102 (2022), which is related to school-based mental health providers. She shared that use of time is due by Nov. 1. Bushelman discussed what superintendents need to report. She shared this information is not punitive, but it is to help support school counselors, schools/districts that ultimately will be what is best for students. Advisory group members asked clarifying questions about the use of time template survey.
- Administrator and Superintendent Trainings: Bushelman discussed a training her and Sharon Todd Ed. D., are leading in collaboration with the regional cooperatives. Bushelman said this training has been impactful for the participants.

- Statewide Counselor Cadres: Bushelman shared the dates for the statewide counselor cadres, with the first cadre being next week, Oct 25. Carolyn Stone Ed.D. will be discussing legal and ethical considerations for school counselors. Bushelman talked about each of the cadres and what will be discussed during these events.
- Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Implementation Guide Update: Bushelman shared that the regional cooperative SEL specialists are working on a SEL implementation guide. She said the purpose is to show why SEL is so important, the research behind it and evidenced-based SEL practices that can be embedded into everything that is done in schools. She said the hope is to have this completed no later than March 2023.
- Individual Learning Plan (ILP) Committee Update: Bushelman said that the ILP Committee is meeting and reviewing and updating the ILP playbook. She said the updates will be released soon.
- Calming Space Grant 2022 Winners: The 2022 winners include the following schools and districts:
  - Beechwood Elementary (Beechwood Independent)
  - Crosby Middle School (Jefferson County)
  - East Perry Elementary (Perry County)
  - Nelson County Early Learning Center
  - Painted Stone Elementary (Shelby County)
  - Ponderosa Elementary (Boyd County)
  - Red Cross Elementary (Barren County)
  - Sublimity Elementary (Laurel County)
  - Webster County High School
- Bushelman said another nine award winners will be given next year. And this application will be available sometime after the first of the year.
- Kentucky Framework for School Counselors update
  - Legislation
  - American School Counseling Association Ethics' Document
  - Comprehensive School Counseling Sample Template: Bushelman is working on a document to share with school counselors that can help them in the implementation of a comprehensive school counseling program. She will be working with the regional cooperatives to provide a train the trainer model for regional school counselors.

- Add statewide mission and vision statements: Bushelman said that she wants to create a statewide mission and vision statement because this is important to show where the advisory council's collaboration in leading our statewide work.
- School Counseling Multi-Tiered Systems of Support Model (MTSS): Working with Kentucky multi-tiered systems of support colleagues to develop what it looks like for school counselors and what is their role in multi-tiered systems of support. Bushelman said that School Counselors for MTSS is also partnering in this work.
- Comprehensive School Counseling Videos: Videos have been submitted and are in the editing process. These videos will be placed on the KDE website as resources for school counselors for different topics. Bushelman is still seeking individuals to help with the videos.

#### **IV. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) Team Updates**

Damien Sweeney, KDE's Director of DEIB; Nicole Fields, KDE's director of Community Engagement for DEIB:

- Sweeney provided information about the equity playbook. Kentucky is the first state in the nation to offer this personalized coaching. The equity playbook is an initiative that is intended to enhance the work happening in schools/districts and meet schools/districts' goals diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging. Cohort one started this fall and cohort two will start in January. Sweeney said there is a partnership with Kentucky Educational Development Cooperative (KEDC) and the University of Louisville creating six asynchronous lessons, DEIB and school counseling. Micro-credentials can be earned. Sweeney also discussed partnership with KET on a synchronous model for safe spaces. He said the A 4 Modules training introduces DEIB, is very reflective and shows how to support all students. Sweeney encouraged members to contact regional educational cooperatives for this training.
- Fields provided information on the DEIB newsletter and encouraged group members to sign up. She also shared about the new podcast "Lifting Kentucky Student Voices," which will be starting soon, and its intent to create a sense of belonging. She will be leading that work.
- Fields said she is working with the University of Louisville. More information is coming about free dual credit classes, Cardinal Bridge Program.
- Sweeney and Fields said the DEIB team is sponsoring another campus for the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts.
- Sweeney also provided information about the Equity Dashboard, a big picture of what is happening with equity, and the availability and the training. Sweeney shared that the KDE DEIB team is sponsoring the legislation that no student in the state will pay no more than 0 for an AP exam and free/reduced lunch will have no cost.

**V. Questions/Concerns from the Field**

**Adjournment**

**Next Meeting – Dec. 8, 2022, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ET**