



## **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Commissioner's Parents Advisory Council SUMMARY**

**SEPT. 9, 2020**

**ATTENDANCE: Laura Beard, Katie Bentley, Judith Bradley, Kevin Brown, Bill Buchanan, Carol Cecil, David Cook, Melina Gallagher, Jason Glass, Shasta Hensley, Mary Ann Jennings, Carie Kizziar, Rhonda Logsdon, Lisa Meiman, Lauren Mitchell, Rachel Noyes, Jacob Perkins, Tara Rodriguez, Matt Ross, Mandy Sapp, Kathy Smiley, Leslie Spears, Brigette Stacy, Stacie Strotman, Damien Sweeny, Julian Tackett, David Weisenhorn, Megan West**

**MEMBERS ABSENT: Kristen Brown, Cherie Dimar, Tom Haggard, LaMonique Mason, Sarah Ruth, Cyndi Wrenn**

### **Agenda Item: Approval of Minutes – June 10, 2020, PAC Meeting**

**Presenter:** Leslie Spears, educational program consultant II, Office of Continuous Improvement and Support

Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)

#### **Summary of Discussion:**

Carie Kizziar moved for minutes of June 10, 2020, meeting to be approved for the record. Motion was carried by all members present.

### **Agenda Item: Truancy Guidance Document**

**Presenter:** Matt Ross, executive advisor, KDE Office of Finance and Operations

#### **Summary of Discussion:**

Purpose of document is to set forth the expectations for student engagement when so many students are learning remotely. It is expected that districts will use all available appropriate means to ensure students don't get lost or forgotten during remote learning.

Emergency Regulation 702 KAR 3:3270E promulgated pursuant to the authority granted in E0 2020-243 and in accordance with the memo signed on June 24, 2020, by Lt. Gov. Jacqueline

Coleman – Temporarily suspends funding based on Average Daily Attendance (ADA) for school year 2020-2021. Rather, funding will be based on the data selected pursuant to SB 177 (2020).

Instead, daily participation rates will be collected and recorded into Infinite Campus (IC).

Districts will report this data to KDE/LRC on October 15, January 15, and July 1 (702 KAR 7:125E)

Teachers/Schools/Districts will still comply with KRS 159.150 (truancy statute)

Roles and responsibilities of school/district:

- Collect and enter student participation information in IC for students learning in-person (attendance) and remotely (teacher/student interactions),
- Teacher office hours (may use classified staff to assist)
- Encourage and facilitate communication and collaboration between teachers, DPPs, FRYSC coordinators, and families.
- Enforce district compulsory attendance policies.
- Including, documenting home conditions and intervention strategies attempted and if appropriate, after consultation with the court-designated worker, refer the case to the family accountability, intervention and response team (FAIR team)
- Home visits should be conducted per applicable district guidelines.

**Feedback:**

- How does this policy apply to students with disabilities (i.e., ADA Part A)? Will it impact funding for our ECE populations?

KDE and districts need to always focus on minimizing the gap in communication with students and parents that are remote learning.

**Agenda Item: Healthy at Sports**

**Presenter:** Julian Tackett, commissioner, Kentucky High School Athletics Association (KHSAA)

**Summary of Discussion:**

KHSAA made the decision in July 2020 to allow school districts that chose to have a fall sports program following certain guidelines and protocols. KHSAA has released a guidance document titled "[Healthy at Sports](#)" for all school year athletic programs.

Guidance includes requirements for all players and staff to be temperature screened upon entrance to school building, attendance at athletic events, and protocols for positive cases of COVID-19 and probable cases of COVID-19, as well as other information.

As of this time, more than 1,000 (one thousand) sports games have been played across the United States and have not had any major outbreaks as a result. KHSAA will continue to work with KDE and Districts to release guidance as changes come along.

**Feedback:**

- You mention cheer and dance and if they are essential. In Fayette County, both dance and cheer are competition team sports. Yet they are not allowed to be in contact like other sports, like football and soccer. What makes the contact any different when balls are involved in other sports?

KHSAA has delayed all starts of cheer and dance team competition seasons until the first of 2021. This is due to the close contact both sports require. Unlike football and soccer where the ball can be disinfected and cleaned multiple times through all practices and games. Also, those teams' practice and competition are usually held indoors which presents more issues. Delaying the season was the best solutions for all involved. KHSAA will make more decisions with further science and information on COVID-19 and closer to the time of the delayed start of season.

### **Agenda Item: Re-Opening Guidance for Daily Participation and NTI**

**Presenter:** David Cook, director, KDE Division of Innovation

#### **Summary of Discussion:**

Districts will not receive their funding for the 2020-2021 school year based the 2019-2020 or 2018-2019 ADA data, therefore attendance will not be reported. Instead, districts will record daily participation for all students in IC in lieu of recording attendance.

Compulsory education is still required, so it is important for all districts and schools to be accountable for the engagement and delivery of instruction to all students, whether in person in the school building or remotely from home. That is why we will be recording daily participation.

District participation will be reported to the KDE and LRC at the following times: October 2020, January 2021 and July 2021.

Daily participation is defined as the measure of the interactions between teachers and students. Interactions will vary based on whether the student is in person or is participating remotely in instruction. Participation is a measure of the student's engagement in the instructional process, not a measure of the quality of work. Grading practices determine work quality.

Daily participation is to be reported daily but does not have to be recorded in IC daily.

Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) has been defined as remote instruction in which the student is learning in a location other than the traditional classing using digital or other alternative methods of learning. NTI is the term used for any situation in which a student, group of students, whole schools or districts are learning from a location other than the brick and mortar school building.

Types of daily participation include students who are in person (counted by presence in the classroom), one-on-one video communication or phone calls between teacher and student (or teacher and parent with smaller children or students with special needs), group video communication or phone calls between teacher and a whole class or between a teacher and smaller groups of students within a class, student time logged into a learning management software system completing assignments, and submission of paper-based assignments for students in a non-digital, non-traditional setting.

#### **Feedback:**

- What support is/will be provided to educators to reach students who are not participating for some reason? What is the benchmark for considering a student to be truant?

Division of Innovation has developed a website with support services for NTI  
[https://education.ky.gov/school/innov/Pages/Non-Traditional-Instruction-\(NTI\)-Support-Services.aspx](https://education.ky.gov/school/innov/Pages/Non-Traditional-Instruction-(NTI)-Support-Services.aspx)

Benchmarks and process for truancy won't change. Some duties will shift to DPP staff at schools, to monitor in-person attendance and remote learning daily participation.

- With the extra burden to educators, is there any way we can help?

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KDE will continue to work with advisory councils, KBE, districts and schools to continue releasing guidance.

- When documenting daily performance, are they pulling all information from ALL software to ensure all students get the credit they need through IC?

Yes, teachers will pull daily performance from whatever learning management software is being used, and staff will input that data into IC.

We need to remember that even though NTI is happening, it doesn't alleviate any responsibility of the school to its students.

- Could you expand on the requirements and/or the expectations for virtual meetings between teacher and student(s)/parent(s)? Example: If a teacher's meeting with students is at 9 a.m. and the student cannot attend, but completes the assignments in their learning management software, does that count as daily participation?

Time student spends in the learning management platform or completion of paper assignments will count as daily participation.

- Is the decision for classified staff to go out on possible home visits a district decision? What about a therapist?

It is a district decision as to who is sent out for home visits during NTI.

- Is the participation rule in writing anywhere?

No, not currently. KDE is continuing to release guidance regarding NTI and COVID-19.

### **Agenda Item: Open Discussion**

**Presenter:** Kevin Brown, interim commissioner of education

**Summary of Discussion:** Open discussion with Advisory Council members

### **Feedback:**

We always have defensive education, and districts and parents will have to work together to ensure no student is left behind during NTI.

KDE needs to continue to release guidance, and always look for weak points in the guidance. Ensuring all rules are still being met within districts and schools.

Do districts have a sense of permission to continue services with small groups (example: occupational and speech therapists)?

Guidance has been released from KDE on small group meetings like this in schools. KDE will continue to release guidance on groups and meetings with students.