



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Teachers Advisory Council (TAC) SUMMARY

Dec. 10, 2020

Members Present: Stephanie Beason, Angela Beavin, Chanda Britt, Jennifer Howard, Miles Johnson, Quentin Johnson, Abigail Nash, Noraa Ransey, Beverly Rutledge, Kim Saylor, Garris Stroud, Taylor Sullivan, John Whipple

Absent: Tiffany Dunn, Allen Hensley, Laney Neal, Bryanna Shelby, Carrie Walters

Welcome: Commissioner of Education Jason E. Glass opened the meeting with a welcome to the group and asked the council's opinion on when schools throughout the Commonwealth should return to in-person instruction amid COVID-19. As a decision about the return of in-person instruction on Jan. 4 is needed, Glass shared that he has been gathering feedback from as many stakeholder groups as possible before submitting a recommendation to Gov. Andy Beshear. Glass emphasized his desire to provide the governor with a recommendation that is informed by practitioners. Beshear will then ultimately decide whether to let the suspension of in-person instruction expire or continue it further.

Various suggestions were made by TAC members including extending the school year, and providing local control regarding return dates, recognizing the need for general statewide consistency. Glass acknowledged the complexity of the decision and thanked the members for their valuable feedback

Agenda Item: Review and Approve Minutes from Last Meeting

Presenter: Stacy Noah, TAC Liaison, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)

Summary of Discussion: Motion to approve: Noraa Ransey; second: Beverly Rutledge. Minutes were approved by consensus.

Feedback: None

Follow-up Required: None

Agenda Item: KDE Efforts to Support Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Presenter: Thomas Woods-Tucker, chief equity officer, KDE Office of Teaching and Learning

Summary of Discussion: Dr. Woods-Tucker thanked the teacher group for their work in their schools. He asked the group to respond to the guiding question: In what ways does identity inform you as a classroom educator? Several members offered their perspectives.

Dr. Woods-Tucker described various support options that KDE provides to assist districts and schools with equity initiatives (e.g., equity tab in the School Report Card, equity toolkit, and ongoing training opportunities).

Additionally, connecting effective anti-bias training to explicit outcomes was shared. Partnerships with Dr. Cleveland (EKU), Dr. Sweeney (KDE), Dr. Kniffley (Spalding), Jocelyne Waddle (KDE), and Dr. Brewer (KDE) were explained.

Feedback: Several members expressed their gratitude for this information and having the opportunity to talk about these issues. Additionally, questions about changes in the Praxis testing requirements were posed accompanied by the concern of a high percentage of failure rates by teacher candidates who had completed degree requirements. The question was also posed about how might schools/districts create a priority in ensuring that the workforce is more diverse.

Follow-up Required: The presenter shared that he would like to come back to share some results of surveys.

Agenda Item: Draft Kentucky Academic Standards for World Languages

Presenters: Krista Hall, Thomas Clouse, & Erin Chavez, KDE Office of Teaching and Learning

Summary of Discussion: Presenters shared the guiding questions: Do you agree with the key points of the writers' vision statement? Should the key points of the writers' vision statement be weighted equally, or should specified points be more emphasized? Information was shared regarding the design, timeline, and approval process of the draft Kentucky Academic Standards for World Language.

Discussion focused on the draft Kentucky Academic Standards for World Language being K-12 standards and how schools might implement the standards. The issue of funding to support quality implementation was identified as a school concern. Clarification was provided that while the draft Kentucky Academic Standards for World Languages are the required standards for classes or programs offered in Kentucky schools, world language courses are not required. It is up to local school districts to decide what they are able to offer at the time. If districts are able to provide world language courses or programs, the standards will provide the required content for teachers to follow.

Feedback: No feedback or questions were shared.

Follow-up Required: None.

Agenda Item: Amendments to 703 KAR 5:270, Kentucky's Accountability System

Presenter: Helen Jones, KDE Office of Assessment and Accountability

Summary of Discussion: Presenter shared the guiding question with the group: Of the amendments and recommendations to the regulation, what are your thoughts, opinions, and reactions? Information regarding Senate Bill 158 was shared with members of TAC with a focus on notable changes to the accountability system. A review of new terminology, proposed indicators, possible designation colors/cut scores, and changes to the N count dominated the discussion time.

Feedback: No questions or comments were shared.

Follow-up Required: None.

Agenda Item: Teacher Recruitment and Retention

Presenters: Meredith Brewer & Erin Ashcraft, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness, KDE Division of Educator Recruitment and Development

Summary of Discussion: Dr. Meredith Brewer presented the guiding question: What additional supports can GoTeachKY provide to assist with your school/district's recruitment and retention efforts given the challenges associated with the pandemic? Brewer then shared the GoTeachKY cycle and information about the goteachky.com website, as well as Twitter, Instagram and Facebook pages.

The 2021 Go Teach KY Ambassadors were announced to the TAC members. This group of in-service educators supports recruitment and retention efforts, locally.

New School Counselor Toolkit (under the "Elevating the Profession" tab) was shared with an explanation of how to access and utilize the resources. Erin Ashcraft shared the Teachers Celebrating Teachers form in the chat feature.

Induction support as a statewide network plus local funding for new teacher induction planning was mentioned. Elevating teachers through leadership and professional advancement opportunities is the goal of GoTeachKY.

Feedback: No questions were asked. A couple of members expressed their gratitude for being included as Go Teach KY Ambassadors and noted the positive experiences that role provided, professionally.

Follow-up Required: None.

Agenda Item: New Resource for Remote Teaching

Presenter: Stacy Noah

Summary of Discussion: Per request by the TAC group, remote teaching support was shared. A review of The Framework for Remote Teaching, published by The Danielson Group, was

facilitated as one example of a supplemental resource being utilized to maximize the effectiveness of remote teaching.

Feedback: Participants shared experiences of offering instruction in multiple ways at the elementary level. One member suggested that teachers might change the hours in which they teach in order to accommodate more students and parents. Multiple members responded that their districts are offering after hours teaching.

Follow-up Required: None suggested

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Motion: Stephanie Beason; second: Noraa Ransey. All members in agreement.

Next meeting was announced as March 23, 2021.

Link for Feedback regarding today's meeting was shared in chat.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. (ET)

COMM: JGG