



## **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Teachers' Advisory Council (TAC) SUMMARY**

**JULY 14, 2020 10 A.M.-12 P.M.**

### **WELCOME**

Interim Commissioner of Education Kevin Brown welcomed the group and mentioned the long meeting today. He referenced the anxiety and getting back to school, mentioning we have answers for some questions and some we do not; and that's why we have advisory councils. Guidance has been issued on lots of stuff, but could change since we are in the middle of this pandemic. The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has 16 guidance documents currently. Information relating to the most recent decision to continue with non-traditional education (NTI) flexibility for the upcoming school year. The commissioner shared that the Kentucky Board of Education has hired Jason Glass as the new commissioner and he will begin in mid-September.

### **ATTENDANCE:**

Stephanie Beason, Angela Beavin, Chandra Britt, Tiffany Dunn, Allen Hensley, Jennifer Howard, Miles Johnson, Quentin Johnson, Bo Mullins, Abigail Nash, Lainey Neal, Noraa Ransey, Beverly Rutledge, Kim Saylor, Jolena Sizemore, Garris Stroud, Taylor Sullivan, John Whipple

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Bryanna Shelby, Carrie Walters

### **SUMMARY:**

**Agenda Item:** Review Minutes from Last Meeting

**Presenter:** Stacy Noah, KDE Liaison to TAC

### **Summary of Discussion:**

Minutes were approved by consensus.

### **Feedback:**

None

**Follow-up Required:**

One member noted that she could not type into chat as a guest.

**Agenda Item:** Facilities

**Presenter:** Kay Kennedy, KDE Division of District Support

**Summary of Discussion:**

No discussion occurred; Kennedy presented information regarding open facilities for schools in the fall. She shared the guidance document on facilities at KDE and mentioned cleaning/sanitization guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Kennedy offered further detail on what to do if someone tests positive for COVID-19 in a school and the additional cleaning and steps to occur. A space calculator was shared to assist the districts with the number of students/adults allowed in areas based on size and allowable space percentages. Several resources were shared for mitigating the virus. Kennedy described free signs that are available. Guidance on emergency drills following social distancing and CDC guidelines was discussed and it was stressed that drills still need to be held.

A question was asked about bathroom “breaks” for classes. This was discussed beginning with how to determine how many students were allowed in the restroom at a time, using square footage and social distancing as well as available restrooms. Another question was asked about the air circulation and air quality in a classroom. Training is available about ventilation through a grant available with Eastern Kentucky University (EKU), and more information will be made available as it surfaces.

**Feedback:**

None.

**Follow-up Required:**

None mentioned.

**Agenda Item:** Food Service

**Presenter:** Lauren Moore, KDE Division Director, Office of Finance and Operations

**Summary of Discussion:** Updates on child nutrition programs being offered amid COVID-19. Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) was discussed. Reopening guidance for in-person food service was discussed, including meal service environment, meal pattern, food safety and operational considerations.

**Feedback:**

None.

**Follow-up Required:**

None mentioned.

**Agenda Item:** Plan for Opening Secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE)Labs During Summer 2020

**Presenter:** Tom Thompson, KDE Division Director, Office of Career and Technical Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

Thompson shared information and resources to help schools safely open CTE labs during the summer of 2020, as well as in the fall, while following COVID-19 guidelines from the CDC. He stressed the importance of keeping accurate information in case contact tracing is needed when a student or adult tests positive for COVID-19.

**Feedback:**

A concern was expressed about the social emotional health of students and staff.

**Follow-up Required:**

KDE will contact the Kentucky Educational Development Corporation (KEDC) about their video messaging project now being completed, for the purpose of expanding this and possibly using the resources being created.

**Agenda Item:** Transportation Guidance

**Presenter:** Kay Kennedy

**Summary of Discussion:**

Kennedy shared pupil transportation options and how to best serve families in the communities. Information about the number of students allowed on a bus following social distancing guidelines was shared along with guidelines for students walking, chaperoned walking buses, loading and unloading buses, temperature checks, and keeping records in case contact tracing is required. Also, bus drivers using masks and gloves were discussed, along with regular temperature checks and frequent cleaning of buses after a run and at the end of the day each day.

**Feedback:**

None mentioned.

**Follow-up Required:**

None mentioned.

**Agenda Item:** Guidance on Safety Expectations and Best Practices for Kentucky Schools (K-12)  
Q&A

**Presenters:** Kevin Brown

Dr. Connie White, Deputy Commissioner, Kentucky Department for Public Health (DPH)

**Summary of Discussion:**

General information was shared about the pandemic and precautions for starting school.

**Feedback:**

A question was raised about employees contracting COVID-19 and requiring the use of sick days due to this. Brown said he would sign a memo that follows the governor's executive order allowing districts to grant extra emergency days when a state employee tests positive for COVID-19, in addition to the standard three emergency days Also a question was raised about the extra hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies needed.

**Follow-up Required:**

None mentioned.

**Agenda Item:** Future Dates and Exit Slip

**Presenter:** Stacy Noah, KDE Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness

**Summary of Discussion:**

Noah asked TAC participants to complete the Exit Slip within two days. The Exit Slip is designed to solicit input from the group regarding engagement levels of the meeting, topics for future meetings, and follow-up questions.

The group was reminded of the next four TAC meeting dates.

**Feedback:**

None.

**Follow-up Required:**

None mentioned.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

*(COMM: JG)*

DRAFT