

SUMMARY MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AT MARCH 2022 MEETING



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

### **SUMMARY** Dec.14, 2021

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brooke Bartrug, April Jackson, Charlene Martin, Susan Cintra, Misty Bivens, Tiffany Dunn, Kaysin Higgins, Amy Leasgang, Jane Modlin, Kim Saylor, Jennifer Stewart, Jamaal Stiles, Taylor Sullivan, Beverly Rutledge, Waide Williams, Bo Mullins

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Angela Beavin, Chanda Britt, Jen Davis, Sara Green, Quentin Johnson, Allen Hensley, Amanda Klare, Abigail Nash, Gregory Smith, Scott Osborn

#### **SUMMARY:**

**Agenda Item:** Welcome

**Presenter:** Jason Glass, Ed. D., Commissioner of Education, Kentucky Department of Education

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

Glass welcomed the committee and spoke briefly about aid that is being provided to Kentucky communities affected by the recent tornado. An update about last month's education summit was shared. A recording is available on [KET's website](#). A report was released titled, "[United We Learn: Hearing Kentucky's Voices on the Future of Education.](#)" The report came from a yearlong effort to hear the many perspectives across the Commonwealth. Three points were highlighted from this discovery effort: 1) A desire for co-creation and collaboration across the state; 2) A desire for innovation and change, particularly around assessment and accountability; and 3) A push for a change in the experiences that our students have toward a more "human" and well-rounded educational experience. All three of these recommendations are centered around equity and the responsibility to lift up that equity conversation to ensure all families have what they need.

**Agenda Item:** Approval of Summary Minutes

**Presenter:** Susan Cintra, TAC Chairperson, Madison County Schools

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

Misty Bivens motioned to approve the minutes; Beverly Rutledge seconded, and the motion carried.

**Agenda Item:** Update on Ex Officio Teacher Selection to the Kentucky Board of Education

**Presenter:** Toni Konz Tatman, Chief Communications Officer, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

A description of the process for selection and appointment of non-voting Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) members was explained. Currently, the teacher position is held by Allison Slone from the 5th congressional district. Her seat will be replaced by a teacher from the 6th congressional district. The current student representative is from the 3rd congressional district and will go to the 4th congressional district. The timeline for the process was shared. No later than May 1, the TAC shall recommend to the board three candidates from the applications for the selection as the non-voting teacher member.

Questions Posed: Would you like the full council to review applications or a committee to review applications? Thoughts on how to reach teachers in the 6th congressional district?

**Feedback:**

Susan Cintra stated that she would provide a Google form for responses to these questions.

**Follow-up Required:**

Decisions and recommendations from the group regarding the results from the Google form will be shared at the next meeting in March.

**Agenda Item:** Update on Equity Toolkit

**Presenter:** Thomas Woods-Tucker, Ph.D., Deputy Commissioner and Chief Equity Officer, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

Woods-Tucker described KDE's Equity Toolkit and its multi-tiered system of supports, including four-part modules, high-quality instructional resources, the equity playbook, equity dashboard and high-quality academic standards. Woods-Tucker displayed the Diversity Equity Inclusion (DEI) celebrations and described each, including reduced costs for advanced placement tests and International Baccalaureate. Woods-Tucker stated that he will include Damien Sweeney, KDE's new director of the division of equity and inclusion, in the next meeting to share real-time data.

**Feedback:**

Members expressed gratitude for this information shared. A question was posed about the number of student spaces for Governor's School for the Arts (GSA), and Woods-Tucker responded that 256 more spaces/opportunities will be available.

**Follow-up Required:** Woods-Tucker and Sweeney will bring more information and updates at the next meeting in March 2022.

**Agenda Item:** High-Quality Instructional Resources (HQIR)

**Presenter:** Carrie McDaniel, Professional Learning Coordinator, Division of Program Standards, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:**

McDaniel shared information about the July 2020 KBE resolution that states every student in the Commonwealth deserves equitable access to effective educators who have unique experiences and perspectives, quality preparation and are committed to the success of all learners.

The Model Curriculum Framework (MCF) and its six sections were displayed as McDaniel described its connection to meeting the goals of the resolution. Differences between standards, curriculum and instructional resources were shared. The instructional resources alignment rubrics from [www.kystandards.org](http://www.kystandards.org) were displayed.

To support standards implementation and promote student equity, KDE has developed a HQIR strategic plan. The purpose is to equip and empower local schools and districts in providing educators access to HQIRs and high-quality professional learning (HQPL) so they are better prepared to support all students with engaging, relevant, standards-aligned grade-level assignments.

As part of a cross-agency effort, a pilot is starting in January that will last for two years and focus on reading and writing. The pilot will be used to inform future KDE support. The goal is to add additional content areas to the work. TAC members were provided with links to all the resources mentioned, and they acknowledged the necessity for this work.

**Feedback:**

Gratitude for the information shared was expressed.

**Agenda Item:** Teachers Passing Notes Project Update

**Presenter:** Donnie Piercey, Kentucky Teacher of the Year

**Summary of Discussion:** Piercey shared information about [Teachers Passing Notes](#), the website he created during his sabbatical at KDE. Teachers Passing Notes is a collection of ideas educators can implement into their classrooms right away. Piercey asked the group about suggestions they might have for creating an event that might parallel this type of sharing, but in a real-time scenario.

**Feedback:**

Susan Cintra offered an idea about role-playing in a pseudo-school. Kaysin Higgins mentioned that ECET problem-solving table times could be added between sessions of professional learning. She included that a fishbowl experience might be useful.

Brooke Bartrug added that it might be a perfect time for teachers to share interdisciplinary ideas from their learning. Cintra also mentioned that social-emotional learning (SEL) might be a topic for a professional learning experience.

**Agenda Item:** Kentucky Family Friendly Schools and New Resources

**Presenter:** Brooke Gill, Family Engagement Director, The Prichard Committee

**Summary of Discussion:**

Gill shared information from [The Prichard Committee family engagement website](https://prichardcommittee.org/familyengagement/) and described the official launch of the work around family-school partnerships. Tools she shared included the Family-School Partnership Grid, the Kentucky Family and School Partnership Guide, School Self-Assessment and Training modules and the Family Engagement Digital Playbook. The top five resources by number of uses and feedback are displayed on the site's landing page. Overview information was provided about

the work of the 60 pilot schools participating in the implementation of the newly developed Family Friendly Schools resources.

**Feedback:**

Jamaal Stiles asked how to get parents to participate when they haven't been participating in the past. Gill responded with some ideas about what other districts have tried and its positive impact, especially when the strategy pushes on trust and relationship-building. She mentioned the "Fast Talk" app that assists with language barriers.

Susan Cintra asked about awareness and how to get the word out and mentioned possibly partnering with the Kentucky Education Association (KEA) to reach teachers. Regional educational cooperatives also were mentioned as a means for reaching more teachers. Vendor booths and presenting at conferences were mentioned to expand the reach. Sharing information through the Kentucky Teacher publication was mentioned as a communication tool, as well.

**Agenda Item:** Announcements

**Presenter:** Susan Cintra, TAC Chairperson, Madison County Schools

**Summary of Discussion:**

Cintra said the next meeting date is March 15, 2022 and shared a link to the meeting feedback form in the chat.

**Agenda Item:** Adjournment

**Presenter:** Susan Cintra, TAC Chairperson, Madison County Schools

**Summary of Discussion:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was provided by Jane Modlin and seconded by Misty Bivens. Meeting adjourned at 11:57 a.m. ET.