



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Teachers Advisory Council (TAC) SUMMARY

SEPT. 21, 2021

TAC Members Present: Angie Beavin, Misty Bivens, Chanda Britt, Susan Cintra, Jennifer Davis, Tiffany Dunn, Sara Green, Kaysin Higgins, April Jackson, Amanda Klare, Amy Leasang, Charlene Martin, Janie Modlin, Scott Osborn, Beverly Rutledge, Kim Saylor, Taylor Sullivan, Waide Williams, Brooke Bartrug

Members Absent: Allen Hensley, Quentin Johnson, Bo Mullins, Abigail Nash, Jennifer Stewart, Jamal Stiles

Welcome: Commissioner of Education Jason E. Glass, Ed.D., welcomed the group and extended gratitude to TAC members for their willingness to provide recommendations from the field on how KDE can better serve students and schools.

In response to the actions of the legislature last week, Glass reviewed four (4) areas of support that were requested by KDE. The four areas were: funding stability, operational flexibility, staffing support and masking requirements. Action and anticipated impact was shared. Information about a vaccine reward/incentive program was explained. KDE is offering an optional program that pays \$100 to those who get the vaccine to reward and incentivize vaccination. Districts participating can use COVID-19 relief funding to match KDE's payment.

Glass highlighted education efforts for the future. A virtual listening tour was held in the spring, and that feedback will be used to inform Kentucky's educational future. The Kentucky Education Summit will be held on Nov. 1 and 2 in Louisville. TAC members were encouraged to attend if their schedules permit. COVID-19 mitigations efforts will be in effect at the event.

A question was posed by a TAC member regarding feedback from the field during the Commissioner's Virtual Listening Tour. Glass responded that there was discussion about what effective teaching is and the importance of building relationships with students. A more comprehensive summary of those sessions will be released from KDE, soon.

Agenda Item: Approve June 2021 Minutes

Presenter: Stacy Noah , KDE Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness, Division of Educator Preparation and Certification

Summary of Discussion:

Motion to Approve: Taylor Sullivan, with a Second from Janie Modlin. Minutes were approved by consensus as noted in the chat feature of Teams.

Feedback: None.

Follow-up Required: None.

Agenda Item: Overview of SB 1

Presenter: Chuck Truesdell, KDE Director of Government Relations

Summary of Presentation: Truesdell provided an overview regarding the passage of SB 1. Most school districts have opted in on the requirement for masks in school facilities, even though the statewide mandate is void. Information around implementation of “Test to Stay” was provided. A summary of SB 1 around student attendance and SEEK funding, temporary remote instruction, non-traditional instruction, school calendar requirements, and staffing flexibility was provided by Truesdell.

Feedback: None.

Follow-up Required: None.

Agenda Item: Educator Wellbeing

Presenters: Michelle Nichols, Judi Vanderhaar and Kathryn Tillett, KDE Office of Continuous Improvement, Division of Student Success

Summary of Presentation: An overview of KDE’s web page that highlights social, emotional, and behavioral learning/health was shared with the group. Aspects of the webpage spotlighted included: available resources, strategies to implement, and justification for the importance of social-emotional learning.

Data from the 2020 Impact Kentucky Survey revealed the emotional well-being of Kentucky educators is an issue, and as such, schools/districts were encouraged to prioritize SEL not only for students, but also for adults.

A key, free resource was shared with the group. The Compassion Resilience Toolkit is a flexibly implemented set of resources to build awareness of compassion fatigue and strategies to increase compassion resilience in adults from a system and individual perspective. The resources include activities for team-based use as well as for individual reflection. Included in its 12 modules are activities for school leaders and staff on realistic expectations, setting compassionate boundaries, building a culture of compassion, self-care strategies and links to further learning.

A new facilitator training cohort to support school teams in implementation of the Compassion Resilience Toolkit will begin in November.

Feedback: Members responded positively about the toolkit and menu items being offered.

Follow-up Required: None.

Agenda Item: The Kentucky Family and School Partnership Guide/Family Friendly Schools

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

Summary of Presentation: Gill presented information from the Kentucky Collaborative for Families and Schools from The Prichard Committee and described the resources developed for the Family Friendly School certification process, which are focused on relationship-building between families, students, teachers and administrators.

A video was shown of Jay Brewer (Dayton Independent Schools superintendent) describing the shift in what the district is doing to get to know students by knowing their families. Teachers provided their input about the number of hours that they spent learning about how to develop relationships with families in their pre-service learning. Many described none. The collaborative is working to provide additional resources while updating existing resources to provide learning around creating family and school partnerships in response to this need. The digital playbook was showcased with a link provided for review in the meeting's chat function. The resources are being tested and piloted, now, with a statewide launch on Nov. 15, 2021. Gill invited members of the group to join the pilot work.

Feedback: None.

Follow-up Required: Gill will be invited back to the next quarterly meeting for the group to provide feedback and continue learning about the progress of the pilot.

Agenda Item: Advancing Education Project Update

Presenter: Karen Dodd, KDE Chief Performance Officer, Office of the Commissioner

Summary of Discussion: Dodd shared information about the Advancing Education Project. Components of the project were reviewed along with the timeline. All the activities are used to inform the Kentucky Education Summit which is being held on Nov. 1-2, 2021 in Louisville. Information about COVID-19 mitigation efforts for the summit was explained.

Feedback: None

Follow-up Required: None.

Agenda Item: Announcements

Presenter: Susan Cintra, TAC Chairperson

Summary of Discussion: A reminder of future meeting dates was given.

Feedback: None.

FollowUp Required: None.

Agenda Item: Adjournment

Presenter: Susan Cintra, TAC Chairperson

Summary of Discussion: Beverly Rutledge, with a Second by Scott Osborn.