



**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
COMMISSIONER'S TEACHERS ADVISORY COUNCIL (TAC)  
SUMMARY**

**JUNE 14, 2022**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Susan Cintra, Angela Beavin, Byron Wilson, Jennifer Davis, Sara Green, Jennifer Stewart, Allen Hensley, Waide Williams, Amy Leasgang, Gregory Smith, Jamaal Stiles, April Jackson, Taylor Sullivan, Erica Deal, Janie Modlin, Scott Osborn, Misty Bivens, Kaysin Higgins, Charlene Martin, Kim Saylor

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Tiffany Dunn, Brooke Bartrug, Quentin Johnson, Amanda Klare, Abigail Nash, Beverly Rutledge

**Agenda Item:** Approval of Minutes

**Presenter:** Susan Cintra, TAC Chairperson

**Summary:** Motion to approve the minutes made by Jamaal Stiles and seconded by Taylor Sullivan. Consensus was noted by members' input in the chat feature of Teams.

**Agenda Item:** Welcome

**Presenter:** Jason E. Glass, Ed.D., Commissioner of Education and Chief Learner, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary:** Glass provided information about the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE's) work around the state's direction. United We Learn is the department's vision for the future of public education in Kentucky. This vision builds around three central themes: creating a more vibrant experience for every student, encouraging innovation in our schools – especially when it comes to assessment, and creating a bold new future for Kentucky's schools through collaboration with our communities.

Building on the strength and success of KDE initiatives to date, education stakeholders are working on ways to enrich student experiences in our schools and improve learning outcomes for all students. Our ideas will be bold and forward-thinking, motivated by our desire to give all children the equitable and engaging learning opportunities they need for success.

United We Learn means everyone in our Commonwealth – educators, families, and community and business leaders – working together to support our public schools in bringing about deep and authentic learning experiences for our students.

In closing, Glass stated, “So I guess the last thing that I will leave you with is just a plea to take care of yourselves this summer. Here you are on your summer break and you're on a Teams call with us giving up more of your time.” He thanked the members for their service.

**Agenda Item:** Assessment & Accountability Update

**Presenter:** Jennifer Larkins, Academic Program Manager Office of Assessment and Accountability, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:** Larkins shared that the Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) and Alternate KSA scores are planned for release in early to mid-August 2022. ACT and ACCESS/Alternate Access individual scores will be released to the districts prior to the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year. School accountability results are planned to be released in early to mid-October.

For the 2021-2022 school year, accountability indicators are based on status only. Status levels are very high, high, medium, low, and very low. The indicators will include state assessment results in reading, mathematics, science, social studies and writing. Additionally, progress on English language proficiency, quality of school climate and safety survey, postsecondary readiness, and graduation rate will be included. The weights of each of the indicators for elementary, middle and high schools were shared. An overall performance rating will use a color-coded system moving from red, orange, yellow, green, and blue denoting the highest rating. Accountability for subsequent school years will include indicators based on both status and change. Status and change will combine to determine the color-coded performance rating.

For more information regarding the division of assessment and accountability, contact information was provided. [dacinfo@education.ky.gov](mailto:dacinfo@education.ky.gov) (502) 564-4394

**Feedback:** There were no questions or comments from the membership.

**Agenda Item:** School Safety Resources

**Presenter:** Doug Roberts, Education Administration Program Consultant, Office of Continuous Improvement and Support

**Summary of Discussion:** Roberts described services available at no cost to schools and districts to support mental health, social, emotional learning and resiliency. [Sources of Strength](#) moves beyond a singular focus on risk factors by utilizing an upstream approach for youth suicide prevention. This upstream model strengthens multiple sources of support around young individuals so that when times get hard, they have strengths to rely on. An additional support service is [Olweus Bullying Prevention](#) which is a bullying prevention program.

Roberts directed members to go to the KDE web page and type in “safe schools” to find a wide range of information regarding legal issues, statutes, and contact information. Additionally, he encouraged members to go to the Kentucky Center for School Safety (KCSS) website for valuable resources and information.

**Feedback:** A question was posed from Susan Cintra about if there is a policy on the type of doors that should be used for classrooms. Roberts stated that he was unaware of mandates that address door types but noted that if the classroom door has a window it must be covered in the case of a lockdown. He also noted that classroom doors must remain closed and locked, unless a teacher and student are alone in the classroom, then it may remain open. Another

member wanted to know how often KCSS performs school safety audits or if audits must be requested. The KCSS usually has about 90 slots open and they reserve them on a first come, first serve basis where superintendents make the request. Once the yearly slots are filled then there are no more until the following year. A question was posed about the requirement for schools/districts to employ school resource officers (SROs). Roberts indicated that every campus must have an SRO, not necessarily every school, if more than one school is on the same campus.

**Agenda Item:** Senate Bill (SB) 1 Update

**Presenter:** Brian Perry, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Commissioner of Education; and Sarah Peace, Policy Advisor, Office of Teaching and Learning, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:** Perry provided a link to the page on the [KDE website for updated legislative guidance](#). He stated that guidance on Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) is important to download and read. Peace explained that the Office of Teaching and Learning (OTL) is responsible for the standards review process for social studies that must be completed by July 1, 2023, per SB 1, Section 4. Peace further noted that while the KDE is responsible for the revision of standards, KDE does not recommend particular curricula, coursework or instructional materials. All of that will continue to remain at the local level as it has before. Peace added that the KDE is currently accepting applications for social studies teachers who are interested in serving on the advisory panel and review committee.

**Feedback:** A member asked about the specific duties of the advisory committee. Peace stated that the Review Committee and Advisory Panel will use their professional expertise as educators to provide feedback on and to help design how the fundamental documents and speeches included in SB 1(4) will be incorporated into the Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Social Studies. Public comments also will be solicited to inform the process.

**Agenda Item:** SEL: Teaching Empathy

**Presenter:** Susan Cintra, TAC Chairperson, Madison County Schools and Evan Barker, Narrative 4 Trainer

**Summary of Discussion:** Barker described the support services provided by Narrative 4, a global organization he described as one that unites teachers, students and artists to explore empathy through the story exchange and creation of art and music. Barker went on to describe the process of story exchange and how he trains teachers and others to facilitate this process. Cintra recounted her experience when Barker facilitated a session for her class and how the students began to see each other in a different, more empathic way after the process was over.

**Feedback:** A member asked about the process of bringing this work to her school. Barker noted that one-day in person trainings are available. Barker shared his email address in the chat and stated that Narrative 4 is a non-profit organization, so a lot of work is free, but there are some charges for in-person training and that rate is negotiable, depending on need and so forth.

**Agenda Item:** TAC Membership Application Window Open

**Presenter:** Stacy Noah, Leadership Development Specialist, Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness, Kentucky Department of Education

**Summary of Discussion:** Noah provided information about vacancies on the TAC membership that are upcoming and noted the regional representation of membership. Members were asked to think of strategic and targeted recruitment to encourage full-time teachers to apply within the needed geographic regions. Members suggested using social media to promote vacancies. Toni Konz Tatman also reminded members of Kentucky Teacher and how an OpEd could be written about experiences on the advisory council. She also stated that short videos could be included to make teachers aware of this opportunity and what it means to be a member. Cintra expressed gratitude for this suggestion.

**Agenda Item:** Adjournment

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

**Summary of Discussion:** Motion for adjournment was made by Sara Green and seconded by Jane Modlin. Meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m. ET.