



**Advisory Board Meeting
KEDC, Lexington
April 18, 2019
1:00-3:00**

Attendees:

Clabe Slone, Project Director
Dr. Rebecca Roach, Associate Director
Kay Hedrick, Coordinator
Wendy King, Coordinator
Dr. Evans, Lee County Superintendent
Dr. Maxwell, Middlesboro County
Superintendent

Jamie Weddington, Lewis County
Superintendent
Kenny Bell, Wolfe County Superintendent
Russell Thompson, Pineville Independent
Superintendent
Pamela Williams, Barbourville District L3

1. Welcome and Introductions

Clabe Slone welcomed attendees to the meeting and reviewed its purpose. Each school leader introduced himself or herself.

2. Administrative and Fiscal

Mr. Slone reviewed the online LINK website budget page at www.accountskylink.org. Administrators hover above “home” to access the dropdown menu for link online accounts. Mr. Slone updates accounts continuously so all expenditures are up-to-date and can be used to plan final purchases. Using Lee County’s account as an example, he showed how to access the running balance. All monies must be spent by June 30th to allow for necessary reallocations. Districts may purchase long-term contracts with funds for programs such as iReady.

3. LINK Exit Information

Mr. Slone reviewed and explained the results of the exit interviews with school districts concerning the LINK program. Three questions were asked during the interviews: 1) Summarize what LINK has meant to you, your school, your community, or your students, 2) What sort of impact do you think LINK will have over the next 5 years, and 3) What is the one thing your school plans to keep going? Dr. Roach analyzed the interview data for emergent themes. Mr. Slone discussed the findings. Mr. Weddington added that he felt one of the most beneficial components in his district was that of book fairs and give-aways. He said that this had a great impact on students who could not afford books.

4. LINK Summer Institute

Dr. Roach shared the LINK Summer Institute's schedule. Monday, June 24th from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Wednesday, June 26th 9:00 a.m. to noon will provide presentations with an Early Childhood & Elementary focus. On Wednesday from noon to 1:30 p.m. the keynote luncheon will be for all age groups. The keynote presenter, Tanny McGregor, is an author of two books, Comprehension Connections and Genre Connections. She will also be presenting a workshop during the institute. On Wednesday from 1:30 to 4:45 p.m., Thursday, June 27th, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Friday, June 28th from 9:00 a.m. to noon, presentations will be for a Middle & High focus.

Copies of the schedule and a list of all the presentations were distributed. Dr. Roach asked that school leaders share these with principal. Dr. Roach shared the registration information. The schedule and presenters are listed on KEDCs and the LINK website.s

5. ACE Updates

Mr. Slone displayed ACE data for the last 30 days. 1806 students logged in, over 10,000 components were submitted, 246 ACE levels were approved, and 1236 resumes entries added. Now ACE is in additional counties including Madison, Clark, Bell, and Raceland Independent. 22 high schools are using ACE. LINK schools have attended CORE 5 training. KEDC will continue to provide CORE 5 training to LINK schools. Schools may send the same representatives to these meetings or a new leadership team. Some of the content has been changed and improved for the following year. This service will still be free to LINK schools.

KEDC has completed and is piloting the Navigator program. This online program is designed for students in grades 6 through 8 and is in its 3rd week of implementation. All LINK schools are enrolling students into the system. This program is true platform for 6th, 7th, 8th. Grade 8 programs are similar to ACE for high school, with different badges that are appropriate for grade 8. Grades 6 and 7 programs have a different format and guide students around a compass to complete tasks. Although KEDC has received positive feedback they will make some changes as needed. A new K-5 platform called Explorers in in the planning stages, and LINK schools will have access. I

Regardless of grade level, if a school is implementing all three programs Explorers, Navigator, or ACE, all student work is stored in an online backpack that can be accessed by students even after they graduate from high school.

At this time the Kentucky Department of Education has not decided how they want data graduate ready information to be communicated. KEDC is committed to a process that will schools analyze their data so that school leaders are able to seamlessly collect and send the data to KDE from the website to KDE.

6. CHARGE Updates

Wendy King distributed a handout with the CHARGE information. This new grant enrolled Kindergarten through 6th grade teachers in 7 school districts: 83 teachers currently enrolled. As of April, teachers have collectively attended 1994 hours of professional learning. The first training session was in February. Teachers have access to History Alive and Google Level 1 Training. Currently 31 teachers have applied for

Chromebooks. If awarded the district pays for the technology and KEDC reimburses. For more information, schools can follow on Twitter at #KEDC or #KYCHARGE.

7. ASPIRE Updates

Kay Hedrick, Coordinator provided an update and overview of the ASPIRE program. This grant project serves middle and high schools. To date, 92 teachers in 30 school districts have enrolled. Presidential Academies provide the highest quality of professional learning including new Social Studies standards, content-based professional learning and content in specific time periods. KEDC collaborates with history faculty from Kentucky universities. ASPIRE provides high-quality strategies and content-specific activities. ELA teachers have also enrolled. To date, the program has offered 56 hours of professional learning.

Each summer participating schools may apply for funds to implement ASPIRE school-level Congressional Academies during which ELA and Social Studies teachers plan weeklong activities on government.

Every summer of the program teachers are given an opportunity to engage in an experiential learning event at a historical location related to the era. This year the trip is to Colonial Williamsburg for 5-6 days. Teachers will also visit Yorktown and Jamestown. Next year the program will go to Gettysburg, then Chicago, Washington DC, Civil Rights Tour of the south the following years. Additionally, every summer ASPIRE will be taking 48 students from the districts to Washington DC for a weeklong trip. KEDC encourages schools to bring students who have not previously had these opportunities.

Return on Investment Reports (ROI)

Mr. Slone distributed the ROI for LINK. KEDC will provide a ROI every quarter on all their projects. The purpose is to inform superintendents of the ongoing data collection. Superintendents should feel free to share with their staff.

Mr. Weddington asked if there are any other grants similar to LINK? According to the U.S. Department of Education, there are no more IAL grants at this time. KEDC has applied for an EIR grant following a model employed in previously funded history grants: ongoing professional development for teachers/schools and student programs. The focus of that proposal was on math and science. Like many RFPs, the grant took into consideration many factors for school inclusion in the proposal. Although none of the LINK districts were included in the grant, their teachers may be able to enroll once the targeted schools have enrolled all interested teachers.