



February 2015

EPSB Update Memo

### **EPSB Mission**

*The Education Professional Standards Board, in full collaboration and cooperation with its education partners, promotes high levels of student achievement by establishing and enforcing rigorous professional standards for preparation, certification, and responsible and ethical behavior of all professional educators in Kentucky.*

The EPSB Goals and Strategies may be found at <http://www.epsb.ky.gov/boardinfo/mission.asp>.  
The EPSB Strategic Plan may be found by clicking here: [Strategic Plan](#)

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### **New National Board Certified Teachers Recognition Event**

On Thursday, March 5, 2015, the more than 200 teachers who earned National Board Certification in December 2014 will be honored during a recognition ceremony in the State Capitol Rotunda and in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Each newly certified National Board Teacher will be invited to bring his or her principal or superintendent to this event as a special guest. Letters of invitation and event details will be going out in early February to all new NBCTs. Questions may be directed to Marcie Lowe at [Marcie.Lowe@ky.gov](mailto:Marcie.Lowe@ky.gov)

Please join us in offering congratulations for a job well done on this prestigious accomplishment!

### **Empowering Effective Educator (E<sup>3</sup>) Grant**

A need to define leadership roles and responsibilities for effective teachers has emerged from the development of the Professional Growth and Effectiveness System. Empowering teacher leaders can impact teacher equity for all students, build leadership capacity for all staff, and increase the quality of teaching and learning. As a part of the [Network for Transforming Educator Preparation](#) (NTEP) grant (login as guest if prompted), EPSB, KDE and KEA are seeking applications from

Kentucky schools interested in demonstrating current or planned strategies to utilize effective teachers in teacher leadership roles. Identified recipients will provide feedback on achievement of goal outcomes, policy implications, and support for scale of work.

The E<sup>3</sup> Grant provides schools with funds to design and implement a teacher leadership structure that addresses the needs of building capacity of staff and recognizing the impact of teacher leaders on continuous improvement of schools. The teacher leadership program should promote the use of highly effective teachers in various leadership roles based on the needs of the school.

Kentucky public schools may apply for grants up to \$5,000 (per school site) for professional learning and planning of exemplary teacher leadership structures during the 2015-16 academic year. Applications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. EDT on April 3, 2015. The following are required commitments:

- Use funds to learn about and plan for the implementation of a sustainable and integrated initiative for teachers to understand and take advantage of teacher leader roles;
- Implement new or enhance existing teacher leadership opportunities;
- Work collaboratively with KDE, ESPB, and KEA to learn about effective teacher leadership initiatives, and to develop a plan for implementation that will be enacted during the 2015-16 school year;
- Collaborate with other participating schools to develop a community of practice for supporting teacher leaders;
- Share the process of learning about and building teacher leaders, and serve as a spokesperson and model for other schools, districts, and partner agencies.

Application information will be posted soon on the [KDE Competitive Grants Webpage](#).

### **KY Network to Transform Teaching (KYNT3)**

Kentucky ranks 6<sup>th</sup> nationally for the number of new National Board Certified Teachers and that number is growing. In addition to celebrating the certification of 201 teachers this year, KYNT3 has 560 new teachers registered and working on their certification. In Kentucky, 7.26% of teachers hold National Board Certification, twice the national average of 3.6%. However, we still struggle to make progress toward the goal of having an NBCT in every school by 2020 as outlined in [KRS 161.131](#).

The goals of KYNT3, a National Board grant funded by the US Department of Education, are to recruit and support teachers to become nationally board certified and to promote teacher leadership of nationally board certified teachers in schools. This ties directly to the work of NTEP presented in this memo. Visit [kynt3.org](http://kynt3.org) for more information.

### **New Certificate Application Forms**

Effective January 1, 2015, the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) transitioned to new certificate application forms, the CA series. For initial certification in Kentucky, an applicant will need to use the CA-1 form beginning January 1, 2015. To renew an existing Kentucky teaching certificate an applicant will use the CA-2 form.

Additionally, an applicant applying for initial certification in Kentucky will need to submit a Kentucky state and federal background check. The background check must have been completed within twelve (12) months of the date the application is received by the EPSB. The background check used to obtain employment as a certified educator in Kentucky public schools or to be placed as a student teacher in a Kentucky public school may be submitted to the EPSB to meet this requirement. All other applicants who do not have a background check readily available to submit with the application, may request a background check from the Kentucky State Police using the following form: [http://www.kentuckystatepolice.org/pdf/employment\\_rev11\\_10.pdf](http://www.kentuckystatepolice.org/pdf/employment_rev11_10.pdf) . An FBI background check may be obtained by following directions found here: <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks/submitting-an-identity-history-summary-request-to-the-fbi>.

### **Kentucky Field Experience Tracking System**

The Kentucky Field Experience Tracking System (KFETS) is continually being updated and refined to serve the needs of candidates, EPPs, and the EPSB. To date, more than 4,900 users have opened KFETS accounts. Given the volume of information KFETS provides and stores, as well as the large number of users it accommodates, some growing pains are to be expected. As we continue to refine KFETS and develop user capacity, candidates and EPP faculty and staff are encouraged to refer to information on the [EPSB web site](#) , including Candidate and Institution PowerPoint documents, for initial trouble-shooting support. Specific KFETS problems that cannot be resolved at the EPP level should be submitted to [Lauren Graves](#). In some cases, erroneous information is appearing in KFETS as a result of data provided by external sources; please be assured that the needs of candidates are paramount as we work through these challenges. These errors will be addressed as quickly as possible to ensure candidates are not negatively affected. KFETS is an important tool to streamline reporting for candidates and EPPs and to ensure compliance with state regulations.

### **Data Quality Campaign**

The [Data Quality Campaign's](#) most recent [review of states' data systems](#) found that Kentucky has achieved a data milestone: “Successful states are using DQC’s 10 State Actions to Ensure Effective Data Use as a guide, which is evident in our survey results. Last year, Arkansas and Delaware became the first two states to achieve all 10 Actions, and this year they are joined by Kentucky. Stories of effective data use are emerging from these three states and across the country. It is another world from when we first started compiling state progress through the survey nine years ago, and the investments states have made are beginning to make a difference in classrooms.” Planning, collaboration, and meaningful investments in education data systems have paid off. Kentucky’s EPPs have access to a wide range of data from multiple agencies to help ensure that every Kentucky educator is prepared to be an effective educator.

### **Federal Title II Teacher Preparation Proposed Regulations**

The U.S. Department of Education has released proposed regulations for teacher preparation programs. According to the [press release](#), the proposed regulations emphasize educator preparation outcomes rather than inputs while allowing states to make key decisions regarding how outcomes are measured. Additional information and documents about the proposed regulations, including alignment with CAEP standards, are available on the U.S. Department of Education [web site](#). The

official publication in the [Federal Register](#) occurred on December 3, so the comment period will run through February 2, 2015.

### **Continuing Education Option**

There are currently nine cohorts in the Continuing Education Option (CEO) program, serving 30 enrolled candidates. The next submission window for first-time CEO Plans and resubmits is April 1-15; the submission window for Plans, Portfolios, and resubmits is July 1-15.

The CEO process is structured to link teachers' professional growth with positive, measurable improvement in student learning. Candidates create job-embedded CEO Plans based on the needs of their schools, districts, and communities. Successful completion results in rank change and certificate renewal as an alternative to a planned fifth-year program college course of studies.

For more information regarding CEO, please contact [Sharon.Salsman@ky.gov](mailto:Sharon.Salsman@ky.gov).

### **Kentucky Teacher Internship Program/Professional Growth and Effectiveness System**

The work to align the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program (KTIP) with the Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES) has taken place over the past year and will continue throughout the spring. The Kentucky Advisory Council for Internships (KACI) is in charge of making recommendations for the new program.

Twenty two districts have piloted the revised KTIP; individuals continue to have feedback opportunities through surveys and focus groups.

Large scale training will be available beginning spring 2015 for the 2015-16 school year, when the new KTIP will launch statewide.

For more information regarding KTIP, please contact [Donna.Brockman@ky.gov](mailto:Donna.Brockman@ky.gov).

### **Kentucky Core Academic Standards Challenge**

The [Kentucky Core Academic Standards Challenge](#) will remain open until April 30, 2015. The KCAS Challenge is an opportunity to provide feedback regarding the English/language arts and math standards adopted in 2010.

### **February 2015 Meetings**

February 4 – Council on Postsecondary Education Board Meeting  
February 4 – Kentucky Board of Education Meeting  
February 4 – 6 NASDTEC/CCSSO Winter Symposium  
February 5 – Senate Education Committee Meeting  
February 10 – House Education Committee Meeting  
February 11 – Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services  
February 12 – Senate Education Committee Meeting  
February 12 – Green River Regional Educational Cooperative  
February 12 – Southeast/South-Central Education Cooperative  
February 14 – Association of Teacher Educator's Clinical Practice Symposium  
February 17 – House Education Committee Meeting

February 18 – Central Kentucky Education Cooperative  
February 18/19 – Kentucky Education Development Corporation  
February 19 – Senate Education Committee Meeting  
February 20 – State NTEP Meeting  
February 20 – Empowering Effective Educators Mini-Grant Meeting  
February 24 – House Education Committee Meeting  
February 25 – Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative  
February 25 – Western Kentucky Education Cooperative  
February 26– Senate Education Committee Meeting  
February 27-March1 – American Association of Colleges for Teacher Educators Annual Meeting  
February 28 – Ohio Valley Education Cooperative

**The next regularly scheduled meeting of the EPSB is Monday, February 9, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. (EST) in Conference Room A, 100 Airport Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky.** EPSB meeting agendas may be found [here](#) one week prior to the meeting.

[www.epsb.ky.gov](http://www.epsb.ky.gov)