

May Update



KSDE Early Childhood Program Updates

May 12, 2021

Sent by listserv to Early Learning 0-8 and posted on [the KSDE Early Childhood webpage](#)

As we approach the end of the school year, we appreciate all of your hard work and **dedication!** Feel welcome to email or call any member of our team if you have questions, requests for technical assistance or an issue it'd be helpful to think through together.

End of year data reporting

Thank you for your work to submit accurate data. This allows KSDE to demonstrate the impact of early childhood investments and comply with the requirements of funding sources.

- **Include early childhood participants in KIDS data collections.** Districts must participate in required KIDS data collections, including the upcoming End of Year Accountability (EOYA) Collection. The 2021 EOYA submission window is May 10, 2021 – June 25, 2021. Program administrators should ensure that they are communicating with staff responsible for submitting KIDS data to ensure that those staff know which children to report as participating in the Kansas Preschool Pilot and the Kansas Parents as Teachers programs. A training video outlining how to submit an early childhood EOYA can be accessed **on the KSDE Training Portal**.
- **Districts operating an approved Preschool-Aged At-Risk program should complete the Pre-K At-Risk Survey in the Early Childhood Foundations for School Success authenticated application by May 31, 2021. Kansas Preschool Pilot grantees should also complete the KPP Survey in the Early Childhood Foundations for School Success authenticated application by May 31, 2021.**
 - The login to KSDE Authenticated Applications can be accessed at <https://apps.ksde.org/authentication/login.aspx>. If you do not have access to Foundations for School Success, follow the directions on page 9 of the **Foundations for School Success User's Guide**.
 - Watch the **May 2021 Early Childhood Hot Topics Video Update** for additional information.
 - If you have any questions while completing these surveys, please feel free to reach out to Natalie McClane at nmcclane@ksde.org.
- **Kansas Preschool Pilot grantees also complete two End of Year Expenditure reports.** The End of Year Expenditure Report – Children's Initiatives Fund was due May 11, 2021. The End of Year Expenditure Report – TANF is due July 13, 2021.
- **The Parents as Teachers National Center Affiliate Performance Report** is due July 10, 2021.



KSDE Conference Call for Proposals

The Great Ideas in Education Conference (formerly KSDE Annual Conference): Unfinished Learning will be held virtually Nov. 15-18, 2021.

This year's conference will focus on providing innovative ideas for addressing students' unfinished learning created by the pandemic in addition to furthering the goals of the State Board of Education.

The conference theme and strands provide the framework for breakout session proposals. Proposals should be directed to helping others in your area of expertise gain knowledge, plan and/or implement successful strategies for building on student success, addressing unfinished learning, and furthering the goals of the Kansas State Board of Education.

The conference strands for this year are:

- Early Learning Opportunities
- School Redesign: Creating a Culture of Learning
- KESA: A System of Improvement
- Navigating Standards and Competencies
- Whole Community, Whole School, Whole Child
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Fiscal Issues and ESSER Funds

We hope you will consider sharing learnings with your peers, particularly in the area of Early Learning Opportunities! Further details can be found on [the call for proposals site](#). **Proposals are due by May 21, 2021.** Notification of proposal selection will be emailed by July 12, 2021 to the email address provided for the first presenter on the proposal form. If you have any questions please contact Pat Bone, (pbone@ksde.org), or Ann Yates (ayates@ksde.org).

Preschool Programs Updates

Thank you for submitting end-of-year data as outlined above!

The Kansas State Board of Education approved 2021-2022 Preschool-Aged At-Risk programs on Tuesday, May 11. [Approved Preschool-Aged At-Risk programs are posted HERE.](#)

- If you are one of the 34 districts that has not applied to operate an approved Preschool-Aged At-Risk program, please contact Natalie McClane (nmcclane@ksde.org). The Kansas State Board of Education can approve additional programs prior to the start of next school year.
- The Kansas State Department of Education cannot yet anticipate that sufficient funding will be available to fund 3-year-old preschool-aged at-risk students during the 2021-2022 school year.

The Kansas State Board of Education approved Kansas Preschool Pilot grant awards for the 2021-2022 school year on Tuesday, April 13. [Kansas Preschool Pilot grant awards are posted HERE.](#) We had some technical difficulties in emailing out Grant Award Notices (GANs). If you did not receive your GAN, please contact Beccy Strohm (bstrohm@ksde.org).

Contact Natalie McClane (nmcclane@ksde.org) with preschool questions.



Early Childhood Special Education Updates

As we navigate this school year and into summer, please continue to refer to the **2021 Spring and Summer Update: Compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Kansas Special Education for Exceptional Children Act during the COVID-19 Pandemic Guidance Document** to address frequently asked questions around providing special education and related services to students with exceptionalities during COVID-19.

Indicator 6 Preschool Environments Update: The agency is continuing to review Early Childhood Least Restrictive Environment (ECLRE) data as we explore options to promote inclusive preschool programming. Our goals are to increase the number of preschool students with disabilities who are learning in the least restrictive environment, and increase the number of students of all abilities with access to preschool.

Indicator 7 Preschool Outcomes Update: The Early Childhood Team of the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) is interested in reviewing and perhaps updating the Curriculum Based Assessments (CBA) list used as required assessments on the Outcomes Part B application of the authenticated **KSDE Web Applications** site. Please share this **CBA survey** with staff you believe would have a valid interest in what CBA we require in the Outcomes Part B application. We will close the survey **Friday, May 14, 2021**.

Indicator 12 Reminder: Keep accessing the **Part C to Part B Electronic Referral system (CBER)** to accept any children who reside in your district and remember to check on those children who have approaching summer birthdays. It is important to plan ahead. IEP's ***must*** be written before the ***child's third birthday*** regardless of missed appointments, when school staff are on vacation, or schools are on summer break.

Contact Julie Rand (jrand@ksde.org) with early childhood special education questions.

Kansas Parents as Teachers Updates

The Kansas State Board of Education approved 2021-2022 Kansas Parents as Teachers grant awards on Tuesday, May 11. **[Kansas Parents as Teachers grant awards are posted HERE](#)**. Grant amounts may increase if unspent fiscal year 2021 funding is available to reallocate among programs.

The Target Fidelity Project Office Hours for May are Wednesday, May 26 at 1:00 p.m. If you need a link, please contact Nis.

Parents as Teachers invites you to submit a presentation proposal for the Parents as Teachers 2021 International Conference. This year we are excited to be on-site at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel, in Baltimore, MD from October 11-14. Sign in to your Parents as Teachers portal account. Once signed in: Click the CONFERENCE menu item at the top of the page, and then click SUBMIT OR EDIT PROPOSAL.

Contact Nis Wilbur (nwilbur@ksde.org) with Kansas Parents as Teachers and Parents as Teachers questions.



State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Updates

The next SICC meeting takes place Friday, May 21, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The topics for the meeting will include:

- Kansas School for the Deaf - Outreach Programs
- Planning for the Council's summer retreat
- State Agency Updates

The State Interagency Coordinating Council will have the following openings, effective July 31, 2021. New members will serve a term of 4 years, and can be reappointed if they choose.

- Two Parent Members (of infants, toddlers, or children with disabilities aged 12 years or younger, with knowledge of, or experience with, programs for infants and toddlers with disabilities)
- A Provider Member (public or private provider of early intervention services)

If you are interested in applying, please follow the steps below.

1. To apply, visit the [Governor's Office of Appointments page](#).
2. Select the "fill out application" link.
3. Fill out the application. When asked which board or commission to join, list either "State Interagency Coordinating Council" or "Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services".
4. Once the application is complete, please let me know and SICC staff will contact the Office of Appointments. They will confirm if they have received the application.
5. A staff person from the Office of Appointments will reach out to you and schedule a brief and informal 5-10 minute phone call. This is just to get a little more knowledge of your background and interest in the SICC.
6. Once approved, they will inform both the applicant and SICC staff person that the process is complete and that the applicant has been officially placed on the Council.

New members will officially start August 1, 2021. We have had several members of the SICC complete this process over the last couple years, and they have volunteered to discuss these steps with anyone that would like more information on the entire process.

Contact Jordan Christian (jchristian@ksde.org) with State Interagency Coordinating Council questions or to request the Zoom link to join upcoming meetings. You can also visit the [State ICC website](#) for more information.



Other KSDE Updates, Upcoming Professional Learning and News You Can Use

May 2021 Lunchtime Hot Topics are now posted:

- **Announcements: Brad Neuenswander**
- **Structured Literacy Personalized Learning Q&A: Cindy Hadicke and Tammy Mitchell**
- **Discipline Data Collection: Rachel Beech**
- **Redesign Update: Tammy Mitchell, Sarah Perryman and Jay Scott**
- **Emergency Safety Interventions (ESI) Requirements: Shanna Bigler**
- **Local Consolidated Plan (LCP) Annual Report State At Risk**
- **Local Consolidated Plan (LCP) Annual Report Federal Title I and Title III**
- **Early Childhood Updates** (Our Tomorrows Story Bank, 1-800-CHILDREN, Data Reporting)
- **College Admissions After COVID: Kansas Board of Regents**

Please help spread the word – Full scholarships are now available to Pittsburg State University students in early childhood programs! Thanks to an annual investment of \$600,000 in federal relief funding from the Miami Tribe, Ottawa Tribe, and Shawnee Tribe, Pittsburg State University will be able to offer full scholarships for students in Early Childhood Unified Birth-Kindergarten or Family and Consumer Sciences – Child Development. To be considered for the Tribal Early Childcare Support Scholars program, students must apply by June 7, must live in one of 41 area counties served by the tribes, and must already have completed at least 45 credit hours at any higher education institution, including community colleges throughout the region. Students need not be Native American; the scholarship is open to anyone. Visit <https://www.pittstate.edu/fcs/> for more information and to apply.

The Kansas State School for the Blind is pleased to announce the **Preschool Enrichment Program** for children ages 3 to 5 who are blind or visually impaired. This program will be Tuesday and Thursday mornings, June 8-24. [Click here for more information, brochures, and registration for the Summer 2021 Kansas State School for the Blind Preschool Enrichment Program.](#)

Visit the Kansas Teaching and Leading Project website for recorded videos and live professional learning opportunities. **Don't miss a new module showcasing how Emerson Elementary in USD 500 Kansas City, Kansas uses the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot (the ASQ) to engage families!** The Kansas Association of Education Services Agencies, in collaboration with the Kansas State Department of Education, created this website to provide relevant, timely and impactful professional development support to education professionals in order to build their capacity for effectively developing and implementing key components of the *Navigating Next* and *Navigating Change guidance* for Kansas school districts. **If you are a school or partner with ideas, lessons learned, resources or other information to share with your peers, we hope that you will read this message and consider submitting a proposal to add content to the Kansas Teaching and Leading Project.**

The Preschool During the Pandemic series, developed by Larry Edelman for the Early Childhood Technical Assistance (ECTA) Center, is now complete. The 16 short episodes illustrate how early education and early childhood special education have successfully supported preschoolers and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Each episode includes a facilitator guide that provides prompts to consider when viewing, reflection questions, activities, and supplemental resources.



We previously shared information about the Transitioning Young Children into Kindergarten After a Year of Quarantine virtual event hosted by the Hunt Institute. This conversation featured practical considerations as educators, communities, families and children prepare for kindergarten next fall. [EdSurge published a recap of this event](#), and [you can view the video recording of the one-hour event on the Hunt Institute's Facebook page](#).

Kansas Children's Service League has several free training topics scheduled during the upcoming months. These include Child Abuse and Neglect Mandated Reporter Training and two sessions of Connections Matter in Early Childhood, a training designed to engage community members in building caring connections to improve resiliency, prevent childhood trauma, and understand how our interactions with others can support those who have experienced trauma. [Click here for a current schedule and descriptions through June, and to register.](#)

Celebrate Head Start's 56th birthday! Register here for a webinar hosted by the National Office of Head Start at noon on Tuesday, May 18 featuring Dr. Bernadine Futrell, director of the Office of Head Start, and Dr. Carol Brunson Day, co-author of the Anti-Bias Curriculum and current fellow with the Council of Professional Recognition. Together, they will take a deep dive into ways high-quality early childhood services for children and families are a key driver of equity.

Register for webinar ESEA: Making Educator Wellness a Priority here. The National Association of Elementary and Secondary Education Act State Program Administrators (NAESPA), in collaboration with Amy Walker, Director of Strategic Partnerships will present this free webinar on May 26 at 1:00 p.m. CST.

Setting in Motion STEM & Literacy Gears with Dr. Gayla Lohfink is June 2 from 8:30 to 2:30 in Sublette, with Zoom attendance options available. Like cogs in gears within a complex machine, Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (or STEM), and literacy are the connecting parts moving forward a young child's inquiry into real-world understandings. Participants in this workshop will be introduced to the engineering design process and use literacy (like pieces of print/non-print, art, or song) as questions/inspirations to research, problem-solve, and develop imaginative solutions. This session is appropriate for PK-1st teachers, coaches, para educators and administrators. Registration fees are \$125/person for SWP Members and \$140/person for Non Members. [Learn more and register on the Southwest Plains Regional Service Center webpage.](#)

Greenbush University is June 7 - July 9, 2021. These five weeks offer over 125 virtual, 2-hour sessions that allow for you to build your own schedule based on your availability and interests. All sessions are free to any educator and, like in previous years, are available for college credit if desired. [Visit the Greenbush University webpage](#) for additional details and registration.

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) is hosting the virtual Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) Symposium on June 9-10. Developmentally Appropriate Practice (DAP) is the foundation on which quality early learning is built. Join NAEYC for a one-of-a-kind event featuring the leading voices in the field and their perspectives on the new DAP statement. NAEYC's DAP Position Statement has been a guide post for the field for more than thirty years. Deepen your understanding of the revisions to the Position Statement and the upcoming 4th edition of Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs. DAP Symposium participants will hear directly from the authors on the "why" behind the changes that appear in the new statement. [Visit the NAEYC website to learn more and register.](#)



KSDE Science Consultant Meg Richard is planning “Family Friendly Phenomena Fieldtrips” on the second and fourth Saturdays in June and July. See the [KSDE Science Newsletter](#) for more information:

- **June 12: Little Jerusalem Badlands State Park**
- **June 26: Kansas Wetlands Education Center, Cheyenne Bottoms**
- **July 10: Friends of the Kaw**
- **July 24: Kansas Energy Program, K-State Engineering Extension**

The Kansas Masonic Literacy Center in the Teachers College at Emporia State University is offering free professional development for caregivers and teachers of children birth through age five, with stipends available for eligible early childhood care and education providers:

- **The Growing Brain** (21 total Kansas Department of Health and Environment child care licensing clock-hours) includes seven modules: the basics, the factors affecting brain growth and development, communication and language development, cognition and executive function, social-emotional development, understanding behavior, and everyday play. \$175 stipends are available to eligible professionals from frontier and rural counties.
- **Kindergarten Readiness** (18 total Kansas Department of Health and Environment child care licensing clock-hours) will include six modules: Kansas Early Learning Standards, phonological awareness, effective practices for early reading, inclusion practices, family engagement, and transitions. \$150 stipends will be available to support attendance. The Summer and Fall class dates will be announced soon.
- Email Tasia Markowitz (tmarkowi@emporia.edu) with questions and to register.

Supporting Self-Care for Educators to Improve Student Outcomes is July 20, 2021. Building or District level leaders will use a systems perspective to examine the reasons their own self-care, as well as the social-emotional support of their staff, is important. Participants will analyze the impact mentally healthy staff and administration can have on school culture, teacher retention, and better outcomes for students. Participants will develop an implementation plan in order to apply learned strategies within their building/district. Participants are encouraged to attend in teams of 2 or more. [Visit the KSDE TASN webpage](#) to learn more and to register.

Registration is open for the 2021 KSDE Technical Assistance System Network (TASN) Summer Leadership Conference. This free, virtual conference will provide updated information to attendees regarding district requirements and how to support your staff to ensure positive student outcomes in academics, social emotional learning, and behavior. Pre-recorded content will be posted before the conference and will be available to access throughout the year. Live sessions will occur July 28-29. [Visit the KSDE TASN website for Summer Leadership Conference registration.](#)

[The National P-3 Center is offering a 10-month, fully online P-3 Leadership Certificate Program](#) intended to engage elementary principals, school district administrators, and early care and education leaders. This Certificate Program provides timely, intentional professional development to build and support leaders with the skills and knowledge to implement effective strategies that meet the needs of young children and their families. Applications are due June 11; the Program year begins June 21, 2021. [Visit the National P-3 Center website](#) to learn more.

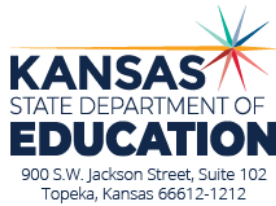


Mark your calendars! The 2021 STEM Innovation for Inclusion in Early Education (STEMIE) Fest is Oct 4-8, 2021. [Check the STEMIEFest website](#) for 2020 content and updates.

Stay up to date on the Kansas early childhood system: The team supporting the *All in for Kansas Kids* strategic plan shares weekly email updates and hosts webinars every other week Wednesday at noon. Visit the [Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund website](#) to sign up.

Take care, and don't hesitate to reach out as we can be helpful.

Amanda, Nis, Natalie, Jordan, Julie and Beccy



For more information, contact:

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