

August Update



KSDE Early Childhood Program Updates

August 18, 2021

Sent by listserv to Early Learning 0-8 and posted on [the KSDE Early Childhood webpage](#)
Email Beccy Strohm (bstrohm@ksde.org) to join the KSDE Early Learning 0-8 listserv.

We are wishing you well as we begin the 2021-2022 school year! Don't hesitate to reach out to any member of our team as we can support you.

2021-2022 Events Calendar for Early Childhood Programs

This resource is now posted to the KSDE **Early Childhood** webpage to help early childhood program staff know when events and deadlines are coming due. It includes items related to state-funded early childhood programs including Early Childhood Special Education, Kansas Parents as Teachers, Preschool-Aged At-Risk, and Kansas Preschool Pilot. Dates are subject to change. We hope that this will be a helpful resource for you as you plan for the coming year, and we appreciate your feedback!

KSDE School Finance also provides useful calendars on their **Online Budget Packet** webpage.

Beginning-of-year data entry for early childhood students

Accurate data entry into the KIDS Collection System is essential to ensuring districts receive associated school finance formula funding for preschool students and comply with KSDE early childhood grant requirements. Four resources can support early childhood program administrators as you collaborate with district staff responsible for data entry:

- The KSDE **Fiscal Auditing** webpage includes the calendar of events for 11 in-person Counting KIDS workshops that will occur Aug. 30 – Sept. 15. Counting KIDS workshops are presented by KSDE Fiscal Auditing to discuss counting students on count day and the information to enter in KIDS (Kansas Individual Data on Students) for funding purposes. KIDS training staff will also present and be available for questions
- The FY22 Enrollment Handbook is now posted to the **Fiscal Auditing** webpage.
- The **KIDS 2021-2022 Collection System File Specifications** document is now available on the **KIDS website**. IMPORTANT: the specifications have changed since 2020-2021. Contact the student information system vendor (e.g. Visit Tracker, PowerSchool, Skyward) or your local KIDS Data Clerk to verify that they are using current specifications. If you utilize a template or spreadsheet, it must match 2021-2022 specifications.
- The **KSDE Training Portal** provides "Early Childhood and KIDS System" process modules. Please note that the modules do not utilize the 2021-2022 specifications, though processes are unchanged.

If marking students as enrolled in both preschool and Kansas Parents as Teachers (KPAT) creates an error, then please check the settings for Directory Updates. The KPAT building must be marked as



serving KPAT grade levels. The Directory Updates administrator (e.g. data clerk, superintendent, administrative assistant, etc.) must update the Directory to include “daycare”, “Pre-School Aged Without IEP”, and “Pre-School Aged With IEP.” If these are unmarked in the Directory, then the KIDS Collection System will reject KPAT students.

Key Dates for the 2021 Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot

All accredited schools are required to administer both the ASQ-3 and the ASQ:SE-2 to kindergarten students by **September 20, 2021**. All data (including pending Family Access screenings) must be submitted in ASQ Online by **October 11, 2021**.

We are working with many schools to help them accept pending Family Access screenings so that they can review the questionnaires families have completed.

Kansas ASQ Online users will receive five Kansas Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot News & Updates newsletters with resources to support the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot. You can view these newsletters and other resources at agesandstages.com/ks/.

PreK-12 school staff with questions about this initiative can email Jordan Christian (jchristian@ksde.org). Note upcoming training opportunities in the “Other KSDE Updates, Upcoming Professional Learning and News You Can Use” section below.

Preschool Programs Updates

The Kansas State Board of Education approved 2021-2022 Preschool-Aged At-Risk programs in May. Remember that for these approved Preschool-Aged At-Risk programs, no slots will be allotted. In districts operating approved programs, 4-year-old students meeting an at-risk criterion for the Preschool-Aged At-Risk program and who are enrolled and attending on Count Day automatically count as a ½ student (0.5 FTE) in calculating a district’s enrollment and accompanying weightings. **The Kansas State Board of Education also approved 2021-2022 Kansas Preschool Pilot grant awards in April.**

Note new resources to support early childhood budgeting on the [KSDE Early Childhood webpage](#). These will be especially important for districts that will apply for the Kansas Preschool Pilot grant for the 2022-2023 school year.

- [2021 Summer Budget Workshops - Early Childhood Funding Information Handout](#) (PDF)
- [Kansas Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template \(Excel\) – Updated July 26, 2021](#) (Excel)
- Kansas Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template User Manual - *Coming Soon*
- [2021 KSDE Technical Assistance System Network \(TASN\) Summer Leadership Conference Early Childhood Funding Session Recording](#) (external link) and [slides](#) (PDF)

ENRL Reminder! Be sure to enter all preschool students into your ENRL report. Pay special attention to field D10 (Grade level) and D57 (participation in the Kansas Preschool Pilot grant).

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



Early Childhood Special Education Updates

Recorded sessions are **posted for the 2021 KSDE TASN Summer Leadership Conference** webpage and will be available to access throughout the year. It has ALL topics including the MIS Virtual training regarding data reporting and environment/setting codes, Indicator 6: Preschool Environments, Indicator 7: Early Childhood Outcomes, and Indicator 12: Transitions from C to B.

Indicator 6 Preschool Environments: As you are beginning your school year, keep inclusion on your mind. Many consider inclusion as blending the classrooms with children on IEPs and typically developing peers. While this statement is true, it is also about the learning opportunities for all children. This means that all young children with disabilities should have access to inclusive high-quality early childhood programs, where they are provided with individualized and appropriate support in meeting high expectations. **Indicator 6** measures **WHERE** the children receive the majority of their special education services.

Indicator 7: Early Childhood Outcomes: July 31st was the deadline to enter ECO data into the OWS system. However, if there are additions or changes that need to be made this is the time. August 1st through September 15th, data verification window is open. Changes **cannot** be made after September 15th for the previous school year.

As mentioned in July, we recently highlighted a survey requesting feedback on the Indicator 7 list of required **Curriculum Based Assessments (CBA's)**. As of now, we will not be adding any new CBA's to the list, however we did make a couple of changes due to outdated information:

- **Creative Curriculum Developmental Continuum Assessment** was updated to **TS Gold**
- **Individual Growth and Development Indicators (IGDI's)** was removed from the list of required CBAs'- this was listed from when Part C and Part B was combined. The IGDI's is an Infant/Toddler assessment tool and is no longer applicable for the Part B CBA list.

Indicator 12: Transition from C to B: Data Collection Window is Open from August 28, 2021 to September 25th, 2021. The data that is entered for Indicator 12 is within a module on the **KSDE Authenticated Web Application** page called Kansas Integrated Accountability System also known as (KIAS). Data is uploaded and entered by district staff.

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



Kansas Parents as Teachers Updates

SAVE THE DATE: The 2021 Virtual Kansas Home Visiting Conference will be held on September 27 and 28 from 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Registration opens August 23rd!** Note to KPAT grantees: The virtual conference and monthly KPAT office hours, PAT office hours, and PAT implementation support meetings replace the Annual Coordinators' Conference. If you have a topic you'd like to discuss, please bring it to one of those opportunities.

If you are experiencing errors when marking students as enrolled in both preschool and Kansas Parents as Teachers (KPAT), then please check the settings for Directory Updates. The school building reporting KPAT students must be marked as serving the grade levels associated with KPAT. The Directory Updates administrator (e.g. data clerk, superintendent, administrative assistant, etc.) must update the Directory to include "daycare", "Pre-School Aged Without IEP", and "Pre-School Aged With IEP". If these are unmarked in the Directory, then the KIDS Collection System will reject KPAT students.

A workgroup continues to meet and reflect on Kansas Parents as Teachers funding. The workgroup will share updates and request feedback at upcoming regional meetings. Workgroup members are: Ashley Johnson (north central), Callie Hoffman (Peace) (east central), Cammie Braden (northeast), Lori Portelli (northeast), Mendy Graves (southwest), Michele McAllister (south central) Jeremy Lewallen (south central), Kicia Wagner (east central), Leticia Porter (northeast), Michelle Kelly (KPATA), Pam May (northwest), and Sandy Elsworth (southeast). Please contact a workgroup member, or Nis at nwilbur@ksde.org (785-296-4964), if you have questions.

KPAT Virtual Office Hours are every third Thursday of the month (e.g. September 16th) from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Contact Nis if you need a link.

There are two options to attend the August Implementation Support meeting: Tuesday, August 24th at 12:00 p.m. or Tuesday, August 31st at 2:00. Please choose only one; the content will be identical. Contact Shelley Joy Tellez (shelley.tellez@parentsasteachers.org) if you need a link.

Nis is unavailable from Monday, September 6th – Monday, September 13th. She returns on Tuesday, September 14th. You are encouraged to refer to the *Kansas Parents as Teachers Frequently Asked Questions 2021-2022* document (more information below) for answers to common questions. Please also feel welcome to contact Amanda Petersen (apetersen@ksde.org) or Beccy Strohm (bstrohm@ksde.org). As always, you may contact Shelley Tellez for answers to PAT implementation support questions.

The **Kansas Parents as Teachers Frequently Asked Questions 2021-2022** document is now available on the KSDE website. Please refer to the document for answers to questions about payment dates, local match, reporting deadlines, and other program requirements. The document may be updated periodically during the program year and so it may be beneficial to add the webpage to your favorites bar.

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



State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Updates

The next SICC meeting takes place Friday, August 20, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The topics for the meeting will include:

- Review of Strategic Plan for 2021-22
- Review Annual Report to the Governor
- Early Childhood Least Restrictive Environment Committee Updates
- State Agency and Committee 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.

- One Parent Member (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)

If you know any parents that might be interested in applying, please forward them the following 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 September 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.

Kansas Early Childhood Recommendations Panel Updates

The next Kansas Early Childhood Recommendations Panel meeting takes place Friday, August 20, from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. The Panel is an advisory group to the [Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund](#). It plays a key role in enabling our state to implement the [All in for Kansas Kids strategic plan](#), respond to challenges, elevate recommendations from communities and stakeholders, and make key decisions to help us achieve the vision outlined in our strategic plan. You can learn more about the Panel by visiting kschildrenscabinet.org and selecting "About" at the top of your screen.



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

Lend your voice to a conversation about the future of education in Kansas. Parents, educators, legislators, school board members, business community members, and all other interested parties are invited to 50 community conversations statewide. Visit [Kansas Can Success Tour](#) to download event flyers; a complete list of tour dates and locations; a tour logo; news release and more.

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response webpage includes [Updated Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Schools and resources for child care facilities](#). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) posted updated [COVID-19 Guidance for Operating Early Care and Education/Child Care Programs](#) on July 9.

“Lunchtime Hot Topics” video updates will be posted on the first Wednesday of each month on the [KSDE Division of Learning Services webpage](#).

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. We are working with our KSDE colleagues to plan a Sept. 8 webinar that will highlight opportunities for districts to use federal COVID relief dollars to support young children. Visit the [Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund website](#) to sign up.

Recorded sessions are posted for the 2021 KSDE Technical Assistance System Network (TASN) Summer Leadership Conference and will be available to access throughout the year. These recordings provide information regarding district requirements and how to support your staff to ensure positive student outcomes in academics, social emotional learning, and behavior.

Join free Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) trainings in August and September. These trainings are designed to support the statewide expansion of the ASQ and are not specific to the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot; Kansas educators can visit www.agesandstages.com/ks/ for those resources. However, these trainings will provide a good introduction to the tool. Learn more and register for the [Aug. 25 ASQ-3™ training here](#), for the [Aug. 27 ASQ:SE-2™ training here](#), for the [Sept. 28 ASQ-3™ training here](#), and for the [Sept. 30 ASQ:SE-2™ training here](#).

The Kansas Literacy Festival is Sept. 2-4 in Wichita. Join Storytime Village and a host of partners for a three-day community event that uses art as a catalyst to inspire a lifelong love of reading. [Visit the StoryTime Village website](#) for more information about the *Literacy Through the Arts* professional development conference, Read and Rise Breakfast Gala, and the Literacy Festival community event.



Kansas MTSS & Alignment will be hosting a series of five webinars featuring Lucy Hart Paulson, Ed.D., CCC-SLP. She is a speech-language pathologist and literacy specialist with years of experience working with children and their families. She is the lead author of *LETRS for Early Childhood Educators*, *Building Early Literacy and Language Skills*, and *Good Talking Words*. Sessions will be from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. on Sept. 10, Nov. 19, Jan. 14, March 11, and May 13. Registration will be available at www.ksdetasn.org/events. Contact **Lea Harding** with questions. **Note – an earlier version of this announcement had an incorrect date for the first webinar; it will be held Friday, Sept. 10.**

Greenbush will be facilitating a Pre-K – K Teacher Cadre during the 2021-2022 school year. During these monthly virtual sessions, Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers will have the opportunity to stay current with events and resources in Kansas, collaborate, network, and showcase early childhood programs. All sessions are free and will be held from 3:30-4:30pm. Dates are Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10, Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, and April 13. Questions can be directed to **Barbara Gannaway**. [Click HERE to view the Pre-K – K Teacher Cadre flier and to register.](#)

Southwest Plains Regional Service Center will be facilitating an Early Childhood Professional Learning Community (PLC) during the 2021-2022 school year. Cadre content will be driven by KESA state board outcomes as outlined by KSDE/KSBE. Focused topics will include KSDE Early Childhood Program updates, but also will be driven by educators, as we strive to administer and interpret ASQ-3 and ASQ: SE-2 students' data, consider state and federal grant applications, connect with Parents as Teachers' programs, and strategize ways to engage our families and communities as partners in education. Importantly, networking and collaborating with fellow early childhood educators will be emphasized. This PLC is free to Southwest Plains Members and \$40/person for Non Members. Questions can be directed to Dr. Gayla Lohfink. [Click HERE to register for the first Early Childhood PLC session](#) on Oct. 8 from 1:00-3:00pm and mark your calendar for the two remaining dates: Feb. 11 and April 8.

The Kansas Children's Service League has free training topics scheduled. These include Child Abuse and Neglect Mandated Reporter Training and 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 to register.](#)

The 2021 Virtual Kansas Home Visiting Conference is Sept. 27-28, from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. Registration will open Aug. 23.

Supporting Self-Care for Educators to Improve Student Outcomes is Sept. 28. 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 about prework and to register.](#)



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.

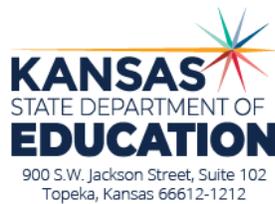
The Kansas Association for the Education of Young Children Virtual Annual Meeting and Professional Development Event will be Oct. 8-9. Registration will open in September.

The 2021 Kansas Breastfeeding Conference will be held Oct. 14-15 and Oct. 28-29. This will include an Oct. 14 session about breastfeeding integration into the child care setting. Registration for this portion of the conference is free for those not needing continuing education.

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.

Please connect with any of us if you have questions, requests for technical assistance or an issue it'd be helpful to think through together. Take care!

Amanda, Nis, Natalie, Jordan, Julie and Beccy



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