

October Update



KSDE Early Childhood Program Updates

October 20, 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.

[Seeing 2020 Kansas Teacher of the Year Tabatha Rosproy recognized at the White House on Monday](#) as the first-ever early educator National Teacher of the Year sparked a lot of joy for us this week. Whether or not you're wearing a cape today, thanks to each of you for being a superhero for the young children and their families in your community!

Updated, free Kindergarten in Kansas booklets are available

The Kansas Parent Information Resource Center and the Kansas State Department of Education partnered to update *Kindergarten in Kansas*, a booklet for families of young children who are getting ready to begin kindergarten. Free updated versions of *Kindergarten in Kansas* are now available – in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Arabic](#), [Burmese](#), [Swahili](#), and [Vietnamese](#). Organizations serving young children and their families can [click HERE to order free copies of the booklets](#), and you can email Natalie Schweda (nschweda@kpirc.org) with questions.

Preschool Programs Updates

The Request for Proposals (RFP) for the 2022-2023 Kansas Preschool Pilot grant will soon be released. Districts applying for funds will demonstrate that they are reinvesting other available sources of funding (state enrollment aid and accompanying weightings, special education funds, federal Head Start grants) into their preschool programs before requesting Kansas Preschool Pilot funding to supplement gaps. KSDE encourages districts to familiarize themselves with the Early Childhood Funding resources posted to the [Early Childhood](#) webpage. Our team is happy to support you in preparing to fill out the Kansas Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template.

Kansas Preschool Pilot 2022-2023 RFP Timeline

- Release RFP and Kansas CommonApp Portal Opens November 1, 2021 (planned)
- Kansas CommonApp portal webinar November 1, 2021
Link to register: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpce2grjsoGt0ZsxEWhYkFScuWM8k7ReJs>
- Written questions from applicants due December 15, 2021
- **Applications Due December 20, 2021 (by 5:00 p.m.)**
- Children's Cabinet considers funding Recommendations April 1, 2022
- Kansas State Board of Education considers funding recommendations April 12-13, 2022
- Grantee Notification (pending legislative approval) Following April Board Meetings
- Grant Year July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

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



Early Childhood Special Education Updates

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. It is strongly recommended for districts to begin looking at the initial data for Indicator 6. You may do this by pulling your **Projected Dec 1 report** located within SPEDPro on the **KSDE Authenticated Web Application**. If you have any questions on interpreting this report, you may contact jrand@ksde.org.

Indicator 12: Transition from C to B: Indicator 12 Compliance Verification window will close on **Friday, October 22**. Please review your "Potential Non-Compliance Verification" tab within the Kansas Integrated Accountability System also known as (KIAS) located on the **KSDE Authenticated Web Application** to ensure all necessary documentation has been uploaded.

Thank you for sharing your feedback as KSDE develops the FFY 2020 – 2025 State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR). This evaluates the State's efforts to implement the requirements of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and describes how the state will improve special education. The SPP/APR includes indicators that measure child and family outcomes, as well as other indicators that measure compliance with IDEA requirements. There are PowerPoints that explain the indicator changes and KSDE's final decisions on indicator targets for the next SPP/APR cycle on [the KSDE SPP/APR webpage](#). You can [click here to review the Kansas SPP/APR data visualizations and stakeholder survey results](#). If you have any questions about the SPP/APR please contact Bert Moore (bmoore@ksde.org).

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

Kansas Parents as Teachers Updates

The KSDE Office Hours for KPAT are from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 21. Please contact Nis if you need a link.

The monthly Affiliate Support meeting with Shelley Joy Tellez (shelly.tellez@parentsasteachers.org) is scheduled for Tuesday, October 26 from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

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



Reminder to finalize 2021 Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot data

Thank you for your work to partner with families to complete the Ages & Stages Questionnaires®, Third Edition (ASQ-3) and the Ages & Stages Questionnaires®: Social-Emotional, Second Edition (ASQ:SE-2) for incoming kindergarten students this year. All data (including pending Family Access screenings) was due in ASQ Online by October 11, 2021. **We are working with several schools to help them accept pending Family Access screenings so that they can review the questionnaires families have completed and KSDE can finalize Snapshot data for 2021.** PreK-12 school staff with questions about this initiative can email Jordan Christian (jchristian@ksde.org). Visit agesandstages.com/ks for additional resources.

We previously shared an exciting update regarding expanded statewide access to ASQ Online (see our [September 2021 Updates](#) for more information). If you have any questions about the statewide expansion of ASQ Online, please reach out to Erica Figueroa (erica.l.figueroa34@ku.edu).

Free monthly Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ) trainings are available. These trainings are designed to support the statewide expansion of the ASQ and are not specific to the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot.

- **ASQ-3™ trainings are Tuesday, Nov. 16, 1-4pm; and Tuesday, Dec. 14, 9am-12pm.**
- **ASQ:SE-2™ trainings are Thursday, Oct. 21 5-8pm; Thursday, Nov. 18 1-4pm; and Thursday, Dec. 16 9am-12pm.**

State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Updates

The next SICC meeting takes place Friday, November 19, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The topics for the meeting will include:

- Early Childhood Least Restrictive Environment Committee Updates
- A Local Program Update (tiny-k, preschool, or PAT)
- State Agency and Committee Updates

The SICC is also looking for volunteers for several of sub-committees of the Council. You do not have to be a member to be involved. Most committees meet once a month.

- Early Childhood Least Restrictive Environment Committee
- Social-Emotional Workgroup
- Early Childhood Funding and Workforce Committee
- Local ICC Planning and Support Committee
- State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report Committee

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



Great Ideas in Education Conference

The 32nd Annual KSDE Annual Conference, which is now being called the **Great Ideas in Education Conference**, 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. [Click here to register for the Great Ideas in Education Conference.](#)



Each day of the conference will **feature keynote speakers:**

- Monday, November 15: Kansas Commissioner of Education, **Dr. Randy Watson**
- Tuesday, November 16: **Jon Gordon**, Best Selling Author of *The Energy Bus* and *The Power of Positive Leadership*
- Wednesday, November 17: **Ed O'Malley**, President & CEO of Kansas Leadership Center
- Thursday, November 18: **Tara Brown** aka "The Connection Coach", Award-Winning Educator and Author

Also, there will be **40 breakout sessions** to choose from the following conference strands:

- 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

Break Out Session Schedule information has now been added to the registration page. Click on the Conference Program Link on the right side of the page.

College Credit Information: Baker University and Friends University have agreed to offer 1 credit hour to registered attendees. Please go to the [College Credit Information](#) page for more information.

- Baker University: \$80/1 credit hr.
- Friends University: \$85/1 credit hr.

Questions

Conference program: Pat Bone, pbone@ksde.org, (785) 291-3097 or Ann Yates, ayates@ksde.org, (785) 296-5140

Logistics: Tierney Kirtdoll, tkirtdoll@ksde.org, (785) 296-3142 or Jan Williams, jwilliams@ksde.org, (785) 296-7931

Registration: Tierney Kirtdoll, tkirtdoll@ksde.org, (785) 296-3142



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

On October 12 the Kansas State Board of Education heard a Kansas Can highlight from two school districts recognized in the area of Kindergarten Readiness. USD 343 Perry-Lecompton shared information about their **early learning services** provided to children 18 months through kindergarten entry. USD 265 Goddard highlighted how they use co-teaching to deliver inclusive preschool services and their summer camp to support incoming kindergarteners as they transition to kindergarten. Thank you to both districts for sharing their successes and lessons learned! You can click **HERE to view the recorded presentation to the State Board**. You can **click HERE to view an overview of Kansas Can Star Recognition for Kindergarten Readiness**, and you can **click HERE to visit the KSDE Star Recognition webpage**.

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

We appreciated the chance to join two opportunities for early educators to connect with one another this month. Mark your calendar for upcoming free opportunities to engage with peers!

- **Greenbush will be facilitating a Pre-K – K Teacher Cadre during the 2021-2022 school year.** All 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.**
- **Kansas Education Service Center consultants will be facilitating an Early Childhood Professional Learning Community (PLC) during the 2021-2022 school year**, sponsored by the Southwest Plains Regional Service Center. The remaining two sessions will be Feb. 11 and April 8 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Questions can be directed to **Dr. Gayla Lohfink**.

The Kansas Racial Equity Collaborative is hosting a 4-part series “Pursuing Racial Equity in Kansas Child Welfare: A Collaborative Effort.” Each webinar will be from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Email **ks.racial.equity@gmail.com** with questions.

- **Register HERE for Oct. 27, Addressing Racial Inequities in Child Welfare: View from Early Childhood Education**
- **Register HERE for Jan. 26: Debunking Myths Around Racial Inequities in Child Welfare**
- **Register HERE for Feb. 23: Forward Movement: Shifting from Control of to Support for Black and Brown Families**

KSDE invites applications for the Kansas Deaf-Blind Fund during the SY2021-2022. This invitation applies to students who are on the Kansas Deaf-Blind Census, as well as those students who have multiple disabilities (who are not Deaf-Blind) on the December 1st Child Count. Currently, there are some SY2021-2022 funds available. KSDE will be accepting applications until March 1st, 2022. Applications will be processed in the order in which they are received. Students may receive up to the \$3,000 maximum. Please remember to contact your LEA SPED Director to see if he/she is willing to have you as his/her designee prior to submitting your proposal. Please read the FAQ on the KSDE **Sensory Losses** webpage prior to applying. If you have questions, please contact Josie McClendon at **JMcClendon@ksde.org** or 785-296-5608(V) or Joan Houghton, EdD, 785-296-2515(V) or **jhoughton@ksde.org**



The Kansas Division of Early Childhood is accepting applications for Mini-Grants and nominations for KDEC Awards – all due November 1. Questions should be directed to KDEC at deckansas@gmail.com.

The Kansas Volunteer Commission is seeking applicant organizations for the 2022-2023 AmeriCorps Kansas funding. AmeriCorps Kansas assists in programs to recruit, train and supervise AmeriCorps members meeting critical community needs in the areas of education, disaster services, health, environmental stewardship, economic opportunity and service to veterans and military families. Grant applicants design service activities for a team of members serving full or part-time for up to one year or during the summer. Visit Kanserve.org to learn more.

The Kansas Volunteer Commission is offering mini-grants of up to \$500 for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. Applications are due Nov. 8. [Click HERE to learn more about this mini-grant opportunity.](#)

Greenbush is hosting Teach.Play.Learn! with Adam Peterson Nov. 11 (Lawrence) and 12 (Girard). Adam will have you laughing, moving, playing, and learning as you explore ways to make your learning standards more fun than ever before. With simple tweaks and classroom hacks to board games, card games, and more, you can have your students of any age learning through play. Adam Peterson is an award-winning educator from Illinois and a nationally recognized speaker. After spending more than a decade as a kindergarten teacher, Adam uses his knowledge and talents to inspire, educate, and motivate other teachers to create classrooms that encourage creativity, play, and hands-on learning. Each workshop is from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and open to all PreK to 3rd grade teachers, admins, and support staff. This event is free for SIS and Early Learning Services members and \$150 for Nonmembers. Contact [Barbara Gannaway](#) with questions. [Click HERE to register for Teach.Play.Learn!](#)

The Kansas Masonic Literacy Center is now offering three online, free, self-paced modules on Trauma, Connection, and Social Emotional Wellness for early childhood care and education professionals. Each module is approved for 3 KDHE Child Care Licensing clock-hours. Early childhood care and education professionals may be eligible to earn a \$75 stipend for completing the course. Email Stephanie at staylo17@emporia.edu to enroll.

Kansas MTSS & Alignment is hosting 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.



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 good 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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