

# January Update



## KSDE Early Childhood Program Updates

January 26, 2022

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

Nis Wilbur has moved on to her next professional adventure after five years leading Kansas Parents as Teachers work at the Kansas State Department of Education. We'll miss her here at the agency and know that you join us in thanking Nis for all the many ways she's made Kansas a better place for young children and their families!

We know 2022 has been off to a tough start for many. We appreciate all of your hard work and hope you are taking good care.

### **Districts/private school systems may submit a short survey if they would like to administer the 2022 Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot (ASQ) beginning April 1, 2022.**

Since districts first implemented the **Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot** statewide in Fall 2018, KSDE has gathered feedback on how to best use this tool to improve kindergarten readiness. Last year KSDE received positive feedback around offering the flexibility to begin partnering with families of incoming kindergarten students to complete the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot (ASQ) in the springtime prior to children entering kindergarten.

**For the 2022-23 school year, districts/private school systems may submit [this short survey to administer the ASQ to incoming kindergarteners](#) (for the purposes of the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot) beginning April 1, 2022.** Please contact Jordan Christian ([jchristian@ksde.org](mailto:jchristian@ksde.org)) if you would like to begin prior to April 1. For districts that do not submit the short survey linked above, the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot window will open July 1. All schools must administer the ASQ to incoming kindergarten students by Sept. 20 and all data (including pending Family Access screenings) must be entered into ASQ Online by Oct. 10, 2022.

Districts/private school systems must agree to the following in order to administer the Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot) beginning April 1:

- The district will **not** use ASQ or other data as a gatekeeper/method to prevent 5-year-old children from entering kindergarten. Per Kansas law, the only requirement for entry into kindergarten is that a child be 5 years old on or before Aug. 31 of the current school year (unless a child has previously attended kindergarten in another state).
- The district will encourage all age-eligible students to enroll in kindergarten.
- The district will accept the screening results in ASQ Online and follow up with the family within two weeks of completing the ASQ to provide results and learning activities.
- The district will attempt to contact and gain consent to transfer ASQ results from families who complete the ASQ during the springtime but who do not enroll/attend the district at the start of the school year.
- The district will share ASQ data with the child's kindergarten teacher prior to the first day of school.



If your district agrees to comply with these criteria to begin administering the 2022 Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot in the springtime, [click here to submit the short survey](#). Contact Jordan Christian ([jchristian@ksde.org](mailto:jchristian@ksde.org)) with any questions.

*Additional helpful resources:*

- Visit [agesandstages.com/ks](https://agesandstages.com/ks) for Frequently Asked Questions, guides and “how-to” videos on implementing ASQ.
- The *All In For Kansas Kids* biweekly webinar on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. will focus on kindergarten transitions. [Register here for All In For Kansas Kids webinars and recordings](#). See also:
  - [September 9, 2020 Webinar Slides, Presentation Recording](#)
  - [September 23, 2020 Webinar Slides, Presentation Recording](#)
- The 2021 Kansas State Department of Education Great Ideas In Education Conference included the recorded breakout session **“Building Successful Kindergarten Transition Experiences: Examples for Kansas Communities.”**

### 2022-2023 Preschool-Aged At-Risk Approval Form Available Now

The Preschool-Aged At-Risk Approval Form for the 2022-2023 school year is now available. In districts operating approved programs, 3-and 4-year-old students who meet an at-risk criterion for the Preschool-Aged At-Risk program and who are enrolled and attending on Count Day will automatically count as a ½ student (0.5 FTE) in calculating a district’s enrollment and accompanying weightings.

**2022-2023 Preschool-Aged At-Risk Program Requirements and Assurances** can be found on the [KSDE Preschool Programming webpage](#) along with the link to the **Preschool-Aged At-Risk Approval Form**. The Approval Form is once again a short Qualtrics Survey. All of the questions in the survey can be found in the Program Requirements Document for you to review before you complete the survey. KSDE is happy to provide you a copy of last year’s responses and support you as you complete the form. Preschool-Aged At-Risk Approval Forms must be completed by April 1, 2022 for the Kansas State Board of Education to consider them in May.

Contact Natalie McClane ([nmclane@ksde.org](mailto:nmclane@ksde.org)) with preschool questions.

### Early Childhood Special Education Updates

**Indicator 6 Preschool Environments:** This is the time of year districts have the ability to look at their initial data for Indicator 6 and make corrections as needed. You can also get Indicator 6A, 6B and 6C projected results. You may do this by pulling your **Projected Dec 1 report** located within SPEDPro on the [KSDE Authenticated Web Application](#). You should be looking for alignment between the program types, setting codes, and building codes. If you have any questions on interpreting this report, you may contact [jrand@ksde.org](mailto:jrand@ksde.org).

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



### Kansas Parents as Teachers Updates

Thanks to the many programs who have already submitted the 2021 Kansas Parents as Teachers (KPAT) Mid-Year report! This is due **Monday, January 31, 2022 at 11:45 p.m.** If you need the link to the report, please contact Amanda Petersen ([apetersen@ksde.org](mailto:apetersen@ksde.org)).

The **2022-2023 Kansas Parents as Teachers Grant Application** is now open. As shared during October, KSDE will make zero changes to the grant funding award decision-making process for FY23. Programs may anticipate an identical grant award amount for FY23 as received during FY22. If the final budget adopted during the 2022 Legislative Session includes additional funds then affiliates may anticipate a potential adjustment. Additionally, if current grantees request reductions then other affiliates may anticipate a potential adjustment. All applications must be submitted via the **Kansas CommonApp**, which requires prior registration if you do not already have an account. Contact Amanda Petersen ([apetersen@ksde.org](mailto:apetersen@ksde.org)) with questions.

The Parents as Teachers National Center (PATNC) rescheduled the annual conference. The new dates are **August 31-September 3, 2022**. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Kansas Parents as Teachers Office Hours are Thursday, February 17 at 2:00 p.m. Beccy Strohm will be sending out an updated calendar invitation and Zoom link prior to the meeting.

Contact Amanda Petersen ([apetersen@ksde.org](mailto:apetersen@ksde.org)) with Kansas Parents as Teachers questions. Contact Shelley Tellez ([shelley.tellez@parentsasteachers.org](mailto:shelley.tellez@parentsasteachers.org)) with Parents as Teachers implementation support questions.

### KSDE is hiring! Kansas Parents as Teachers Education Program Consultant

The Kansas State Department of Education seeks a collaborative team member to lead our agency's Parents as Teachers work. The department would like the successful candidate to assume the responsibilities of the position by July 1, 2022.

You can visit the **State of Kansas Career Portal at [jobs.ks.gov](https://jobs.ks.gov)** and search for Job ID 202901 to view the posting and to apply. **Here is the direct link to the job posting.** Applications are due Monday, Feb. 28. Any questions related to the application process may be directed to Marisa Seele at [mseele@ksde.org](mailto:mseele@ksde.org) or 785-296-7795.

### State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) Updates

The next SICC meeting takes place Friday, February 18, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. The SICC will be doing an annual orientation this month.

The SICC is continuing to look 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](mailto: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.



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

### Don't miss these upcoming opportunities to connect and learn with your peers:

- **Greenbush is facilitating a Pre-K – K Teacher Cadre during the 2021-2022 school year.** Upcoming dates are Feb. 9 and April 13 from 3:30-4:30pm. Questions can be directed to **Barbara Gannaway**. [Click HERE to view the Teacher Cadre flier and to register.](#)
- **Kansas Education Service Center consultants are facilitating an Early Childhood Professional Learning Community (PLC) during the 2021-2022 school year**, sponsored by the Southwest Plains Regional Service Center. [Click HERE to register for the PLC on Friday, February 11 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.](#) The February session will focus on building your capacity to engage with families. Mark your calendar for the final session on April 8 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Questions can be directed to **Dr. Gayla Lohfink**.

**Join KSDE Each Wednesday in February for Wellness Wednesdays** to assist Kansas schools in implementing wellness policies and creating a healthier school environment. Each Wednesday in February two identical 1-hour virtual sessions will be offered at both 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Attendees must pre-register to attend! *This may be a helpful learning opportunity as you are considering Element 4 of the Kansas Can Star Recognition Rubric for Kindergarten Readiness.*

- **Register for February 2: Local School Wellness Policies: Regulations and Resources.** Gather the information and resources necessary to bring wellness committees back together stronger!
- **Register for February 9: Nutrition Education Explore. FREE nutrition education resources that can be used to move your school's wellness policy initiatives to the next level!**
- **Register for February 16: Mental Health: Food and Mood – Understanding Science & Evaluating Evidence.** Hear from guest Speaker, Dr. Amanda Zangrillo, PsyD, BCBA-D, an associate professor and department director of the Severe Behavior Program at the Munroe-Meyer Institute at the University of Nebraska Medical Center to learn decision-making strategies and critical evaluation skills around the dynamic interplay of nutrition and behavioral health for school-aged youth.
- **Register for February 23: Motivational Interviewing.** Learn how motivational interviewing techniques can be used to intervene and help school age children become motivated to change addictive behaviors that are preventing them from making healthier choices.

**Applications for one-year subgrants of up to \$25,000 to support community Kindergarten Readiness activities will be available beginning Feb. 11.** Applications will be due March 18. Visit the [Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund website](#) to sign up for biweekly webinars and weekly email updates to stay up-to-date the *All in for Kansas Kids* strategic plan.



**Kansas 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Community Centers grant applications are available.** This grant funds for out-of-school time programs serving students that attend a school with a 40% or higher free/reduced lunch population. Visit [the KSDE 21st Century Community Learning Centers webpage](#) for application materials. Contact Christine Macy ([cmacy@ksde.org](mailto:cmacy@ksde.org)) with questions.

Join Kansas MTSS next Monday, Jan. 31 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. for the webinar **The Canary in the Coal Mine: Focusing on Attendance to Strengthen your MTSS**, featuring Attendance Works.

**Self-Paced Learning for PreK-2 Teachers: PBS KIDS** offers a FREE collection of flexible, self-paced learning to help inspire teachers and provide support in the classroom.

**Districts and accredited private school systems can begin applying for the 2022 Kansans Can Star Recognition program on Dec. 15.** You can [click HERE to view an overview of Kansans Can Star Recognition for Kindergarten Readiness](#), and you can [click HERE to visit the KSDE Star Recognition webpage](#). 2022 applications will be due June 30, 2022.

**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*. The last two sessions will be from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. on March 11 and May 13. Registration will be available at [www.ksdetasn.org/events](http://www.ksdetasn.org/events). Contact [Lea Harding](#) with questions.

**“Lunchtime Hot Topics” video updates will be posted on the first Wednesday of each month on the KSDE Division of Learning Services webpage.** February Hot Topics will post February 2.

**The National Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Conference is Feb. 16-19, in New Orleans and online.** The conference will include a variety of sessions with early childhood content.

**The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Kansas Division for Early Childhood (KDEC) Conference will be Feb. 23-25, 2022 in Wichita.** Visit [the KDEC website](#) to register.

**The Kansas Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health is hosting a free book study with Mona Delahooke, PhD, author of “Beyond Behaviors.”** [Register here for the “Beyond Behaviors” book study Zoom meetings on March 9 and April 13.](#)

**The Measuring Social-Emotional Growth webinar series is a collaborative effort among KSDE, the Kansans Can Competency Framework, and Kansas MTSS and Alignment.** While the webinars won't be recorded, all registrants will receive a 10-minute video on the topic following each live webinar, so register even if you aren't able to attend all nine live sessions.

**The National Head Start Association, University of Oregon, and the Oklahoma University Early Childhood Education Institute will host a four-part webinar series detailing “the what and why of child assessments.”** Each presentation will be from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Central Time. [Click here to register for Assessing Child Assessments: What You Need to Know.](#)

**Organizations serving young children and their families can [click HERE to order free copies of the booklets Kindergarten in Kansas](#),** now available in **English, Spanish, Arabic, Burmese, Swahili, and Vietnamese.** Email Natalie Schweda ([nschweda@kpirc.org](mailto:nschweda@kpirc.org)) with questions.



**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.

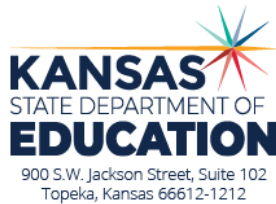
- **ASQ-3™ training is on Feb. 23, 9am - 12pm**
- **ASQ:SE-2™ training is on Feb. 25, 9am - 12pm**

**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](mailto:ks.racial.equity@gmail.com) with questions. **Click [HERE](#) for session recordings.**

- **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**

Don't hesitate to reach out to us as we can be helpful,

**Amanda, Natalie, Jordan, Julie and Beccy**



For more information, contact:

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