Kansans Can Redesign:

COHORT UPDATES

Mercury – Gemini II
The Ascent Year schools are currently participating in our monthly Redesign Professional Learning Community (PLC). Our PLC meets on the first Wednesday of each month to engage in learning around a topic related to Redesign. On the third Wednesday, we host ‘debriefs’ in which attendees reflect on the learning they were asked to apply in the initial PLC meeting. The debrief is broken into three groups: leaders, elementary educators, or secondary educators. Participants can choose the PLC Debrief group that best fits them.

Apollo
Apollo schools had their Plan Year interrupted due to COVID-19. However, that has not stopped many of our schools from Launching and moving forward with their Redesign efforts. While a few have ‘pushed pause’ on engaging formally in Redesign, most schools are continuing to address the work laid out in their Plan while continuing to receive support from their Education Service Center. We anticipate that by Fall of 2021 most Apollo schools will be launched with only a few using the 2021-2022 year to become launch ready.

Apollo II
17 schools chose to jump into the Redesign Plan Year this year (2020-2021). They have used the Redesign Plan Year training as a way to rally their staff around a unifying cause and purpose. While we have adjusted time and pace, we are still working with each school to personalize their Redesign Plan Year experience. A few schools have decided to wait to prototype and test until next fall while others are continuing with the spring semester timeline as planned. Regardless of pace, our Apollo II schools have been dedicated to visioning and their collective why statements, and they are making a difference for Kansas kids!

Apollo 3- Timeline coming soon!
SPECIAL PROJECTS

Redesign Success Rubric
The Kansans Can School Redesign Success Rubric outlines 6 competencies in school redesign: each of the 4 Redesign Principles, the Process, and the Conditions (shared leadership & culture). This set of rubrics will be foundational for the Redesign schools in Kansas that have officially launched. This tool, created in partnership with dozens of stakeholders and vetted by redesign schools, will provide a means of self-assessment for Redesign teams to discuss their redesign elements. Review the Redesign Success Rubric. A big “Thank You!” to the following Redesign schools who pilot-tested the Rubric:

- Santa Fe Trail Middle School (Olathe)
- Stafford Middle-High School
- Wiley Elementary School (Hutchinson)
- Lyons Middle School
- Lyons High School
- Dighton Junior-Senior High School
- Clay County Community Schools

Culture Survey
When a school has a positive, collaborative learning culture, that school can tackle any adaptive challenge that comes their way! This is why we have been working to “redesign” the Redesign Culture Survey. Over the past few months, members from the Redesign Advisory Council worked with the Comprehensive Center at McREL to examine the academic literature on school culture. This team put together a new and improved culture survey that was piloted with five schools this fall. Feedback from the participants is being considered as refinements are being made. Our goal is to have this tool available for all redesign schools in the Spring of 2021. A special thanks to the following schools for volunteering to take the new survey for a test run:

- Meadowlark Elementary, Liberal, KS
- Stockton Grade School, Stockton, KS
- Clay Center Community High School, Clay Center, KS
- David Brewer Elementary School, Leavenworth, KS
- Medicine Lodge Grade School, Medicine Lodge, KS

Redesign Mentoring Program
The Project Plan for the Redesign Mentoring Program is ready! On December 15, 2020, we hosted our Redesign Mentor Training and ours mentors and mentees are now matched for our Pilot during the 2021 spring semester. For this pilot program, we have 8 mentors and 6 mentee schools. Mentors are all leaders in Ascent Year Schools and mentees come from schools in their Plan Year or Launch Year. Review the Redesign Mentoring Program Plan.
WHAT’S AHEAD - 2021

KESA/Redesign Videos
The KESA and Redesign teams have been collaborating to publish mini-modules around topics central to continuous improvement. Videos focus on aligning improvement plans and crafting goals. We will continue putting out relevant content. If you have suggestions for future videos, please let us know (redesign@ksde.org). You can access videos by going to the Videos tab on our Redesign Webpage.

Launching Apollo and Apollo II Schools
In August 2020, we took two Apollo schools to the State Board of Education for their final approval for launch: North Elementary in Goodland and Rossville Grade School (Kaw Valley). On January 12, 2021, we took four more schools to the board for approval:

- Stafford MS/HS
- Wiley Elementary in Hutchinson USD 308
- STEM Magnet at Allen in Hutchinson USD 308
- Ell-Saline Elementary School

The State Board approved these four schools for launch and now they join our other 120+ Launched Redesign Schools!

March PBL Showcase
The Redesign Team is planning to host a Virtual PBL Student Showcase throughout the month of March 2021. Each day during the month of March, we plan to share a student-created video (with support if needed) in which students present their PBL and new learning. In addition to the student videos, we ask that each teacher create a video about the project. How did they set up the PBL? What worked well? What adjustments would they recommend others make if they replicated this PBL? We would like this PBL Showcase to not only be an opportunity to promote student work, but we would also like to use this as an opportunity for teachers to support one another in developing and utilizing PBL in their own classrooms.

Redesign Principal Huddles
KSDE Redesign has partnered with USA-Kansas and the Kansas Association of School Boards to create a series of Redesign Principals’ Huddles for spring 2021, focused on leading through these unprecedented times with an innovative mindset. These ‘huddles’ will be open to all Redesign principals, from Mercury to Apollo 2. There will be elementary, middle, junior-senior, and high school sessions offered to allow for smaller groups and targeted conversations. We are very excited to offer this opportunity to our Redesign principals and want to thank G.A. Buie, USA-Kansas, and Doug Moeckel, KASB, for partnering with us to make it happen.
Want to learn more about Redesign as soon as it happens? Join our listserv by emailing Theresa Cote (tcote@ksde.org). You can also learn more about Redesign by visiting our webpage.

For more information, contact:

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