

Breathitt County
Plus/Delta/Next Steps
September/October 2021

Plus

1. The efforts, guidance, and communication from the Kentucky Department of Education have been instrumental in our efforts to provide support to teachers and students during the coronavirus situation. (KDE COVID-19 guidance documents, communication and meetings)
2. District has completed 24 consecutive days of in-person instruction (8.11.2021 - 9.13.2021).
3. Working with the local health department and health officials to comply with ongoing restrictions in keeping our community safe. Almost 85% of our full-time employees received the Covid-19 vaccine. We are very proud of our staff members for their commitment to putting students first and returning to in-person instruction.
4. The Breathitt County Board of Education voted (5-0) to approve the 2021-22 Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan.
5. Construction on the new elementary school started in the Spring of 2021, received KDE approval of revised BG-1, KDE contract approval, and bonds sold. Construction process is on-going.
6. The Breathitt Board of Education voted to approve the construction and/or renovations (BG1s), due to the flood, for the following facilities: a new Breathitt County Area Technology Center and to renovate the Breathitt High School Art Room, Breathitt High School Fieldhouse, Concession Stand, and Training Facility.
7. The building restoration project (needed due to the coliseum fire) has been completed with insurance monies. The 3 million dollar project included a new roof.
8. Due to the coronavirus situation, the district has entered an agreement with Wildhealth, and school nurses have received training on administering the COVID-19 test and received some test kits.
9. District has developed teams: Re-entry Taskforce, Learning Loss/MTSS, Healthy at Work, Food Service, and Transportation, and Central Office Leadership and Principal. Teams are working on action plans and meeting weekly/bi-weekly.
10. Communication process to share information to students, parents, and community. Internal/External communication plan was updated as part of the strategic planning process.
11. The district was able to hire a guidance specialist to help address the social-emotional needs of both students and staff across the district.
12. Ending balance for June 30, 2021, - \$3,300,000; which is approximately 19% contingency. Tentative budget for 2022 received BOE approval.
13. A Spending Plan and Narrative for ESSER Funds has been submitted/approved in GMAP, including a plan to address learning loss. District Admin Staff attended Open House at all schools, as well as conducted meetings with stakeholder groups to gather feedback regarding where ESSER funds might best be spent.
14. Over the past two years, the District has made a significant investment in online curriculum/software, which has provided a smoother transition for online learning. The online software includes TCI History, Eureka Math, Wit & Wisdom, Reading Plus, Lexia, Amplify Science, Study Island, and Dreambox, among others. The curriculum team developed a Digital Resource Quick Reference Guide and continues to host a variety of professional development sessions to help teachers navigate and implement these resources.
15. Devices have been purchased for grades K-12; as well as replacing older devices based on a rotating schedule.
16. Raptor Visitor Management System and Emergency management plans have been updated in conjunction with community agencies.
17. Security Film for Doors and Windows (wraps) have been installed to improve safety, as well as promote the district with updated branding and school colors.
18. Kentucky Academic Standards work continues through job-embedded professional learning as well as teacher workshops. During the 2020-2021 school year, 100% of certified staff completed a book study of *Clarity for Learning* to support work around learning intentions and success criteria in the district. The district is currently working through a book study of *The Teacher Clarity Playbook*.

19. District non-negotiables for academics--strong instruction, deep engagement, grade-appropriate assignments, and high expectations--continue to be reinforced during school and district leadership team meetings and professional learning communities. These non-negotiables are also reflected in the revised vision/mission/strategic plan documents.
20. All teachers have been provided with a laptop, headset, and webcam, and are expected to utilize these resources during instruction, when necessary. A Technology Integration Specialist has been hired to support teachers in incorporating evidence-based instructional practices utilizing technology into instruction.
21. The district continues to build leadership capacity at all levels, through the continuous improvement process and partnerships with KDE.
22. All CCEIS deadlines and requirements are being met, and the district is making progress toward goals. The K-2 interventionist holds weekly meetings with K-2 teachers to analyze data that inform instructional decisions and to support the intervention program.

Delta

1. Pandemic, Contact tracing, and COVID-19 reporting.
2. Numbers of students and staff that have tested positive or have been quarantined.
3. Community Vaccination rates are low.
4. Due to the COVID-19, mental/emotional/social well-being present significant challenges for the district.
5. Uncertainty - loss of funds due to the coronavirus (seek, attendance, transportation, food service, federal programs, etc...)
6. Policies and guidance for personnel during the coronavirus situation.
7. Not all students have access to reliable internet at home, making it more difficult to provide timely feedback and support to students participating in virtual learning and/or when quarantined, etc.
8. MRC Elementary and Area Technology Center facilities are listed as transitional due to building conditions.
9. Recruiting new, highly qualified employees, and employee turnover is an ongoing issue. High number of new/inexperienced teachers are employed.

Next Steps:

1. Ensure that the 2021-22 Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan remains updated with current changes.
2. Continue to provide support to our students, staff, and community during the Coronavirus.
3. Evaluate and work with the local health department to update plans and to research Test to Stay models.
4. Process/procedures are being developed/implemented/updated to address coronavirus restrictions and social distancing to include Teams video meetings, public broadcast of board meetings to comply with Open Meetings Act, and strategies to ensure that work requirements/deadlines are met. These protocols will be included in the Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery Plan for the district.
5. The district will continue to utilize standards rollout resources and curriculum evaluation processes to update/refine curriculum pacing guides that reflect changing student needs due to the coronavirus situation.
6. The district will continue to provide support for students and teachers during NTI days through virtual meetings, continued timely communication, the NTI Help Line, and technology support.
7. The Healthy at Work Team continues to meet, to address issues with students/staff as they arise, in compliance with KDE guidance for remaining Healthy at Work during the pandemic; and to address new COVID rules and allowances.
8. Action plans developed from analysis of the consolidated monitoring reports, diagnostic review and state management audit are being progress monitored for continuous improvement.