



2024-2025 Phase One: Executive Summary for  
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2024-2025 Phase One: Executive Summary for Districts

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## 2024-2025 Phase One: Executive Summary for Districts

### Description of the District

Describe the district's size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the district serves?

The Taylor County School District is located in Campbellsville, Kentucky - a rural community in central Kentucky with approximately 26,000 residents. The largest employers in the county include Taylor Regional Hospital, Amazon, Campbellsville University, Murakami, and the two local school districts. Eighty percent of the residents of Taylor County work in the county, and our community also draws workers from the surrounding region (33% of our workforce live outside of the county). Green River Lake is the biggest tourist attraction in our surrounding area, offering three marinas, recreational water sports, great fishing, and some of the best hiking trails around. The main Campbellsville University campus is located in our county and brings a diverse population to our community - the university is also a great partner to our district. The Taylor County School District comprises approximately 2,900 students and 450 employees. Six schools located on three separate campuses make up the district: Taylor County Primary Center, Taylor County Intermediate School, Taylor County Middle School, Taylor County High School, Lakeview Academy, and the Central Kentucky Career Academy. Our district recently renovated the old elementary school to house the Central Kentucky Career Academy and Lakeview Academy, as well as built a new Agriscience, Band, and Athletic Facility. We are currently building an additional Career Tech next to Central Kentucky Career Academy that will house our culinary, cosmetology, and retail store (business management). Demographically, our district is 88% caucasian with the other 12% comprised of Hispanic/Latino, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean populations. As a district, we hover just under 60% free/reduced lunch and have seen this poverty percentage grow significantly over the past 20 years. The Taylor County School District participates in the CEP program which allows all of our students to have breakfast and lunch for free.

### District Stakeholders

Identify and describe the district's stakeholder groups. How does the district ensure stakeholder involvement and engagement in the improvement planning process?

The district supports input from various groups to ensure we support all students. For curriculum, district and school administrators, curriculum coaches, teachers, and SBDM members create the various committees that collaborate to make the best decisions when creating or revising processes and protocols that are centered around student learning. Safety - The district and schools have SROs, threat assessment teams, student councils, and equity teams, that are comprised of

administrators, teachers, and students, along with local and state emergency responders to review and revise our safety protocols. Etc for all areas.

## District's Purpose

Provide the district's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs, including the year in which they were last reviewed or revised. Describe how the district embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students and how stakeholders are involved in its development.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** At Taylor County Schools, we set high expectations and work together to help all students succeed.

**VISION STATEMENT:** Work Ready - College Ready - Career Ready - LIFE READY.

**COMMUNITY VISION:** Partnerships - Performance - Pride: Together, building a stronger community.

Our district continues to have zero dropouts. Our focus on support and prevention is demonstrated by our investment in staff devoted to supporting our neediest students. We employ a Transition Readiness Counselor, a Career Counselor, a Workforce Development Coordinator, a Healthy at Schools Specialist, a JAG specialist, interventionists, translators, vocational rehab staff, and a transition readiness support team. An emphasis on transition readiness is a central focus in our district. Our goal is for every graduate to succeed in their next steps after high school - college, tech school, or the workforce. Through our focus on essential work ethic skills, we also strive to ensure that our students have the opportunity to grow as well-rounded citizens who have a heart for giving and who have the life-ready skills that will support their future success. Our district's LVAC and high school provide on-site career technical training. We offer various career training programs: business, pre-engineering/woodworking, agriculture, retail, healthcare (nurse aid, phlebotomy, pharmacy tech), computer programming, STLP, cosmetology, childcare, and teaching. This past year we have just added welding at the career academy. Students can take a wide variety of dual credit and AP-level courses to provide the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. Our district also offers a rich curriculum in the performing and visual arts.

## Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement

Describe the district's notable achievements and areas of improvement in the last three years. Additionally, describe areas for improvement that the district is striving to achieve in the next three years.

Notable Achievements and Partnerships: 1. In 2020, Taylor County Schools created its own law enforcement agency, and we employ 5 full-time, experienced officers; 2. In 2020, we received a \$215,000 School Safety grant to update our safety infrastructure in all of the facilities; 3. (2017) Awarded a Work Ready Skills Initiative

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Grant (\$2.3 million dollars) to renovate the old elementary school into the new Central Kentucky Career Academy; 4. (2019) New Skills for Youth Cohort 3 Grant (\$100,000): we partnered with Campbellsville Independent and Green County schools to write a planning grant to create regional training programs for the cohort; 5. Campbellsville University and Taylor County Schools have committed to a 10-year partnership at CKCA, which provides career technical instruction to high school students and adults in welding, healthcare, computer science, and HVAC; 6. Awarded a 21st Century Grant for Taylor County Primary School (2019) and for the Taylor County Intermediate School (2020) to provide after-school programming for our primary students; 6. We continue to have zero dropouts for the past 10 years due to our support and interventions. We work very hard to keep students in school and on track to graduate through early interventions and at-risk prevention; 7. Cumberland Family Medical partners with our district to provide a nurse practitioner, transcriptionist, and nurses in all of our schools. Their services for our students and staff include well checks, sick visits with the NP, an ADHD clinic, vaccinations/flu shots, and a women's clinic for our high school girls. 8. KidSpot has partnered with our district to place mental health counselors in all of our schools (with 2 at the high school) to provide mental health services to our students. 8. Taylor County received the LVAC Grant of \$6.7 million dollars for the expansion of our CTE programs.

Areas of Improvement: Our district is taking a systems approach to continuous improvement from preschool through 12th grade. Our continuous improvement efforts are guided by our needs assessments throughout the year and Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) that are active in each school. The PLCs are collaborative teams of teachers and school leadership that focus on student progress by developing an aligned curriculum, designing units and common unit assessments, analyzing assessment data, determining and monitoring interventions and enrichments, and communicating this progress to students, school leaders, specialists, and parents. Early Release Fridays (ERF) provide built-in collaborative time for our staff to monitor student growth and to grow as professionals. District leadership and school administrative teams work closely to monitor the work of the PLCs and to provide the needed support and resources.

### Additional Information

Provide any additional information you would like to share with the public and community that were not prompted in the previous sections.

A. FOCUS ON SCHOOL SAFETY: Over the past 3 years, the Taylor County School District has significantly improved safety measures on all campuses. In 2020 we created our police force with 4 School Resource Officers and 1 traffic deputy in the district and have increased the force by one officer for a total of 5. First responders are invited at least once a semester to participate in emergency drills and then join in round table discussions on improving our drills. We have revamped traffic plans and drop-off procedures to make these times safer and more efficient for staff, students, and parents. Our visitor and parent pick-up and drop-off policies have also been changed. We have purchased the Raptor visitor security system for all

schools that run a background check on visitors entering our building. All volunteers and visitors must have clear background checks on file before entering the buildings past the front offices. We also work hard to communicate all emergency plans to all stakeholders. We received a School Safety grant totaling more than \$200,000 that allowed us to build safety entry vestibules in the two schools that do not have them. We also updated camera systems and, fenced in our Broadway campus, installed gates to limit drive-through traffic on each campus. Our newest addition to safety is the addition of metal detectors and backpack checks as all students enter at the secondary school level.

**B. FOCUS ON THE WHOLE CHILD:** We provide layers of support to meet the various needs of our students and staff. We have nurses and mental health counselors in all schools. All students eat free lunch and breakfast through our CEP program. We have created the Caring for Kids Foundation, where staff and businesses in the community can donate monies to be used to support student success throughout our district. We also have 21st-century programs at the intermediate and primary schools to provide additional enrichment and support to students after school. We are currently writing the grant for a middle school program. Our Family Resource Centers are responsive to the needs of our students and look for ways to not only provide needed resources but also to educate our families to be better-informed caregivers.

**C. FOCUS ON COMMUNICATION:** The Taylor County School District uses various platforms to keep our families, students, and staff informed on needed information and the accomplishments of our students and staff. In the last two years, we invested in a district-wide Remind system that our teachers and schools use to communicate with families daily. This is in addition to our One Call System. We use the Google Suites platform to house our curriculum, shared units/ assessments, policies, and important information. We also use Google apps to improve our collaboration among our staff members and Google Classroom to provide our students with a learning platform that can extend beyond the school day. We provide opportunities for our families, staff, and students to provide input to help guide decisions in the district. We have a strong media presence and use our social media platforms to keep the public informed of upcoming events and important information and to recognize the achievements of our students and staff. We make regular visits to the local radio stations. Our goal is that everyone has a clear understanding of our expectations as well as who we are as a district.

# Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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