

REPORT ON LOCAL P-16 COUNCILS

Update

Since the last P-16 Council meeting, funding for four local council initiatives has been awarded.

The Big Sandy Area P-16 Council and the Maysville Area Partners for Student Success were each awarded \$18,000. The Big Sandy Area P-16 Council comprises Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Martin, and Pike counties. The Maysville Area Partners for Student Success comprises Bracken, Fleming, Harrison, Lewis, Mason, Nicholas, and Robertson counties. Each council has agreed to continue its partnerships with Morehead State University, the local community and technical colleges, independent institutions, adult education providers, employers, and civic leaders to create a college-going culture and a seamless transition from high school and adult education to postsecondary education and the workforce and adopt some of the following best practices shared by other local councils, including:

- Forming partnerships among instructors in every sector to ensure seamless student transition from one level to the next.
- Increasing accessibility of postsecondary courses (including developmental, transitional, online, and dual credit) to high school students.
- Publishing and disseminating the new state postsecondary placement regulation (13 KAR 2:020) and other college-readiness documents.
- Working with employers to identify curriculum needs of specific professions and communicating these needs to students and instructors.
- Using student diagnostic data from the Educational Planning and Assessment System to identify curricular and instructional needs of students and the professional development needs of teachers and to use these and other data (e.g., the Council on Postsecondary Education's data portal, the High School Feedback Report, and other state and local outcome indicators, such as middle and high school completion, GED completion, college enrollment and completion, employment, and per capita income) to assess regional needs and the effectiveness of local council initiatives).
- Identifying ways to increase high school graduation and GED diploma attainment, reduce middle and high school dropouts, and increase college enrollment and completion.
- Making use of the KnowHow2GoKy.org college access campaign materials and Kentucky Adult Education public awareness materials to communicate the importance of postsecondary educational attainment and to provide practical advice for completing high school or the GED and succeeding in college.
- Finding additional ways to reduce costs in discretionary funds and secure local support for local P-16 initiatives.

The Central Kentucky Area P-16 Council was awarded \$10,000. The Central Kentucky Area P-16 Council, which comprises Boyle, Estill, Garrard, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, and Rockcastle counties, will include all of the above agenda in its continuing work but will focus

specifically on producing a Web-accessible CD and distributing to all schools and adult education centers in the local council area. The CD will include state and local materials and communicate the importance of increasing the level of educational attainment for individuals, communities, and the Commonwealth and target advice to multiple audiences of students, parents, teachers, school counselors, principals, district leaders, adult learners, and adult education providers.

The Kentucky River Area P-16 Council was awarded \$4,000. The representative of the Kentucky River Area P-16 Council, comprising Breathitt, Knott, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Lesley, Perry, and Wolfe counties, will represent the local councils across the state and will use the resources of this award to:

- Convene local councils for disseminating information and best practices at the local institutional and district levels for improving the college and workplace readiness of Kentuckians across the Commonwealth.
- Support the travel of local council representatives to national conferences to benefit from national research and research and practices in other states.
- Support out-of-state speakers and research for local council meetings.
- Continue its on-going work to raise the level of educational attainment and workforce readiness in the Kentucky River Area, including the agenda presented above.

Following the March State P-16 Council meeting that focused on local P-16 councils and the education agenda of Kentucky's state and local Chambers of Commerce, representatives from the local councils convened May 9 at the Bluegrass Community and Technical College to resume a regular schedule of sharing information from each other and from the state. Dianne Bazell, Bruce Brooks, and Charles McGrew from the Council on Postsecondary Education and Aaron Cox from the Chamber of Commerce spoke to local council members about funding, data, communication, and outreach issues.

Ron Daley, of the Kentucky River Area P-16 Council and representative of the local councils, will provide an update of this and other local council initiatives at the June State P-16 Council meeting.