News from KDE

Early Learning Bus Competitive Grant Opportunity:
- Early Learning Bus Competitive Grant Opportunity: The Office of Special Education and Early Learning announces an Early Learning Bus Grant Opportunity for Kentucky school districts. Districts may apply to receive up to $100,000 to implement a learning bus for after-school and summer programming for preschool children. All information requests/questions should go to the KDERFP@education.ky.gov inbox. There is the potential for up to 7 districts per RTC region to receive grant funding for an early learning bus.

Update to Preschool Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) Settings:
- The Preschool Special Education Data Standard has been updated to reflect a change in how Kentucky will consider special education placement for students ages 3-5 in Preschool. The "exceptions" section on page 9 was removed. School districts will no longer need to consider the percentage of students with a disability in each individual classroom to determine the LRE for the student. Preschool programs will be determined as a Regular Education Program or a Special Education Program based on total enrollment for the program. This may include preschool, Head Start, and childcare students. Do not include 5-year-old students in kindergarten. The program type will be determined on December 1 and will remain until the next school year. Once the program is determined, school districts will use the appropriate placement code in Infinite Campus to reflect the program type.

- School districts should carefully consider the placement of students with disabilities to ensure that the student is receiving services in their LRE. Removing the classroom exception from the data standard will provide flexibility for districts to ensure each student is placed according to their needs.

- A short video presentation entitled "Update to Preschool LRE Codes" is available on KDE's Preschool Administrative Resources webpage.

Preschool Fall Enrollment Count Information:
Instructions for completing the Preschool Fall Enrollment (December 1) Count and information regarding enrollment of state-funded preschool children into Infinite Campus are attached below.
- Key procedures and deadlines:
  - Districts must have all data finalized and entered in Infinite Campus by 5 p.m., EST on Monday, December 4, 2023.
  - Make sure all IEPs are complete, active, and locked by 5 pm, Monday, December 4, 2023.
  - The Preschool Fall Enrollment Count will be pulled on December 5, 2023, using the district edition.
  - After Monday, December 4, 2023, please do not open enrollment data until December 6, 2023.
  - Only children with an enrollment date on or before December 1, 2023, will be counted.
  - Preschool students whose IEP start date is after December 1, 2023, will not be counted on the

Preschool Fall Enrollment Count.
- The School Readiness Branch will email a preschool data verification survey to preschool coordinators on December 6, 2023. Districts must complete the preschool data verification survey by 5 pm, EST Monday, December 11, 2023.
- BEFORE completing the preschool data verification survey, it is essential to review your district "Detail," "Summary," and "QA Preschool" reports in Infinite Campus for errors.
- If you have questions, please e-mail taysha.oglesby@education.ky.gov or call 502-564-4970 ext.4546.
- Microsoft Bookings is available for preschool coordinators to schedule one-on-one consultation regarding Preschool Fall Enrollment Count.

News from Calloway RTC

Mark your Calendars:

Fall Institute
- December 8, 2023 - Paducah Convention Center

Spring Leadership Meeting
- March 27, 2024--In-Person, James Bruce Convention Center, Hopkinsville, KY

Coordinator's Virtual Meetings 1:30 CT
- October 26, 2023
- November 30, 2023
- January 25, 2024
- February 29, 2024
- April 25, 2024
- May 30, 2024

LETRS
- The RTC will be sending out registrations for LETRS on October 23rd for the Cohort to begin in January 2024

Requests for RTC Staff Support:
- TA Request Forms--RTC staff is available to come to your district/school sites for technical assistance/coaching for individual staff members, classrooms or student specific requests. To request our services we have two TA request forms. Please complete one of these forms when you wish to have RTC staff to support a specific request.

Targeted Student: https://forms.gle/CLEiQvzzvP9KFiTf7
Preschool Program Implementation: https://forms.gle/9hus2ZcDMHRtJWA17

Indicator 12 Reminders:
- You must have a system for tracking First Steps transitions that collects information from July 1 to June 30
- For indicator 12 reporting, you will need the total number of transitions for your district. Then you will place each child into one of the following areas:
    - Qualified by 3rd DOB
    - DNQ by 3rd DOB
    - Parent delayed
    - District delay
    - Found eligible for Part C less than 90 days before 3rd DOB (Pick Qualified or Less than 90 days. A child cannot be both.)
    - Could not locate

- Children that are referred to Part C (First Steps) less than 45 days before the 3rd DOB are not considered a transition
    - Children must have been provided services through Part C to be considered a transition
    - Children that are referred to Part C and then subsequently referred to Part B are not held to the 3rd DOB requirement. Children in this situation should be provided the 60-day timeline for special education evaluation
    - Per IDEA, children must be participating in the Part C program and have an IFSP to be considered a transition

COS Updates
- **COS Data Windows**
    - Entry Window: September 1 – December 1
    - Interim Window: December 2 – March 1
    - Exit Window: April 1 – May 31
- Reminder a new form must be completed in IC for each rating period.

COS Update from KDE Leadership Meeting:
Data Entry Update
COS, all that is required by OSEP for federal monitoring is entry and exit. The interim periods should be used for new enrollees, or district progress data use. Some programs require a data point for process fall, winter and spring and that is fine. Each child MUST have an entry and exit. Interim is not required, but highly recommended to show growth. However, the only COS forms that are pulled for federal monitoring are the entry and exit.