

Strategic Committee: Education

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Strategic Goal: Education

Kentuckians need the best education our Commonwealth can provide so that they as individuals can provide for their families and achieve their career goals. To create an environment of growth across the entire education continuum from preschool to adult learners, to reach the statewide focus of having 60% of Kentuckians with a postsecondary credential by 2030, and to further attract global investment in the Commonwealth. The development of technology has had great impact on education, the general demographic decline in population, the limited potential of growing the educator workforce due to stagnate wages, and critical need of investments in early childhood education to equip young Kentuckians with foundational skills.

Priority #1: Work-Based Learning (Learner Perspective) - Expanding Access to Earn and Learn Opportunities

Strategic Action: Create seamless opportunities and expand options for learners to engage in WBL by developing clear explanations of commonly used terms, accessing available funds, and establishing a network of WBL experts that support learners.

Qualitative Metrics (with quantitative metrics as milestones reached):

Immediate Measurement (within one year): Gather data of WBL outcomes as it relates to postsecondary attainment (CPE/KYSTATS data) and employment, including subpopulations outcomes.

Mid-term Measurement (within two years): Create informational definitions for internships, mentorships, job shadowing, work exposure, registered apprenticeships, etc.

Mid-term Measurement (within two years): Research and maximize opportunities with tuition reimbursement among employers providing tuition assistance (used and unused) and provide case studies of best practices for employers and learners to increase awareness and encourage use of these opportunities.

Mid-term Measurement (within two years): Launch a statewide network of experts on WBL, specifically with Career & Technical Education (CTE) across Kentucky school districts.

Long-term Measurement (within four years): Measure and report on utilization of created materials based on learners involved, businesses with WBL growth, and number of WBL experts across Kentucky supporting CTE students.

Priority #2: Increasing the Teacher Pipeline

Strategic Action: Establish a strong and accessible educational foundation for the next generation of educators. Growth of educators involves an understanding and awareness of current statewide and regional needs, creative and innovative strategies to attract dedicated professional into education as “next career” opportunity and marketing all possible pathways.

Qualitative Metrics (with Quantitative Metric of Milestones Reached):

Immediate Measurement (within one year): Collaboratively examine data on teacher demand statewide and regionally; focusing on demand for K-12, CTE, and postsecondary technical instructors; additionally, gather data on the demand for early childhood educators.

Immediate Measurement (within one year): Research and create a guide on qualifications and requirements to be a technical instructor in the Commonwealth; from K-12 CTE instructors, KCTCS technical instructors, government technical instructors (example Department of Corrections), registered apprenticeship instructors, and other opportunities.

Mid-term Measurement (within two years): Increase awareness and understanding of future educators and technical instructors regarding the full spectrum of opportunities and options to enter the education sector.

Long-term Measurement (within four years): Measure annually enrolled and graduated students in various education pathways (K-12, postsecondary institution, registered apprenticeship, etc.), measure annually number of instructors across the education spectrum, and strive for growth based upon annual trends.

Priority #3: Expanding Access & Achievement in Education for All Kentuckians

Strategic Action: Ensure all Kentuckians can achieve across the educational spectrum including credentials earned, WBL opportunities, early postsecondary opportunities (such as dual credit), and employment.

Education achievement starts with early childhood, including preschool preparation demonstrated by Pre-K for All.

Quantitative and Qualitative Metrics:

Immediate Measurement (within one year): Present state and regional baseline data on access and completion of dual credit opportunities, CTE completions, engagement and completion of WBL, postsecondary entry and achievement, and employment; the data should include disaggregation categorized by learners.

Mid-term Measurement (within two years): Increase awareness and understanding of stakeholders on gaps related to achievement, opportunity, and expectations, best and promising practices, and the importance of engagement with employers throughout. This includes awareness and importance of early childhood education.

Long-term Measurement (within four years): Measure impact from baseline numbers collected to annual data gathered to understand the impact of implementing best practices.

Full Strategic Plan can be viewed and downloaded here:

https://kwib.ky.gov/Documents/KWIB%20Strategic%20Plan_2026-2029%20%28002%29.pdf