

Rockcastle Co. Schools 2025-26

Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP)

Rationale

The CDIP is a plan developed by the local school district with the input of parents, faculty, staff and representatives of school councils from each school in the district, based on a review of relevant data that includes targets, strategies, activities, a time schedule to support student achievement and student growth and to eliminate achievement gaps among groups of students. Through the improvement planning process, leaders focus on priority needs, funding and closing achievement gaps among identified subgroups of students.

While the focus of continuous improvement is student performance, the work must be guided by the aspects of teaching and learning that affect performance. An effective improvement process should address the contributing factors creating the learning environment (inputs) and the performance data (outcomes).

Operational Definitions

When completing the template sections that follow, please refer to the following operational definitions:

- **Goal:** Long-term three- to five-year targets based on the district level state assessment results. Long-term targets should be informed by the Needs Assessment for Districts;
- **Objective:** Short-term yearly target to be attained by the end of the current academic year. Objectives should address state assessment results and/or aligned formative assessments. There can be multiple objectives for each goal;
- **Strategy:** An approach to systematically address the process, practice or condition that the district will focus its efforts upon, as identified in the Needs Assessment for Districts, in order to reach its goals or objectives. There can be multiple strategies for each objective. The strategy can be based upon Kentucky's six Key Core Work Processes listed below or another established improvement approach (i.e., *Six Sigma*, *Shipley*, *Baldrige*, etc.);
- **Key Core Work Processes:** A series of processes identified by the Kentucky Department of Education that involve the majority of an organization's workforce and relate to its core competencies. These are the factors that determine an organization's success and help it prioritize areas for growth;
 - [KCWP 1: Design and Deploy Standards](#)
 - [KCWP 2: Design and Deliver Instruction](#)
 - [KCWP 3: Design and Deliver Assessment Literacy](#)
 - [KCWP 4: Review, Analyze and Apply Data Results](#)
 - [KCWP 5: Design, Align and Deliver Support](#)
 - [KCWP 6: Establish Learning Environment and Culture](#)
- **Activity:** Actionable steps the district will take to deploy the chosen strategy. There can be multiple activities for each strategy;
- **Progress Monitoring:** Process used to collect and analyze measures of success to assess the level of implementation, the rate of improvement and the effectiveness of the plan. The measures may be quantitative or qualitative but are observable in some way. The description should include the artifacts to be reviewed, specific timelines and responsible individuals; and

- **Funding:** Local, state or federal funds/grants used to support (or needed to support) the activities.

Goal Setting:

When developing goals, all districts must establish achievement gap targets and set goals in the area of state assessment results in reading and mathematics. Other goals aligned to the indicators in the state’s accountability system and deemed priority areas in the Phase Two: Needs Assessment for Districts are optional.

Required Goals

Achievement Gap:

By May 2030, Rockcastle County Schools will decrease the percentage of Students with Disabilities across all Rockcastle Co. Schools scoring Novice in Reading & Math on the Kentucky Summative Assessment by 15%.

**Districts are not required to establish long term achievement gap goals; however, districts must establish yearly targets.*

Objective(s):

Objective 1:

By May 2026, Rockcastle County Schools will decrease the percentage of Students with Disabilities scoring Novice in Reading by 5%. As measured by the 2025 Kentucky Summative Assessment, students scored- 19% elementary, 24% middle, 20% high school

Objective 2:

By May 2026, Rockcastle County Schools will decrease the percentage of Students with Disabilities scoring Novice in Math by 5%. As measured by the 2025 Kentucky Summative Assessment, students scored- 33% elementary, 14% middle, 36% high school

Strategy:

KCWP 1 Design and Deploy Standards
KCWP 2 Design and Deliver Instruction
KCWP 3 Design and Deliver Assessment Literacy
KCWP 4 Review, Analyze and Apply Data
KCWP 5 Design, Align and Deliver Support

Activities:

- All schools will monitor the SPED student population. Students performing below proficiency will be identified through KSA scores and i-Ready diagnostics. Collaboration will continue between the district, school admin and SPED teachers with efforts to raise student achievement. The district will look to address deficits and how to close gaps based upon data.
- Continued emphasis on increased effective co-teaching instructional practices between general and special education teachers.
- The district MTSS plan will be revisited and reiterated across all schools in the district.

- Instructional coaches at the middle and high schools will be utilized to help inexperienced teachers. Also, support from the Southeast South Central (SESC), regional cooperative & ELGIN Foundation for principal support.
- Continued collaboration between Preschool & Kindergarten to in regards to improving K-Readiness.

Progress Monitoring:

- i-Ready Data
- Brigance Screener
- DIAL-4
- Frog Street Early Childhood Curriculum
- KSA Scores
- Formative Assessments
- Common Assessments across the district
- Co-Teaching will be reflected on Walkthroughs to show increase using this practice.
- District MTSS Plan
- District SPED protocols and meeting

Funding:

- Instruction
- Title I
- Title IV
- Special Education
- ESS

State Assessment Results in Reading and Mathematics

Kentucky’s accountability system uses multiple academic and school quality measures, with each indicator contributing to the overall score. Reading and math proficiency are foundational to student success, and state assessment results in reading and mathematics carry the greatest weight when calculating the overall score at each level (elementary, middle and high school). This indicator is a required goal area for all districts.

Three- to Five-Year Goal:

By May 2030, Rockcastle County Schools will increase the combined Reading and Math percentage of proficient and distinguished students to 70% elementary, 70% middle, and 70% in high school.

Level	Reading		Math	
	Spring 2025	Spring 2030	Spring 2025	Spring 2030
Elementary	54%	75%	42%	65%
Middle	50%	75%	39%	65%
High	53%	75%	40%	65%

Objective(s):

Objective1:

By May 2026, Rockcastle County Schools will increase the percentage of students scoring proficient and distinguished in Reading:

- Elementary from 54% in 2025 to 60% in 2026
- Middle from 50% in 2025 to 57% in 2026
- High from 53% in 2025 to 60% in 2026

Objective 2:

By May 2026, Rockcastle County Schools will increase the percentage of students scoring proficient and distinguished in Math:

- Elementary from 42% in 2025 to 50% in 2026
- Middle from 39% in 2025 to 45% in 2026
- High from 40% in 2025 to 45% in 2026

Strategy:

KCWP 1 Design and Deploy Standards

KCWP 2 Design and Deliver Instruction

KCWP 3 Design and Deliver Assessment Literacy

KCWP 4 Review, Analyze and Apply Data

Activities:

- Professional learning activities will be conducted at individual schools to improve vertical and horizontal alignment of standards, instruction and assessment to ensure equitable access to effective teaching in ELA and Math.

- PLC protocols have been implemented at all schools to discuss common assessments results, identify students for growth and monitor effective instructional strategies.
- All students will complete an i-Ready universal screener in the fall, winter, and spring. The information will help schools determine the grade level at which students are performing. This data will be monitored throughout the school year to identify and target specific students. Interventions and enrichment strategies will be deployed to help close achievement gaps.
- Curriculum representatives from each elementary school will meet in 2025-26 to revise curriculum map. Teachers, Principals, Instructional Supervisor and KDE Literacy Coach will develop Learning Intentions and Success Criteria for all standards. Another focus aligning standards to the district HQIR-Benchmark. This information will be shared across all schools. *Clarity for Learning* training from a KDE Continuous Improvement Coach will be scheduled at all school levels.
- For 2025-26, District & School Administration will conduct weekly classroom walkthroughs with immediate feedback with teachers.
- SAVVAS, My Perspectives & Open-Up Resources will be utilized to build on increasing the rigor and supplementing current curriculum.
- RCS participates in KDE Numeracy Counts Academy for professional learning in mathematics.
- For 2025-26, teachers and administrators will receive instructional training on current HQIRs- Curriculum Associates and Benchmark Reading. All district Math teachers will participate in training from the Kentucky Center for Mathematics (KCM).
- Instructional coaches at the middle and high schools will be utilized to help inexperienced teachers. Also, support from the Southeast South Central (SESC), regional cooperative & ELGIN Foundation for principal support.

Progress Monitoring:

- i-Ready Diagnostics: fall, winter, and spring
- i-Ready Literacy Tasks, Standards Mastery
- PLC Protocols
- Leadership Meetings
- Curriculum Maps
- Administrator Walk-Throughs
- District MTSS Plan

Funding:

- Instruction
- Title I
- Title IV
- KyCL Literacy Grant

Alignment to Needs: Optional Goals

Through the Phase Two: Needs Assessment for Districts, priorities were identified, and processes, practices and/or conditions were chosen for focus. Identify any additional indicators that will be addressed by the district in order to build staff capacity and increase student achievement by selecting “yes” or “no” from the dropdown options (beside each indicator) below. For any indicator noted as a priority with a “yes”, districts must complete the below fields. For any indicator marked with a “no,” no further information is needed. Each indicator must have a “yes” or “no” response in the below table.

Indicator	Priority Indicator?
State Assessment Results in science, social studies and writing	Yes
English Learner Progress	No
Quality of School Climate and Safety	Yes
Postsecondary Readiness (high schools and districts only)	Yes
Graduation Rate (high schools and districts only)	Yes

Priority Indicator Goals:

Complete the fields below for each indicator that was chosen as a priority with a “yes” response above.

Priority Indicator #1: State Assessment Results in Science, Social Studies and Writing

Three- to Five-Year Goal:

By May 2030, Rockcastle County Schools will increase the combined Science, Social Studies, and Writing percentage of proficient and distinguished students to 70% elementary, 70% middle, and 70% in high school.

Level	Science		Social Studies		Combined Writing	
	Spring 2025	Spring 2030	Spring 2025	Spring 2030	Spring 2025	Spring 2030
Elementary	40%	65%	56%	75%	52%	70%
Middle	27%	65%	50%	75%	51%	70%
High	21%	65%	40%	75%	43%	70%

Objective(s):

Objective 1:

Rockcastle County Schools will increase the percentage of students scoring proficient and distinguished in Science:

- Elementary from 40% in 2025 to 50% in 2026
- Middle from 27% in 2025 to 40% in 2026
- High from 21% in 2025 to 35% in 2026

Objective 2:

Rockcastle County Schools will increase the percentage of students scoring proficient and distinguished in Social Studies:

- Elementary from 56% in 2025 to 60% in 2026

- Middle from 50% in 2025 to 57% in 2026
- High from 40% in 2025 to 47% in 2026

Objective 3:

Rockcastle County Schools will increase the percentage of students scoring proficient and distinguished in Combined Writing:

- Elementary from 52% in 2025 to 60% in 2026
- Middle from 51% in 2025 to 57% in 2026
- High from 43% in 2025 to 50% in 2026

Strategy:

KCWP 1 Design and Deploy Standards

KCWP 2 Design and Deliver Instruction

KCWP 3 Design and Deliver Assessment Literacy

KCWP 4 Review, Analyze and Apply Data

Activities:

- Professional learning activities will be conducted at individual schools to improve vertical and horizontal alignment of standards, instruction and assessment literacy to ensure equitable access to effective teaching in Science, Social Studies, and Writing.
- PLC protocols have been established to discuss common assessments results, identify students for growth and monitor effective instructional strategies.
- Teachers from each school will meet periodically during the 2025-26 school year to improve vertical alignment among content areas.
- Teachers will use the KSA Blueprint and Released Items to help plan instruction.
- RCS conducted a summer writing institute with Instructional Coach Markita Proctor to look at strategies in classroom writing across all grade levels.
- Teachers will use Open Sci Ed unit plans and work with a representative in the content of Science across all grade levels in all schools.
- Instructional coaches at the middle and high schools will be utilized to help inexperienced teachers. Also, support from the Southeast South Central (SESC), regional cooperative & ELGIN Foundation for principal support.

Progress Monitoring:

- KSA Data
- PLC Protocols
- Leadership Meetings
- Curriculum Maps
- Administrator Walk-Throughs

Funding:

- Instruction
- Title I
- Title IV
- Special Education
- ESS

Priority Indicator #2: Quality of School Climate and Safety**Three- to Five-Year Goal:**

By May 2030, Rockcastle County Schools will increase the Quality of School Climate and Safety Status Score to 90.0 elementary, 90.0 middle, and 85.0 in high school.

Level	Quality of School Climate & Safety Status Scores	
	Spring 2025	Spring 2030
Elementary	80.2	90.0
Middle	73.6	90.0
High	71.0	85.0

Objective(s):**Objective 1:**

Rockcastle County Schools will increase the Quality of School Climate & Safety Status Score:

- Elementary from 80.2 in 2025 to 84.0 in 2026
- Middle from 73.6 in 2025 to 80.0 in 2026
- High from 71.0 in 2025 to 77.0 in 2026

Strategy:

KCWP 6 Establishing Learning Culture and Environment

Activities:

- Rockcastle Co. Schools has committed to the Leader In Me program across all grade levels in all schools.
- Through the training and implementation strategies of PBIS, the district will further develop a positive culture that supports students in academics and behavior. The district will develop consistent systems for each school level.
- The district has established a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) team to meet regularly to monitor student data for academics and behavior.
- All district certified staff participated in a Kagan Cooperative Learning Workshop. This training looks to help teachers make their classrooms a positive and engaging learning environment.
- The high school has revised the opportunities for students to participate in a variety of career and technical educational pathways.

- All schools in the districts now have Club Days each month to expose students to different opportunities across various cultural aspects.

Progress Monitoring:

- KSA- Quality of School Climate & Safety Data
- Certified Evaluations
- Administrator Walk-Throughs
- District MTSS Plan

Funding:

- School Allocations from Board of Education
- Title IV
- Prichard grant

Priority Indicator #3: Graduation Rate

Three- to Five-Year Goal:

By May 2030, Rockcastle County Schools will raise the Graduation Status to 100.0.

Level	Graduation Rate Status Scores	
	Spring 2025	Spring 2030
High	98.5	100.0

Objective(s):

Objective 1:

Rockcastle County Schools will increase the Graduation Status from 98.5 in 2025 to 100.0 in 2030.

Strategy:

KCWP 6 Establishing Learning Culture and Environment

Activities:

- The district will continue to support dropout identification and prevention programs, behavior plan, attendance support, and parent engagement activities throughout the school year.
- RCS requires all 12th grade student to “defend their education” by presenting “The Portrait of a Rocket” to a group of school and community members in April of their senior year.

Progress Monitoring:

Rates of graduating seniors in 4 -years from SY26 through SY30.

Funding:

- SBDM
- FRYSC
- Title IV
- PIM grant

Priority Indicator #4: Postsecondary Readiness

Three- to Five-Year Goal:

By May 2030, Rockcastle County Schools will increase Postsecondary Readiness Status to 125.0

Level	Postsecondary Readiness Status Scores	
	Spring 2025	Spring 2030
High	118.9	125.0

Objective(s):

Objective 1:

By May 2026, Rockcastle County Schools will increase Postsecondary Readiness Status to 120.0.

Strategy:

KCWP 1 Design and Deploy Standards

KCWP 2 Design and Deliver Instruction

KCWP 3 Design and Deliver Assessment Literacy

KCWP 4 Review, Analyze and Apply Data

KCWP 5 Design, Align and Deliver Support

Activities:

- An action plan has been developed to address the following: Evaluate the current/ future student pathways and certifications, revise master schedule, develop a plan to counsel students into a pathway, communicate and network with local/ regional partners.
- A long-term goal would be to extend pathway opportunities to the middle and elementary levels. Also, the school admin team will look for opportunities to increase enrollment of AP and dual credit courses at the high school.

Progress Monitoring:

- i-Ready Diagnostics
- ACT scores
- SAT scores
- KYOTE data
- PLC Protocols
- Guidance Sessions
- Student Surveys

Funding:

- SBDM
- FRYSC
- Title IV
- PIM grant
- Prichard grant