GROW YOUR OWN

KENTUCKY'S EDUCATOR PIPELINES

September 2025

Meet Your New State Coordinator/Teaching and Learning Pathway Consultant!

Teaching and Learning Teacher Leaders,

Hello! My name is Bree Massie, and I am excited and honored to be your new KDE Teaching and Learning Program consultant and Kentucky's Educators Rising state coordinator.

For the past 12 years, I have proudly served as a public school teacher in Kentucky. My career started at Paris Independent Schools, where I taught English for eight years. After that, I moved to Fayette County Public Schools, where I was introduced to the Teaching and Learning pathway. It was here that my passion for teaching was reignited.

My journey to this new role began in 2022 when I

Educators Rising Registration Tips

To help students with registration, share the presentation slides with them and then guide them to their email to find their organizational or promotional code. If you run out of codes, use the school's address and select the "Bill Me" option.

If your district purchased the Educators Rising Curriculum, your program was given 20 free student member accounts. Give your students access to the Educators Rising Student Registration - Step by Step to ensure a smooth registration process.

2025 Educators Rising

became a GoTeachKY ambassador. Meeting the inspiring team in KDE's Division of Educator Recruitment and Development and instantly connecting with their mission to support the next generation of Kentucky's educators solidified my own passion.

I'm excited to continue my work with our incredible rising educators and their dedicated teacher leaders. Their passion for the future of education in Kentucky reinforces my own, and I am humbled to now join their efforts.

Outside of work, I enjoy playing soccer, traveling, watching true crime and cheering on the Kansas City Chiefs. Most of all, I love spending time with my friends and my twin 10-year-old sons.

EDUCATORS RISING

KENTUCKY

Ballard High School students at Educators Rising National Conference

Educators Rising Kentucky

National Conference Updates

The following are students who placed in the top 10 nationally in their Educators Rising competitions this

Implementation Updates

Lesson Planning and Delivery offers two new competitions in Lesson Planning and Delivery: ADA and Early Childhood Education, and Lesson Planning and Delivery: Professional Development.

Now is a great time for students to start reviewing the Educators Rising competition guidelines. ***Students may only compete in one event.***

Schools may enter one student in each individual or two in each dual event per division, and only one team entry in each team event per division.

Upcoming Dates

State Conference: Kentucky Exposition Center: March 5, 2026

Regional Leadership Conferences:

- Asbury University: Oct. 23, 2025
- Campbellsville University: Nov. 7, 2025
- Murray State University: Nov. 10, 2025
- Northern Kentucky University: Nov. 21, 2025

Please note, regional conferences do not determine if students qualify for state conference. Regional conferences provide opportunities for students to receive feedback

past summer in Orlando, Fla. We are so proud of you for representing Kentucky so well!

Junior Varsity Division

- 1st place, Exploring Support Services Careers: Grow Nelson County Schools, Noah Ward
- 1st place, Job Interview: Ignite Institute, Zowie Bishop
- 2nd place, Job Interview: Ignite Institute, Hiya Patel
- 2nd place, Educators Rising Moment: Ignite Institute, Ellie Kelly
- 2nd place, Lesson Planning and Delivery Humanities: Ignite Institute, Lia Nguyen
- 4th place, Researching Learning Challenges: Bullitt East High School
- 4th place, Lesson Planning and Delivery STEM: Henry County High School, Marley Cobb
- 4th place, Public Speaking: Ignite Institute, Nicklas Walter
- 5th place, Exploring Education Admin Careers: Western Kentucky University Young Male Leadership Academy, Gideon Robbins
- 5th place, Creative Lecture: Ballard High School, Teba Al Rawi
- 6th place, Children's Literature Pre-K Spanish: Russell County High School, Silvia Martinez
- 6th place, Lesson Planning and Delivery Humanities: Ignite Institute, Moriah Dawson
- 6th place, Public Speaking: Ignite Institute, Lily Russell
- 7th place, Public Speaking: Bullitt Central High School, Hadassah Milchiors
- 7th place, Creative Lecture: Ignite Institute, Simao David
- 7th place, Children's Literature K-3 Spanish: Frederick Douglass High School, Alisson Rodriguez Cruz
- 7th place, Lesson Planning and Delivery Humanities: Waggener High School, Brynleee Morris
- 9th place, Children's Lit Pre-K: Ignite Institute, Sophia Coates and Zoe Iseral
- 10th place, Public Speaking: Graves County High School, Frances Vowell

on presentations, as well as participate in breakout sessions and other events planned by each campus.

EdRising Vision:

To eliminate the teacher shortage by reimagining educator pathways.

EdRising Mission:

To inspire and grow current and rising educators to become community leaders and advocates for high-quality education.

2025-2026 Educators Rising State Officers

President:
Hunter Carr, Region 1

President-Elect:
Lily Russell, Region 6

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Haley Chowning, Region 3

Director of Communications:
Kelly Esquivel Hernandez, Region 3

Director of Membership:
Alyssa Pollard, Region 3

Director of Outreach & Service:
Nia Serikali, Region 3

Connect with Educators Rising

Instagram (National)

Instagram (KY)

Facebook (National)

Varsity Division

- 1st place, Lesson Planning and Delivery Humanities: Whitley County High School, Jada Wilson
- 1st place, Lesson Planning and Delivery Arts: Ignite Institute, Emilia Dye
- 2nd place, Outstanding Chapter Award: Ballard High School
- 5th place, Educators Rising Moment Spanish: Ballard High School, Brandon Rodriguez Ayora
- 10th place, Ethical Dilemma: Waggener High School
- 10th place, Researching Learning Challenges: Ballard High School
- 7th place, Children's Lit K-3 Spanish: Waggener High School, Lia Rodriguez
- 7th place, Lesson Planning and Delivery Spanish: Russell County High School, Diego Gomez
- 8th place, Creative Lecture: Whitley County High School, Maddox Hubbard
- 10th place, Public Speaking: Bullitt Central High School, Jina Bahmani

Contests

- Red Ribbon, Interactive Bulletin Board Elementary: Ballard High School, Marleigh Tripp
- Blue Ribbon, Interactive Bulletin Board/Middle/High: Glasgow High School, Abigail Ogendo and Malayia Ortiz-Williams
- White Ribbon, Project Visualize: Ballard High School, Madelyn Cain

Facebook (KY)

LinkedIn (National)

LinkedIn (KY)

Educators Rising Teacher Leader Facebook Group

Educators Rising Curriculum Implementation

CONTACT

Bree Massie, Education Program Consultant

(502) 892-6231, ext. 4548

Access our Teaching and Learning KY Teacher Leaders Request Form

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TEACHING AND LEARNING CAREER PATHWAY

Teaching and Learning Career Pathway

If your school does not yet have a Teaching and Learning Career Pathway, now is the time to start planning for implementation next year. It's easier than you might think! Contact us at KDE Grow Your Own to get started.

Resources:

Teachers/advisors may access resources for the pathway and career technical

Ignite Academy students at Educators Rising. Back row, from left: Nicklas Walter, Public Speaking JV; Simao David, Creative Ted Talk JV; Laila Northcutt, K-3 Children's Literature JV; Ally Nickrent, Exploring Non-Core Teaching JV; Hiya Patel, Job Interview JV. Middle row, from left: Sophia Coates, Pre-K Children's Literature Spanish author JV; Lily Russell, Public Speaking JV; Zowiee Bishop, Job Interview JV; Ellie Kelly, Educators Rising Moment JV; Zoe Iseral, Pre-K Children's Literature Spanish illustrator. Front row, from left: Lia Nguyen, Lesson Planning Humanities JV; Mo Dawson, Lesson Planning Humanities JV. Not pictured: Emilia Dye, Lesson Planning Arts Varsity.

September's Monthly Service Project: School Supply Drive

Every month, Educators Rising invites YOU to make a meaningful impact through our School Supply Drive! Together, we can ensure that every student has the tools they need to succeed – because when learners are equipped, they thrive.

- Classroom Collections: Set up a collection box in your classroom or school office and encourage students to donate pencils, notebooks, backpacks and more.
- Friendly Competitions: Host grade-level or homeroom challenges to see who can collect the most supplies. Celebrate the winners with a special recognition!
- Service Learning Projects: Integrate the drive into your career technical student organization meetings or class activities by organizing packing events or outreach campaigns.
- Community Partnerships: Reach out to local

student organization in the Teacher Leader folder, which also is accessible through the GoTeachKY website.

Registered Teacher Apprenticeship

Nelson County Schools is charting new ground with an innovative Educator Apprenticeship Program that allows both high school students and adult learners to earn while they learn on the path to becoming certified teachers.

Apprentices are hired by the district, gain real-world classroom experience and work toward degrees in early childhood or elementary education in partnership with Western Kentucky University. This "grow your own" approach is helping the district strengthen its teacher

businesses or libraries to set up donation drop-off spots.

- Virtual Drive: For those who prefer digital giving, create an online wish list or fundraising page to purchase supplies that will be delivered directly to schools in need.
- Start your school's collection today and watch the power of generosity grow! Together, we'll equip the next generation for success – one pencil, one notebook, one smile at a time. Share your progress and stories with us.
- Let's lead by example – because educators don't just teach, they inspire change!

pipeline while giving aspiring educators a clear, supported pathway into the profession.

Interested in exploring how your district could launch a similar program? Contact the KDE Grow Your Own email to learn more about getting started.

Learn more about Kentucky's Registered Teacher Apprenticeship programs on the GoTeachKY website.

Kentucky Department of EDUCATION

Kentucky Department of Education

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