

November 13 Minutes of the Commonwealth Education Continuum Meeting

The November 2024 Commonwealth Education Continuum (CEC) meeting focused on several key initiatives and updates:

1. **FUTURITI Platform:** Jessica Fletcher introduced the FUTURITI website, a new platform designed to guide individuals through Kentucky's "classroom to career" pipeline. It aims to connect career exploration, educational pathways, and job opportunities using data from KY Stats. Scheduled to launch in February 2025, the site provides resources like career quizzes, budget calculators, and job listings. It is supported by ESSER funds with ongoing maintenance costs, and the team plans to expand the site through partnerships with schools and career centers.
2. **Postsecondary Affordability:** Wendy Cain's group explored barriers to postsecondary education affordability, especially for adult learners. Their findings highlighted the significant role of communication in reducing the perception of unaffordability. The team recommended a statewide communication strategy, better utilization of resources, early financial aid education, and targeted approaches for middle-class families.
3. **K-12 Educator Workforce:** Danielle Pickens' group focused on teacher retention, especially through principal support. The group found that principals are crucial to teacher satisfaction and student outcomes. They identified three main challenges: rising student needs, evolving workforce demands, and shifting educational landscapes. Recommendations included investing in leadership mentorship, improving data collection on principal turnover, and enhancing district-level resources for high-needs schools.
4. **Breakout Sessions:** Participants engaged in breakout groups discussing topics such as the P20 Competency Framework and Postsecondary Advising. Updates from these groups included the development of statewide strategies for local accountability, the Kentucky graduate profile, and the expansion of a new advising framework in five districts.

The meeting emphasized Kentucky's leadership in aligning efforts across education levels, from early childhood to the workforce, and highlighted the importance of continued collaboration and partnership development. Future meetings and ongoing work were encouraged, with a focus on supporting principals, improving communication, and enhancing educational pathways for all Kentuckians.

The CEC will meet virtually on January 15, 2025.

