Quality of Learning Programs

Kentucky students should all have robust learning opportunities in subjects and grades that are not addressed by statewide testing. Program reviews study the quality of those opportunities to learn in:

- Kindergarten through grade 3
- Arts and humanities
- Practical living and career studies
- Writing
- Global competency and world languages
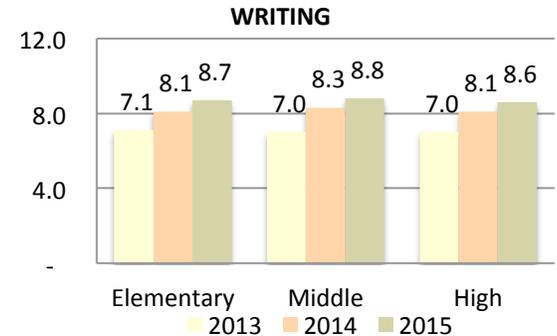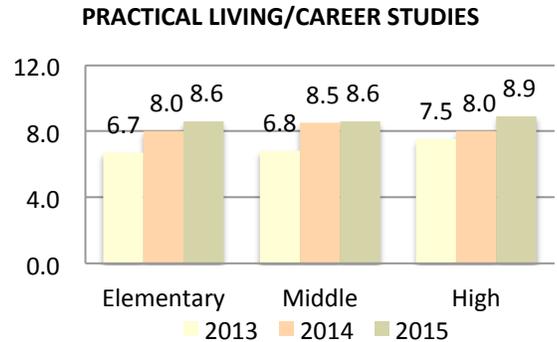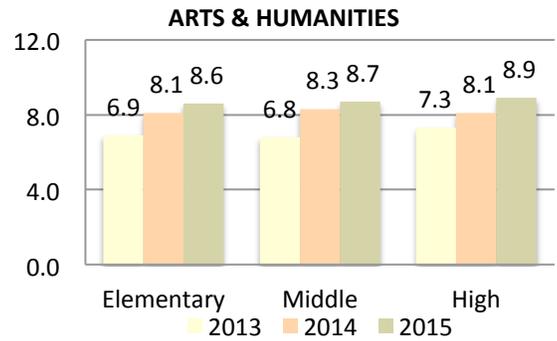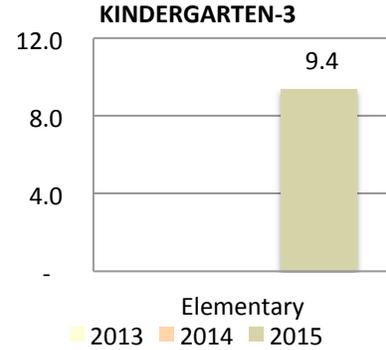
WHAT DO PROGRAM REVIEWS LOOK FOR?

More formally, a program review is defined as "a systematic method of analyzing components of an instructional program, including instructional practices, aligned and enacted curriculum, student work samples, formative and summative assessments, professional development and support services, and administrative support and monitoring."

Each program review looks at multiple aspects of a school's program, using a rubric organized around standards for the program and "demonstrators" of strong quality on that standard. For each demonstrator, a school's program can be scored 0 (no implementation), 1 (needs improvement), 2 (proficient), or 3 (distinguished), based on more detailed characteristics found in the rubric. For example, the rubric for arts and humanities includes these demonstrators:

Standard	Demonstrators
Curriculum and Instruction	■ Student Access ■ Aligned and Rigorous Curriculum ■ Instructional Strategies ■ Student Performance
Formative and Summative Assessment	■ Assessment ■ Expectations for Student Learning ■ Assessment for Teaching
Professional Development	■ Opportunity ■ Participation
Administrative/Leadership Support and Monitoring	■ Policies and Monitoring ■ Principal Leadership

SEEING RESULTS

Program reviews use a 0-12 scale, with 8.0 indicating a proficient program.

KINDERGARTEN-3

Elementary: 2015 = 9.4

2013 2014 2015

ARTS & HUMANITIES

Elementary: 6.9 (2013), 8.1 (2014), 8.6 (2015)
Middle: 6.8 (2013), 8.3 (2014), 8.7 (2015)
High: 7.3 (2013), 8.1 (2014), 8.9 (2015)

2013 2014 2015

PRACTICAL LIVING/CAREER STUDIES

Elementary: 6.7 (2013), 8.0 (2014), 8.6 (2015)
Middle: 6.8 (2013), 8.5 (2014), 8.6 (2015)
High: 7.5 (2013), 8.0 (2014), 8.9 (2015)

2013 2014 2015

WRITING

Elementary: 7.1 (2013), 8.1 (2014), 8.7 (2015)
Middle: 7.0 (2013), 8.3 (2014), 8.8 (2015)
High: 7.0 (2013), 8.1 (2014), 8.6 (2015)

2013 2014 2015

WHO DOES THE PROGRAM REVIEWS, AND HOW OFTEN?

The law governing program reviews calls for each district to review the programs at each school annually. In practice, most districts ask school-level staff to take the lead in most program review work.

The law also calls for the Department of Education to review the programs on a two-year cycle. Under recent budgets, the Department has not been able to carry out those two-year reviews for most schools, so local judgments provide the data now available. In the spring of 2015, the Department of Education conducted a Program Review Audit Pilot, using the data schools entered for the 2013-14 school year and looking for ways to enhance consistency between ratings, rationales and evidences, and perceptions of students, parents, and faculty.

HOW ARE PROGRAM REVIEW RESULTS USED?

At each school, the school council is responsible for studying the program review findings and making decisions about what changes are needed to improve each program.

Program review results are also reported to the Kentucky Department of Education and used as part of each school's overall score for statewide accountability. More exactly:

- Four kinds of program review results are already used to calculate overall scores for accountability decisions: arts and humanities, practical living and career studies, and writing are used at all levels, and a K-3 program review applies just to elementary schools serving those grades.
- A Global Competency and World Language Program Review will be used by all schools in 2016-17.

LEARNING MORE

The rubrics (scoring guides) for each program review can be found at www.education.ky.gov by searching for "program reviews."

Program review results for individual schools can be found in their school report cards, available at applications.education.ky.gov/src.