



# KENTUCKY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

## Building a **GROUNDWELL**

in partnership with the Prichard Committee

We will cultivate a nurturing and inclusive environment where through strong partnerships with families, educators and community stakeholders, we will serve as vibrant centers of learning empowerment and collaboration: fostering the growth and well-being of every member of our community.

*Bracken County School District*

### **Bracken County Middle School Action Plan**

#### **1. Population, Desired Results, and Indicators**

ALL students

- are physically, mentally, socially and emotionally healthy.
- are equipped to transition and succeed in their chosen pathway.
- live and learn in stable and supportive environments.
- experience robust partnerships between school, family and community.
- succeed academically and elementary students enter Kindergarten ready to learn.

Attendance, Behavior, and Course/Academic Performance are the headline indicators that will be monitored to see if we are achieving the desired results above.

#### **2. What is the story behind the curve?**

- Top 1-3 Bright Spots and Why (Based on Community, Family, and School Input):

*1. Our partnerships with several organizations (Health Department, Conservation Office, Extension Office, FRYSC, Public Library, etc.) allow access to a variety of resources and expertise. They serve as a beacon of support, innovation, and opportunity for our school, enriching the educational experience.*

*2. We have a School Based Health Center on campus which offers medical, dental, and mental health services to our students. Our FRYSC partners with SBHC on transportation to take transportation issues out of the equation.*

*3. Eighth Grade Reading Proficiency is 46% scoring above the state average and a 7% increase from prior year. Postsecondary Readiness scores are at 88% vs. state average of 81%.*

- Top 1-3 Areas of Concern and Why (Based on Community, Family, and School Input):

A. *Engagement:*

1. *Life Skills:*

*During Community Leadership Meetings and through surveys, it has been observed that students lack essential skills like communication, problem-solving, financial literacy and basic etiquette. They express concern that students are not adequately prepared to function independently or contribute meaningfully to their communities for the second year straight.*

*2025 Groundswell Profile indicates that although we exceed state average for postsecondary readiness (88%), our college degree attainment falls below state average. Our community feels we need to provide additional resources and education around ""after high school"" and explore trade options (70% FRYSC Assessment - leading result in order to make good decision about your future.)*

*64% of families who were survey through the FRYSC needs assessment, indicate that anxiety is the leading social/emotional issue for our students - life skills often address these areas through emotional regulation, conflict resolution and digital citizenship.*

2. *Enrichments:*

*FRYSC Needs Assessment indicates that 50% of students struggle with bullying, and 40% were identified with self-esteem concerns. Enrichment activities contribute to positive outcomes including improved academic performance and better emotional regulation according to EdSurge.*

*The Portrait of a Learner Committee identified their push to enhance classrooms with vibrant learning experience - incorporating enrichment activities will provide students with opportunities to engage in collaborative projects, explore diverse interests, and develop a sense of identity and purpose.*

*The Community provided feedback supporting the desire for non-traditional learning opportunities.*

*According to ABC Data, BCMS is 19% Chronically Absent (16% of those economically disadvantaged).*

Area of Concern #1: Life Skills- Bracken Co. Portrait of a Learner		
<b>Strategy 1: Career &amp; Future Planning (E)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To explore and identify personal interests, and strengths, that align with potential career paths, including academic and trade-related opportunities.</li> <li>• To research and evaluate various career options by shadowing and in-person tours of workplaces, and trade schools expanding exploration beyond the school environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July-Sept - contact careers/trade/college options to set up tours.</li> <li>• Aug-Sept - survey students on career/trade interests</li> <li>• Oct/Jan. - lead career field trips for 8th grade students</li> <li>• Sept/April- provide community led interviewing role play to measure improvement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Businesses/Colleges/Trades</li> <li>• Karlie Sudlow - school counselor</li> <li>• Cassie Fryman - FRYSC</li> </ul>
<b>Strategy 2: Peer Mentoring and Buddy Program (N)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To build meaningful peer relationships and promote inclusion fostering empathy, teamwork and leadership through shared experiences.</li> <li>• To support emotional well-being and a positive school culture.</li> <li>• To strengthen communication skills and foster positive in-person interactions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June/July - Meet with Daniel Cross and Kevin Courtney.</li> <li>• June-September- Planning with special education staff and admins.</li> <li>• September- Student recruitment/signups/interviews</li> <li>• October - Selection of Buddy's</li> <li>• October-February - Scheduled time with buddies/students.</li> <li>• March 2026- Unified All Stars Event</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daniel Cross - Step Ahead (Special Olympics)</li> <li>• Kevin Courtney - Special Education Director</li> <li>• Special Education Staff</li> <li>• 4th/5th Grade Students (Buddies)</li> <li>• Resource Room Special Education students</li> <li>Skool Aid</li> </ul>

Strategy 3: Community Leader Lunch & Learns (N)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To expose students to essential real-world skills by participating in hands-on learning sessions led by community leaders.</li> <li>• To build student confidence and independence through in-person demonstrations and guided practice of life skills.</li> <li>• To develop effective communication, critical thinking and problem solving skills that connect classroom learning to everyday life situations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May - survey students on Life Skills they would like to learn</li> <li>• June-August - plan quarterly lunch and learns with community members.</li> <li>• Sept/Nov/Jan/April - Host A Life Skills Leader Lunch and Learn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Members</li> <li>• Molly Jordan - 4H Agent</li> <li>• Chris Yelton - BCMS Principal</li> <li>• Cassie Fryman - FRYSC Director</li> <li>• Lila Brindley - Curriculum Specialist</li> </ul>

Area of Concern #2: Engagement		
Strategy 1: Family Engagement Events (E)		
Objectives	Programs and Timelines	Strategy Lead and Collaborative Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To strengthen the connection between families and schools by providing consistent and engaging events.</li> <li>• To increase family participation in school-related activities.</li> <li>• To support student success by empowering families with tools, resources and opportunities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer 2025: CIPL refresher meeting followed by CIPL retreat.</li> <li>• August 2025 - Set Up Open House Table</li> <li>• October 2025 - Set up Trunk or Treat and Host Movie Night.</li> <li>• November 2025/February 2026 - Dinner Table Project</li> <li>• January-May- Host Family Engagement events (STEAM, Book Bingo, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laura Beard - Prichard Committee</li> <li>• BCMS</li> <li>• Cassie Fryman - FRYSC</li> <li>• Variety of Organizations (Bracken County Public Library, Health Department)</li> <li>• Shannon Smith - Extension Office</li> <li>• Anna Baker - Drama Coach</li> </ul>
Strategy 2: "Bridge to Belonging" (N)		

Objectives	Programs and Timelines	Strategy Lead and Collaborative Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create a welcoming and inclusive school environment.</li> <li>• To deepen family-school partnerships.</li> <li>• To strengthen relationships with families beyond school walls by bringing staff into neighborhoods to listen, connect and celebrate family voices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July- Plan Bus Tour/Recruit Staff for Bus/Market to Families</li> <li>• July/August - Go on Bus Tour Through Bracken</li> <li>• August - Meet with Admins to arrange Learning Walks for Families/Staff.</li> <li>• October-April - Offer Learning Walks once/month.</li> <li>• December- Submit FFS Survey</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clay King - Superintendent</li> <li>• Bus Garage</li> <li>• Brad Riley - TES Principal</li> <li>• TES Staff/District Staff</li> <li>• Mindy Hamilton - FFS Lead</li> </ul>
<b>Strategy 3: School Readiness (E)</b>		
Objectives	Programs and Timelines	Strategy Lead and Collaborative Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure every student starts the school year equipped and supported by providing supplies, resources and services.</li> <li>• To encourage consistent attendance and a positive attitude toward school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June-August - Begin collecting school supplies and contacting community partners.</li> <li>• July 2025 - Order Brag Tags and Rings for each month</li> <li>• August 2nd - Set up at Rock the Block</li> <li>• August 15 - Back to School Bash for Students</li> <li>• Sept-May- Pass out attendance incentives</li> <li>• May - pass out attendance pins at awards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clay King - Superintendent</li> <li>• Amy Bradford - SBHC</li> <li>• Nicole Cracraft - Health Dept.</li> <li>• BCMS Staff/District Staff</li> <li>• School Counselor</li> </ul>
<b>Strategy 4: Vibrant Learning/Non-Traditional Learning (E)</b>		
Objectives	Programs and Timelines	Strategy Lead and Collaborative Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To engage students in meaningful, non traditional learning experiences that align with the Portrait of a Learner.</li> <li>• To empower students to take ownership of their learning. Allowing them to reflect, present, and celebrate growth.</li> <li>• To connect learning to the community that will encourage extended learning outside of the classroom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July-August - Created vibrant learning budget and spreadsheet for each class</li> <li>• Sept-May - share evidence of vibrant learning with families.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chris Yelton - BCMS Principal</li> <li>• BCMS Staff</li> </ul>

