



KENTUCKY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Building a **GROUNDWELL**

in partnership with the Prichard Committee

“All students and families have the opportunity and access to thrive in the school and community.”

Rowan County Schools

Rowan County Senior High School Action Plan Snapshot

1. Population, Desired Results, and Indicators

Rowan County Senior High School aims to ensure that all students are healthy, prepared for their future paths, and supported by stable environments. The school emphasizes strong partnerships between school, family, and community, and prioritizes academic success, including readiness for kindergarten. Progress toward these goals will be monitored through indicators such as attendance, behavior, and academic performance

2. What is the story behind the curve?

RCSHS excels in several areas, particularly in mental and health services, community collaborations, and graduation rates. Current agreements with community providers allow students to access mental health and dental services during school hours, with dedicated space provided on-site for these services. Additionally, the school has established and is continuously strengthening numerous partnerships within the community. Notably, RCSHS has achieved a high graduation rate of 95.6%, reflecting its commitment to student success. Despite these successes, there are areas that require attention. Attendance is a significant concern, with the average daily attendance for the 2023-2024 school year at 89.84% and 25.18% of students being chronically absent. Career exploration also needs improvement, as indicated by data and parent surveys highlighting a demand for more employment opportunities for students. Furthermore, issues related to vaping, tobacco, and drug use have emerged from needs assessments, which point to frequent referrals for substance abuse education and counseling, signaling a need for enhanced support in these areas.

3. Locally Set Indicators (based on Areas of Concern)

- #/% of students that report increased knowledge on their chosen pathway.
- #/% of students who are transition ready through college/career readiness indicators increases

Strategies for Active Family and Community Engagement

- **Family Friendly School Certification:** In an effort to build strong relationships between our school and our families we will work toward becoming a Family Friendly School through the Prichard Committee.
- **Student Led Community Nights:** These nights are scheduled to provide students, families, and community the opportunity to come to school to talk with teachers, school leadership and community agencies. Student Led Community nights will be based on data collected through needs assessment surveys.

Strategies for Integrated Student Supports

- **School Health + Telehealth + Mental Health Services:** We will enhance our current agreements with Pathways and Mt. Comprehension enables students who have signed up for mental health services to receive support during the school day, with dedicated school space provided for these partners. Additionally, agreements with St. Claire Regional Hospital facilitate access to health-related telehealth services during school hours, with virtual appointments accommodated in designated school spaces.
- **Success Coach:** This newly hired position comes from discussion of representation from school and community level about the need for additional support in career and employment opportunities for students. This position will work with the community and the school to provide students with engaging opportunities to expand their knowledge of postsecondary options.

Strategies for Expanded and Enriched Learning Time and Opportunities

- **Career Mentoring/JR Achievement program:** We will be launching a new career mentoring program in partnership with JR Achievement. This initiative will involve RCSHS students participating in the Junior Achievement curriculum and mentoring elementary students at CES.
- **College/Career Visits:** With partnerships between the new Success Coach and community businesses and colleges we will offer students with the opportunity to visit various college and career options.

Strategies for Collaborative Leadership and Practices to Support High-Quality Teaching

- **Community and Family Engagement:**
 - Families will be invited to join the Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership (CIPL) to strengthen partnerships between the school and families.
 - School administrators, community partners, and the Family Resource Center Coordinator will be encouraged to attend key KCSI trainings and conferences, including:
 - CIPL Facilitator Training (Sept 11-13, Lexington, KY)
 - Kentucky Community Schools Initiative Networking (Nov 12-13, Lexington, KY)
 - National Community Schools Conference (Date TBD)
 - 2025 Groundswell Conference (Date TBD)

**Be a part of the change by attending an upcoming Community School Team meeting.
Get connected below.**

- Rowan County Senior High School Community School District Director: Kellyn Gussler
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- Rowan County Senior High School Community School State Coach: Andrea McKeenan;
andream@prichardcommittee.org
- School Webpage: <https://www.rowan.k12.ky.us/o/rcshs>
- School or District Social Media: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61563606902809>
- Full School Action Plan: [2024-2025 Rowan-RCSHS Action Plan.pdf](#)