



A PARENT GUIDE TO SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT



WHAT IS THE TELL KENTUCKY SURVEY?

The Teaching, Empowering, Leading, and Learning (TELL) survey

is a biennial consensus survey administered to Kentucky public school educators that provides information to parents, teachers, schools, districts, and the state about the working conditions of educators in Kentucky schools. Research shows that schools with positive working conditions for teachers are schools with positive learning results for students.

WHAT ARE WORKING CONDITIONS?

The TELL survey assesses many conditions that affect the quality of a school's learning environment. They include:

Time: Availability and barriers associated with the time teachers have to plan, collaborate and provide instruction during the school day

Facilities and Resources: Teacher access to technology, instructional supplies, office materials, library/media center and other school resources

Community Support and Involvement: Community and parent/guardian communication and influence in the school.



Teacher Leadership: Teacher involvement in decisions that impact classroom and school practices.

School Leadership: The ability of school leadership to create trusting, supportive environments and address teacher concerns.

Professional Learning: Availability and quality of learning opportunities for educators to enhance their teaching.

Instructional Practices and Support: Data and support available to teachers to improve instruction and student learning.

Managing Student Conduct: Policies and practices that address student conduct issues and ensure a safe school environment

WHY ARE WORKING CONDITIONS IMPORTANT?

Research shows that working conditions matter in teachers' decisions to stay with or leave a school. The conditions that matter most to teachers are the same ones effecting parents at their jobs– culture, leadership, and relationships with peers.

Research over the past decade has consistently shown that positive working conditions contribute to improved student achievement!

WHY SHOULD I GET INVOLVED?

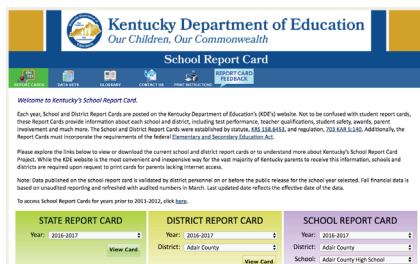
When parents actively participate in their child's school with the goal of improving working conditions, it benefits the school environment, the community, and also has important implications for the development of each child.

By taking some time to review the responses to the TELL Kentucky survey, you will gain a first-hand perspective of your child's learning environment. The conditions in which educators work are also the conditions in which students learn, so parents and all education shareholders have a shared interest in making a school's culture the best it can be.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Parents can contribute to school improvement in many important ways. Here are a few ideas to get you started.

- **Advocate:** Parents are their child's first teachers and are important shareholders in the education process. Parents need information so they can support what is going on in the classroom.
- **Communicate:** Regular communication with the school staff is important. Contact your child's school to learn how to best reach out to your child's teachers. Use your school's TELL Kentucky results to begin conversations.
- **Serve:** When Kentucky schools operate in collaboration with a site-based decision-making council, law requires that parents have representation and a substantial role in developing school improvement plans. Serving on advisory councils and school committees is an important role in shaping school programs.
- **Stay Informed:** Learn about your child's school and district by exploring the School Report Card provided on KDE's website. (<http://applications.education.ky.gov/SRC/>) This website provides valuable information on events, services, school policies, student safety information, and opportunities for parents and the community to be engaged in the learning process.



Kentucky Department of Education
Our Children. Our Commonwealth

School Report Card

Welcome to Kentucky's School Report Card!

Each year, School and District Report Cards are posted on the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) website. Not to be confused with student report cards, these Report Cards provide information about each school and district, including test performance, teacher qualifications, student safety awards, parent involvement and much more. The School and District Report Cards were established by statute, KRS 160.4001, and regulations, 200 KAR 5:030. Additionally, the Report Cards must incorporate the requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Please explore the links below to view or download the current school and district report cards or to understand more about Kentucky's School Report Card Project. While the KDE website is the most convenient and inexpensive way for the vast majority of Kentucky parents to receive this information, schools and districts are required upon request to print cards for parents lacking internet access.

Note: Data published on the school report card is validated by district personnel or, in the case of public release for the school year selected, 1st Financial data is based on unaudited reporting and reflected with audited numbers in March. Last updated date reflects the effective date of the data.

To access School Report Cards for years prior to 2013-2012, click here.

STATE REPORT CARD	DISTRICT REPORT CARD	SCHOOL REPORT CARD
Year: 2016-2017	Year: 2016-2017	Year: 2016-2017
View Card	District: Adair County	District: Adair County
	View Card	School: Adair County High School

WHAT ARE SOME OTHER TIPS FOR PARENTS TO GET THE MOST OUT OF THE TELL KENTUCKY SURVEY DATA?

Working condition survey results are not about any one individual, and it takes a community effort to improve.

The conditions identified in this survey are about schools and not about individuals. No one person should be viewed as responsible for creating or reforming school culture.

Interpreting the survey responses should be about identifying the positives and negative responses within the school.

Educators take tremendous pride in the work they do and all want to work in a school that allows them to do their best work. All schools have successes to draw upon as well as areas in need of improvement. Ensuring that positives are acknowledged and celebrated is as important as identifying and addressing issues for improvement.

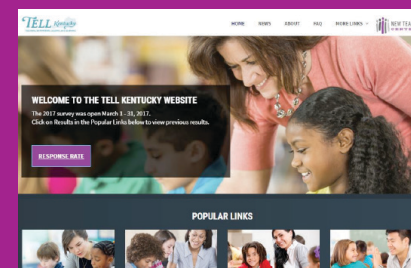
Changing some conditions may take time. Just as some conditions took years to develop, they may also take time to change. When viewing the responses from your child's school, some solutions may be inexpensive and simple to address, while others may depend on school funding or require long range planning and commitment. As a parent, you can be involved in the TELL learning process. You can look up the responses from your child's school and see how teachers rate the conditions that impact the education of your child. Those ratings help you determine how to be involved with the school and its educators.

The Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence (www.prichardcommittee.org) provides resources for parents, and the parent portal on KDE's website (<http://education.ky.gov/parents/Pages/default.aspx>) also provides valuable information. Explore more ways to get involved in your child's education by visiting www.kypta.org or www.pta.org.

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WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TELL SURVEY AND SCHOOL, DISTRICT AND STATE REPORTS?



The TELL Kentucky website (www.tellkentucky.org) contains a wealth of information, including reports from this and previous survey administrations. Every Kentucky public school and district with a response rate of at least 50 percent has a data report that can be accessed online. Click on the 'Results' section of the site and follow the prompts to locate your child's school. This website also provides state results and tools and resources to better understand the findings.

THE NEW TEACHER CENTER

For more information about the Teaching, Empowering, Leading and Learning Survey, please contact

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Launching the Next Generation