



TO: All Kentucky Educators

FROM: Stephen Pruitt, Ph.D., Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education

DATE: January 9, 2017

I value the voices of educators who work with the Commonwealth's children every day in our schools. That is why I want to hear directly from you about the working conditions in your school and the supports necessary to do your jobs well.

I am pleased to offer the fourth state-wide **Teaching, Empowering, Leading, and Learning (TELL) Kentucky** survey, an anonymous, web-based survey for educators to voice perceptions of teaching and learning conditions in their schools. Survey planning and administration are overseen by a steering committee of Kentucky education partners, and survey results are collected and analyzed by the New Teacher Center, a non-partisan group dedicated to the development of an effective and inspired teaching force.

The first TELL Kentucky biennial survey was administered in 2011. With each administration, response rates have increased. Educators in Kentucky set a record response rate in 2015 when 89% of educators completed the TELL Kentucky survey. Previous TELL survey data have informed Kentucky school improvement plans, new evaluation tools, and professional learning opportunities. Let's work together to make 2017's response rate the best yet.

It is time for the 2017 administration of the TELL survey. In the box below, you will find a unique, one-time access code that will allow you to take the survey and will correctly attribute results to your school. The code CANNOT be used to identify an individual because the TELL Kentucky survey is designed to be confidential, anonymous, and voluntary.

The TELL Kentucky survey includes questions about community engagement and support, teacher leadership, school leadership, managing student conduct, use of time, professional development, facilities and resources, instructional practices, and new teacher support. The 20-30 minute survey is available online at [www.tellkentucky.org](http://www.tellkentucky.org) from March 1-31.

<<School Name>>  
<<District Name>>  
**Your Confidential Access Code #**  
<<access code>>

Using your confidential access code, you may complete the survey from any Internet location from March 1 through March 31, 2017 at [www.tellkentucky.org](http://www.tellkentucky.org).

If you have questions or concerns during the survey window, you may:

- Email at [helpdesk@tellkentucky.org](mailto:helpdesk@tellkentucky.org)
- Call 1-866-301-2454, ext. 15 (toll-free), Monday through Friday, 7:30 am - 4:30 pm
- Access online assistance at [www.tellkentucky.org](http://www.tellkentucky.org)

During March, feel free to track your school's response rate in real time at [www.tellkentucky.org](http://www.tellkentucky.org). Following the survey window, schools with a 50% or higher response rate will receive detailed reports. Visit the [TELL Kentucky webpage](#) for a comprehensive timeline.

Your voice is essential, and I encourage you and your colleagues to participate in the TELL Kentucky survey to make your voice heard. Thank you for all that you do, every day, for the children of the Commonwealth.