



## 2021-22 Phase Three: Executive Summary for Districts\_10152021\_10:50

2021-22 Phase Three: Executive Summary for Districts

**Taylor County**  
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### Description of the District

Describe the district's size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the district serves?

The Taylor County School District is located in Campbellsville, Kentucky - a rural community in central Kentucky with approximately 26,000 residents. The largest employers in the county include Taylor Regional Hospital, Amazon, Campbellsville University, Murakami, and the 2 local school districts. Eighty percent of the residents of Taylor County work in the county, and our community also draws workers from the surrounding region (33% of our workforce live outside of the county). Green River Lake is the biggest tourist attraction in our surrounding area offering 3 marinas, recreational water sports, great fishing, and some of the best hiking trails around. The main Campbellsville University campus is located in our county and brings a diverse population to our community - the university is also a great partner to our district. The Taylor County School District is comprised of approximately 2,800 students and 450 employees. Six schools located on 3 separate campuses make up the district: Taylor County Primary Center, Taylor County Intermediate School, Taylor County Middle School, Taylor County High School, Lakeview Academy, and the Central Kentucky Career Academy. Our district recently built 2 new schools (the high school and primary center) and have just completed renovations of the old elementary school to house the Central Kentucky Career Academy and Lakeview Academy. Demographically, our district is 88% caucasian with the other 12% comprised of Hispanic/Latino, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean populations. As a district, we hover just under 60% free/reduced lunch, and we have seen this poverty percentage grow significantly over the past 20 years. The Taylor County School District participates in the CEP program which allows all of our students to each breakfast and lunch for free.

### District's Purpose

Provide the district's purpose statement and ancillary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs. Describe how the district embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students.

MISSION STATEMENT: At Taylor County Schools, we set high expectations and work together to help all students succeed. VISION STATEMENT: Work Ready - College Ready - Career Ready - LIFE READY. COMMUNITY VISION: Partnerships - Performance - Pride: Together building a stronger community. Our district continues to have zero dropouts. Our focus on support and prevention is

demonstrated by our investment in staff devoted to providing support for our neediest students. We employ an Transition Readiness Counselor, a Career Counselor, a Workforce Development Coordinator, a Healthy at Schools Specialist, a JAG specialist, interventionists, translators, vocational rehab staff, and a transition readiness support team. An emphasis on transition readiness is a central focus in our district. Our goal is for every graduate to be successful in their next steps after high school - be it college, tech school, or the workforce. Through our focus on essential work ethic skills, we also strive to ensure that our students have opportunity to grow as well-rounded citizens who have a heart for giving and who have the life ready skills that will support their future success. Our district does not house a state funded area technology center, so we have invested in on site career technical training both at the high school and at the career academy. We offer a wide variety of career training programs: business, pre-engineering/woodworking, agriculture, retail, healthcare (nurse aid, phlebotomy, pharmacy tech), computer programming, STLP, cosmetology, childcare, and teaching. This past year we have just added welding at the career academy. Students are able to take a wide variety of dual credit and AP level courses to provide the opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. Our district also offers a rich curriculum in the performing and visual arts.

#### Notable Achievements and Areas of Improvement

Describe the district's notable achievements and areas of improvement in the last three years. Additionally, describe areas for improvement that the district is striving to achieve in the next three years.

Notable Achievements and Partnerships: 1. In 2020, Taylor County Schools created its own law enforcement agency and we employ 4 full-time experienced officers; 2. In 2020, we received a \$215,000 School Safety grant to update our safety infrastructure in all of the facilities; 3. (2017) Awarded a Work Ready Skills Initiative Grant (\$2.3 million dollars) to renovate the old elementary school into the new Central Kentucky Career Academy; 4. (2019) New Skills for Youth Cohort 3 Grant (\$100,000): we partnered with Campbellsville Independent and Green County schools to write a planning grant to create regional training programs for the cohort; 5. Campbellsville University and Taylor County Schools have committed to a 10-year partnership at CKCA which provides career technical instruction to high school students and adults in welding, healthcare, computer science, and HVAC; 6. Awarded a 21st Century Grant for Taylor County Primary School (2019) and for the Taylor County Intermediate School (2020) to provide after school programming for our primary students; 6. We continue to have zero dropouts for the past 10 years as a result of our supports and interventions. We work very hard to keep students in school and on track to graduate through early interventions and at risk prevention;

7. Taylor Regional Hospital partners with our district to provide a nurse practitioner and transcriptionist as well nurses in all of our schools. Their services for our students and staff include well checks, sick visits with the NP, an ADHD clinic, vaccinations/flu shots, and a women's clinic for our high school girls. 8. KidSpot has partnered with our district to place mental health counselors in all of our schools (with 2 at the high school) to provide mental health services to our students. Areas of Improvement: Our district is taking a systems approach to continuous improvement from preschool through 12th grade. Our continuous improvement efforts are guided by our Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) that are active in each of our schools. The PLCs are collaborative teams of teachers and school leadership that focus on student progress by developing aligned curriculum, designing units and common unit assessments, analyzing assessment data, determining and monitoring interventions and enrichments, and communicating this progress to students, school leaders/specialists, and parents. Early Release Fridays (ERF) provide built in collaborative time for our staff to monitor student growth and to grow as professionals. District leadership and school administrative teams work closely to monitor the work of the PLCs and to provide the needed support and resources.

#### Additional Information

**Districts Supporting CSI/TSI (including ATSI) Schools Only:** Describe the procedures for monitoring and providing support for (a) CSI/TSI school(s) so as to ensure the successful implementation of the school improvement plan.

N/A

#### Additional Information

Provide any additional information you would like to share with the public and community that were not prompted in the previous sections.

A. FOCUS ON SCHOOL SAFETY: Over the past 2 years, the Taylor County School District has made significant changes to improve the safety measures on all campuses. In 2020 we created our own police force with 4 School Resource Officers and 1 traffic deputy in the district. First responders are invited at least once a semester to participate in emergency drills and then join in round table discussions on how to improve our drills. We have revamped traffic plans and drop off procedures to make these times safer and more efficient for staff, students, and parents. Our visitor and parent pick up and drop off policies have also been changed. We have purchased the Raptor visitor security system for all schools that runs a background check on visitors entering our building. All volunteers and visitors must have clear background checks on file before entering the buildings past the front offices. We also work hard to clearly communicate all emergency

plans to all stakeholders. We received a School Safety grant totally more than \$200,000 that allowed us to build safety entry vestibules in the two schools that do not have them. We also updated camera systems, and fenced in our Broadway campus, installed gates to limit drive through traffic on each campus. B. FOCUS ON THE WHOLE CHILD: We provide layers of support in order to meet the various needs of our students and staff. We have nurses and mental health counselors in all schools. All students eat free lunch and breakfast through our CEP program. We have created the Caring for Kids foundation where staff and businesses in the community can donate monies to be used to support student success throughout our district. We also have 21st century programs at the intermediate and the primary schools to provide additional enrichment and support to students after school. We are currently writing the grant for a middle school program. Our Family Resource Centers are responsive to the needs of our students and look for ways to not only provide needed resources but also to educate our families to be better informed care givers. This year during the Covid-19 pandemic we have continued to make sure that our families are fed and taken care off. We deliver food when school is not in session. C. FOCUS ON COMMUNICATION: The Taylor County School District uses various platforms to keep our families, students, and staff informed on needed information as well as the accomplishments of our students and staff. This year we invested into a district wide Remind system that our teachers and schools use to communicate with families on a daily basis. This is in addition to our One Call System. We use the Google Suites platform to house our curriculum, shared units/ assessments, policies, and important information. We also use Google apps to improve our collaboration among our staff members and Google Classroom to provide our students a learning platform that can extend beyond the school day. We provide opportunities for our families, staff and students to provide input to help guide decisions in the district. We have a strong media presence and use our social media platforms to keep the public informed of upcoming events and important information and to recognize the achievements of our students and staff. We make regular visits to the local radio stations. Our goal is that everyone have a clear understanding of our expectations as well as who we are as a district.

# Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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