### Agenda

**Day One, Tuesday, July 25**

- **8:00 am - 9:00 am** Registration
- **9:00 am - 10:30 am** Opening General Session  
  *Keynote Speaker: Kim Thomas*
- **10:45 am - 12:00 pm** Concurrent Sessions
- **12:00 pm - 1:15 pm** Lunch General Session (lunch provided)  
  *Presentation of SACSAA Awards*
- **1:15 pm - 2:30 pm** Concurrent Sessions
- **2:45 pm - 4:00 pm** Featured Session  
  *Featured Trainers: James-Etta Goodloe & Jennifer Pusateri*

**Day Two, Wednesday, July 26**

- **8:00 am - 9:00 am** Registration
- **9:00 am - 10:15 am** General Session  
  *Student Panel: What Do You Wish Your Teachers Had Known?*
- **10:30 am - 11:45 am** Concurrent Sessions
- **11:45 am - 12:45 pm** Lunch (provided)
- **12:45 pm - 2:00 pm** Concurrent Sessions
- **2:15 pm - 3:30 pm** Closing General Session  
  *Keynote Speaker: Michael Bonner*

### Sponsors

Special thanks to this year’s sponsors for making the 2017 At-Risk Summit possible:

Kentucky Center for School Safety  
Kentucky Department of Education  
Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice  
Kentucky Department for Community Based Services
DEAR PARTICIPANTS,

As Director of the Kentucky Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children, it is my sincere pleasure to welcome you to the 16th Annual Alternative Strategies for Educating Students At-Risk Summit!

Our community partners, including the Kentucky Departments of Education; Juvenile Justice; Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities; and Community Based Services in collaboration with school district personnel and other local educational leaders are pleased to join me in this welcome.

Alternative educators from across the Commonwealth are coming together in Lexington to address educational services for our most at-risk student populations. Through our collaborative efforts, our children are receiving much attention from our state and local policy makers. Your participation in this summit illustrates the value our teachers and administrators, who have chosen a life of service to our kids, have placed on this important population. We continue to commend you for your dedication and service while encouraging you to continue working for the welfare of our students.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the state agencies and their leadership who provide care for our students. Each year, we are fortunate to garner the support of these agencies through their representation on our Interagency Advisory Group and our planning committee.

Our agenda is packed with exciting opportunities and has attracted participants from every facet of our students’ lives, as well as phenomenal speakers including Kim Thomas and Michael Bonner, all of whom will share their experience and philosophy on educating at-risk students. Speakers representing alternative education agencies, government policy makers, as well as academic scholars and researchers will present and discuss the current topics in alternative education, focusing on strategies, experiences and techniques for positive development.

This event is an excellent opportunity for you to meet with other educators, share your experience in working with at-risk youth, and create an opportunity for networking, collaborating, sharing of technical information, and building trusting relationships. As always, we extend a warm welcome to all of our colleagues who share our interest in providing a quality, equitable education for all of Kentucky’s children.

KECSAC would like to thank the planning committee, whose participants contributed their time and great ideas to make this summit possible! The committee was composed of representatives from:

- Kentucky Department of Education
- KECSAC Funded Programs
- Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice
- KECSAC Central Office Staff
- Kentucky Department for Community Based Services
- Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities

I look forward to meeting you during these two days and hope you will take a few moments to introduce yourself to those who are equally committed to our at-risk student population in Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ronnie Nolan, Director
2017 AT-RISK SUMMIT AGENDA

Tuesday, July 25

**Registration** 8:00 am - 9:00 am

**Coldstream Ballroom 1 - 5  General Session** 9:00 am - 10:30 am

- **Welcome Remarks** Dr. Ronnie Nolan, KECSAC Director
- **Keynote Speaker** Kim Thomas

**Concurrent Sessions** 10:45 am - 12:00 pm

- **CB 1-2** MATHLICIOUS...It Will Put a Positive Parabola on Your Face!!, Kim Thomas
- **CB 4** Trauma Informed Care Basics for School Staff, Diane Gruen-Kidd
- **CB 5** Project Based Learning: A Different Approach to the Classroom, Michelle Ruckdeschel
- **Bourbon** Exploring the Options: Dual Credit & Early Graduation, Leann Pickerill
- **Clark** It’s Back! How to Make the GED® Work for Your Students, Ronnie Nolan
- **Parking Lot** KHEAA College Info Road Show, Steven Held

**Coldstream Ballroom 1 - 5  General Session** 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm

- **Lunch** Provided
- **Introduction** Dr. Ronnie Nolan, KECSAC Director
- **Presentation of SACSAA Awards** Dan Belding, Barren Co. College Street Campus, SACSAA President
  - **Outstanding Administrator of the Year** Charlanne Pook, The Providence School
  - **Outstanding Support Staff of the Year** Jessica Calvert, College Street Campus
  - **Outstanding Teacher of the Year** Mellane Crowe, Sunrise Children’s Services, Woodlawn Campus
  - **Outstanding Teacher of the Year** Amanda Miller, Owensboro Day Treatment
  - **Outstanding Student of the Year** Tessa Bowling
  - **Outstanding Student of the Year** Kaylee Wills

**Concurrent Sessions** 1:15 pm - 2:30 pm

- **CB 1** KECSAC School Administrator Sharing Session, Ben Annis & Dan Belding
- **CB 2** Self Care: How White Castle Saved My Life, Tim Welsh
- **CB 4** Healing Trauma Through Mindfulness & Yoga, LaShana Harris
- **CB 5** Mathematical Coherence Map: A Map that Drives Student Success, Michelle Ruckdeschel
- **Bourbon** KHEAA at Your Service, David Scott
- **Clark** Pork Chops and Grapes: How to Identify and Challenge our Implicit Biases, Marian Vasser
- **Parking Lot** KHEAA College Info Road Show, Steven Held

**Coldstream Ballroom 1 - 5  Featured Session** 2:45 pm - 4:00 pm

- **Featured Trainers** James-Etta Goodloe & Jennifer Pusateri, Kentucky Department of Education
Wednesday, July 26

**Registration** 8:00 am - 9:00 am

**Coldstream Ballroom 1 - 5  Featured Session** 9:00 am - 10:15 am

**Student Panel** What Do You Wish Your Teachers Had Known?

**Concurrent Sessions** 10:30 am - 11:45 am

- **CB 1** Rachels to the Rescue: DJJ Goes “Online!”, Sam Kinch
- **CB 2** Differentiated Instruction in the Alternative Classroom, Lana Moore
- **CB 4** Always be Prepared! Seizure Training for School Personnel, David Petit
- **CB 5** Inspiring Learning with a School Makerspace, Heidi Neltner
- **Bourbon** Suicide Prevention, Intervention & Postvention, Patti Clark
- **Clark** Disproportionality & Disparities in the Child Welfare System, Paula Saenz & Denise Weider
- **Parking Lot** KHEAA College Info Road Show, Steven Held

**Coldstream Ballroom 1 - 5  General Session** 11:45 am - 12:45 pm

**Lunch** Provided

**Concurrent Sessions** 12:45 pm - 2:00 pm

- **CB 4** Student Engagement: This is How We Do It!, Erica Goins-Brooks
- **CB 5** 2017 Legislative Session Summary & Looking Ahead, Eric Kennedy
- **Bourbon** Self-Harm & Suicide, Tony Watkins
- **Clark** Language Arts Strategies for Student Success, Jill Steffey
- **Parking Lot** KHEAA College Info Road Show, Steven Held

**Coldstream Ballroom 1 - 5  General Session** 2:15 pm - 3:30 pm

**Keynote Speaker** Michael Bonner

**Closing Remarks** Dr. Ronnie Nolan, KECSAC Director
THINGS TO REMEMBER

- In order to best meet your training needs, we ask that you fill out your breakout evaluation forms at the end of each session and overall evaluation following the summit before you leave. Overall evaluation forms are in the bag you received; please bring it with you on day two of the summit and turn it in to KECSAC staff or in the registration area after the last keynote speaker.

- Lunch options will be provided each day. Please note that if you have food allergies or any specific dietary needs, Lexington has many dining options near the hotel. Meals will be catered, and we may not be able to ensure that the food does not contain gluten, MSG or other ingredients to which you may be allergic.

- Certificates will be handed out at the end of the summit at the registration table in the foyer. All workshops and general sessions are eligible for Effective Instructional Leadership Act credits granted by the Kentucky Department of Education.

- As part of an effort to be environmentally conscious, handouts and materials for breakout sessions will be posted on the KECSAC website (www.kecsac.eku.edu).
Named the 2016 Illinois Teacher of the Year, Kim Thomas believes that mathematics is the road to educational salvation. Her trust in the transformative power of education permeates everything she does in her classroom. Kim has proven over and over again that every student has the capacity to understand math at a depth that they never thought possible. The success of her Mathlicious program led to her being named Teacher of the Year by the Illinois State Board of Education. She subsequently was invited to the White House where she met President Obama, Vice-President Biden, and Secretary of Education John King Jr. and participated in a panel discussion about the challenges of education in the 21st Century.

Kim earned her bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Illinois State University and a master’s degree in education and teacher leadership from Saint Xavier University. Kim has dedicated her 23-year teaching career to middle school students in Peoria Public Schools. Kim also taught at Woodruff Career and Technical Center, which houses the Peoria County alternative school for those who have been expelled and a contemporary learning program for those who are administratively placed. Kim helped turn these challenging students around academically and socially.

Kim is on the committee for the Illinois State Board of Education Partnership for Educator Preparation. She will be inducted into the 2016 Illinois State University College of Education Hall of Fame. Kim has received the 2015 Outstanding Teacher of the Year for Peoria Public Schools, the 2008 Friend of Special Education, and the 1996 Creative Teacher of the Year award. She joins just two percent of the nation’s teachers as a multiple-year honoree named in Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers.

Visiting middle schools, high schools, adult education centers, public libraries and other sites, KHEAA’s mobile classroom provides a host of critical services directly to students and families in their own communities. Equipped with satellite internet access, laptop computers, an instructor’s podium and screen and an outdoor projection unit, the Road Show uses state-of-the-art technology to connect students with the information they need to research, pursue and succeed in their educational future beyond high school. Join us in the back parking lot to find out how to get the bus to visit your program!

Join James-Etta Goodloe and Jennifer Pusateri from the Kentucky Department of Education for this interactive workshop that introduces teachers and administrators to the concepts of UDL as a means of providing personalized, equitable teaching across all grades and content areas. The session will focus on increasing engagement by addressing learner variability, specifically as related to CRT. Learners will participate in simulations, activities, and discussions that tie UDL and CRT to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and Tier 1 Intervention Strategies.
How can educators who sincerely want to provide the best possible care to their students find out how to do just that? It’s simple - ask them! This interactive panel will feature students who have experienced alternative and state agency educational settings. They will join us to discuss what interventions worked or didn’t work for them along their educational journey. Transition, barriers to education, motivation, and more will be addressed. We’ll seek to answer the question, “What do you wish your teachers had known?”

“I wish I could go back to second grade, so Mr. Bonner could be my teacher,” were the words Ellen Degeneres released on her social media accounts in early January 2017. This is when she learned of how Mr. Bonner’s unique, rap-filled teaching methods encouraged students to go above and beyond on a reading test.

Mr. Bonner is an inspiring second grade teacher at North Carolina’s South Greenville Elementary, where the majority of students have strenuous familial dynamics and many are homeless. The school is 100% FRL (free and reduced lunch) and is located in an impoverished neighborhood in Eastern North Carolina. In early 2017, Bonner was honored by Ellen DeGeneres in recognition of his positive and innovative educational approaches for children coping with the challenges of poverty. Ellen presented Bonner and his school with technical equipment to assist in the creation of music videos serving as aids to education. Additionally, Wal-Mart presented the school with $25,000, and the Ellen Show created a Go Fund Me site for South Greenville, which has raised over $88,000 for the Title I school. However, the amazing journey did not stop there!

One month after he first appeared on her show, Ellen flew Mr. Bonner and his entire second grade class to visit with her again at her studio. Twenty children from Mr. Bonner’s class received an all-expense paid trip to Los Angeles, California. The students recorded in a professional studio, had class on a Hollywood set, and made a professional music video with Ellen, Big Sean, Ice Cube, Migos, Ty Dolla $ign, and Lin Manuel Miranda! Mr. Bonner’s class was then awarded another $20,000 from Wal-Mart to assist in creating a more prosperous learning environment.

His efforts to change the proficiency learning culture have also captured attention from other national news outlets. NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt, Flocabulary, the Ashton Kutcher Foundation, and Remind all released stories on how Mr. Bonner is utilizing music as a tool to help counter the negative statistical data concerning children living in poverty. He’s had the privilege of speaking at NC State University, the American Association for Blacks in Higher Education, and various other institutions, delivering powerful messages on improving student performance and resilience.

With only four years in K-12 education, Mr. Bonner is consistently seen as a visionary leader who strives to create a positive mindset among all of his students. He understands that his students come to class each day with diverse backgrounds, strengths, needs, and challenges, and seeks to identify strategies to ensure the growth of their social, emotional, academic, and psychological needs. Because of his approach to education, students leave feeling a little more hopeful, challenged, inspired, and forever a part of Bonnerville!
**WORKSHOPS**

**Tuesday 10:45 - 12:00**

**Coldstream Ballroom 1-2**

**MATHLICIOUS….It Will Put a Positive Parabola on Your Face!!**

This workshop will mathivate you in making sure the time students spend with you is one of the best fractions of their day and yours! Be ready to have an amathazing time learning Math Muscles, Camathouflage, Fracordiddles, Matholiday projects, Equationanza, and Namerea!! Implementing these mathstastic activities will cause students to live, laugh, love, and learn MATH!!

*Presented by Kim Thomas, Keynote Speaker*

**Coldstream Ballroom 4**

**Trauma-Informed Basics for School Staff**

Participants will learn definitions, prevalence, and effects of trauma, will learn about the ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Study, and will be presented with specific strategies for use in making schools more trauma-informed.

*Presented by Diane Gruen-Kidd, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities*

**Coldstream Ballroom 5**

**Project Based Learning: A Different Approach to the Classroom**

Participants will learn more about project based learning and its applications in an alternative setting. Presenter will share real life experiences, successes and failures and tips of the trade from project based thinking and learning. Participants will receive resources and forms to use in their own schools and classrooms.

*Presented by Michelle Ruckdeschel, Daviess County Schools*

**Bourbon Room**

**Exploring the Options: Dual Credit & Early Graduation**

Join KDE staff as they discuss the programmatic aspects of dual credit and early graduation. In Dual Credit, a student is enrolled in a course which allows him/her to earn high school credit and college credit simultaneously. Come see if it might be the right path for your students!

*Presented by Leann Pickerill, Kentucky Department of Education*

**Clark Room**

**It’s Back! How to Make the GED® Work for your Students**

Following the efforts of many groups working on behalf of students’ needs in Kentucky, the GED® is once more an option for state agency students. This session will explore the process that may now be followed by staff to offer an alternative path for achievement while still pursuing graduation for every student.

*Presented by Ronnie Nolan, KECSAC*

**Embassy Suites Parking Lot**

**KHEAA College Info Road Show**

See page 6 for a description of this session.

*Presented by Steven Held, Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority*

**Tuesday 1:15 - 2:30**

**Coldstream Ballroom 1**

**KECSAC School Administrator Sharing Session**

Current leadership of the State Agency Children School Administrators Association (SACSAA) will host a sharing session. School administrators will be given the opportunity to gather and discuss what is going on in their programs and their ideas for collaboration.

*Note* Coldstream Ballroom 1 must be entered through the access hallway beside Coldstream Ballroom 2.

*Presented by Ben Annis, Green River Youth Development Center & Dan Belding, College Street Campus*

**Coldstream Ballroom 2**

**Self Care: What it is & Why All School Staff Should Practice It (a.k.a. “How White Castle Saved My Life”)**

This presentation focuses on the importance of self-care and how it impacts home life, work performance, attendance, morale, and overall quality of life. Participants will learn how to be more aware of their own self-care needs and assess their current level of compassion fatigue. Participants will create their own personalized self-care plans.

*Presented by Tim Welsh, Licensed Clinical Social Worker*

**Coldstream Ballroom 4**

**Healing Trauma Through Mindfulness & Yoga**

During this session, the Trauma Informed Care Project Director for DJJ LaShana Harris, will give an overview of trauma and how it rewires and re-fires the brain. Participants will learn how behavior can be a direct result of trauma and how Yoga and Mindfulness can heal a
brain, body, and soul that has been traumatized.  
*Presented by LaShana Harris, J.D., Department of Juvenile Justice*

**Coldstream Ballroom 5**  
**Mathematical Coherence Map: A Map that Drives Student Success**
The Mathematical Coherence Map builds student understanding by linking together concepts within and across grades. Identifying gaps becomes much easier by tracing a standard back through its logical pre-requisites and creation of foundational units can become more focused and intentional by using the coherence map.  
*Presented by Michelle Ruckdeschel, Daviess County Schools*

**Bourbon Room**  
**KHEAA at Your Service**
The Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority will be on hand to share information about their many resources, including Dual Credit and Work Ready Scholarships and other financial aid. Don’t miss out on the many ways that KHEAA can help you and your students!  
*Presented by David Scott, Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority*

**Clark Room**  
**Pork Chops and Grapes: How to Identify and Challenge our Implicit Biases**
If you think you are in full control of the way you think and respond to others, think again! Ever wonder how your “good intentions” were taken the wrong way or even rejected? We ALL have biases that are both explicit and implicit, causing even the most well-intentioned person to inevitably cause harm. During this interactive workshop, participants will actively engage in exploring hidden and unconscious biases. Participants will leave this session with tools to effectively acknowledge and challenge their own personal biases. Unconscious bias research is increasingly becoming a leader in most fields, as our biases very often interfere with our work of effectively engaging others. Even the most well-intentioned person is unknowingly informed by hidden biases, which can cause harm to those they are intending to serve.  
*Presented by Marian Vasser, University of Louisville*

**Embassy Suites Parking Lot**  
**KHEAA College Info Road Show**
This is a repeat of the session described on page 6.
Coldstream Ballroom 4
Always be Prepared! Seizure Training for School Personnel
Epilepsy is a much more common disorder than most people realize, especially among the African-American population. This session will provide teachers and other school personnel with information they need to recognize types of seizures, the impact seizures can have on students developmentally and educationally, and how to respond with safe and appropriate first aid. Education staff can never be too prepared to deal with a medical emergency in the classroom, and this training will provide guidance about this very serious disorder. 

Presented by David Petit, Epilepsy Foundation of Kentuckiana

Coldstream Ballroom 5
Inspiring Learning with a School Makerspace
In this session participants will learn about what a makerspace is, how a makerspace can inspire students to learn new things and share their expertise and how to begin the visioning and planning process to create one that meets the needs of your school community. 

Presented by Heidi Neltner, Fort Thomas Independent Schools

Bourbon Room
Suicide Prevention, Intervention & Postvention
Join staff from the Department for Behavioral Health to discuss the various resources and tools a school might consider to deal with the very serious topic of suicide. 

Presented by Patti Clark, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities

Clark Room
Disproportionality & Disparities in the Child Welfare System: A Student Panel
Staff from the Department for Community Based Services will present important information regarding the disproportionality that exists in the child welfare system in Kentucky. They will be joined by former students to discuss their experiences with supportive adults, challenges they faced, and whether or not they felt prepared to live independently upon exiting the system. 

Presented by Paula Saenz & Denise Weider, Department for Community Based Services

Embassy Suites Parking Lot
KHEAA College Info Road Show
This is a repeat of the session described on page 6.

Wednesday 12:45 - 2:00

Coldstream Ballroom 4
Student Engagement: This is How We Do It!
Keeping students engaged despite the many distractions in their lives and in the classroom is a tall order. Join Mrs. Goins-Brooks as she models how she gets her young people involved and excited about learning at Western Day Treatment, a 2017 KDE Alternative Program of Distinction!

Presented by Erica Goins-Brooks, Western Day Treatment

Coldstream Ballroom 5
2017 Legislative Session Summary & Looking Ahead
Eric Kennedy, Director of Governmental Relations for the Kentucky School Boards Association, discusses the new political landscape at the federal and state levels, summarizes the outcomes of the 2017 Regular Session of the General Assembly, and offers some insight on the major issues facing the legislature in January. 

Presented by Eric Kennedy, Kentucky School Boards Association

Bourbon Room
Self-Harm & Suicide
Tony Watkins with the Department for Behavioral Health will provide information about an issue affecting many of our young people. Self-harm is a very real danger among at-risk students, and this session will offer insight into how educators might help. 

Presented by Tony Watkins, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities

Clark Room
Language Arts Strategies for Student Success
Language arts competency is one of the most important aspects of helping your students achieve success. Come learn some tried and true strategies that are working wonders for the Day Treatment students in Warren County! 

Presented by Jill Steffey, Warren County Day Treatment

Embassy Suites Parking Lot
KHEAA College Info Road Show
This is a repeat of the session described on page 6.
Thank you for attending & continuing to serve the youth of Kentucky.

We hope to see you next year!