



## 9/23/22 Phase One: Executive Summary for Carter County

2022-23 Phase One: Executive Summary for Districts

**Carter County**

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## 2022-23 Phase One: Executive Summary for Districts

### 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?

Carter County Schools is located in northeast Kentucky, in the tristate area of Huntington, WV, and Ironton, OH. Carter County has two small towns, Grayson and Olive Hill. Grayson is the county seat. The public school system is the main employer of the county. Many residents commute to nearby Ashland or Morehead for employment, or as far as Lexington and Huntington. Other jobs are provided by the medical industry, or the labor industry such as welders, carpenters, electricians, linemen, etc. who often travel or work for plants such as Marathon in nearby Ashland. Our district is nearly 70% free/reduced lunch. We have less than 1% ELL students. In the last three years, our enrollment has decreased from approximately 4100 students to around 3800. Many of those students are now enrolled in home school.

Currently, the district is facing the challenge of pandemic recovery, staffing shortages, and the reality of high inflation. This increases the need for social emotional support, a more focused effort to monitor the financial physical needs of our students, and a dedicated multi-tiered system of supports.

### 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.

The vision of Carter County Schools is The Standard of Excellence. This vision translates into educators using best practice strategies for teaching, building relationships with students and their families, and ensuring that opportunities for success are available to everyone. Our community members, Board of Education, teachers, administrators, instructional assistants, cafeteria personnel, bus drivers, and custodians all play a vital role in setting the stage for student success. The most precious asset we have is our children and it is our pledge to empower every Carter County student to learn at high levels, graduate on time, and excel in reaching their lifetime goals.

All students in Carter County participate in data-based goal setting, from kindergarten through 12th grade, using I-Ready and common assessments. In addition, our teachers use common instructional strategies grounded in research and high effect sizes that they study in district facilitated academies. When teachers have common strategies, this allows student expectations to be consistent and high

across all district schools. The county has seen great success as a result of these two initiatives.

Additionally, we have excellent course offerings at our high school level. Numerous dual credit opportunities exist for juniors and seniors. Many will enter college as sophomores. Our career and tech program offerings are increasing. This year we've expanded to include pharmacy tech and heavy machinery operator. We are currently in the planning phase for a new centrally located high school and state of the art career and technical center.

The district often hosts visitors, receives grants, etc. Most recently, we were accepted into the third cohort of L3 schools. This opportunity will allow us to lead Kentucky schools in redesigning the future of assessment for students.

As shown, we are The Standard of Excellence. By embodying high expectations for goal setting, teaching, professional learning, student opportunities, and achievement, we will continue to lead the way for Kentucky.

### 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.

The district's notable achievements include: Four Star District at all levels, recipient of Local Laboratories of Learning Cohort 3, recipient of Algebra 1 Badging initiative, Read to Achieve, and participation in the Kentucky Project Based Learning initiative through PBL Works. We are also in the planning phase of construction of an 80 million dollar central high school and career and technical center complex.

Over the last three years, the district has faced the same challenges as all districts-- a world wide pandemic. This has brought about significant learning loss, student withdrawal from in-person school to home or virtual settings, and a noticeable difference in the social/emotional affect of our students. We, as a community, are weary. We are tired of the rhetoric concerning these challenges and eager to move beyond "recovery" mode and transform our schools back into the flourishing places of learning they were before Covid-19. Our most focused area of improvement is increasing math and reading achievement at all levels by a minimum of 10 % proficiency by May of 2023.

While math and reading achievement have decreased, we have maintained high proficiency in writing with around 70% proficiency at all levels. The direct instruction model we use is the model we are working to transfer to all of our core subjects.

In the next three years, the district is working to achieve the highest levels of performance possible in all academic areas. We are continuing to implement high quality professional learning for teachers so they can plan lessons with the most successful strategies and that are strictly aligned to Kentucky's Academic Standards. We are reaching out to our partners in career and technical education so we can expand our course offerings and offer our graduates even more opportunities for success post graduation. We are seeking innovative methods to teach and studying how the best people in the nation prepare students for greatness.

#### 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.

NA

#### Additional Information

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

In Carter County, we exemplify excellence. This is displayed brightly in the character of our faculty, staff, and students. You can see it in how hard every member of our school community works to overcome obstacles and be the very best they can be. John Hattie places collective efficacy at the very top of his effect sizes list. We, in Carter County, believe we can accomplish anything if we work as a team. This is why we promote the concepts of common language, common vision, and pulling together in one direction--to be the standard of excellence.

# Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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