

KENTUCKY RISING

“Kentucky’s first settlers brought with them a dedication to democracy and a sense of limitless hope about the future. They were determined to participate in world progress in science, education, and manufacturing. The early years of statehood were an era of great optimism and progress and the eyes of the nation often focused on Kentucky. ... Globally oriented Kentuckians were determined to transform the frontier into a network of communities exporting to the world market. ...”*

THE GOAL



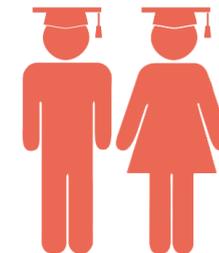
Kentucky as a world leader in high value-added international trade of goods and services with broadly shared prosperity for its citizens

THE METHOD



Kentucky’s workforce among the world’s most highly skilled, globally aware and globally competent

THE STANDARD



New Bluegrass Diploma

- Builds on the Common Core
- Set to global academic standards
- Globally literate and aware
- Performance-based – Awarded when the student meets these high standards
- Gateway to many pathways to good jobs, further education

Mission of our schools: Make sure every student meets the standard for a Kentucky Bluegrass Diploma

FURTHER HIGH SCHOOL

AP Diploma
IB Diploma
Cambridge A Level
Diploma

Internationally Recognized
Vocational Qualifications

4 YEAR COLLEGE



COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2-year
Transfer Programs

2-year Career and
Technical Education
Programs

Pathways after Kentucky Bluegrass Diploma

* James Ramage and Andrea Watkins, *Kentucky Rising*, Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2001.

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A FRAMEWORK

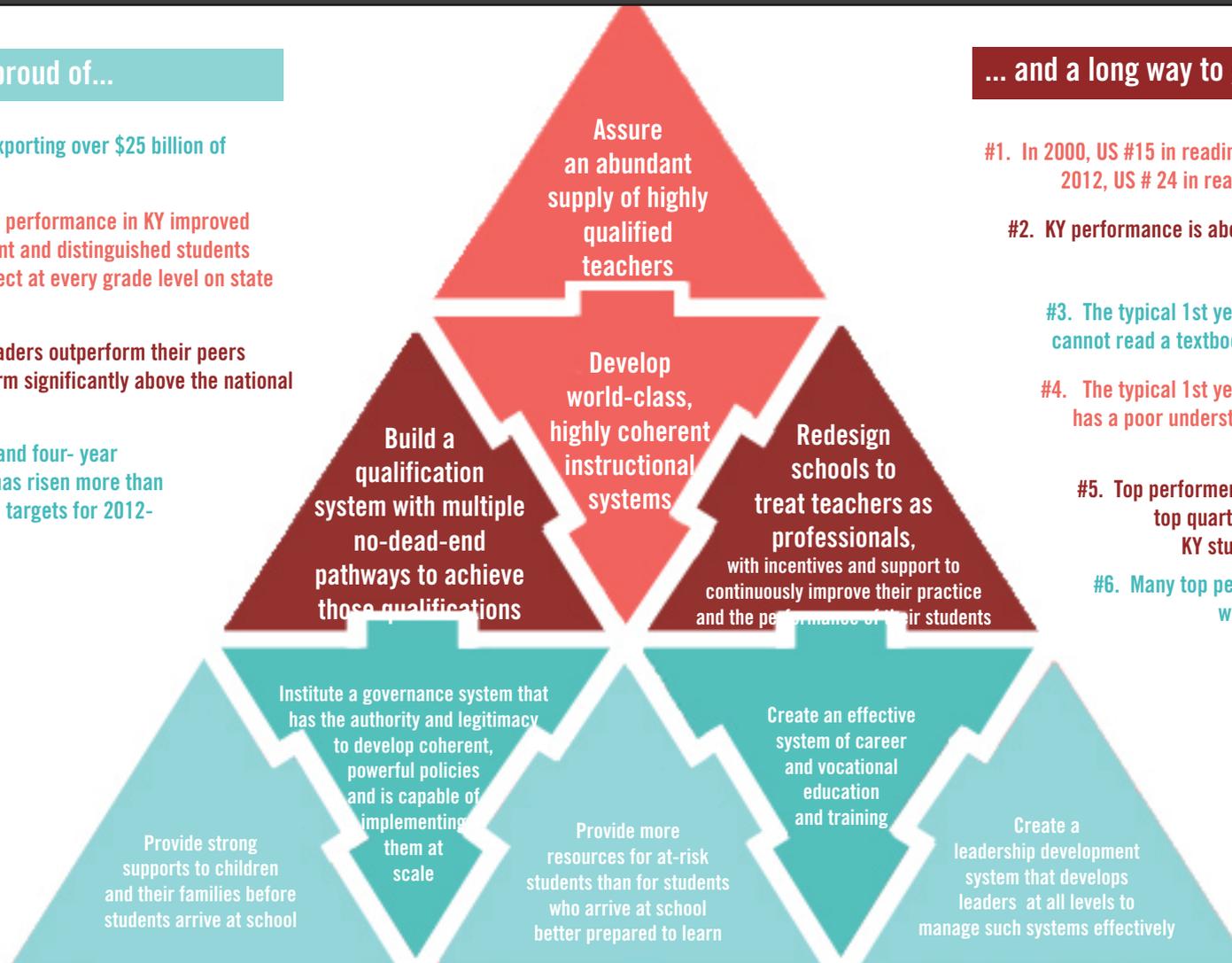
9 Building Blocks the Top Performers have used to create the world's most successful education systems

We have much to be proud of...

- #1. KY has a global economy, exporting over \$25 billion of products to 198 countries.
- #2. In 2013-14, overall student performance in KY improved with the percentage of proficient and distinguished students increasing in nearly every subject at every grade level on state assessments
- #3. On NAEP, KY 4th and 8th graders outperform their peers nationally in reading and perform significantly above the national average in science.
- #4. In KY the percent of two- and four- year graduates with STEM degrees has risen more than 15 percent and exceeded state targets for 2012-2013.

... and a long way to go

- #1. In 2000, US #15 in reading, #17 in math, #14 in science In 2012, US # 24 in reading, #36 in math, #27 in science
- #2. KY performance is about average for US states in math and writing on NAEP.
- #3. The typical 1st year US community college student cannot read a textbook written at the 12th grade level
- #4. The typical 1st year US community college student has a poor understanding of elementary and middle school math
- #5. Top performers recruit their teachers from the top quarter of college bound students, but KY students come from the bottom half
- #6. Many top performers pay beginning teachers what they pay beginning engineers



QUESTION: How can we figure out how to match the performance of the top-performing countries?

ANSWER: By studying the strategies they used to get there.