

**Commissioner's Report
Kentucky Board of Education Meeting
February 6, 2013**

Eight Districts of Distinction to be Honored at Feb. 6 KBE Meeting

As part of the Feb. 6 KBE meeting, we will be recognizing eight school districts for achieving the "District of Distinction" status on the new accountability system. The ceremony will be held at 1:00 p.m. as part of the KBE meeting.

Those districts to be recognized are: Anchorage Independent, Beechwood Independent, Boyle County, Corbin Independent, Ft. Thomas Independent, Murray Independent, Pikeville Independent and Walton-Verona Independent.

To be recognized as a District of Distinction, a district must:

- score at the 95th percentile or higher on the Overall Score
- meet their current year AMO/AYP goals, student participation rate and graduation rate goal
- have a graduation rate above 60 percent for the prior two years
- not have any Focus Schools in the district

Further Information on KISBIT Deficit

The Kentucky Department of Education is working with several other agencies to develop a set of questions for school districts to ask as they consider the situation relative to the Kentucky School Boards Insurance Trust's (KISBIT's) deficit. We will provide those to you once they are ready.

TELL Kentucky Survey Returns

The Teaching, Empowering, Leading and Learning (TELL) Kentucky Survey returns for educator participation in about six weeks.

In support of this initiative, Governor Beshear has done a personal message to educators and a video in support of the survey that will appear on the TELL Kentucky Survey website.

March 4-29, every certified staff member in Kentucky's public schools will have an opportunity to use this anonymous, Web-based survey to voice their perceptions of working conditions in Kentucky schools. Questions will focus on areas such as time; facilities and resources; community support and involvement; managing student conduct; teacher leadership; school leadership; professional development; instructional practices and support; and new teacher support.

In 2011, more than 40,000 educators shared their opinions. The results have sparked positive change in schools across the state. The survey is designed to provide schools, districts and the state, data that can be used to enhance school improvement efforts.

E-Transcripts 2012-13 Pilot

Three Kentucky education agencies (KDE, KHEAA and CPE) have partnered on an electronic transcripts project. The 2012-13 pilot includes 15 schools from 15 districts. Full implementation will occur in 2013-14.

KDE is collecting transcripts from participating districts and working with four higher education institutions on preferences for a common transcript format.