

# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

### **Review Item:**

Kentucky Schools for the Blind (KSB) and Deaf (KSD) Update

### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 167.015, 167.150

### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 167.015 states that the Kentucky Schools for the Blind and Deaf “shall be managed and controlled by the Kentucky Board of Education.” KRS 167.150 provides that the “Kentucky Board of Education upon recommendation of the chief state school officer may prescribe admission policies, curriculum, and rules for the government and discipline of pupils who attend the Kentucky School for the Blind or the Kentucky School for the Deaf.”

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has increased support to the schools by providing a KSB and KSD liaison for the purpose of working on improved communications and efficiencies. The liaison provides weekly updates to the KDE including information, questions or concerns from the schools. Leadership from KSB and KSD meet quarterly with leadership at KDE to discuss issues related to the operation of the schools and how the strategic plans at each school align with KBE priorities.

The KDE has also been working with the Kentucky School for the Blind and the Kentucky School for the Deaf to update policies and procedures that will then be brought before the Kentucky Board of Education for consideration and adoption. Amendment to the attendance policies are the first policies being brought for action and these are dealt with in a separate staff note.

The presentation to KBE will provide more details about positive developments and planning to promote the college and career readiness of students at each school.

### **Impact on Getting to Proficiency:**

To meet the needs of all students, quality instruction and intervention, which leads to college and career readiness, is crucial. Consistent and clearly stated policies and procedures, specifically tailored to meet the unique needs of the students attending the Kentucky School for the Blind and the Kentucky School for the Deaf, are critical to providing an educational environment in which students may reach their fullest academic and career potential.

**Contact Person:**

Felicia Smith, Associate Commissioner  
Office of Next-Generation Learners  
(502) 564-9850  
[Felicia.Smith@education.ky.gov](mailto:Felicia.Smith@education.ky.gov)

Kevin Brown  
Office of Guiding Support Services  
(502) 564-4474  
[Kevin.brown@education.ky.gov](mailto:Kevin.brown@education.ky.gov)



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**Commissioner of Education**

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