

Kentucky Board of Education
August 7, 2014
Report from the Secretary
Education and Workforce Development Cabinet

- 1) The Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) was signed into law in mid-July. Numerous changes and positive enhancements have been made to the original Workforce Investment Act passed in 1998. WIOA supports the activities and programs under the Kentucky Workforce Investment Board's (KWIB) WorkSmart Strategic Plan and creates opportunities for collaborative work regarding sector strategies and career pathways.
- 2) The Education and Workforce Development Cabinet submitted an application for a National Governor's Association (NGA) Policy Academy on Aligning Education and Training with Economic Needs. The application reflects a partnership between Council on Postsecondary Education, Kentucky Department of Education, Cabinet for Economic Development and Department of Workforce Investment. The application is still under review.
- 3) Construction of the new State Records Center on Leestown Road was completed in April after 30 years of planning and preparation. The State Records Center holds records from more than 100 state agencies and the state's courts system. Beginning in April, state Records Center staff and crews from Kentucky Correctional Industries moved 130,000 boxes of records from the old storage facility at Buffalo Trace to the new location. This move was completed by June 30 when the lease expired. During July the staff accepted additional records from agencies and organized the records that had been moved. In August the moving of records from the second location on east Main St. will begin with completion of the move expected by Dec. 31. The new State Records Center will provide improved storage conditions and additional space for housing important state records.
- 4) The Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center held its 40th commencement on June 13. The center in Thelma, Kentucky, in Johnson County, had 131 graduates – 87 participated in the graduation ceremony.

The Perkins Center has been in operation since 1973. One of the main reasons for the creation of the center was to enable Kentuckians with disabilities to obtain all the services in one location they would need to become employed.

The Perkins Center serves individuals with many types of disabilities including learning disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorders, traumatic brain injury, intellectual disability, deaf/hard of hearing and physical disabilities from all areas of the Commonwealth. Consumers may live on our campus in dormitory housing or can commute to the center for classes and/or therapy.