

# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

### **Review Item:**

Discussion of TELL Kentucky Survey Results and Possible Policy Implications

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

KRS 156.557, 703 KAR 5:225, 704 KAR 3:345

### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy.*** The Teaching, Empowering, Leading and Learning Working Conditions (TELL Kentucky) Survey was administered for the second time in spring 2013. As in 2011, the TELL Kentucky Survey assessed the eight teaching condition areas of Time, Facilities and Resources, Community Support and Involvement, Managing Student Conduct, Teacher Leadership, School Leadership, Professional Development, and Instructional Practices and Support. Additionally, questions about induction were asked of novice teachers (those in their first three years in the profession) and principals were surveyed about supports they receive from their school districts. Research by the New Teacher Center (NTC) has demonstrated these conditions are essential elements of student achievement and teacher retention. The survey was customized for the state of Kentucky and included questions specific to school-based decision making councils.

At its October 2012 meeting, the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) adopted the Kentucky Teaching Conditions Standards. These standards have served as a tool for principal growth and for district and school improvement planning. In addition, in Priority and Focus Schools, these standards have been used to provide educators with a clearer understanding of what policies and practices should be in place to ensure teacher effectiveness.

At the June KBE meeting, the report on the preliminary findings from the 2013 TELL Kentucky Survey prepared by staff at the New Teacher Center (NTC) was presented. It contained an overview of the key findings.

At the August KBE meeting, NTC will provide an additional report on findings that will focus on Priority School results. Ann Maddock of the NTC will be present at the August KBE retreat to discuss findings from additional analyses (since the June KBE meeting) and guide board members through discussions related to possible policy implications.

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

When the results of the TELL Kentucky Working Conditions Survey reflect a high rate of teacher satisfaction with their working conditions, there is a high correlation to student achievement. The TELL survey data will be used as evidence to ensure every student is taught by an effective teacher and each school is led by an effective principal.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Holliday". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jay" and last name "Holliday" clearly distinguishable.

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**Commissioner of Education**

**Date:**

August 2013