

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE DRAFT

Action/Discussion Item:

702 KAR 7:140, School Calendar (Second Reading)

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 156.070, 156.160, 157.320, 157.350, 158.060, 158.070

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education approve 702 KAR 7:140, School Calendar?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. The above listed statutes authorize the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to create school calendar regulations for Kentucky's local school districts. 702 KAR 7:140 provides guidelines for districts to use in providing the required instructional time for students.

The 2014 regular session of the Kentucky General Assembly amended KRS 157.350 and KRS 158.070 requiring updates to 702 KAR 7:140 concerning school calendars. These changes will update information about the processing and structure of school calendars, including waivers in times of extreme hardship. A list of the proposed changes is attached.

Staff Recommendation and Rationale:

Staff recommends the approval of 702 KAR 7:140, School Calendar. The changes should result in clearer guidance to local districts in the creation and amendment of school calendars. This will support efforts to ensure that students receive the maximum required amount of instructional time to be college- and career-ready.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

Clear guidance on school calendars allows for maximizing instructional time.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

The proposed changes were presented to the Kentucky Directors of Pupil Personnel (KDPP) Board of Directors on May 9, 2014. The KDPP board members reviewed and provided comments on the proposed changes, all of which are addressed in the list of changes that accompany this staff note.

The Local Superintendents Advisory Council (LSAC) also reviewed the proposed changes at its last meeting and will review it again prior to the August meeting. LSAC will provide a letter to the board providing feedback.

Comments were received from the Office of Education Accountability and incorporated into the proposed changes.

Contact Person:

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kay Kennedy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kay" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Kennedy".

Kay Kennedy, Director
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Commissioner of Education

Date:

August 2014