

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Discussion Item:

Kentucky Schools for the Blind and Deaf School Facilities Policy

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 156.070, KRS 167.015

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the submitted KSB/KSD policy?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. KRS 156.070 gives the Kentucky Board of Education the management and control of the Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) and the Kentucky School for the Blind (KSB). Upon review of existing policies and procedures at each school, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) staff and school leadership recognized the need for these to be updated, and, to the extent possible, be consistent between the schools. As a result, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and the schools have been working with the Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA) and its model policies to produce a set of policies for KSB and KSD. Not only will these policies provide consistency between KSB and KSD, they will be consistent with school districts across the Commonwealth, except in those few instances when the unique situation of the schools would require otherwise.

The KBE approved the bulk of the policies at its August meeting. However, the school facilities policy was not ready for KBE review for that meeting. Therefore, the school facilities policy is being submitted to the October board meeting for approval. The attached policy has been reviewed by school and KDE leadership.

Staff Recommendation and Rationale:

Staff recommends approval of the KSB/KSD school facilities policy. As KSB/KSD move forward focusing on student learning, there is an increasing demand to use the facilities by outside groups. A facilities policy is needed to give guidance as it relates to dealing in an equitable way with all requesting groups and making facilities available to be used to meet the increasing demand.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

Successful organizations and schools have a set of policies that establish clear operational procedures.

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Commissioner of Education

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