

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**STAFF NOTE**

**Review Item:**

Status Update on State Management in the Breathitt County School District

**Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 158.780, KRS 158.785 and 703 KAR 3:205

**History/Background:**

*Existing Policy.* On December 5, 2012, the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approved the Breathitt County School District (Breathitt) as being designated a state-managed district. On August 26, 2014, the KBE voted to continue state management in Breathitt for another three (3) years.

Per direction of the KBE, and with the approval of the Commissioner, the Breathitt County Board of Education recently completed a superintendent search process with the assistance of the Kentucky School Boards Association. The top three (3) candidates from this search were presented to the Commissioner of Education for consideration. The Commissioner supports the top choice of the local board, David Gibson, as the new superintendent.

The local board entered into a contract with David Gibson to start as superintendent on July 15. The contract specifically notes:

STATE MANAGEMENT. The Parties acknowledge that the district is currently under state management and that all decisions are subject to the approval of the Kentucky Commissioner of Education during the period of state management.

At the time of preparation of this staff note, it is also anticipated that Larry Hammond will complete his term as full-time state manager on July 31, 2015. KDE staff are coordinating with the district during this transition process to provide continued oversight and support under state management, including assigning appropriate staff to serve as state managers/monitors.

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**Commissioner of Education**

**Date:**

August 2015