

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

Process for Developing a New Accountability System

Rationale:

This item is designed to introduce the board to the current opportunity to improve Kentucky's accountability system.

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 158.6453; KRS 158.6455; 703 KAR 5:200; 703 KAR 5:225; 703 KAR 5:230

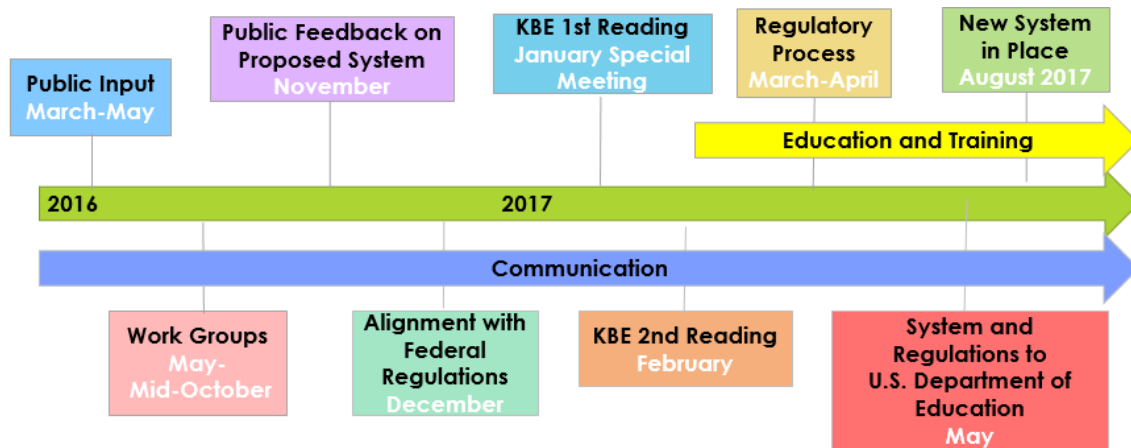
History/Background:

Existing Policy: Kentucky's current accountability system, Unbridled Learning: College/Career Readiness for All, meets both state and federal requirements as defined in law and in the waiver agreement from the No Child Left Behind Act. The three components of the current system are Next-Generation Learners (i.e., individual student data), Next-Generation Instructional Programs and Support (i.e., program review results), and Next-Generation Professionals (i.e., professional growth and effectiveness system data for teachers and leaders). Unbridled Learning incorporates multiple measures into a single overall score.

Under the current system, Kentucky has experienced steady improvement in the rate of students graduating ready for the next step of college or career. Amid this positive outcome, concerns have been voiced about the complexity of the system and unintended consequences. The phase-in of components over time has required the management of frequent changes at the state and local levels.

Summary: With the recent passage of the new elementary and secondary education act, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the federal waiver process will end and states have an opportunity to revise their accountability systems to meet new requirements. As Kentucky begins the conversation about revisions, it is critical to hear from Kentuckians. The first step is a series of eleven Town Hall meetings across Kentucky. The Town Halls ask parents, educators, elected officials, community members and students about the things they value in our schools. Commissioner Pruitt's goal is to collaborate with all shareholders across the state to produce a system that is fair, reliable, valid and simpler; a system that celebrates the good things that happen in our schools and districts and one that holds all accountable for providing a quality education for all students.

After the initial information gathering and discussion with the Kentucky Board of Education, work groups will begin to draft an accountability design and state regulations. A draft timeline found below lists several steps in the development process. Throughout development, communication will be a key focus.



The PowerPoint used at the Town Hall meetings is attached. The presentation to the KBE will reference the PowerPoint and share common themes that have emerged during the Town Halls that have emerged prior to the KBE meeting.

Budget Impact: The cost of the Town Hall meetings is minimal. As a new accountability system is designed, budget impact will be developed.

Contact Person:

Rhonda L. Sims
Associate Commissioner
Office of Assessment and Accountability
(502) 564-2256
Rhonda.Sims@education.ky.gov

Commissioner of Education

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