

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

2016-2018 Legislative and Biennial Budget Update

Rationale:

To update the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) on the final status of the 2016-2018 legislative session and the biennial budget.

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS Chapter 48 and KRS 156.024

History/Background:

Existing Policy: It is the practice of the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to inform and advise the KBE on enacted legislation which may affect the Kentucky Department of Education and the enacted biennial budget at the conclusion of the legislative process.

Summary: The 2016 General Session of the General Assembly has concluded. Legislation has been passed which will affect the operations of P-12 education, as well as the finalization of the biennial budget for the next two fiscal years. (A summary of legislation appears as an attachment.)

Overall, the KDE is pleased with the final results of the budget and appreciates the level of financial support from the Governor and the General Assembly to P-12 education in a challenging fiscal environment. The Support Education Excellence in Kentucky appropriation for base school level funding was not subject to reductions and was held at \$3,981 per pupil. In the area of facilities, the KDE was appropriated an additional \$2 million each fiscal year for a system to evaluate the condition of school facilities to be used by the General Assembly when considering school building funding. Flexibility for capital outlay was retained with a requirement that the KBE adopt guidelines for districts regarding requests for FY 17 and relative to recommendations for FY 18 to be considered by the General Assembly. Finally, capital funds for a total of \$15 million were appropriated to support renovations and repairs to facilities at the Kentucky School for the Deaf and Kentucky School for the Blind.

The grants programs contained in the Learning and Results Services Program section of the budget had a few language vetoes but the overall appropriation was held at FY 16 levels. New language was enacted in the Preschool Program to develop a grant program to incentivize cooperative, public-private partnerships between school districts and child care

providers. Further information will be provided at the KBE meeting relating to specific legislation, budget and accompanying vetoes.

Budget Impact: HB 303 as enacted establishes the 2016-2018 Executive Branch Budget, which includes appropriations to KDE for the funding of P-12 education.

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Commissioner of Education

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