

# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

### **Action/Discussion Item:**

Request for an Alternative Model of School-Based Decision Making (SBDM) from Berea Community Middle and High School

### **Commissioner's Recommendation:**

The Commissioner recommends that the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the alternative SBDM model prior to July 1, 2016.

### **Rationale:**

To provide Berea Community Middle and High School approval to implement a different structure for school-based decision making. The alternative model requested by Berea is consistent with all requirements listed in 701 KAR 5:100, Guidelines for alternative models for school-based decision making.

### **Action Question:**

Should the KBE approve the alternative SBDM model requested by Berea Community Middle and High School?

### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 160.345(7), 701 KAR 5:100

### **History/Background:**

**Existing Policy:** KRS 160.345 (7) allows a school that chooses to have school-based decision making but requests to be exempt from the administrative structure set forth in the statute to develop a model for implementing SBDM that includes, but is not limited to, a description of the membership, organization, duties and responsibilities of a school council. Pursuant to 701 KAR 5:100, the school is required to submit the model through the local board of education to the commissioner of education and the KBE, which shall have the final authority for approval. The application for approval of the model is required to show evidence that it has been developed by representatives of the parents, students, certified personnel, and the administrators of the school and that two-thirds of the faculty have agreed to the model.

**Summary:** The Berea Community Middle and High School each have their own separate school code and are therefore classified as two separate schools. This necessitates a

request for permission to have only one school council for both schools, grades 6-12. Faculty voted on February 18, 2016 on the alternative model. Seventy-three percent of the faculty voted in favor of the SBDM alternative model. The Berea Independent Board of Education chair signed a statement on March 23, 2016 supporting the alternative model.

No other changes in structure, authority or requirements are being requested.

***Budget Impact:*** No additional state funds are required.

**Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:**

Parent representatives, student representatives, certified staff, and the principal were involved in the consultation process and the majority support the alternative structure.

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**Commissioner of Education**

**Date:**

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