

# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

### **Review Item:**

Districts of Innovation Monitoring Status Report

### **Rationale:**

To apprise the board of progress made in District of Innovation school districts.

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

KRS 156.108, KRS 160.107 and 701 KAR 5:140

### **History/Background:**

*Existing Policy:* KRS 156.108(4) requires the Kentucky Board of Education to promulgate administrative regulations that implement KRS 156.108 and KRS 160.107 (the District of Innovation statutes).

701 KAR 5:140(4) describes the process for monitoring the implementation of each District of Innovation plan. Subsection 2 provides that “At the completion of the second year after plan approval and each year thereafter for the term of the approval status, a district approved as a District of Innovation shall annually provide data to the commissioner that shall include the following:

- a) Number of students served by the innovation plan, total number and by socio-economic status, race or ethnicity, gender, disability, and grade level;
- b) Number of students served by the innovation plan not on track to graduate from high school, total number and by socio-economic status, race or ethnicity, gender, disability, and grade level;
- c) Documentation of student progress toward graduation and college and career readiness;
- d) Total number of certified teachers participating in the innovation plan and their roles and responsibilities;
- e) Documentation of certified and classified staff operating in a non-traditional school environment;
- f) Documentation of any extended learning opportunities in which students in the school of innovation participate for the purposes of earning or recovering credit, including qualifications of instructors, time spent, and student outcomes; and
- g) Other measurable outcomes specific to the district’s innovation plan as described in the initial application or through modification of the original plan.”

Additionally, Subsection 3 provides that “At the end of the second year after plan approval and each year thereafter for the term of the approval status, a district approved as a District of Innovation shall receive an annual site visit from a review team selected and trained by the department. The purpose of the visit shall be to monitor progress and interview staff and students to collect qualitative data on the effect of the innovation plan and for future research needs.”

**Summary:** Pursuant to 701 KAR 5:140, in April of 2016, KDE staff collected documentation of implementation of the innovation plans from six of the seven Districts of Innovation: Eminence Independent, Jefferson County, Owensboro Independent, Owsley County, Taylor County, and Trigg County. In addition, each district received a site visit and interviews were conducted with teachers, building principals, and district administrators. From this information, status reports were created for each district. The status reports for these districts appear as attachments to this staff note.

**Budget Impact:** No additional state funds are allocated for the Districts of Innovation program.

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**Commissioner of Education**

**Date:**

June 2016