

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

Kentucky's School Improvement Work

Rationale:

The attached report will provide the findings of the School Improvement Diagnostic performed by Mass Insight Education and update the board on the success of school improvement efforts in Kentucky.

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 160.346, KRS 158.780, KRS 158.785, 703 KAR 3:205, 703 KAR 5:225

History/Background:

Existing Policy: The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is required by statute to provide services and support to assist low-performing schools, as well as state-assisted and state-managed districts. The purpose of the attached report is to provide an overview of the findings from Mass Insight Education's State Development Network (SDN) diagnostic review of the KDE work on school improvement and turnaround. The diagnostic process is driven by the SDN framework for school improvement and turnaround; it is designed to explore and gauge the state's effectiveness and ability to drive and support school improvement and turnaround efforts statewide through the seven core components of a comprehensive state-level strategy, structure, and process.

Summary: Attached for the board's review is Mass Insight's final report, which is titled "Mass Insight State Development Network School Turnaround Diagnostic: Kentucky." The evidence for this analysis was collected from a series of stakeholder interviews conducted by Mass Insight Education on a state site visit in 2016. Interviewees included representatives from the KDE, school and district leadership, and a statewide citizen's group. In addition to the interviews, Mass Insight Education collected relevant data and documents to inform the diagnostic process. Dr. Susan Lusi, president and CEO of Mass Insight Education, will be present at the February meeting to provide highlights from the final report.

The chart that is provided organizes the diagnostic findings across each of the seven components of the SDN Framework for School Turnaround. The summary analysis for each component provides additional detail on specific sub-elements of each component. The chart also displays qualitative ratings of the state's current status in addressing the

elements of each component. Component elements can receive a rating of Needs Improvement (NI), Developing (D), or Proficient (P) based on the preponderance of evidence. Overall component ratings also are provided at the end of each section. The findings are not meant to suggest that the state must address each of these areas immediately, but rather to provide an overall framework and assist in identifying priorities and high leverage areas that may be appropriate to address first. The final section of the report describes four areas that could, with some attention, positively impact KDE's work with chronically low-performing schools and districts.

Budget Impact: Budgetary impact for education recovery staff and overall school improvement efforts is \$7.5 million annually.

Contact Person:

Kelly Foster
Associate Commissioner
Office of Continuous Improvement and Support
(502) 564-5130
kelly.foster@education.ky.gov

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Stephen L. Pruitt".

Commissioner of Education

Date:

February 2017