

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

Kentucky Board of Education Vision Statement and Goals

Rationale:

In August the board agreed on the following vision statement: *Each and every student empowered and equipped with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to pursue a successful future.*

According to our Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) staff survey, the word “dispositions” was not clearly understood by many. Others felt that the word meant character or personality traits that cannot be changed by the education system. Therefore, after further discussion by KDE’s strategic planning committee, two options have been put forward for consideration: 1) change the word to perseverance; 2) keep the word dispositions and determine a common definition for casting the vision.

The suggested definition could be, “knowledge – what students know, skills – what students do with that knowledge, and dispositions – how students use knowledge and skills to respond to challenges and take advantage of opportunities.” It would be extremely important that everyone uses the same terminology to explain the word dispositions.

As for the goals, establishing high-level goals for the commonwealth will enable KDE to move forward in establishing agency-level goals. The goals established at the agency level will inform decisions regarding the strategies that are chosen and the indicators that will be used to measure success of both the agency-level and state-level goals.

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

Elementary and Secondary Education Act Waiver; KRS 156.029(7); KRS 156.070; KRS 156.148

History/Background:

Existing Policy: At the October 2010 Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) meeting, adoption of the KBE Strategic Plan by the board occurred. The plan’s vision was “Every child proficient and prepared for success.” Its strategic priorities were Next Generation Learners, Next-Generation Professionals, Next-Generation Support Systems, Next-Generation Schools/Districts and Strategic Process Development for KDE Support and Guiding Processes. Objectives and goals for each strategic priority are in place.

Summary: KDE is in the process of designing a new strategic plan. The first step is for the board to finalize a vision statement. The next step for board members is to finalize state-level goals.

Karen Dodd, Chief Performance Officer, will ask the board to agree on one of the options stated above for the KBE vision statement and to give feedback on the state-level goals. The state-level goals that are being proposed are as follows:

- Ready by the end of Grade 3
- Ready for Middle School
- Ready for High School
- Ready for Success

Budget Impact: No impact to department funds results from the planning process itself.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

The KBE drafted the new vision statement in August 2016. A survey was sent to the KDE staff as part of developing a KDE new mission statement in alignment with the board's vision statement. The vision and mission were shared with staff. A majority of the feedback consisted of a concern about the word "dispositions" in the vision statement. KDE's strategic planning team met and developed the options stated in this staff note. The KDE strategic planning committee has also reviewed the state-level goals and is seeking support from board members.

Contact Persons:

Karen Dodd, Chief Performance Officer
Office of the Commissioner
Commissioner's Delivery Unit
(502) 564-2102 x4700
Karen.dodd@education.ky.gov



Commissioner of Education

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