

# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

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

Consideration to Remove Fleming and Robertson Counties and Caverna Independent from State Assistance

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

The Commissioner recommends that Fleming and Robertson Counties and Caverna Independent be removed from state assistance as a result of the progress made and the results of a management audit conducted for all three districts, in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations.

### **Rationale:**

To show the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) that these districts have made sufficient progress and no longer require the status of "state assisted" districts.

### **Action Question:**

Should the KBE approve the recommendation to remove Fleming and Robertson Counties and Caverna Independent from the designation of state assistance?

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

KRS 158.780, KRS 158.785 and 703 KAR 3:205

### **History/Background:**

*Existing Policy:* The history/background on school districts in state assistance is as follows:

1. At the October 2013 state board meeting, the Robertson County School District was designated for state assistance by the KBE.
2. At the December 2013 state board meeting, the Fleming County School District was designated for state assistance by the KBE.
3. At the February 2015 state board meeting, the Caverna Independent School District was designated for state assistance by the KBE.

*Summary of Issue:* Pursuant to KRS 158.780, KRS 158.785 and 703 KAR 3:205, and based on the attached reports, the Commissioner presents the following for consideration:

1. Robertson County School District: On April 11-13, 2017, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) conducted a management audit of the district, the findings of which are attached. The Commissioner thus recommends removing the Robertson County School District from state assistance.
2. Fleming County School District: On March 12-15, 2017, the KDE conducted a management audit of the district, the findings of which are attached. The Commissioner thus recommends removing the Fleming County School District from state assistance.
3. Caverna Independent School District: On February 26 through March 1, 2017, the KDE conducted a management audit of the district, the findings of which are attached. The Commissioner thus recommends removing Caverna Independent School District from state assistance.

***Budget Impact:*** There is an ongoing fiscal impact on the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), based upon the assignment of personnel and resources from the Office of Continuous Improvement and Support, to assist with the work in these districts. Resources also are assigned from the Office of Finance and Operations on an as needed basis. The estimated budget impact to KDE is approximately \$980,000 annually in staffing related costs.

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

KDE and staff within each of the districts have worked together diligently to improve identified priorities. The decision to remove the above mentioned districts from state assistance comes after demonstrated evidence of significant improvement and consideration of each district's capacity for continued growth.

**Contact Persons:**

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**Commissioner of Education**

**Date:**

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