

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

780 KAR 3:080, Extent and duration of school term, use of school days and extended employment. (*First Reading*)

Rationale:

To bring forward proposed amendments to this administrative regulation for review and input and then bring it back for a second reading in August for approval. The amendments update the regulation and alter the school calendar for Kentucky Tech employees.

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

156.029, 156.802, 156.808

History/Background:

Existing Policy: KRS 156.029 discusses the membership and functions of the Kentucky Board of Education. KRS 156.802 gives the Kentucky Department of Education's Office of Career and Technical Education the responsibility for all administrative functions of the state in relation to the management, control, and operation of state-operated secondary area technology centers. KRS 156.808(3)(i) gives the Kentucky Board of Education the authority to promulgate regulations regarding the extent and duration of the state-operated area technology centers' school term, use of school days, and extended employment.

Summary: The proposed amendments switch Kentucky Tech teachers and principals from the ten and a half (10.5) month system of measuring a school year, to a calendar day system, similar to local school districts. The revisions create flexibility that will help to meet the needs of feeder districts. The amendments will alter the dates a school year begins and ends. The process to request extended employment will become less formal, and paperwork will be reduced as a result. These amendments also provide updated terminology, information, and processes related to Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in Kentucky.

The proposed amendments are needed for the following reasons:

- To bring Kentucky Tech personnel system into alignment with local school districts, the Kentucky School for the Blind, and the Kentucky School for the Deaf.

- To bring the Kentucky Tech calendar into alignment with local schools and districts. Including the addition of non-traditional instruction days.
- To increase flexibility in the Kentucky Tech system to meet the needs of local schools and districts.
- To make the school calendar consistent with the fiscal year.
- To streamline requests for extended employment, which expands opportunities for professional development.

Budget Impact: The proposed changes to this administrative regulation have no fiscal impact on the Kentucky Department of Education's budget.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses

Kentucky Tech Area Supervisors

Kentucky Tech Principals and Teachers

The Local Superintendents Advisory Council

Kentucky Department of Education, Office of Finance and Operations Staff

There has been extensive opportunity for Kentucky Tech employees at all levels to provide feedback on the proposed amendments through regional Skype meetings, an online survey and an informational webinar. All parties are in support of the the proposed amendments.

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Commissioner of Education

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