

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Consent Item:

District Facility Plan Amendments: Jessamine, Marion, Mercer and Shelby County School Districts

Commissioner's Recommendation:

The Commissioner recommends that the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the proposed amended District Facility Plans (DFPs) for Jessamine, Marion, Mercer and Shelby County School Districts in accordance with 702 KAR 4:180.

Rationale:

To provide the opportunity for department staff to certify for the KBE that the plans presented are in compliance with 702 KAR 4:180 and the appropriate steps have occurred as follows: (1) Local Planning Committee (LPC) selection process documented; (2) review of proposed district facility plans for educational programs and curriculum, demographics, facility evaluations, adequacy of financial plan, and adequacy of square footage; (3) public meetings and forums notification through news media; (4) local public hearing conducted with appointed hearing officer; and (5) plans submitted for KBE approval.

Action Question

Should the KBE approve the proposed amended DFPS for the Kentucky school districts listed above?

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 157.420 (4), KRS 157.622, KRS 157.620, 702 KAR 4:180

History/Background:

Existing Policy: In accordance with 702 KAR 4:180, each district must develop a local DFP at the completion of a four-year cycle or at the completion of an eight-year cycle (maximum) if the district applies for and is granted a waiver.

Summary: The facilities planning process provides a DFP that contains an assessment of the school district's attributes and operations including the district profile, demographic information, facility conditions, and finances (cost of delivery of service). Local school districts are required to select a LPC to develop a DFP outlining capital construction priorities. During this cycle, a district may amend the DFP to reflect changes within the district.

Information reviewed in amending the DFP provides the LPC with a comprehensive view of program and facility needs required to provide an equitable educational opportunity. Information for review is developed by the LPC and its consultants.

The LPC, by virtue of its makeup, encourages both community involvement and diversity of ideas. The LPC recommends a DFP to the local board; if the local board does not approve the DFP, it goes back to the LPC for further refinement. However, a DFP submitted for approval by the KBE is the final decision of the local board of education and may or may not reflect the determinations of the LPC.

The submitted amended DFP's for Jessamine, Marion, Mercer and Shelby County School Districts were recommended by the LPCs and approved by the local boards of education. Attached with the amended district's facility plan and hearing report are enrollment projections and enrollment histories with non-resident student data for the district.

Budget Impact: Approval of amended District Facility Plans has no budget impact on state funds.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses

Public forums and a local public hearing were held in the school districts with no significant issues noted. The plans were approved by the local planning committees and district school boards.

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Commissioner of Education

Date:

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