

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

703 KAR 5:225, School and district accountability, recognition, support and consequences (First Reading)

Rationale:

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE), at its August 23, 2017 meeting, approved 703 KAR 5:270, Kentucky's new accountability system. The former accountability system is provided in part of 703 KAR 5:225 and should be removed, as it is no longer applicable. Additionally, the continuous improvement process for schools and districts, which includes mandatory needs assessments and improvement planning for federal funding purposes, was updated to reflect current needs and practices.

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 158.645, KRS 158.649, KRS 158.6451, KRS 158.6453, KRS 158.6455, KRS 160.346, 20 U.S.C. 6311

History/Background:

Existing Policy: In December 2015, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was passed by Congress and signed into law. In compliance with the new federal law, the KBE approved Kentucky's new accountability system. 703 KAR 5:225 retains some of the framework from the previous accountability system. Additionally, the regulation contains the continuous improvement process utilized by schools and districts in compliance with state and federal requirements.

Summary: The Comprehensive School and District Improvement Plans (CSIPs and CDIPs) are an essential element of Kentucky's continuous improvement planning. School and district improvement efforts focus on student needs through a collaborative process involving all stakeholders to establish and address priority needs, district funding, and closing achievement gaps between identified subgroups of students. Additionally, schools and districts build upon their capacity for high-quality planning by making connections between academic resources and available funding to address targeted needs.

The CSIP and CDIP include state and federally mandated reporting and planning including:

- Achievement Gap Plan – KRS 158.649

- Title I Needs Assessment – 20 USC 6311
- School Improvement and Turnaround Plans for TSI and CSI schools – KRS 160.346 and 20 USC 6311
- Equitable Access Diagnostic – 20 USC 6311
- School and District Safety Report – KRS 158.162, KRS 158.163, KRS 158.164

These amendments bring the regulation into alignment with Kentucky’s Consolidated State Plan, as submitted to the United States Department of Education, and state and federal statutory requirements.

Budget Impact: These amendments do not change the CSIP and CDIP process and do not create additional fiscal burdens for schools, districts, or the Kentucky Department of Education.

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Commissioner of Education

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