

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

Hope Street Group (HSG) Update

Rationale:

To update the board on the work associated with HSG, through its Kentucky State Teacher Fellows Program. This update has occurred annually in the past.

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 156.557, 704 KAR 3:370

History/Background:

Existing Policy: On April 11, 2013, a partnership with HSG and the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, Kentucky Education Association (KEA) and Prichard Committee was announced for the purpose of better engaging teachers in the implementation of Kentucky's Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES). HSG is a national nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that connects teachers to policy makers through its State Teacher Fellows Program.

The Kentucky State Teacher Fellowship Program has since been replicated in Hawaii, Tennessee, North Carolina, Utah, Arizona and Virginia. The fellowship enables teachers to be active participants in state education conversations by developing necessary competencies and providing a platform to discuss ideas and create solutions. The fellowship program fosters teacher leadership in schools, districts and regions across the state for the purpose of elevating the teaching profession, creating communication pathways between classroom teachers and policy makers, and supporting evidence-based decision making and solutions to common problems of practice.

Summary: At the October board meeting, the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) will hear an overview of the Hope Street Group program and how the collection and synthesis of teacher perspectives/voice has impacted learning systems across the state. Fellows also will detail their collaborative efforts to engage teachers, drive professional learning and expose teachers to policy matters.

HSG Kentucky State Teacher Fellows and their previous director, Brad Clark, and current director, Stan Torzewski, also will present their findings and goals for the upcoming year.

Budget Impact: The HSG Kentucky State Teacher Fellows Program has received funding from the KDE state general funds since 2013. The current funding is \$250,000 as part of a two-year renewable contract.

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Commissioner of Education

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