

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: Approval of Quality of School Climate and Safety Measure

Date: August 2019

Action Requested: Review Action/Consent Action/Discussion

Held In: Full Board Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

Finance Operations Management

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To review and take action on the proposed method for the Quality of School Climate and Safety Indicator in Kentucky's Accountability System.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends that the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the proposed method of a student survey to implement the Quality of School Climate and Safety Indicator. The method will entail students responding to a Kentucky-developed survey administered during state testing.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

703 KAR 5:270, KRS 158.6453 and KRS 158.6455

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

KRS 158.6455 requires the KBE to promulgate administrative regulations to create and implement a balanced statewide assessment and accountability program that measures the achievement of students, schools and districts, complies with the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and ensures accountability. In addition, KRS 158.6455 requires that the accountability system include an overall performance evaluation of each school and district, student assessment results, progress toward achieving English proficiency by limited English proficiency students, quality of school climate and safety, high school graduation rates, postsecondary readiness for each high school students, and any other factor mandated by the ESSA of 2015.

Kentucky's accountability system, 703 KAR 5:270, is an administrative regulation that establishes the statewide system of accountability and meets requirements set forth in the federal ESSA of 2015 at 20 U.S.C. 6311. This regulation includes the indicators that are used to classify schools and local education agencies. These indicators include proficiency, separate academic indicator, growth, transition readiness, graduation rate, and quality of school climate and safety.

Summary of Issue:

As stated in 703 KAR 5:270, the KBE shall approve the measures of quality of school climate and safety. Additionally, the performance levels of the Quality of School Climate and Safety, from very low to very high, will be determined by Kentucky educators with a standards setting process.

The KBE approved delaying the inclusion of the Quality of School Climate and Safety indicator into the accountability system until the 2019-2020 school year. The inclusion of the new indicator was approved by the KBE in December 2018 (weighted as 4 % of the overall score).

BUDGET IMPACT:

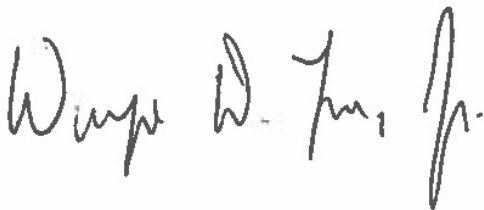
Federal and state money will be used to develop, adapt and administer the surveys to provide a measure for this indicator. The Kentucky Department of Education anticipates survey items being administered during the state assessment.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

The proposed method will go before Local Superintendents Advisory Council (LSAC) at its July 30 meeting. Comments from the LSAC should be received by the August meeting. In addition, the proposed method was discussed with the School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council (SCAAC) on July 16, with feedback expected by the August board meeting.

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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Commissioner of Education

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