KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: Update on the Process to Determine 5-Star Ratings for Kentucky Schools
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 the process to determine the 5-star ratings for Kentucky schools.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

This is a review item; therefore, no recommendation is included.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

703 KAR 5:270, KRS 158.6451, KRS 158.6453 and KRS 158.6455

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

KRS 158.6453 and KRS 158.6455 require 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 schools' accountability.

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. An overall star rating for elementary, middle and high schools will be reported using a 5-star rating system to communicate performance of schools, with one star being the lowest rating and five stars being the highest rating. In order to achieve a star rating for schools and local education agencies, a standard setting process involving Kentucky educators and advised technical experts, will be conducted to determine very low to very high performance levels for each indicator in the accountability system. The indicators that will be used to determine a star rating for 2018-2019 are proficiency, separate academic indicator, growth, graduation rate and transition readiness. The quality of school climate and safety indicator will be included in the five-star rating in 2019-2020.

Summary of Issue:

Kentucky is in the process of implementing a new accountability system. For the 2017-2018 school year, not all indicators in the new system were developed and used in accountability. For

2017-2018, the state only identified schools for Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) and Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI), and was unable to use a 5-star rating system.

For the 2018-2019 school year, Kentucky plans to include additional indicators in the system and an overall star rating will be used.

Budget Impact:

General funds from the Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability (OSAA) will be used to conduct the standards setting committee work for the 5-star rating system. Expenses will include travel reimbursement, meals and stipends for the committee members.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

A brief presentation about the process to determine the 5-star rating was presented to the School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council (SCAAC) on July 16.

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Commissioner of Education

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