

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: Kentucky Facilities Inventory and Classification System (KFICS)

Date: October 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 present an update on the Kentucky Facilities Inventory and Classification System (KFICS). KRS 157.420(9) requires the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to standardize the process for evaluating the overall quality and condition of all school building across the state. House Bill (HB) 200 (2016) requires the KDE to provide an updated list of school buildings evaluated by the process to the Legislative Research Commission (LRC) in October 2019.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 157.420 (9) and (10); 702 KAR 4:160; 702 KAR 4:170; 702 KAR 4:180; HB 200 (2018)

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

KRS 157.420(9) requires the KDE to standardize the process for evaluating the overall quality and condition of all school buildings across the state. The 2016 (HB 366) and 2018 (HB 200) Executive Branch biennial budgets included a general fund appropriation to provide for a standardized quality and condition evaluation system for school buildings. With these funds, the KDE was able to procure Ameresco as a vendor, and relies on its services and software to capture and build facilities inventories in each district in order to provide consistent evaluation and reporting. Each budget bill required the KDE to maintain and update the list and provide a copy to the legislature by October 1 in odd-numbered years.

Evaluations are required for public schools, career technology centers, special education programs, alternative programs, programs serving state agency children, area technology centers, and the Kentucky School for the Blind and the School for the Deaf.

Summary of Issue:

The KDE worked with Ameresco and the districts to build facilities inventories; this process will continue beyond this biennium. The system, once all inventories are in place, will provide district management, KDE and external parties with an up-to-date source for inventory condition and renovation needs.

Budget Impact:

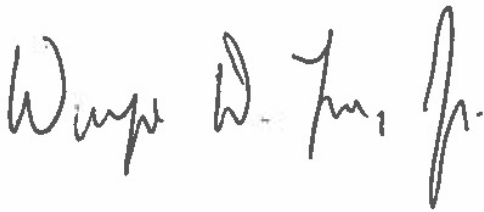
KDE's 2018-20 biennial budget includes \$600,000/year to maintain the KFICS. These funds are used to purchase software licenses, train district personnel and their third party providers, system and reporting design, and development. Funds also are available to build internal resource capacity through the procurement of contractors to assist with the KFICS. The KDE will need ongoing budgetary support to continue this initiative.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

Districts and their third party design professionals have continuously provided feedback on the software tool as well as the audit and survey processes. Suggestions were, and continue to be, incorporated to improve the system when practical and cost efficient.

CONTACT PERSON(S):

Robin Fields Kinney, Associate Commissioner
Office of Finance and Operations
Robin.Kinney@education.ky.gov
(502) 564-1976



Commissioner of Education

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