

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: Request from Rosenwald-Dunbar Elementary School (Jessamine County) for an Alternative Model of School-Based Decision Making (SBDM)

Date: April 2020

Action Requested: Review Action/Consent Action/Discussion

Held In: Full Board Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Operations

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To take action on Rosenwald-Dunbar Elementary School’s request to implement an alternative school-based decision making (SBDM) council, specifically to include one non-voting classified staff member on its SBDM. KRS 160.345(7) gives the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) final authority for approving alternative SBDM models.

COMMISSIONER’S RECOMMENDATION:

The Interim Commissioner recommends that the KBE approve the alternative SBDM model requested by Rosenwald-Dunbar Elementary School to be implemented beginning July 1, 2020.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 160.345, 701 KAR 5:080, and 701 KAR 5:100.

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

KRS 160.345(7) permits a school to request exemption from the SBDM structure prescribed in statute and, instead, develop an alternative model for implementing a school council. To do so, a school is required to submit an application that includes a description of the membership, organization, duties and responsibilities of the alternative SBDM model through the local board of education, to the Commissioner of Education and the KBE, which shall have the final authority for approval. The application for the alternative SBDM model is also required to show evidence that it was developed by representatives of the parents, students, certified personnel, and administrators of the school, and that two-thirds of the faculty have agreed to the model.

Summary of Issue:

Consistent with all requirements listed in KRS 160.345, 701 KAR 5:080 and 701 KAR 5:100, Rosenwald-Dunbar Elementary School requests to add one non-voting classified staff member to its SBDM council. On November 13, 2019, 100 percent of the faculty voted in favor of this alternative model. Subsequently, on January 27, 2020, the Jessamine County Board of Education reviewed the alternative SBDM model, and the chair of the local board signed the application,

along with the school principal, district superintendent, and representatives of administrators, certified staff, and parents of students at the school.

Budget Impact:

Approval of this waiver request would not impact state funds.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

As required by KRS 160.345(7), this application for an alternative SBDM model was “developed by representatives of the parents, students, certified personnel, and the administrators of the school” and at least two-thirds of the faculty have agreed to the model.

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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Interim Commissioner of Education

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