**SB 177 (2020) Signed into Kentucky on March 24, 2020 and retroactive to March 26, 2020, provides:**

*Section 8. Notwithstanding KRS 156.557 and 704 KAR 3:370, for the 2019-2020 school year, a local board of education may revise the district's certified evaluation plan due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.*

In response to the COVID-19 public health crisis, SB 177 allows Kentucky school districts the ability to modify the district’s Certified Evaluation Plan (CEP) for the 2019-2020 school year. The CEP can be modified to address the needs of the district during this time. CEP’s modified for the 2019-2020 school year, only require local school board approval. **KDE approval is not required.**

***What if the District is unable to follow the procedures established in the Certified Evaluation Plan due to the COVID-19 closures?***

The CEP can be modified to address the needs of the district during this time. KDE recommends districts consider their needs related to evaluation and make changes appropriately for what works best for their educators. The modified CEP must be approved by the local school board.

***What changes can be made to the CEP to ensure evaluations are completed this year?***

That is a district decision. The CEP can be modified to address the needs of the district during this time. CEP’s modified for the 2019-2020 school year, only require local school board approval. KDE approval is not required.

***What do we do about observations and evaluations? Can we change the number of required observations?***

Yes. The CEP can be modified to address procedures, timelines and requirements based on the needs of the district during this time. CEP’s modified for the 2019-2020 school year, only require local school board approval. KDE approval is not required.

***How do we handle the remaining summative evaluations?***

That is a district decision. The CEP can be modified to address procedures, timelines and requirements based on the needs of the district during this time. CEP’s modified for the 2019-2020 school year, only require local school board approval. KDE approval is not required.

***Can a district choose to extend summative evaluation cycles to 2020-21?***

Yes. The CEP can be modified to address procedures, timelines and requirements based on the needs of the district during this time. CEP’s modified for the 2019-2020 school year, only require local school board approval. KDE approval is not required.

***Do we need to involve the 50/50 committee in making changes to the 2019-20 CEP?***

While KDE recognizes involving the 50/50 committee as best practice, procedures for modifying the 2019-2020 CEP due to the COVID-19 health crisis is a district decision. CEP’s modified for the 2019-2020 school year, only require local school board approval. KDE approval is not required.

***Does the timeline and process remain the same for non-renewals and reduction of responsibility?***

SB 177 signed into law on March 24, 2020, provides:

*Section 10. Notwithstanding KRS 161.011, KRS 161.750, and KRS 161.760, or any other statute or administrative regulation to the contrary, written notices required to be provided to classified and certified school district employees regarding salary or nonrenewal of contracts may be delivered via regular mail or via email to the email address on record in the school district.*

KRS 161.760(1), requires that if a superintendent does not plan to renew the contract of a teacher under a limited contract, the superintendent shall present written notice to the teacher not later than May 15th of the school year the contract is in effect.

KRS 161.760(3), requires that if a reduction of responsibility for a teacher is accompanied by a corresponding reduction in salary, written notification stating the specific reason for the reduction shall be furnished to the teacher not later than ninety (90) days before the first student attendance day of the school year or May 15, whichever occurs earlier.

SB 177 allows written notices to be delivered by mail or email. The deadline for notice of nonrenewal or reduction of responsibility remains the same. However, these notices may be delivered by mail or email.

Please contact Todd Davis in the Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness (OELE) with any questions related to certified evaluation.

Todd Davis

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