

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) COVID-19 Project Update

Date: June 2020

Action Requested: ☒ Review ☐ Action/Consent ☐ Action/Discussion

Held In: ☒ Full Board ☐ Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment ☐ Operations

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To present updates on the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) efforts to support schools and districts to educate, feed and support Kentucky's students during the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 156.029(7); KRS 156.070; KRS 156.148; Federal Waivers

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

During the August 2018 board meeting, the board approved a shared vision with the KDE: Each and every student empowered and equipped to pursue a successful future.

KDE's mission statement: The KDE's mission is to partner with schools, parents, students, business and industry, and community partners to provide leadership and support to ensure success for each and every student.

Summary of Issue:

During this unprecedented time of dealing with COVID-19, the KDE had to revise its guidance and support to encourage the continuation of academic instruction and serving students meals on days when school would otherwise be canceled to close out the 2019-2020 school year.

Accordingly, the department enlisted project management to ensure constant focus and coordination of all COVID-19 related efforts, across all KDE offices. Phase one of project management focused on providing guidance and resources for schools and districts as they finished the 2019-2020 school year. The project now is in phase two which focuses on summer feeding and learning, and restarting school for the 2020-2021 academic year.

This item will include a brief review of how feedback from various advisory groups currently is used to inform the department's guidance documents being prepared for districts.

Budget Impact:

Costs for implementing the COVID-19 project plan impact state funds and occur at the initiative level.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

To best support the needs of schools and districts, KDE staff consulted the following groups:

- Education Continuation Task Force
- Student Advisory Council
- Counselor Advisory Council
- Gifted and Talented Advisory Council
- Local School Board Members Advisory Council
- Principals Advisory Council
- Teachers Advisory Council
- Superintendents (Weekly Superintendents Webcasts)

Additionally, the KDE Leadership Team continues to meet two to three times per week to discuss the most recent initiatives as well as feedback from the various advisory councils to inform the development of guidance and resources.

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Interim Commissioner of Education

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| Category: <input type="checkbox"/> District Innovation | <input type="checkbox"/> Strengthening Educators | <input type="checkbox"/> Family/Community Involvement |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student/Family Supports | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student Interventions | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coursework Completion <input type="checkbox"/> Accountability Reporting |