Larry B. Hammond, Superintendent

Board Report

April 20, 2021

**Senate Bill 128**

Senate Bill 128 was a bipartisan effort of the legislature which was signed into law by Governor Beshear March 24, 2021. This legislation outlines the expectations for a Supplemental School Year Program. It has been referenced as the do over bill. In summary, the purpose is specifically for the 2021-2022 school year to be used as a supplement or opportunity to retake courses previously completed. The local board has total control of the possibility.

The challenges created by extended periods of remote learning during the pandemic have resulted in less performance for many students than the normal in person setting prior to COVID. SB 128 is NOT for the purpose of taking advanced courses. If actual courses are not retaken, they must be very similar in level of difficulty/expectations. Students will remain in the same grade and will no longer be on the same path toward a graduation date/year as classmates not taking advantage of the opportunity.

Gallatin County parents have been given an opportunity to share their interest in a supplemental year. The guidance indicates parents have until May 1 to submit a request for consideration and the District has until June 1 to make a decision. If a board chooses to permit the supplemental year, an implementation plan must be submitted to KDE by June 16. The choice must be for all or none of the interested students that are enrolled in the district May 1. KDE must be notified by all districts via GMAP. The notification form will be available May 17. KDE will have the ability to waiver administrative regulations but not statutes that could prove beneficial with the supplemental year.

**Considerations for Gallatin County BOE (not all inclusive) without graduates returning**

* SEEK funding will be provided for students that have not graduated based on ADA. NO seniors have indicated interest in the supplemental year.
* ESSER funds may be utilized for students taking advantage of the supplemental year.
* Students could be retained with or without the opportunity for an additional year.
* Students cannot supplement or retake courses prior to the 2020-2021 school year.
* Course determination should be based on reviewing the standards.
* Dual credit courses remain available for students taking advantage of the supplemental year.
* KHSAA rules will continue to dictate participation in to include age requirements and transfers.
* Will supplemental year students be permitted as virtual students?
* Disciplinary issues with adult age students must be evaluated.
* Local policies must be evaluated/considered/followed.
* Potential exists for a negative impact on graduation rates for grades 9, 10 & 11. This could impact CSI status. (Comprehensive School Improvement)

As of April 19, Gallatin County had 10 high school students that have indicated interest in the Supplemental School Year Program. 1 Lower Elementary student and 1 Middle School student. Discussion is planned with the parents of the K-8 students on retention possibilities.