

## KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

**Topic:** AdvanceKentucky Update

**Date:** December 2021

**Action Requested:**  Review  Action/Consent  Action/Discussion

**Held In:**  Full Board  Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment  Operations

### SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To review the current progress and outcomes of AdvanceKentucky programs. See the attached materials for additional information.

### APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 158.007, 158.622, 158.847, 158.848, 158.849, 704 KAR 3:51

### BACKGROUND:

#### *Existing Policy:*

KRS 158.007 defines terms used in Chapter 158, including those related to Advanced Placement (AP). KRS 158.622 requires the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) to promulgate administrative regulations establishing the criteria schools shall meet to designate a course as advanced placement and outlines requirements of the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to support quality implementation of Advanced Placement, if adequate federal funding becomes available. 704 KAR 3:510 is the regulation promulgated by the KBE outlining that criteria. KRS 158.847 and KRS 158.848 established the science and mathematics advancement fund and outlines the uses if funds were ever appropriated. To date, no funding has been appropriated to the science and mathematics advancement fund.

#### *Summary of Issue:*

AdvanceKentucky, an initiative of the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC), began in 2008 as one of the initial six states to partner with the National Math and Science Initiative to replicate the College Readiness Program. Under this partnership, AdvanceKentucky's initial mission was to expand access to and success in Advanced Placement (AP) math, science and English in Kentucky's public high schools with particular focus on underrepresented groups of students. With major support from the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and other sponsors, this initial work continues. Per requests from the KDE and through collaboration across KDE departments, AdvanceKentucky has expanded its work to include a middle school math initiative and computer science (CS) initiatives.

AdvanceKentucky's middle school math program, Access to Algebra, replicates the success of the initial AP program by applying similar program elements, ensuring more students enter high school on track to meet college readiness math benchmarks by the time they graduate.

AdvanceKentucky's CS Initiatives began by becoming the Code.org Regional Partner for Kentucky in 2016, and then went on to direct the professional development for the Kentucky CS Expansion initiative. This initiative, created by a collaboration between the College Board, Code.org, KDE and AdvanceKentucky, dramatically increased the number of computer science classes offered in Kentucky's middle and high schools. In coordination with the KDE, efforts continue to expand access to additional CS courses and opportunities in grades K-12..

*Budget Impact:*

AdvanceKentucky has received funding contributions through federal, state or foundation funds since 2008. The current year KDE funding contribution is \$1,700,000.

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**Commissioner of Education**

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