## KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE REVIEW ITEM

Topic: Student Technology Leadership Program (STLP)Date: April 2022Held In:Image: Full BoardImage: Curriculum, Instruction and AssessmentImage: Operations

## SUMMARY OF PRESENTATION:

The Student Technology Leadership Program (STLP) empowers student learning and achievement through the use/creation of technology based solutions to school and community needs.

Students create projects, products or services to meet those needs and then demonstrate their process and learning via various STLP categories. Categories range from instructional, technical or community service based projects to digital content creation (digital art, photography, design, programming, app development, robotics, etc.) to technical services (student help desk, network engineering, wireless deployments, etc.). The best projects, products and services are invited to compete at the STLP State Championship each spring.

STLP taps into the students' interest and challenges/motivates them to explore new ways of learning and helping their school/community. State sponsored events highlight the creative, logical, and often entrepreneurial, talents of students across the state. In short, STLP provides a means for students to design, make, collaborate and learn through the general medium of technology and provides a platform for those 21st century college and career skills to be demonstrated.

Students K-12 are learning academic content while at the same time demonstrating technology/leadership/life skills. It's project based learning in action. Nearly all their group projects are to help their fellow students, teachers, school and/or community in some way. A few years ago Kentucky Educational Television (KET) recorded and produced a segment called <u>Empowering Students Through Technology | Education Matters - KET Education</u>; this explores how Kentucky K-12 students are using technology for project-based learning and includes segments produced by students.

We are very proud that we pushed through the early days of the pandemic in April 2020 and for the first time found a way to have the entire STLP state championship virtually. Then in 2021, for the first time, we completed our 9 regional competitions virtually. We also gave up our April 2021 timeslot reservation at Rupp Arena for our state championship due to the pandemic and completed the 2021 STLP State Championship virtually. Virtual was a nice option to have in a pinch for our regionals/state championship during the pandemic and there are some aspects of STLP that thrived and grew by having a virtual option since March 2020 that we'll continue to offer going forward. A major positive aspect of STLP is we have the regionals on higher education campuses so students get the experience of higher education as they start considering that possibility for themselves after leaving K-12. Like the high school state sporting championships, it's a great experience for a child to travel and compete in a state championship venue like at Rupp Arena.

## CONTACT PERSON(S):

David Couch, Chief Information Officer/Associate Commissioner Office of Education Technology Email: David.couch@education.ky.gov (502) 564-2020 ext. 2229

٤.

**Commissioner of Education** 

Category: 🔲 Educat	or Workforce Diversity	Portrait of a Gr	aduate Partnerships	Racial Equity
Commitment	Student-Centered	Accountability System	Early Childhood	🔀 District
Support				