

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: Assessment Alignment Process for Science

Date: December 2022

Action Requested: Review Action/Consent Action/Discussion

Held In: Full Board Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Operations

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To take action on the alignment of assessments to corresponding standards as required by KRS 158.6453.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends that the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the process used to align the revised Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Science to the assessment blueprint.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 158.6453

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

KRS 158.6453 requires that beginning in fiscal year 2017-2018, and every six years thereafter, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) shall implement a process for reviewing KAS and the alignment of corresponding assessments for possible review or replacement to ensure alignment with postsecondary readiness standards necessary for global competitiveness and with state career and technical education standards.

Summary of Issue:

Alignment of corresponding assessments to the standards is achieved through the creation of assessment blueprints. The purpose of a blueprint is to outline the percentage of items that will be assessed within the domains of the KAS in each content area.

Blueprints are created to guide the development of individual test items, serve as targets for assessment development, define how results from the assessment are reported and provide information to teachers as they make curricular decisions. The blueprint drives the construction of assessments.

The KDE developed a process for aligning assessment blueprints to the KAS. A report that outlines the process will be shared with KBE members prior to the December board meeting.

Budget Impact:

The KDE hired a third-party vendor, the American Institutes for Research (AIR), to create a survey, gather public feedback and to facilitate the Advisory Panel (AP) and Review Committee (RC) meetings to align assessments to the newly revised KAS for Science. The total cost for the alignment of the assessment was \$35,000.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

As required by KRS 158.6453, multiple stakeholders were involved in the alignment of the assessment blueprint to the KAS for Science. Stakeholders included the public by providing comment through an advertised survey, APs, RCs, Interim Joint Committee on Education (IJCE) members, and the Standards and Assessment Process Review Committee (SAPRC).

The blueprint received numerous public comments over a 30-day period via an online survey developed and posted by AIR. During this time, the public had the opportunity to comment on the construction of the blueprint and offer guidance and feedback on the blueprint.

APs and RCs had the opportunity to review the public feedback from the comment period and make revisions where needed to the blueprint. Members of the APs and RCs included content area teachers, postsecondary representatives and members from business and industry. The same members were also charged with reviewing and revising the KAS for Science.

After the RC made a final recommendation to the blueprint, the process and blueprints were presented to the IJCE on Oct. 18, 2022. IJCE members had the opportunity to listen to a presentation presented by AIR and KDE staff and had the opportunity to ask questions. No concerns were addressed or shared at this meeting by IJCE members.

Then, on Nov. 21, 2022, the Standards and Assessment Process Review Committee (SAPRC) met to review the process and determine whether the process was sufficient or deficient. KDE staff provided the committee with a report outlining the process, supporting materials and thoroughly explained the process during a virtual meeting. The SAPRC had an open discussion where they had an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the process.

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