

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: 704 KAR 8:060, Required Academic Standards for Social Studies
Date: December 6-7, 2022
Action Requested: Review Action/Consent Action/Discussion
Held In: Full Board Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Operations

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

The issue before the board is to take action on the adoption of the proposed amendments to the document incorporated by reference, Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Social Studies provided under 704 KAR 8:060. Amendments to the document incorporated by reference are required in order conform to the passage of Senate Bill 1 (2022), *Teaching American Principles Act*, now established under KRS 158.196.

Per KRS 158.196(3)(a) "Notwithstanding the every six (6) year schedule set forth in KRS 158.6453(2)(a), no later than July 1, 2023, the Kentucky Department of Education shall incorporate fundamental American documents and speeches into the grade-level appropriate middle and high school social studies academic standards and align corresponding assessments." Therefore, the KAS for Social Studies document incorporated by reference has been amended to conform to the timeline and requirements set forth in KRS 158.196.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

This regulation fulfills the requirements of KRS 158.196 and sets forth an amended version of the document incorporated by reference. The Review Committee (RC) and Advisory Panels (APs) met for the purposes of embedding twenty-two foundational American documents and speeches into 704 KAR 8:060 KAS for Social Studies.

The Commissioner recommends the adoption of amended KAS for Social Studies, as incorporated by reference into 704 KAR 8:060.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 156.070, 156.160, 158.645, 158.6451, 158.6453, 158.196, 160.290, 704 KAR 3:305, 704 KAR 8:060

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

KRS 156.160 requires the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) to establish courses of study for the different grades and kinds of common schools, with the courses of study to comply with the expected goals, outcomes and aligned assessments developed under KRS 158.645, 158.6451 and 158.6453. KRS 156.070 (1) requires the KBE to manage and control the common schools and all programs operated in the schools.

KRS 160.290 authorizes local boards of education to provide for courses and other services for students consistent with the administrative regulations of the KBE. This administrative regulation incorporates by reference the required academic standards for social studies, which has been amended meet the requirements of KRS 158.196.

The current schedule provided in KRS 158.6453 calls for one or two content areas to be reviewed each year and every six years thereafter on a rotating basis. However, KRS 158.196 required, in addition to the July 1, 2023 deadline, an amended process for KRS 158.6453 was submitted to the IJCE prior to the start of the standards revision process.

Summary of Issue:

704 KAR 3:305 provides the minimum requirements for high school graduation. Kentucky's common schools are required to follow the KAS provided in the document incorporated by reference under 704 KAR 8:060. Curriculum and content decisions are made at the local level and local schools and districts are expected to follow the regulatory requirements named above.

However, on April 13, 2022, the Kentucky legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 1, which includes provisions in Section 4 for embedding foundational documents and speeches into the KAS for Social Studies. Now established under KRS 158.196, the statute provides that "notwithstanding the six year schedule" the KDE "shall incorporate fundamental American documents and speeches into the grade-level appropriate middle and high school social studies academic standards" by July 1, 2023.

Historically, the standards revision process, as provided in KRS 158.6453, requires, at minimum, two years. However, in order to comply with the July 1, 2023 deadline, a modified, accelerated process was necessary. The process timeline was submitted to the co-chairs of the Interim Joint Committee on Education (IJCE) on June 1, 2022, with no concerns or recommendations provided in response.

Budget Impact:

To date, the administrative costs spent for amending the KAS for Social Studies as required under KRS 158.196 is \$150,000.00. Additional staff time will be needed to oversee the policy as it proceeds through the regulatory process. State funds have been used to develop the KAS for Social Studies.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

While the review process was accelerated, the KDE still consulted with a wide variety of stakeholders in order to receive comprehensive feedback on the amendments to the KAS for Social Studies.

Interim Joint Committee on Education (IJCE)

KRS 158.6453 requires the Commissioner of Education to "present the recommendations and the public feedback to the IJCE," (g)(4) with the purpose of providing an "open, transparent process that allows all Kentuckians an opportunity to participate." The KDE presented on November 1, 2022 the data demonstrating the response from local stakeholders, including teachers, parents and community members. Additionally, the presentation outlined the changes that were considered and applied as a result of this feedback. In response to this presentation, the IJCE discussed the importance of increasing participation of community members in the standards review process.

Standards And Assessments Process Review Committee (SAPRC)

KRS 158.6453(g)(5) requires the commissioner to "provide a report to SAPRC summarizing the process" conducted by the KDE. The purpose of the committee is to review a comprehensive collection of evidence documenting the KDE's adherence to

facilitating the procedures required in statute. Additionally, statute provides that “review of the committee shall be limited to the procedural aspects of the review process undertaken prior to its consideration,” (f)(3).

The KDE provides SAPRC with a detailed report and a comprehensive collection of evidence to aid in its determination of the sufficiency or deficiency in the solicitation of public feedback that provides an “adequate opportunity to provide input on standards and the corresponding alignment of state assessments,” (g)(6). SAPRC is scheduled to meet on November 21, 2022.

LSAC

The regulation will go before the Local Superintendents Advisory Council (LSAC) at its November 22, 2022 meeting. A summary of the feedback received by the council will be provided to the KBE prior to its December 6-7, 2022 meeting.

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