**Superintendent Report**

March 22, 2023

**Board Agenda**

Here is a brief overview of the items on the agenda

* Board Spotlight:
  + Mr. Ehmet Hayes will be on hand to discuss timelines and additional information regarding upcoming projects.
* Consent Items: Most of these items are the ones that occur each month. There are a few to highlight
  + Intent to participate as a member of NKCES and utilize the services they offer.
  + Ms. Wittrock has approval for positions that will support the SPF grant.
  + Approve the Care Solace agreement for the rest of the school year. This gives us an opportunity to “try it out” before a longer commitment. I shared some information about this service with you and the fact that I was having Ms. Wittrock dive into it deeper. She believes this will be helpful and we ask for your approval. This is being funded through the SPF grant.
* Actions Items (These items will be approved separately)
  + Owner and Architect agreement for the wall furring project.
  + 2nd reading of the academic honors policy.

If you have any questions regarding the agenda, please contact me.

**April Work Session**

Our April work session will take place on Wednesday, April 12. Items to discuss are salary schedules, staffing allocations, extracurricular duties, and the policies/procedures around these topics. Ms. Wright, Finance Officer, will be in attendance for the discussions. These topics will be on the April agenda for board action. If you have additional topics you’d like to discuss, please let me know.

**Legislative Update**

Last night, the House and Senate each wrapped up their business just before midnight, and we are now officially in the veto recess period. For the next 10 days, not including Sundays, they will not gavel into session and Governor Beshear will be reviewing all the bills in the last few days to determine if he will veto any of them. The legislators will return to the Capitol on March 29 for two final session days. During those two days, they can conduct any business, from voting to overriding any of the governor’s vetoes or passing more bills. They could even agree on all-new, never-before seen language as amendments to bills, and pass them at any time before midnight on March 30. Almost anything is still possible until that final moment. The only catch is that any bills the legislature may pass on those final two days are subject to potential vetoes by the governor and overrides would not be possible.

At this time, **two main bills have passed to the governor’s desk** for consideration in the broad area of “education rights” and transgender children.

The first is [**SB 5**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001KROVSIhAg7WT2DdXKdvUaXnVyAJJ3d8V0QobCM-s-_nMnyuoX_BtQF3bJ9YxD5fEL2sZqot5KvPRGrXmQsVr8xh1eIADOZAZlxes4FeuKW6oO5DZglyZfboA1HdzSALJbT44iYuR_6yfZ1aGqEq1Egox4-kgpz5AI3HaiegxQ-VaJ2wIFU9PWR8r05c-UTG7&c=8yEG7EZJQN0oc_6WDCVXyPJ-3S8wmfs7OjTIu9uW0tkwSJ5XDhDcnw==&ch=URNo7EcpKu0jLXzesnDMS6-M0EK1vYZWdWyc1TIZoXA5aD94hqx8jA==), still in its final form deals mostly with education issues, and would require local school boards to amend their existing policies and procedures around **student and parent/guardian complaints** regarding curriculum, library books and instructional materials and programs, for anything that the student or parent/guardian felt was “harmful to minors” (a term defined in the bill itself). This bill requires boards to adopt or amend policies, and it has an emergency clause which means it will take effect immediately when it becomes law either by being signed by the governor, having a veto overridden, or ten days pass without either of those actions.

The other, [**SB 150**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001KROVSIhAg7WT2DdXKdvUaXnVyAJJ3d8V0QobCM-s-_nMnyuoX_BtQF3bJ9YxD5fEEIuri_Hu2FBKIuwOZE8eJDtdDBJiT4ZibXmDBHn7Mr-UuWTvyFLbCsL7VeCYNVa-wN73drRt4xOhDgIkN6wpR-OgDdbao0UKpRGy0KpzsOCYAUl_LZk0ndwpYA6FJUbH&c=8yEG7EZJQN0oc_6WDCVXyPJ-3S8wmfs7OjTIu9uW0tkwSJ5XDhDcnw==&ch=URNo7EcpKu0jLXzesnDMS6-M0EK1vYZWdWyc1TIZoXA5aD94hqx8jA==), was significantly amended yesterday in a sudden and unexpected committee meeting, followed by quick votes in each chamber. The final version, now on the governor’s desk, contains the original provisions of SB 150 which mostly dealt with **parental notification and opt-out rights** over certain curriculum involving human sexuality, etc., as well as provisions to prohibit teachers from being required to communicate with students using **pronouns** other than those of the student’s sex at birth, etc. The final version also was amended to contain a lot of what had been in another bill, HB 470, dealing with **prohibitions on medical care** involving gender transition for minors who are transgender. These prohibitions are against health care providers, pharmacies, etc., and extend to prohibitions on prescribing certain hormones to children, with time allowed to medically wean children off current hormone treatments. The final version of SB 150 also had added a provision that will require local school boards to adopt policies as to their approach to use of **school bathrooms**, locker rooms, and shower rooms, for transgender students. Under the law, the local policies will, at a minimum, be required to prohibit students from using facilities that are reserved for students of a different biological sex (sex at birth) and require certain accommodations to be offered to these students. This bill also requires boards to adopt or amend policies, and it has an emergency clause which means it will take effect immediately when it becomes law.

The school discipline bill, [**HB 538**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001KROVSIhAg7WT2DdXKdvUaXnVyAJJ3d8V0QobCM-s-_nMnyuoX_BtQMOrt-DIjqkqJUBNFDiVtTOPiweAMP3sW631E_UyXVVyYwrS3EVO_jY9Hz0eTXQBXbIFvNL7pT7zYh1-Bt_siVvcw1cnGSqJf9PFoeIIaPuk0cGos6ofYns5O8u0pxovZ0F2H_8b_Qie&c=8yEG7EZJQN0oc_6WDCVXyPJ-3S8wmfs7OjTIu9uW0tkwSJ5XDhDcnw==&ch=URNo7EcpKu0jLXzesnDMS6-M0EK1vYZWdWyc1TIZoXA5aD94hqx8jA==) **is now on its way to the governor’s desk** for consideration. It didn’t reach him before midnight, so he has the option to veto it at the end of the month without the possibility for a veto override.

[**SB 7**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001KROVSIhAg7WT2DdXKdvUaXnVyAJJ3d8V0QobCM-s-_nMnyuoX_BtQOSrVr6adXbq7RyaJHbcZ5rRCyB-1z1K2TmNL0hYvu68HMyZH-ta0eWeLRwqXFJ_A0r-dDrOcpqPoVee6mKQ7JtOCj8uG6zlMowgFe74G1Clgoj_9GoyflFv_1ZI_5vk8Lm88aIwASln&c=8yEG7EZJQN0oc_6WDCVXyPJ-3S8wmfs7OjTIu9uW0tkwSJ5XDhDcnw==&ch=URNo7EcpKu0jLXzesnDMS6-M0EK1vYZWdWyc1TIZoXA5aD94hqx8jA==) **is now on the governor’s desk**. This bill has an emergency clause, and if/when it takes effect it will immediately prohibit school districts from deducting any amount from an employee’s wages for “any dues, fees, assessments, or other charges to be . . . paid over to a labor organization” or any amount to be paid for “political activities.” In the bill, “labor organization” is defined in part as any “association or union which exists for the purpose . . . of dealing with employers concerning wages, rates of pay, hours of employment or conditions of work, or other forms of compensation.” We believe this includes the KEA, and possibly other associations whose members may have payroll deductions for dues currently occurring in districts.

[**SB 145**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001KROVSIhAg7WT2DdXKdvUaXnVyAJJ3d8V0QobCM-s-_nMnyuoX_BtQOSrVr6adXbqjyAQaOIY7cjeeExLZMWyKOLIWQYWc9jgk0YBLU8K5p_kuv6deWaBgsMX981OFCyljuwO7NG1yFJ_r8vQCmyQbrHW39ON5L2-LKJXXVajZQOQcijid_PwP15vQDMqLPyw&c=8yEG7EZJQN0oc_6WDCVXyPJ-3S8wmfs7OjTIu9uW0tkwSJ5XDhDcnw==&ch=URNo7EcpKu0jLXzesnDMS6-M0EK1vYZWdWyc1TIZoXA5aD94hqx8jA==) **is now on the governor’s desk**. It will change the 1-year prohibition on nonresident students seeking to play interscholastic athletics at all grade levels, which passed two years ago. Under the bill, this prohibition would only apply for a student who transfers after starting grade 9, and after starting a varsity sport. Other general KHSAA bylaws, rules, and waivers would be allowed to apply as well.

[**HB 13**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001KROVSIhAg7WT2DdXKdvUaXnVyAJJ3d8V0QobCM-s-_nMnyuoX_BtQF3bJ9YxD5fETPQ4oSLGoWn6F6eLCc1ibeS8kAqSC8XLXlMLY3NFlh0ADK94aMoD1nGFtsvR4TdklYP4a-D47cYO42zj5JcKSerEIgxrRRZ_DvdxhOukAKALOZOIYCdYz9_mhuWOafQ7&c=8yEG7EZJQN0oc_6WDCVXyPJ-3S8wmfs7OjTIu9uW0tkwSJ5XDhDcnw==&ch=URNo7EcpKu0jLXzesnDMS6-M0EK1vYZWdWyc1TIZoXA5aD94hqx8jA==), which allows bus drivers to undergo a medical exam once every two years, rather than every year, has passed.

[**HB 32**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001KROVSIhAg7WT2DdXKdvUaXnVyAJJ3d8V0QobCM-s-_nMnyuoX_BtQB9hRU1SK81PDUw_iQzv8x6uGXaLZWQz2fr6iCksH6DzH0tHWOA5sSHaH1Csbsxur8uMEl7A1daLf0polPvNBBjrhYWK_3H9lIJKiCDF1gaCyVz63qXx2JRBiYNN7l2mMUwfIVq--PF7&c=8yEG7EZJQN0oc_6WDCVXyPJ-3S8wmfs7OjTIu9uW0tkwSJ5XDhDcnw==&ch=URNo7EcpKu0jLXzesnDMS6-M0EK1vYZWdWyc1TIZoXA5aD94hqx8jA==), which would generally allow a local board to hire classified employees who had not graduated 12th grade or obtained a high school equivalency diploma, has also passed.

One of the last actions last night was passage of two compromise bills, one involving tax changes and the other involving some budgetary amendments. In the final bills **no SEEK changes were included**. Therefore, unless something is passed on the final two days, we expect all districts to begin receiving state SEEK funding in July that will be based on this year’s actual ADA levels, which for most will be a reduction and for around 25 districts will likely be an increase. Unfortunately, this would be a significant decrease for our district.

**Upcoming Meetings/Events**

* March 20, 2023 – Meet with Mayor Cleves regarding the riverfront development (Mr. Wolnitzek will also be in attendance); Meet with Mr. Fisher regarding safety zone around GES
* March 21, 2023 – NWEA (MAP) Training in Lexington with Ms. Teegarden and Ms. Rechtin
* March 23, 2023 – SBDM Coordinator Training
* March 29, 2023 – MTSS Training with NKCES (School and District Leadership)
* March 30- April 1, 2023- COSSBA Conference
* April 3-7 – Spring Break, No School
* April 11, 2023 – Vue at the Brew
* April 12, 2023 – Board Work Session

**Spring Break**

I will be taking time off and traveling out of town during spring break. If you need to reach me, please contact me by phone or text.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Misty Middleton

Superintendent