

# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

### **Waiver:**

16 KAR 5:040. Request to Waive Cooperating Teacher Eligibility Requirements for Kayla Prater

### **Action Question:**

Should the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approve the request from Morehead State University to waive a portion of the cooperating teacher eligibility requirements for Kayla Prater?

### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.042, 16 KAR 5:040

### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** 16 KAR 5:040, Section 1 (1)(b), requires a Cooperating Teacher to have at least three years of teaching experience as a certified educator.

***Summary:*** Morehead State University has requested that the required three years of experience for a cooperating teacher be waived in this case, so that they may place one of their student teachers in Ms. Kayla Prater's classroom in the spring of 2024. At that time, Ms. Prater will have completed two and a half years of the required three years of teaching experience as a certified educator. According to the attached letter of support from Morgan County Schools, Ms. Prater continues to excel in her role as a special education teacher at Morgan County Middle School. She has taken advantage of all professional learnings made available by the district, the Kentucky Educational Cooperative, and the Kentucky Valley Education Cooperative to enhance her ability to serve all students. Over the previous two years, Ms. Prater has accumulated 109 hours of professional learning. Based upon the recommendation by the district, the limited number of available certified learning and behavior disorders teachers at the middle school level and the letter of support for Ms. Prater, Morehead State University submits this waiver request.

***Budget Impact:*** There is no budgetary impact.

### **Contact Person:**

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