

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Waiver:

16 KAR 2:120. Request to Waive Emergency Certificate Requirements for Union County Schools

Action Question:

Should the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approve Union County's request to allow for a third issuance of an emergency certificate?

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 161.028, 16 KAR 2:120

History/Background:

Existing Policy: 16 KAR 2:120 Section 2(3)(b) provides that "An emergency certificate shall not be issued to the same person in any subsequent year unless the original emergency certificate was issued under the following conditions: 1. The emergency certificate was issued after February 15 of a school year; or 2. The emergency certificate was issued for less than fifty (50) percent of the person's class schedule. (c) If an emergency certificate is issued to a person pursuant to paragraph (b) of this subsection, there shall be no more than one (1) subsequent issuance of an emergency certificate to the same person." At the February 2024 meeting, the EPSB approved an amendment to 16 KAR 2:120 to allow for two issuances of an emergency certificate, with an additional issuance if one of the above conditions is met.

Summary: Union County Schools has been unsuccessful in finding qualified teachers for secondary English. The district has two English vacancies that have been posted on their website and the Kentucky Educator Placement Services (KEPS) but they remain vacant or filled with emergency certified applicants. District personnel have also attended college recruitment fairs and hired retired teachers last year to fill the vacancy. No applicants have applied for this position. The district is requesting that the EPSB waive the number of years an emergency certificate can be offered and issue a third emergency certificate for this candidate.

Budget Impact: There is no budgetary impact.

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