Kentucky General Assembly 2025



Enacted legislation passed during the recent legislative session that will require implementation or awareness by JCPS

HB 15 AN ACT RELATING TO INSTRUCTION PERMITS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

• Allows 15-year-olds to apply for an instructional driving permit, but continues the current 17-year-old requirement for an unrestricted operator's license.

HB 48 AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION.

- Changes the period between required teachers' summative evaluations from three years to five years.
- Requires teachers to be provided access to a copy of their employment contract.
- Directs the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to create a four-year recurring schedule for state-mandated professional development trainings.
- Makes the new teacher induction program permissive, rather than mandatory, and directs KDE to annually identify districts that have not implemented such a program.
- Prohibits the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) from imposing new reporting requirements on school districts not already authorized by statute or regulation.

HB 132

AN ACT RELATING TO HOME AND HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION.

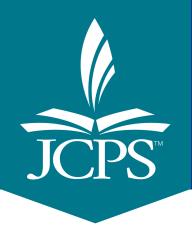
 Allows a student to be provided home and hospital services on the day of admittance to an inpatient facility, and for the school district to be paid through the SEEK formula for those services.

HB 190

AN ACT RELATING TO ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

 Requires local school boards to adopt a policy, with prescribed parameters, on the promotion of advanced coursework or accelerated learning in grades 4-12, which must be posted to the district's website.

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HB 193

AN ACT RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS.

 Separates the Dual Credit and Work Ready scholarship programs to place all dual credit scholarships under the Dual Credit Scholarship Program, and sets guidelines for its implementation.

HB 208

AN ACT RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

- Requires local school boards to adopt a policy that, at minimum, prohibits student
 use of cell phones during instructional time except during an emergency or when
 directed to do so by a teacher for instructional purposes.
- Requires school districts to use filtering technology to prevent student access to social media when not authorized a teacher for an instructional purpose.

HB 240

AN ACT RELATING TO PRIMARY SCHOOL.

- Requires schools to administer a universal reading screener to all kindergartners and first graders within the last 14 instructional days of the school year.
- Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year:
 - Allows districts to retain rather than promote a kindergartner who had a reading improvement plan but did not meet prescribed reading benchmarks on the screener or master reading academic standards.
 - Requires districts to retain rather than promote a first grader who had a reading improvement plan but did not meet prescribed reading benchmarks on the screener or master reading academic standards.

HB 241

AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- Gives school districts flexibility to extend their instructional day in order to meet state minimum requirements, in order to overcome calendar changes based on illness and natural disasters.
- Gives the Commissioner of Education the ability to waive up to five days for a school district if necessary even after the district extends its instructional day.
- Allows school districts that do not need to use these provisions to drop the bottom 10 days in terms of attendance, rather than the usual five days, for the purposes of SEEK funding calculations.

Kentucky General Assembly 2025



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HB 251 AN ACT RELATING TO THE EVALUATION OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

 Requires the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB), rather than the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), to be the lead agency in ensuring educator preparation programs are meeting the needs of Kentucky school districts.

HB 263

AN ACT RELATING TO TEACHER SCHOLARSHIPS.

• Requires that student teacher stipends are disbursed directly to student teachers or to their postsecondary program.

 Requires that eligible students must be teaching at a Kentucky public school or certified non-public school, or otherwise meet criteria established by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

HB 298

AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOLS IDENTIFIED FOR COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT AND IMPROVEMENT IN SCHOOLS.

• Requires schools to be identified for Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) status annually rather than every three years.

 Requires the mandated audit of CSI schools to include an assessment of the principal's capacity to lead the school's turnaround.

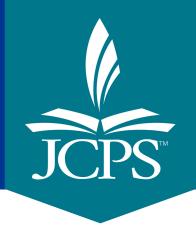
• Requires KDE to serve as a CSI school's turnaround support team, eliminating the option for outside turnaround vendors.

HB 342

AN ACT RELATING TO FINANCIAL LITERACY.

 Requires a one-credit course in financial literacy as a graduation requirement for students entering the 9th grade in the 2025-2026 school year.

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HB 430 AN ACT RELATING TO SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- Requires KBE to regulate the operation of school buses and other vehicles leased or contracted by a local school district in addition to those owned by the district.
- Sets forth alternative requirements for local school districts that regularly transport fewer than 48 students per day regarding student instruction in school bus safety.
- Requires anyone operating a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a local school district to have a Class D license.
- Requires non-school bus vehicles that are not used for daily use to be inspected at least every three months, rather than the current 30 days.

HB 441 AN ACT RELATING TO REEMPLOYMENT AFTER RETIREMENT IN THE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

- Removes the requirement that superintendents to make every reasonable effort to hire qualified applicants for teaching and nonteaching positions before reemploying a retired teacher.
- Increases the percentage of retired teachers that a local school district can employ full-time from three percent of total active teachers to 10 percent.
- Increases the number of retired teachers that a local school district can employ under the critical shortage provision from one percent of total active teachers to 10 percent.

HB 520

AN ACT RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORDS.

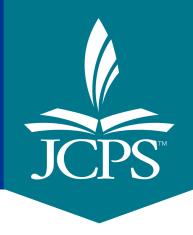
 Clarifies that under the state's Open Records Act, law enforcement agencies, including school district police departments, may withhold records if the disclosure poses a risk to the agency or the investigation because it reveals the identity of informants or witnesses.

HB 622

AN ACT RELATING TO FISCAL MATTERS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

 Allocates funding to local school districts of \$20,000 for each school resource officer (SRO) assigned to a campus, with priority to funding one SRO per campus.

Kentucky General Assembly 2025



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HB 684 AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS.

- Requires the county board of elections to notify a local school district by December 1 of each year which buildings it intends to use for the next year's elections.
- Makes school closures on Election Day permissive, rather than mandatory, when a school is used as a voting location.

HB 694 AN ACT RELATING TO TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM BENEFIT FUNDING.

 Requires that once the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) health insurance fund is 100% funded, excess funding shall be redirected to the TRS pension fund, rather than allowing TRS to recommend that employee and/or employer contributions be reduced accordingly.

SB 3 AN ACT RELATING TO STUDENT-ATHLETES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

 Prohibits student-athletes under the purview of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) from using school property for the purposes of earning compensation through their name, image, and likeness (NIL).

SB 9 AN ACT RELATING TO TEACHER BENEFIT PROVISIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

 Requires local school districts to pay the actuarial cost, upon retirement, for TRS members' sick leave payouts earned after June 30, 2025, in excess of 13 days per year.

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SB 19 AN ACT RELATING TO PERMITTED USES OF TIME DURING THE SCHOOL DAY.

- Requires schools to provide 1-2 minutes of silence at the beginning of each day. Previously, this was permissive.
- Amends the statutes to give districts more protection and discretion in allowing students an hour each week to leave campuses to receive moral instruction.

SB 68

AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION.

- Updates the learning capacities required of Kentucky students, increasing the emphasis on literacy, civic education, and career and technical education.
- Requires school districts to publish their budget on their website.

SB73

AN ACT RELATING TO SEXUAL EXTORTION.

• Requires schools to post age-appropriate information in instructional spaces for grades 6-12 on the newly-created crime of sexual extortion.

SB 77

AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION.

 Allows the head of an educator preparation program at an independent not-for profit college to fill one of the designated seats on EPSB, rather than requiring that seat be filled by a chief academic officer from one of those schools.

SB 104

AN ACT RELATING TO THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' DEFERRED COMPENSATION AUTHORITY.

 Allows the Kentucky Public Employees' Deferred Compensation Authority, which administers state and school district employees' 401(k), 457(b), and IRA plans, to offer participants a self-directed brokerage account.

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SB 120

AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION.

- Requires KHSAA participation consent forms, as well as its annual coaches' and administrators' training, to include information on mandated reporting of child dependency, neglect, and abuse.
- dependency, neglect, and abuse.

 Designates boys' and coed lacrosse to be "contact sports," in which middle school students may not participate at the high school level.

SB 181

AN ACT RELATING TO CHILDREN.

- Requires local school boards to designate one or more traceable electronic communications systems for staff communication with students.
- Requires staff to use only those traceable electronic communications systems unless they are related to the student or the parents have submitted written consent.
- Creates parameters for EPSB investigations of unauthorized electronic communications.

SB 207

AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION.

 Creates a process for local school districts to request waivers from KBE from state regulations or statutes for which KBE has oversight authority.

NOT INTENDED TO BE A COMPREHENSIVE LIST. FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT CHUCK TRUESDELL, EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR, GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS