Office of the President
Juston C. Pate, Ph D.

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Subject: Senate Bill 181

Dear Superintendent Mullins,

I am writing on behalf of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) regarding the implementation of Senate Bill 181, enacted during the 2025 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly.

As you are aware, SB 181 requires each local board of education to designate one or more traceable communication systems as the exclusive means by which school district employees and volunteers may communicate electronically with students. While this requirement does not extend to KCTCS faculty, it does apply to school district employees who are delivering dual credit instruction.

To support full compliance with SB 181 and to ensure secure, consistent communication with students enrolled in dual credit courses, we respectfully request that your local board of education formally approve the following communication systems currently utilized by KCTCS:

- **Blackboard (Anthology)**
- **Outlook (kctcs.edu domain)**
- **Starfish (EAB)**

These platforms are institutionally managed and provide the necessary traceability to document all communications between school district personnel and students, in accordance with the requirements of the legislation. We are happy to provide any additional documentation or clarification needed to support your board's review and approval process.

In addition, we respectfully request your assistance in informing school district employees who teach dual credit courses that written parental consent must be obtained for the use of any other communication systems not formally approved by the school board. This includes, but is not limited to, publisher platforms such as Cengage and McGraw Hill (e.g., eBooks and related tools).

Furthermore, if your school board has already approved a set of traceable communication platforms, we ask that the required parental consent form also explicitly authorize the use of Blackboard, Outlook, and Starfish, in addition to any other platforms the instructor may use.

Our shared goal is to ensure that students continue to benefit from high-quality dual credit opportunities in a safe, compliant, and well-supported learning environment. Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to student success. Please let us know how we may assist in facilitating this process.

Sincerely,

Juston Pate, Ph D.
President/CEO