

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) 2026-2028 Biennial Budget Update

Date: August 2025

Action Requested: ☐ Review ☐ Action/Consent ☒ Action/Discussion

Held In: ☒ Full Board ☐ State Schools ☐ United We Learn

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD

To approve the additional budget request (ABR) prioritization for inclusion in the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) 2026-2028 biennial budget request.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the ABR prioritization for inclusion in KDE's 2026-2028 biennial budget request.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS Chapter 48 and KRS 156.024

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy: KDE budget staff have conducted discussions with KDE Leadership and staff regarding the formulation of the 2026-2028 biennial budget request. The Office of Finance and Operations (OFO) has presented the information to the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) for input and feedback.

At the February KBE meeting, staff provided a summary of the Six Year Capital Planning process, as well as recommended projects for inclusion in the 2026-2032 Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan, an introduction to the 2026-2028 Biennial Budget formulation process, and ABR information from several KDE offices.

At the March KBE meeting, OFO staff provided an overview of KDE's baseline budget and defined calculations, and program staff continued presentations on ABRs. At the June KBE meeting, KBE members discussed the ABR prioritization for inclusion in the biennial budget request.

At the August KBE meeting, the KBE are requested to take action to approve the ABR prioritization for inclusion in KDE's 2026-2028 biennial budget request. The attached document shows the ABR prioritization as determined by the survey submitted to KBE members prior to the June KBE meeting.

Summary of Issue: The KBE will vote to approve the ABR prioritization for inclusion in the 2026-2028 Biennial Budget Request.

Budget Impact: While there is no impact to the KDE's current budget, KDE will submit the budget request with ABR prioritization to the Office of State Budget Director for the Governor's consideration of inclusion in the 2026-2028 Executive Branch Budget Request. During the 2026 Legislative Session, the Kentucky General Assembly will enact a budget that will establish KDE funding for the next biennium.

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Commissioner of Education

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<input type="checkbox"/> Student-Centered Accountability System <input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District Support