

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Waiver:

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

Action Question:

Should the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approve Christian County's request to allow for a sixth 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 "The emergency certificate shall be limited to two (2) issuances. A candidate may qualify for an additional issuance if: 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."

Summary: Christian County Schools has been unsuccessful in finding qualified teachers for teaching English as a second language. The district currently has over 300 active English-learner (EL) students and 50 exited/monitored EL students. The district is actively recruiting EL certified teachers by attending and contacting EL or TESOL certified graduates from Kentucky and Tennessee. The district states that the candidate, who holds certification for teaching elementary, has done an excellent job teaching their EL students, and with a lack of certified applicants they need her to continue in the role. The district is requesting that the EPSB waive the number of years an emergency certificate can be offered and issue a sixth emergency certificate for this candidate.

Budget Impact: There is no budgetary impact.

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