

The background of the slide is a composite image. The top-left portion shows two yellow school buses, with the front one labeled 'SCHOOL BUS' and the number '32'. The bottom-left portion shows a classroom with blue walls, decorated with colorful balloons and framed pictures. There are several small tables and chairs arranged in the room.

Kentucky Academic Standards for Reading and Writing

Kentucky Board of Education
October 2025



Kentucky Department of
EDUCATION

Statute and Regulation

KRS 158.6453(2)

- Requires the Kentucky Department of Education to implement a process for reviewing Kentucky's academic standards every six years.

704 KAR 8:020, Required academic standards for reading and writing

- This amended administrative regulation will adopt into law the revised “Kentucky Academic Standards for Reading and Writing.”

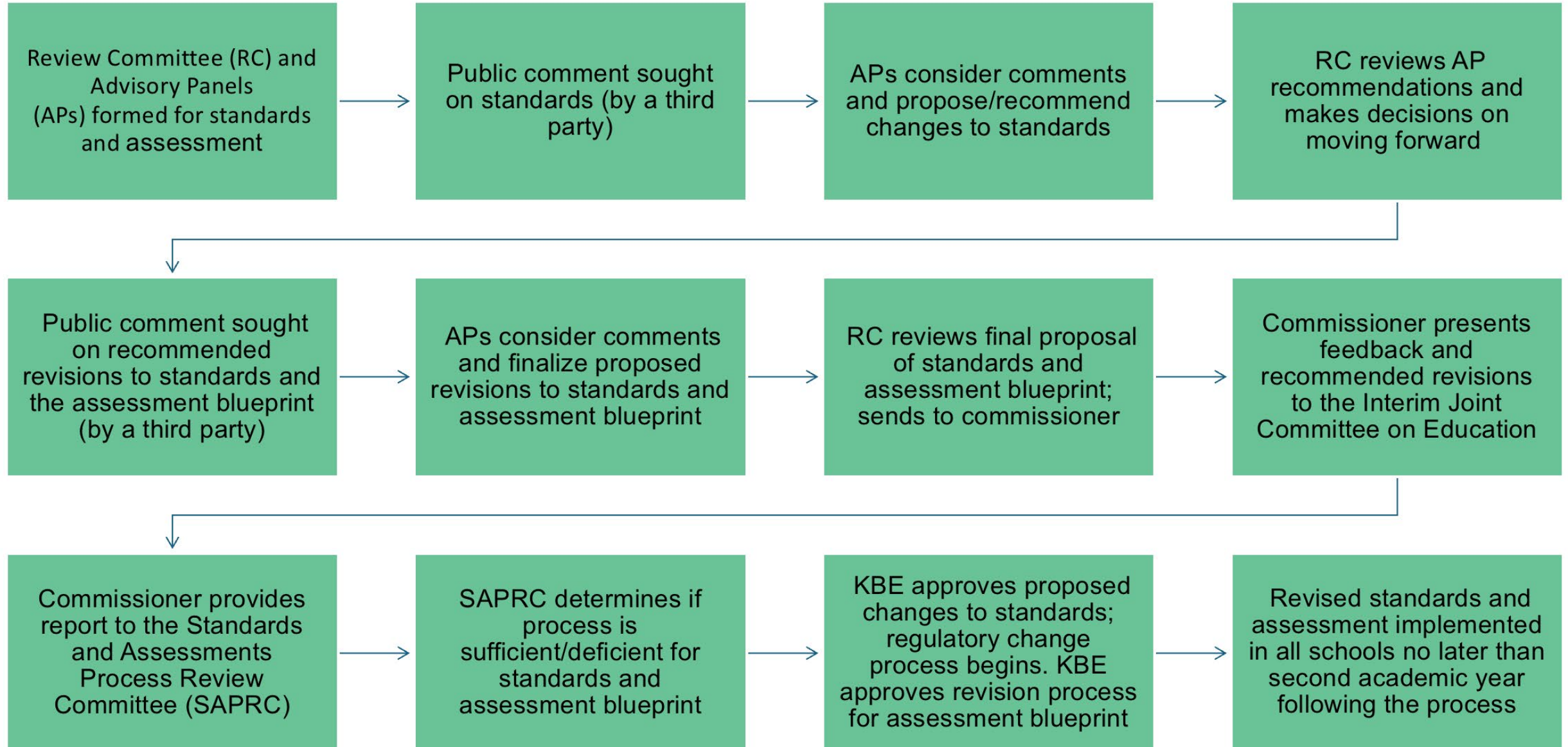
KRS 158.6453(2)(b)

Review of Academic Standards

“The revision to the content standards shall:

1. Focus on critical knowledge, skills and capacities needed for success in the global economy;
2. Result in fewer but more in-depth standards to facilitate mastery learning;
3. Communicate expectations more clearly and concisely to teachers, parents, students and citizens;
4. Be based on evidence-based research;
5. Consider international benchmarks; and
6. Ensure that the standards are aligned from elementary to high school to postsecondary education so that students can be successful at each education level.”

Standards and Assessment Review Process



Standards Process Review Timeline

- **October 2024:** Call for participation on standards committee opened
- **Nov. 1 - 30, 2024:** Current reading and writing standards open for initial public comment/feedback
- **Jan. 14 - 16, 2025:** Advisory Panels (APs) and Review Committee (RC) meetings
- **Jan. 27, 2025:** APs and RC identify recommended changes to be released for public comment
- **Feb. 3 - March 5, 2025:** Recommended changes to reading and writing standards released for second public comment/feedback
- **Feb. 10 - March 12, 2025:** Reading and Writing Assessment Blueprint released for public comment/feedback
- **March 2025:** APs and RC review public feedback and finalize recommendations
- **August 2025:** Recommendations and public feedback presented to the Interim Joint Committee on Education

Writers' Vision

- The writing team strives to provide vertically aligned standards that lend themselves to **evidence-based practices** and access to grade-level learning opportunities for each student
- Reading and responding to **complex texts** are integral components of every K-12 classroom and provide access to rigorous grade-level content
- **Reading comprehension is both a process and a product** for developing both oral language and reading abilities
- Vertical alignment of standards reflect cohesive **evidence-based practices** that emphasize reflective and expressive language
- Standards engage students in **reading and writing daily** as reciprocal skills and processes

Initial Public Comment Period

- Initial public comment period allowed respondents to provide feedback on the current *Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Reading and Writing*
- Over 300 responses received during the initial public comment period from a variety of stakeholder groups, including:
 - Teachers and administrators
 - Parents and guardians
 - Business and community partners
 - Postsecondary education representatives
- For each standard, respondents were asked to select “keep as-is” or “revise”
 - 95% of K-5 standards approved “as-is”
 - 97% of grades 6-8 standards approved “as-is”
 - 95% of grades 9-12 standards approved “as-is”
- For each standard respondents selected to “Revise,” they were prompted to give their reasoning, suggestions and/or comments
- Based on public feedback, a total of 12% of standards were revised

Draft “KAS for Reading and Writing”

Revision Highlights

- Revised **foundational skills** to reflect current research and evidence-based practices for teaching early literacy:
 - K-2 standards related to reading decodable texts for the purpose of fluency
 - K-5 standards related to encoding and decoding words
- Revised **Reading Standard 10 for K-12 Reading Literature and Informational Text** emphasizes the importance of knowledge *and* strategies for reading comprehension
- Updated **standards writers’ vision statement**
- Improved **document design colors, logos and fonts** for consistency with other disciplines and improved usability
- Updated **Interdisciplinary Literacy Practices** visual and content and included before each grade-level overview for ease of document navigation
- Emphasized experiences grounded in **complex texts and evidence** while composing for a wide range of purposes and audiences

Second Public Comment Period

- The second public comment period allowed respondents to provide feedback on the revised *Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Reading and Writing*
- Over 400 responses received during the second public comment period from a variety of stakeholder groups, including
 - Teachers and administrators
 - Students
 - Parents and guardians
 - Business and community partners
 - Postsecondary education representatives
- Respondents flagged no additional standards for review; the APs and RC reconvened to consider this round of feedback and revised, as needed, to complete the current draft *KAS*

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Standard Breakdown

Each standard can be viewed with the guiding principle, progression and multidimensionality.

Reading Literature, Grade 5, Standard 3

 **Guiding Principle for Reading Literature and Informational Text**
Students will analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

Progression

RL.4.3	RL.5.3	RL.6.3
Describe in depth a character’s thoughts, words and/or actions, the setting or event(s) in a story or drama, drawing on specific details to analyze their interaction over the course of the text.	Compare and contrast characters, settings or events in a story or drama, using specific details to analyze their interaction over the course of the text.	Describe how a particular story’s or drama’s plot unfolds in a series of episodes and determine how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.

Multidimensionality

Compare and contrast (analysis) **CHARACTERS, SETTINGS OR EVENTS (content)** in a story or drama, *using specific details (comprehension)* to analyze their interaction (analysis) *over the course of the text (comprehension)*.

The guiding principle, or broader goal by graduation, is located at the top.

The progression places the main standard in the middle, the matching standard for the preceding grade to the left and grade after to the right.

The dimensionality of the main standard, the standard in the middle of the progression above, is provided.

Questions?



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