

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Waiver:

16 KAR 5:040. Alternative Student Teaching Placement Request for Megan Sullivan

Action Question:

Should the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approve the University of Kentucky's (UK) alternative student teaching placement request for Megan Sullivan?

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 161.028, 16 KAR 5:040

History/Background:

Existing Policy: 16 KAR 5:040 Section 5 (4)(d) requires that a candidate pursuing a primary through grade 12 certificate shall have their student teaching balanced between an elementary school placement and a middle/high school placement. Institutions unable to locate a placement aligned with grade level requirements shall submit an alternative placement request to EPSB staff.

Summary: UK is requesting a waiver to place Megan Sullivan a Master of Arts in Teaching World Languages program student at the secondary level for all of her required student teaching placement days in the Spring 2026 semester. Since Ms. Sullivan is a candidate in the Latin program, a Latin placement at the elementary level would be required. UK has made numerous efforts to locate an elementary placement that would comply with the regulation; however, there are currently no elementary schools in the surrounding areas that offer Latin on a consistent basis. UK provided supporting documentation stating Ms. Sullivan has been working with elementary children tutoring them in Latin for the past two years. UK also stated that Ms. Sullivan has taught significantly at the College level. Given the additional experience of instruction and having exhausted all possibilities in the district and surrounding areas, UK is requesting a waiver for Ms. Sullivan to complete all seventy days student teaching at the secondary level.

Budget Impact: There is no budgetary impact.

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