

DATE: 10/24/2025

AGENDA ITEM (ACTION ITEM):

Consider/Approve LifeWise Academy's application to provide moral instruction in the Kenton County School District pursuant to KRS 158.200.

APPLICABLE BOARD POLICY: 01.11 General Powers and Duties of the Board

HISTORY/BACKGROUND:

During the **2025 Kentucky Legislative Session**, **KRS 158.200, *Moral instruction—Conditions—Quarterly reports***, was enacted into law. This statute permits **local boards of education** to authorize an opportunity for pupils within their jurisdiction to attend **moral instruction**.

The law establishes specific requirements for any such program, including:

- It provides for up to one (1) hour on no more than one (1) day each week.
- It must be **voluntary** and provided **without expense** to the local school district.
- It outlines parameters regarding the **time, location, and transportation** of participating students.
- It mandates that any individual, organization, or entity seeking to offer moral instruction must submit a formal application detailing their proposed program.

Upon application approval, the statute allows the local board to establish necessary arrangements with the provider. Furthermore, the law mandates a critical non-discrimination component, requiring the district to ensure that a pupil is **not discriminated against** based on their participation or non-participation in a moral instruction offering. Finally, it requires **quarterly reporting to the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)**, detailing implementation if an application is approved, or providing the reason for denial if the application is rejected.

This board discussion item concerns the **application submitted by LifeWise Academy** to provide moral instruction to students in the **Kenton County School System** pursuant to KRS 158.200. The application and supporting documentation are attached for your review.

As Superintendent of Schools, I must bring to the Board's attention a significant statutory component that I believe will lead to the **disruption to the core educational process** should this application be approved.

KRS 158.200, Section (6), addresses the instruction for students who do *not* participate in the moral instruction offering. It states:

"A pupil who does not participate in a moral instruction offering shall remain in school during the time when the instruction is being given, and shall take noncredit enrichment courses or participate in educational activities not required in the regular curriculum, and that time shall be included as part of the actual school work required in KRS 158.060. Students of different grade levels may be placed into combined classrooms in accordance with maximum class size allotments as described in KRS 157.360. These courses or activities shall be supervised by certified school personnel and may include but are not limited to study hall, computer instruction, music, art, library, physical education, and tutorial assistance."

If the application is approved, and even a single student participates in the moral instruction, the **regular, credit-bearing academic instruction for *all* remaining students in that school must cease** during that time block. These non-participating students would then transition to the required "noncredit enrichment courses or educational activities."

It is for this reason—the **inevitable disruption to scheduled, core curriculum instruction** for students that I **recommend the denial of the application** submitted by LifeWise Academy. I have consulted with the board attorney, who concurs with this interpretation and recommended position.

FISCAL/BUDGETARY IMPACT:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION: Deny LifeWise Academy's application to provide moral instruction in the Kenton County School District pursuant to KRS 158.200.

CONTACT PERSON: Henry Webb, Superintendent

Principal/Administrator

District Administrator



Superintendent

*Use this form to submit your request to the Superintendent for items to be added to the Board Meeting Agenda.
Principal –complete, print, sign and send to your Director. Director –if approved, sign and put in the Superintendent's mailbox.*

Webb, Henry

From: Shelby Mabry <shelbymabry@lifewise.org>
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2025 2:59 PM
Cc: Webb, Henry
Subject: Fwd: Kentucky Moral Instruction Kenton County Application
Attachments: Kentucky Moral Instruction Kenton County Application.pdf; KY Certificate of Insurance.pdf

You don't often get email from shelbymabry@lifewise.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Message

Members of the Kenton County Board of Education,

On behalf of LifeWise Academy, I am writing to formally request approval to offer a moral instruction program in your district, pursuant to KRS 158.200. This letter serves as a signed statement, including all required elements as outlined in the statute.

LifeWise acknowledges and agrees to comply with all requirements placed upon moral instruction offerings as outlined in KRS 158.200, including all operational, safety and legal obligations.

LifeWise agrees to inform the parent or guardian of each participating student that the school district and its employees shall not incur any liability as a result of any injury sustained by the student related to participation in the LifeWise program.

We agree to indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees against any and all claims relating to the moral instruction offering or transportation to or from the program.

Contact Information

Planning Team Chairperson:

- Arla Wallace | (502) 767-5145 | arlawallace19@gmail.com

Planning Team Members:

- Shannon Steffen | (859) 653-9980 | steffenserves@gmail.com
- Cody Jones | (513) 487-0412 | cody@codyjonesministries.com

Anticipated Instruction Location

Instruction will be held at 3711 Tibbatts St, Covington, KY 41015.

Anticipated Transportation Plan

LifeWise Kenton County has developed a transportation plan to ensure the safety of all participating students, including:

- Strict adherence to scheduled timeframes
- Background checks for all drivers
- Adult supervision during transport
- Pickup and drop-off procedures:
 - Children will be picked up at the front door. Time allotted is 1hr per child per week.

Enclosed is a certificate of insurance demonstrating current coverage, including liability coverage, property loss coverage and personal injury coverage for students.

Please contact me with any questions or for additional information. We look forward to working together to provide meaningful moral instruction opportunities for students in your district.

Sincerely,

LifeWise Program Coach
Shelby Mabry



Shelby Mabry

Program Coach

937.303.7914

lifewise.org



Members of the Kenton County Board of Education,

On behalf of LifeWise Academy, I am writing to formally request approval to offer a moral instruction program in your district, pursuant to KRS 158.200. This letter serves as a signed statement, including all required elements as outlined in the statute.

LifeWise acknowledges and agrees to comply with all requirements placed upon moral instruction offerings as outlined in KRS 158.200, including all operational, safety and legal obligations.

LifeWise agrees to inform the parent or guardian of each participating student that the school district and its employees shall not incur any liability as a result of any injury sustained by the student related to participation in the LifeWise program.

We agree to indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees against any and all claims relating to the moral instruction offering or transportation to or from the program.

Contact Information

Planning Team Chairperson:

- ◆ Arla Wallace | (502) 767-5145 | arlawallace19@gmail.com

Planning Team Members:

- ◆ Shannon Steffen | (859) 653-9980 | steffenserves@gmail.com
- ◆ Cody Jones | (513) 487-0412 | cody@codyjonesministries.com

Anticipated Instruction Location

Instruction will be held at 3711 Tibbatts St, Covington, KY 41015.

Anticipated Transportation Plan

LifeWise Kenton County has developed a transportation plan to ensure the safety of all participating students, including:

- ◆ Strict adherence to scheduled timeframes
- ◆ Background checks for all drivers
- ◆ Adult supervision during transport
- ◆ Pickup and drop-off procedures:
 - ◆ Children will be picked up at the front door. Time allotted is 1hr per child per week.

Enclosed is a certificate of insurance demonstrating current coverage, including liability coverage, property loss coverage and personal injury coverage for students.

Please contact me with any questions or for additional information. We look forward to working together to provide meaningful moral instruction opportunities for students in your district.

Sincerely,

LifeWise Program Coach
Shelby Mabry



CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)
06/19/2025

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an **ADDITIONAL INSURED**, the policy(ies) must have **ADDITIONAL INSURED** provisions or be endorsed. If **SUBROGATION IS WAIVED**, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER Lightwell Insurance Advisors PO Box 285 Maineville, OH 45039	CONTACT NAME: Mandy Culler PHONE (A/C, No, Ext): (800) 282-9258 E-MAIL ADDRESS: service.oh@lightwell.com FAX (A/C, No): (614) 221-4801																					
INSURED LifeWise Academy INC LifeWise Academy LLC PO Box 1179 Hilliard, OH 43026	<table border="1"><tr><th colspan="2">INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE</th><th>NAIC #</th></tr><tr><td>INSURER A:</td><td>Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company</td><td>13528</td></tr><tr><td>INSURER B:</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>INSURER C:</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>INSURER D:</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>INSURER E:</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>INSURER F:</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE		NAIC #	INSURER A:	Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company	13528	INSURER B:			INSURER C:			INSURER D:			INSURER E:			INSURER F:		
INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE		NAIC #																				
INSURER A:	Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company	13528																				
INSURER B:																						
INSURER C:																						
INSURER D:																						
INSURER E:																						
INSURER F:																						

COVERAGES	CERTIFICATE NUMBER:	REVISION NUMBER:
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.		

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL INSD	SUBR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS
A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PRO-JECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC OTHER:			34M489268	05/22/2025	05/22/2026	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 1,000,000.00
			DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) \$ 300,000.00				
			MED EXP (Any one person) \$ 10,000.00				
			PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ 1,000,000.00				
			GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ 5,000,000.00				
						PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG \$ 5,000,000.00	
							\$
	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> OWNED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS ONLY <input type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS ONLY						COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$
							BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$
							BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$
							PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$
							\$
	UMBRELLA LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR EXCESS LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE DED RETENTION \$						EACH OCCURRENCE \$
							AGGREGATE \$
							\$
	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N (Mandatory in NH) If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below						PER STATUTE <input type="checkbox"/> OTH-ER <input type="checkbox"/>
							E.L. EACH ACCIDENT \$
							E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE \$
							E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$

DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, may be attached if more space is required)

Proof of coverage only.

CERTIFICATE HOLDER

Kentucky Department of Education
300 Sower Blvd., 5th Floor
Frankfort, KY 40601

CANCELLATION

SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Ben Rupp

158.200 Moral instruction -- Conditions -- Quarterly reports.

- (1) The boards of education of local school districts may provide an opportunity for pupils to attend moral instruction in their jurisdiction, in the manner provided in this section.
- (2)
 - (a) Local boards of education shall allow pupils to be excused for up to one (1) hour on no more than one (1) day each week, which shall include time attributed to travel to and from, to attend a district-approved request for a moral instruction offering upon receiving the consent of the pupil's parent or guardian.
 - (b) Moral instruction provided under this section shall not take place on school property.
 - (c) Pupil participation in moral instruction shall be voluntary and free from coercion by school personnel.
 - (d) Moral instruction shall be given without expense to any local board of education above de minimis administrative expenses incurred in carrying out this section.
- (3) An individual, organization, entity, or any combination thereof seeking to provide a moral instruction offering for pupils shall submit a written, signed request to the local board of education of a school district regarding the proposed moral instruction offering. The request shall include:
 - (a) Contact information for the primary individual who will be providing the moral instruction, as well as all other individuals who may be transporting pupils or providing moral instruction to students through the offering;
 - (b) A statement acknowledging and agreeing to be bound by the requirements placed upon moral instruction offerings under this section;
 - (c) The address or a description of the location where the moral instruction will be provided;
 - (d) A transportation plan to ensure the safety of pupils while traveling to and from moral instruction within the allotted time period;
 - (e) A statement acknowledging and agreeing to inform the parent or guardian of a participating pupil that the school district and its employees and agents shall not incur any liability as a result of any injury sustained by the pupil related to participation in the moral instruction offering;
 - (f) A statement acknowledging and agreeing to indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees and agents against any claims relating to the moral instruction offering or transportation to or from the offering; and
 - (g) Proof of insurance coverage to be carried by the provider that shall include adequate insurance for liability, property loss, and personal injury of students related to the moral instruction offering or transportation to or from the offering.
- (4)
 - (a) Upon receipt of a request under subsection (3) of this section, the local board of education may make arrangements with the person seeking to provide the moral instruction offering as the local board deems necessary.

- (b) Upon approval by the local board of a request under this section, the superintendent of the school district shall require each individual identified in the request to submit to a national and state criminal history background check by the Department of Kentucky State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation and have a clear CA/N check, provided by the individual, consistent with the provisions of KRS 160.380(6). The individuals, or the organization or entity through which the moral instruction offering will be provided, shall be responsible for all costs associated with obtaining the criminal history and CA/N checks under this paragraph.
- (c) As a condition of the agreement between the local board and a provider, the local board shall require that any individual identified in the request under subsection (3) of this section be barred from providing transportation or participating in moral instruction offerings under this section upon receipt by the school district of a report documenting a record of:
 - 1. Child abuse or neglect;
 - 2. A sex crime or criminal offense against a victim who is a minor, as defined in KRS 17.500; or
 - 3. A violent crime as defined in KRS 17.165;by the individual. The prohibition shall continue until the local board receives an updated record for that individual that does not contain a disqualifying item.
- (5) A pupil who attends a moral instruction offering at the time specified and for the period fixed shall be:
 - (a) Credited with the time of attendance as if he or she had been in actual attendance in school, and the time shall be included as part of the actual school work required in KRS 158.060. A pupil shall not be penalized for any school work missed during the specified time; and
 - (b) Included in calculating the average daily attendance for the Support Education Excellence in Kentucky program as if the pupil was in actual attendance in school.
- (6) A pupil who does not participate in a moral instruction offering shall remain in school during the time when the instruction is being given, and shall take noncredit enrichment courses or participate in educational activities not required in the regular curriculum, and that time shall be included as part of the actual school work required in KRS 158.060. Students of different grade levels may be placed into combined classrooms in accordance with maximum class size allotments as described in KRS 157.360. These courses or activities shall be supervised by certified school personnel and may include but are not limited to study hall, computer instruction, music, art, library, physical education, and tutorial assistance.
- (7) A school district shall not discriminate against a pupil for his or her participation or nonparticipation in a moral instruction offering.
- (8) (a) Each local board of education shall submit the following information quarterly to the Kentucky Department of Education:
 - 1. The name of each applicant that submitted a request to provide a moral

- instruction offering;
2. The date of the application;
 3. The local board's approval or denial of the application; and
 4. If the request was denied, the reason for the denial.
- (b) The Kentucky Department of Education shall compile the quarterly reports required by this subsection and submit a combined report to the Legislative Research Commission no later than December 1 of each year for referral to the appropriate Interim Joint Committee on Education.

Effective: June 27, 2025

History: Amended 2025 Ky. Acts ch. 111, sec. 2, effective June 27, 2025. -- Amended 1990 Ky. Acts ch. 476, Pt. IV, sec. 206, effective July 13, 1990. -- Recodified 1942 Ky. Acts ch. 208, sec. 1, effective October 1, 1942, from Ky. Stat. sec. 4363-7a.