

## KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE) STAFF NOTE

**Topic:** Revision of the 2025-2026 Unmet Need Report, KRS 157.620(4)

**Date:** April 2026

**Action Requested:** Review Action/Consent Action/Discussion

**Held In:** Full Board State Schools United We Learn

### SYNOPSIS OF WHAT YOU WILL BE SHARING:

A revised Unmet Need Report for submission to the School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC) pursuant to KRS 157.620(4).

### COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends that the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the revised Unmet Need Report for submission to SFCC.

### APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 157.620(4)

### BACKGROUND:

#### *Existing Policy:*

Pursuant to KRS 157.620(4), the KBE by October 15, in the year proceeding a budget session of the General Assembly, must submit a statement to the SFCC certifying each district's school facility construction needs, the amount of available local revenue in each district, and that the district has or has not met the eligibility criteria set forth in KRS 157.620(1). Eligibility requires committing at least an equivalent tax rate of five cents (\$0.05) to debt service, new facilities, or major renovations of existing school facilities as defined by KRS 157.440, and that the district board of education by July 1 of odd-numbered years restrict all available local revenue, as defined by KRS 157.615, for school building construction, to be utilized in accordance with priorities determined by the most current district facility plan approved by the KBE.

The KBE approved the Unmet Need Report at its October 2025 meeting, however, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) staff subsequently identified that the report needed to be revised due to errors in the data.

#### *Summary of Issue:*

The attached revised Unmet Need Report certifies to SFCC the following in each district:

- (a) The amount of school facility construction needs in each district;
- (b) The amount of available local revenue in each district; and
- (c) That the district has or has not met the eligibility criteria established by KRS 157.620(1).

#### *Budget Impact:*

There is no budget impact to KDE. The Unmet Need Report will be considered by the SFCC in making offers of assistance to school districts for school construction projects.

#### *Groups Consulted and a Brief Summary of Responses:*

No additional groups were consulted.

**CONTACT PERSON(S):**

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**Commissioner of Education**

**GOALS/PRIORITIES:** Indicate all applicable options.

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Foster Educational Innovation Through Vibrant Learning Experiences         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Advance Educational Excellence Through Continuous Professional Improvement |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Cultivate Collaborative Partnerships                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Legislation  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Commissioner's Management  |