

LEGAL: HB 869 AMENDS KRS CHAPTER 424 REQUIRING THE TIME CONTAINED IN LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS AND NOTICES BE STATED IN BOTH EASTERN AND CENTRAL TIME. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS EFFECTIVE AS OF APRIL 27, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

Definitions

The following expressions are defined with respect to their intended meanings in the context of this manual:

POLICIES

An expression of the will of the elected Board of Education or the school council. Although other statutes may have Board policy implications, the general scope of Board policies is defined by KRS 160.290 and KRS 160.340. The scope of council policies is defined by KRS 160.345. Board policies cover the general management and governance of school district operations and functions. Within the parameters of the District's legal authority, violations of policy may provide grounds for administrative response or action as relates to students, District employees, parents, and members of the community, but such policies are not intended to heighten standards of care, establish grounds for liability or create rules for immunities enjoyed by defendants in civil judicial actions against the Board, its members, District employees, officers, or volunteers.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Statements of the Superintendent and/or District administration. Procedures are administrative instruments to implement Board policy and other legal mandates.

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

References such as "State Board regulations", state regulations", and "administrative regulations" shall mean Kentucky Administrative Regulations (KAR) promulgated by the Kentucky Board of Education.

FULL-TIME/PART-TIME STATUS

Employment status shall be determined in compliance with statute and regulation and shall be defined in the employee's contract.¹

SUPERINTENDENT

Superintendent refers to the Superintendent of the District. Policies that charge the Superintendent with preparing and/or implementing provisions of procedures, plans or programs for Board review also direct any other employee to whom the Superintendent may delegate such charges.

TEACHER

Except for referenced statutes which specify a different definition for the purposes of those statutes, in this manual the term teacher describes certified classroom employees who engage in implementing the instructional program.

HUSBAND AND WIFE

The term husband and wife, as used in the policy manual, shall be deemed to include a spouse in a legally recognized marriage unless the context otherwise requires.

PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Parent, as used in this manual, means parent, legal guardian, or other person authorized by law to act as a parent as the context requires.

Definitions**GENDER**

For simplicity, the masculine gender is used in this manual. Unless otherwise noted, all gender references include both male and female.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES

In compliance with federal law and unless otherwise indicated, use of the terms "handicapped/exceptional/special education" shall refer to children and youth with disabilities.

KRS

KRS refers to Kentucky Revised Statutes.

OAG

OAG refers to Opinion of the Attorney General.

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM

Use of the term "food service" shall also refer to the District's School Nutrition Program.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE DAY

Unless otherwise noted, use of the term "instructional day" shall have the same meaning as "student attendance day".

SIGNATURE

"Signature" means the act of signing one's name to something. "Electronic signature" means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record. An electronic signature will have the same effect as hand written signature.

HEALTH PROVIDER

Unless otherwise noted, the terms "health care provider" and "health care practitioner" have the same meaning.

CHARTER SCHOOL

Use of the term "charter school" means a public charter school.

CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZER

A local board of education as defined in KRS 160.1590.

KENTUCKY PUBLIC PENSIONS AUTHORITY

Use of the terms Kentucky Retirement System (KRS) or County Employees' Retirement System (CERS) includes the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority (KPPA).

RELATED POLICIES

The listing of related policies at the bottom of a document is a generic list and may include some policy numbers that this manual does not contain.

Definitions**REFERENCES**

Legal references listed in this manual, such as state and federal statutes and regulations, Kentucky Attorney General Opinions, and court cases are provided as a tool for additional research and are not intended to be viewed as a complete listing of legal resources applicable to a particular topic.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS AND NOTICES

In accordance with KRS Chapter 424, in legal advertisements and notices the time shall be stated in both Eastern and Central time.²

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 157.320; 102 KAR 1:036; 702 KAR 1:035

²KRS Chapter 424

KRS 78.510 – KRS 78.852

KRS 158.144; KRS 160.1590

KRS 160.290; KRS 160.340; KRS 160.345

KRS 369.102; KRS 405.028

701 KAR 8:010; 701 KAR 8:020; 701 KAR 8:030; 701 KAR 8:040

702 KAR 6:010; 702 KAR 6:020; 702 KAR 6:040

702 KAR 6:075; 702 KAR 6:090

LEGAL: SB 2 AMENDS KRS 160.346 TO AUTHORIZE A SUPERINTENDENT TO REMOVE A PRINCIPAL IF THE SCHOOL HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED FOR TARGETED SUPPORT AND IMPROVEMENT OR COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT AND IMPROVEMENT FOR TWO (2) OR MORE CONSECUTIVE YEARS. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF MARCH 27, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: SB 59 AMENDS KRS 48.025 TO EXPLICITLY APPLY THE PROHIBITION TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS ON USING TAX DOLLARS TO ADVOCATE FOR OR AGAINST A PUBLIC QUESTION AND ESTABLISHES PENALTIES.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: SB 263 AMENDS KRS 156.161 TO ALLOW THE BOARD'S DESIGNEE IN ADDITION TO THE SUPERINTENDENT TO REQUEST A WAIVER.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: HB 253 CREATES A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 160 TO PROHIBIT DISTRICTS ENTERING INTO NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENTS RELATING TO MISCONDUCT INVOLVING A MINOR OR STUDENT, INCLUDING ABUSIVE CONDUCT. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: KRS 158.194 REQUIRES THE BILL OF RIGHTS OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION TO BE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED IN ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: COST ASSOCIATED WITH PRINTING/HANGING THE DOCUMENT

General Powers and Duties of the Board

ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOLS

The Board has general control and management of the public schools in its district. The Board may establish schools and provide for courses and other services it deems necessary for the promotion of education and the general health and welfare of pupils, consistent with the administrative regulations of the Kentucky Board of Education.¹

CHARTER SCHOOLS

KRS 160.1590 provides for charter school authorization, application, evaluation of applications and contracts with a charter school Board of Directors. Pursuant to this statute and Kentucky Board of Education regulations, the Board may serve as an authorizer for charter schools in the District.

REQUEST FOR WAIVER AND EXEMPTIONS

The Board may authorize the Superintendent [or the Board's designee](#) to request, on behalf of the District, a waiver of state regulations and/or a Kentucky Revised Statute requiring paperwork to be submitted to the Kentucky Board of Education or the Department of Education as permitted by statute.¹⁵

When approved as a School or program of Innovation by the Kentucky Board of Education, the District is to be granted waivers and exemptions from selected Kentucky Administrative Regulations, Kentucky Revised Statutes, and may be granted waivers of certain Board policies this may include a school identified for comprehensive support and improvement under KRS 160.346.¹¹

COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT AND IMPROVEMENT

The Superintendent and Principal of a school identified for comprehensive support and improvement shall collaborate with the Kentucky Department of Education to create a turnaround training and support team. The Board shall approve the turnaround team.

[When a school is identified for targeted support and improvement or comprehensive support and improvement for two \(2\) or more consecutive years, the Superintendent may remove the Principal.](#)

SCHOOL FUNDS AND PROPERTY

The Board has control and management of all school funds and public school property and may use its funds and property to promote public education.¹

[Local, state, and federal tax dollars and resources shall not be used to advocate for or against any public question that appears on the ballot.](#)¹⁶

ADMINISTRATION

The Board shall exercise generally all powers prescribed by law in the administration of the public school system, appoint the Superintendent of schools, create and abolish positions, establish job classifications, and fix the compensation of employees.¹

MANAGEMENT

The Board may set goals for the District and shall make and adopt, and may amend or repeal policies for its meetings and proceedings for the management of the schools and school property of the district, for the transaction of its business and for the qualifications and duties of employees and the conduct of pupils.

General Powers and Duties of the Board

SUBPOENA

The Board may, in any investigation or proceeding before it, concerning a matter that may be a proper subject of inquiry by it, summon witnesses by subpoena, enforce their attendance, and require that they testify under properly administered oath.²

INSURANCE

The Board may set aside funds to provide for liability and indemnity insurance against the negligence of the drivers or operators of school buses, other motor vehicles, and mobile equipment owned or operated by the Board.³ The Board may expend funds necessary for liability insurance premiums and for the defense of any civil action brought against an individual Board member in an official or individual capacity, or both, on account of an act made in the scope and course of the performance of legal duties as a Board member.⁴ The Board shall make available liability insurance coverage for the protection of all members of school councils from liability arising in the course of pursuing their duties as members of the councils.⁹ In accordance with 702 KAR 3:330, the District shall provide Certified Employee Liability Insurance in an amount not less than one (1) million dollars for the protection of the employee from liability arising in the course and scope of pursuing the duties of his or her employment.¹³

As long as they pay full cost of premiums required, Board members may choose to participate in any group life insurance¹² or any group medical or dental insurance provided by the District for employees.¹⁰

FREE SUPPLIES

The Board may furnish necessary school supplies free of charge to indigent children in its school district, or to such other children as it deems advisable, under such rules and regulations as it may adopt.

The Superintendent shall recommend and the Board shall approve a process to waive fees for students who qualify for free and reduced priced lunches. All students who qualify shall be informed in writing of the fee waiver provisions. Mandatory waiver of fees for qualifying students shall be accomplished in compliance with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.⁵

REPORTS

The Board shall, on forms prepared by the Commissioner of Education and approved by the Kentucky Board of Education, prepare and submit to the Kentucky Board of Education reports on all phases of its school service. It may prepare and publish for the information of the public a report on the progress of its schools.⁶

LEVY OF TAX RATES

As part of the budgetary process, the Board shall levy tax rates in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements.⁷

POWER TO BORROW FUNDS

The Board may borrow money on the credit of the Board and issue negotiable notes in anticipation of revenues from school taxes and state revenue for the fiscal year in which the money is borrowed, and may pledge the anticipated revenues for the payment of principal and interest on the loan.⁸

General Powers and Duties of the Board

CONTRACT WITH CONSULTANTS

The Board may contract for consulting services to provide specialized advice or assistance to the school system concerning educational, management, or administrative matters.⁴

Any proposed contracts with consultants shall be submitted to the Board for approval and shall be accompanied by figures showing the estimated cost of the consulting project to the District. Where appropriate, the Board may require bids for consulting services to be sought.

Consultants who serve the District shall exercise no authority over District employees, but will act only as advisor in accordance with their contract.

NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

A District shall not enter into a nondisclosure agreement relating to misconduct involving a minor or student, including abusive conduct as defined in KRS 160.380.¹⁸

DISPLAY OF NATIONAL MOTTO

The Board shall require each elementary and secondary school to display the national motto, “In God We Trust,” in a prominent location which means a school entryway, cafeteria, or common area where students are likely to see an item on display. Per KRS 158.195, the display may take the form of, but is not limited to, a plaque or student artwork.¹⁴

DISPLAY OF BILL OF RIGHTS

Each elementary and secondary classroom shall prominently display the Bill of Rights from the United States Constitution.¹⁷

DISPLAY OF NOTICE REGARDING EMPLOYMENT OF MINORS

The Board shall require each school that contains instructional space for students in grades six (6) through twelve (12) to conspicuously display in a prominent location, in both English and Spanish, a printed abstract of KRS 339.210 to 339.450, a list of the limited or prohibited occupations for minors, and a notice stating the working hours per day for each day of the week permissible for minors to work. The same information or display shall also be posted on the District’s or school’s website.¹⁴

General Powers and Duties of the Board

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 160.290

²KRS 160.300

³KRS 160.310

⁴KRS 160.160

⁵KRS 160.330

⁶KRS 160.340

⁷KRS 160.470

⁸KRS 160.540

⁹KRS 160.345

¹⁰KRS 160.280

¹¹KRS 160.346; ~~701 KAR 5:140~~

¹²KRS 18A.205; KRS 18A.210

¹³702 KAR 3:330

¹⁴KRS 158.195

¹⁵KRS 156.161

¹⁶KRS 48.025

¹⁷KRS 158.194

¹⁸KRS 160.148

KRS 116.200; KRS 156.072; KRS 156.160

KRS 160.1590; KRS 160.1592; KRS 160.1593; KRS 160.1594; KRS 160.1595

KRS 160.1599; KRS 160.380; KRS 161.158; KRS 162.010

KRS 339.210 to KRS 330.450; KRS 416.560

OAG 91-10; OAG 91-122; OAG 95-10; 702 KAR 3:220; ~~702 KAR 4:160~~

RELATED POLICIES:

01.41; 01.5; 01.7

03.124; 03.224; 04.92

LEGAL: HB 500 REQUIRES DISTRICTS TO DISPLAY ACADEMIC INFORMATION ON THE DISTRICT'S WEBSITE.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: HB 48 (2025) AMENDED KRS 158.4416 REMOVING TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH PLAN FROM THE COMPREHENSIVE DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

01.111

District Planning

PLANNING COMMITTEE

A District planning committee, representative of the community and the school district, shall be appointed by the Superintendent and approved by the Board to develop, review, and revise annually a Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP) as stated herein. The committee shall include teachers, Principals, council members, other school leaders, paraprofessionals, Central Office administrators, administrators, Board member(s), classified staff, parents, community representatives, and high school students.

The Superintendent shall develop, and present to the Board for review, procedures for appointment and training of the planning committee. The Superintendent shall make the procedures known to the community and school personnel.

Selection of committee members shall reflect reasonable minority representation and encourage active minority participation.¹

PLANNING CYCLE

The District's planning cycle shall follow a process of continuous improvement as data becomes available. The structure of the CDIP shall include completion of a narrative summary of the current state of the school between August 1 and October 1 of each school year and completion of the needs assessment between October 1 and November 1 of each school year. A process for development of the CDIP is to be completed between November 1 and January 1 of each school year, and a District level plan for providing an equitable education to English Learners is to be completed by May 1 of each school year and other components required by state statutes or regulations. Unless otherwise noted, all additional components of the CDIP must be complete by May 1 of each school year.

PLAN REQUIREMENTS

The District seeking Commissioner approval of the nontraditional instruction (NTI) plan shall annually incorporate it within the CDIP. The District shall submit the NTI plan to the Department by May 1 for implementation at the beginning of the upcoming school term.

The plan structure shall include the components set out in 703 KAR 5:225, the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA), and KRS 158.649.

The plan shall be reviewed and, if needed, updated on an annual basis, provide assistance in reducing physical, mental health, and academic barriers to learning, and address student equity.¹

The Superintendent shall present to the Board for review and approval the form and function of the District planning process, including format and timelines.

Planning activities shall draw on information from a variety of sources that shall include an opportunity for citizens of the community to have input into the plan.

As part of the District planning process, the Board shall review District academic performance on the state assessments for various groups of students in compliance with legal requirements. Upon agreement of the council, or the Principal if there is not a council, and the Superintendent, the Board shall establish an annual target for each school for reducing identified gaps in achievement.²

District Planning

PLAN REQUIREMENTS (CONTINUED)

If the Board determines that a school has not met its target to reduce the identified gap in student achievement for a group of students, the Board shall require the council, or the Principal if no council exists, to submit its revisions to the school improvement plan describing the use of the professional development funds and funds allocated for continuing education to reduce the school's achievement gap for review and approval by the Superintendent. The plan shall address how the school will meet the academic needs of the students in the various gap groups.

~~TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH PLAN~~

~~The trauma informed approach plan shall be reviewed and updated annually and submitted to the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE).~~

PUBLIC REVIEW

The plan shall have public review prior to presentation to the Board for final adoption. Opportunity for public and school staff review shall be provided for a period of at least two (2) weeks and shall be advertised in the newspaper, or as an alternative, post the plan on the District web site and provide for electronic review and feedback.

BOARD APPROVAL

The plan shall be completed between November 1 and January 1 of each school year and presented to the Board for approval. If revisions are needed, the District planning committee shall forward proposed revisions to the Superintendent. Revisions must reflect requirements of Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 and KRS 158.649. All recommendations for revisions require approval by the Board.

The Superintendent shall submit required assurances to the KDE no later than September 30 of each year.

IMPLEMENTATION

The District shall maintain a copy of each plan permanently and, consistent with the District's planning cycle, post the current plan on the District's web site.

The plan shall serve as a resource for Board decision making.

SCHOOL PLANS

The District plan shall be developed on the basis of information contained in the individual school plans. The primary goals and objectives of the District **shall be drawn from the common needs and priorities identified in the school plans.**

DISTRICT REPORT CARDS

The District shall post the District report card on its website, as required by ESSA. District report cards shall be widely accessible to the public, in an understandable and uniform format, and when possible, written in a language that parents can understand.

As outlined in KRS 160.463, a copy of the report card is to be publicized by one of the following methods:

District Planning**DISTRICT REPORT CARDS (CONTINUED)**

- a. In the newspaper of the largest general circulation in the county;
- b. Electronically on a website of the District; or
- c. By printed copy at a prearranged site at the main branch of the public library within the District.

If b or c above is selected, the Superintendent shall cause notification to be published in the newspaper with largest circulation in the county that includes the electronic address of the website or the address of the library where the report card can be viewed by the public.

The District shall send a District report card to parents containing information about performance as outlined in KRS 158.6453 and 703 KAR 5:140, and information on electronic access to a summary of the results for the District shall be published in the newspaper with the largest circulation in the county.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT RESULTS

The District shall prominently display, in not less than 16-point type, on the District's internet landing page, the District's percentage of students scoring the following on the most recent Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA):

- Proficient and Distinguished in Reading; and
- Proficient and Distinguished in Mathematics.

The information above will also be displayed at the top of each page of the District's website in a banner format.

The District shall display on the internet landing page a web link to the detailed results of the District's performance on the most recent KSA Summative Assessment.

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 156.500

²KRS 158.649

KRS 158.070; ~~KRS 158.4416~~; KRS 158.6453

KRS 160.290; KRS 160.340; KRS 160.345; KRS 160.463

701 KAR 5:150; 703 KAR 5:140; 703 KAR 5:225; 703 KAR 5:280; 704 KAR 3:395

~~2024-2026~~ Budget Bill

P. L. 114-95, (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015)

RELATED POLICIES:

02.44; 02.441; 02.442; 04.1; 09.21

LEGAL: HB727 AMENDS KRS 160.160 REQUIRING EACH BOARD TO REVIEW THE PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD AND EMPLOYEES REGARDING THE DISTRICT BUDGET.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: HB727 AMENDS KRS 160.160 CHANGING CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN TO CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: KRS 160.160 SPECIFIES THAT BOARD CHAIR TERMS ARE NOT TO EXCEED TWO (2) YEARS.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

01.41

Organizational Meetings

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

The first **regular** meeting in January shall be an organizational meeting for the purpose of electing a **eChairman** and **vVice-eChairman**.

TERMS OF OFFICE

The **Chairman** and **Vice-Chairman** shall serve a term prescribed by the Board, not to exceed two (2) years. ~~one (1) year terms beginning immediately following their election and shall be eligible for re-election.~~

REVIEW OF BUDGET PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon the election of a Chair and Vice-Chair, each Board shall review, with the Superintendent and the Finance Officer, the specific procedures and responsibilities of the Board and District employees relating to the District budget. The review shall not count toward the annual in-service training requirements.

REFERENCE:

KRS 160.160

RECOMMENDED: TO BE CONSISTENT WITH POLICY 01.41, PER KRS 160.160, CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN WERE REVISED TO CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

01.411

Duties and Responsibilities of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

1. The eChairperson of the Board shall preside at meetings, **shall keep the discussion centered on the topic under consideration, and shall give each member equal opportunity to voice an opinion on each topic.**
2. The eChairperson may appoint special committees.
3. The eChairperson may call special meetings of the Board.¹
4. The eChairperson may make or second motions and vote on motions.
5. The eChairperson shall countersign all orders of the Board² (including contracts and reports as required by law).
6. When outside agencies send communications and notifications only to the eChairperson, s/he shall bring before the Board information intended for all Board members.
7. The vVice-eChairperson shall perform the duties of the eChairperson in the absence of the eChairperson. **In the event that both the eChairperson and vVice-eChairperson are absent, the Board shall designate another member to act as temporary Chairperson.**

REFERENCES:¹KRS 160.270²KRS 160.440**RELATED POLICY:**01.41

LEGAL: HB 869 AMENDS KRS 61.805 DEFINING TIME AS MEANING THE TIME OF DAY STATED IN BOTH EASTERN AND CENTRAL TIME. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS EFFECTIVE AS OF APRIL 27, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

01.42

Regular Meetings

TIME AND PLACE

At a meeting in January, the Board shall adopt a schedule of regular meetings for the calendar year, identifying the date, time **(stated in both Eastern and Central time⁶)** and place of each meeting. Rescheduled regular meetings shall be noticed and held as special meetings.^{1 & 5}

PUBLICITY

All meetings of the Board, and any committees or subcommittees thereof, shall be held at specified times and places which are convenient to the public. The schedule of regular meetings shall be made available to the public.²

Note: Additional notice requirements applicable to regular meetings held for purposes of adopting the school calendar are located in KRS 158.070 and are covered in Board Policy 08.3.

OPEN MEETINGS

All meetings of a quorum of the members of the Board at which any public business is discussed or at which any action is taken are to be public meetings, open to the public at all times, except as provided in KRS 61.810.³

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Each regular meeting shall include a public comment period of at least fifteen (15) minutes. Any Board rules and policies regarding conduct during school board meetings shall apply during the public comment period.¹

VIDEO TELECONFERENCES

The Board may conduct its meeting by video teleconference (including closed sessions). Notice of a video teleconference meeting shall comply with the requirements of KRS 61.820 or KRS 61.823 as appropriate. The notice shall clearly state that the meeting will be a video teleconference; provide specific information on how any member of the public or media organization may view the meeting electronically; and in any case where the Board has elected to provide a physical location, or in any circumstance where two (2) or more members of the Board are attending a video teleconference meeting from the same physical location, precisely identify a primary physical location of the video teleconference where all members can be seen and heard and the public may attend in accordance with KRS 61.840.

The same procedures with regard to participation, distribution of materials and other matters shall apply in all video teleconference locations. Members of the Board who participate in a video teleconference shall remain visible on camera at all times that business is being discussed.

Any interruption in the video or audio broadcast of a video teleconference at any location shall result in the suspension of the video teleconference until the broadcast is restored.

If a regular meeting is changed to a video conference, the meeting shall remain a regular meeting if the meeting occurs on the same date and time as originally scheduled and the Board follows the provisions of KRS 61.823 to provide a notice that meets these requirements.⁴

Regular Meetings

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 160.270

²KRS 61.820; OAG 78-274; OAG 78-614

³KRS 61.810

⁴KRS 61.823; KRS 61.826

⁵92-OMD-1677; 04-OMD-056

⁶**KRS 61.805**

KRS 61.840; KRS 158.070

17-OMD-148

RELATED POLICIES:

01.421; 01.43; 01.44; 08.3; 08.31

LEGAL: HB 869 AMENDS KRS 61.805 DEFINING TIME AS MEANING THE TIME OF DAY STATED IN BOTH EASTERN AND CENTRAL TIME. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS EFFECTIVE AS OF APRIL 27, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

RECOMMENDED: TO BE CONSISTENT WITH POLICY 01.41, PER KRS 160.160, CHAIRMAN WAS REVISED TO CHAIR.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

01.44

Special Called Meetings

AUTHORIZATION

The Board may hold such special meetings as are necessary to expedite its business.¹ A special meeting may be open or closed, and the Board may accordingly conduct any activities in a special meeting that are permitted in an open or closed meeting.² The Board may consider only those subjects set forth in the notice of the meeting and agenda.³

CALL AND NOTICE

A special meeting may be called at any time by the ~~eChairperson~~ or on request of three (3) Board members. The secretary shall provide written notice of the special meeting. The notice shall consist of the date, time (**stated in both Eastern and Central time**⁵) and place of the special meeting and the agenda. Discussion and action at the meeting shall be limited to items listed on the agenda in the notice.¹

DELIVERY AND TIMING OF NOTICE

Notice of a special meeting must be delivered personally, transmitted by fax, mailed, or, if requested in writing, by electronic mail (email) so that it is received at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of such meeting as specified in the notice. Notice shall be given to each Board member and to each media organization, which has on file with the Board a written request to be notified of special meetings. Written notice shall also be posted at least twenty-four (24) hours before the meeting in a conspicuous place in the building where the meeting will take place and in the Board central office.⁴

EXCEPTION

Requirements for notice, delivery and timing are not required in case of an emergency, which prevents compliance. In such a case reasonable effort shall be made to notify Board members, media organizations that have filed a written request for notification and the public of the emergency meeting. At the beginning of the meeting, the ~~Chairperson~~ shall explain, for the record, the emergency circumstances preventing compliance with notice, delivery and timing requirements. This explanation shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. Discussion and action at this meeting shall be limited to the emergency for which the meeting has been called.⁴

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 160.270

²OAG 78-274

³OAG 77-221; OAG 61-24

⁴KRS 61.823

⁵**KRS 61.805**

92-OMD-1677

LEGAL: HB 727 AMENDS KRS 160.180 REQUIRING ANNUAL IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ETHICS, OPEN MEETINGS, OPEN RECORDS, FINANCE TRAINING, AND SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION. DIRECT THE KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION TO IDENTIFY CRITERIA TO FULFILL THE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: COST OF TRAINING

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

01.83

In-service Training

IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR MEMBERS IN OFFICE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2014

Annual in-service training for all members of boards of education in office as of December 31, 2014, shall include training on topics required by regulation that meet the minimum number of total training hours as follows:¹

1. Twelve (12) hours for members with zero (0) to three (3) years of experience;
2. Eight (8) hours for members with four (4) to seven (7) years of experience; and
3. Four (4) hours for members with eight (8) or more years of experience.

The in-service training requirements shall include a minimum of:

- 1. One (1) hour of ethics training every year;**
- 2. One (1) hour of open meetings and open records training every four (4) years; and**
- 3. Two (2) hours of finance training every two (2) years.**

IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR MEMBERS ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2015

For all members of boards of education who begin initial service on or after January 1, 2015, the in-service training requirements shall ~~be include training on topics required by regulation that meet the minimum number of total training hours as follows:~~¹

- a. Twelve (12) hours for members with zero to eight (0-8) years of experience each year which shall include a minimum of:
 1. One (1) hour of ethics training each year; and
 2. One (1) hour of open meetings and open records training within the first twelve (12) months of initial service and at least once every four (4) years thereafter; ~~and~~
 3. **Three (3) hours of finance training within the first two (2) years of initial service and two (2) hours of finance training at least once every two (2) years thereafter; and**
 4. **One (1) hour of superintendent evaluation within the first two (2) years of service; and**
- b. Eight (8) hours for members with more than eight (8) years of experience each year, which shall include a minimum of:
 1. One (1) hour of ethics training each year; ~~and~~
 2. One (1) hour of open meetings and open records training at least once every four (4) years; ~~and~~
 3. **Two (2) hours of finance training at least once every two (2) years.**

The Kentucky Board of Education shall identify the criteria for fulfilling the above requirements. ~~Training topics for members with less than two (2) years of consecutive service shall include three (3) hours of finance and one (1) hour of Superintendent evaluation within the first two (2) years of service.~~

If a Board member obtains hours through any sources other than KSBA, they shall have local Board approval prior to participation in the training event, and they shall ensure that a copy of proof of attendance including a recitation of the time, date, location, and description of the training is sent by the training provider to KSBA within two (2) weeks of completion of the training.

In-service Training

IN-SERVICE TRAINING REGARDING CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZATION

Separate and apart from the above in-service training, Board members shall participate in in-service training regarding charter school authorizers as follows:

When the Board, or a collaborative of local school boards including the Board, receives a charter school application, any member of the Board or boards who has not received charter authorization training within twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date the application was received shall receive six (6) hours of in-service training prior to evaluating the charter application. Except for training provided prior to July 15, 2020, the training shall be in addition to the annual in-service training required under KRS 160.180, and the Board shall select the trainer to deliver the training to its members. Charter authorizer training shall not be required of any Board member until a charter application is submitted to the Board or boards.²

The charter authorizer training requirements shall be approved by the Commissioner of Education and shall address the following topics of authorizer responsibility and charter school formation and operation:

1. Financial governance and transparency;
2. Conflict of interest;
3. Charter application;
4. Charter school contracting;
5. Charter school monitoring;
6. Charter school renewal, nonrenewal, and revocation;
7. Charter school closure;
8. Ethics;
9. Curriculum and instruction;
10. Educational services provided for special needs, at risk, English learner, gifted, and other special population students; and
11. Physical restraint and seclusion of students.

ORIENTATION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Superintendent/designee and/or the Board Chair shall acquaint new Board members with their duties and obligations and furnish them with a copy of the Board's policy manual and/or access to the District's online manual and such other information and guidance materials as necessary to prepare them for service. Areas should include, but not be limited to, District budgeting, planning and student learning indicators. In addition, new Board members shall be provided assistance in locating training opportunities to help them meet statutory training requirements and to support them in learning their roles and responsibilities.

In-service Training

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 160.180

²KRS 160.1594

701 KAR 8:020

702 KAR 1:116

OAG 85-53; OAG 85-145

LEGAL: HB 67 AMENDS KRS 160.390 ADDING STATUTE TO BUDGET PREPARATION.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

ADMINISTRATION

02.12

Duties of Superintendent

PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR

The Superintendent shall be the professional advisor to the Board. As advisor to the Board, the Superintendent shall recommend policies to the Board for its consideration and should advise and counsel the Board on all matters.¹

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Superintendent shall be the executive officer of the District. As executive officer, the Superintendent is responsible for carrying out all policies and rules and regulations established by the Board.¹

SPECIFIC DUTIES

The Superintendent shall:

1. Meet with the Board except when the Superintendent's tenure, salary, or the administration of the Superintendent's office is under consideration;¹
2. See that the laws relating to the schools, the administrative regulations of the Kentucky Board of Education, and the policies of the Board are carried into effect;¹
3. Prepare, under the direction of the Board, all rules, procedures, bylaws, and statements of policy for review, approval and/or adoption by the Board;¹
4. Have general supervision, subject to the control of the Board, of the general conduct of the schools, the management of business affairs and, in accordance with state law, the course of instruction, and the discipline of pupils;¹
5. Make all appointments, promotions, and transfers of principals, supervisors, teachers, and other public school employees, and at the next Board meeting notify the Board of all personnel actions taken;²
6. Exercise general supervision of the schools, examine their condition and progress, and keep informed of the progress in other districts;³
7. Prepare or have prepared all budgets, salary schedules, and reports required by the Board, by statute or ~~and by~~ the Kentucky Board of Education;³
8. Determine the need of extension of the school system of the district;³
9. Receive and examine reports from teachers and other school officers;³
10. Make reports from time to time as directed by the Board;³
11. Be responsible to the Board for the general condition of the schools;³ and
12. Meet all training and continuing education requirements specified in statute and administrative regulations.⁴

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 160.370; OAG 78-274; OAG 82-604

²KRS 160.380

³KRS 160.390

⁴KRS 156.111; 704 KAR 3:406

KRS 15.257; KRS 160.395

LEGAL: SB 2 AMENDS KRS 157.350 REQUIRING SUPERINTENDENT PERCENTAGE PAY INCREASE NOT BE GREATER THAN THAT PROVIDED FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: SB 2 AMENDS KRS 160.350 ADDING LANGUAGE TO PUBLISH THE SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTACT ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE AND SUBMIT TO THE KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

ADMINISTRATION

02.131

Contract of Superintendent

CONTRACT

Except for individuals serving in an interim or acting capacity, the Superintendent shall be granted a contract by the Board for a term of one (1), two (2), three (3), or four (4) years in accordance with statutory requirements.¹

The Board shall establish and approve the Superintendent's salary and length of term before entering into a contract for his/her employment. In determining compensation for the Superintendent, the Board shall consider the District's financial resources, current economic conditions, employee performance, and salary data for similar positions at relevant organizations within the region.

Any contract, renewal, or extension for the Superintendent entered into on or after July 1, 2026, shall not provide a percentage pay increase greater than that provided to District classroom teacher. Upon the expiration of the Superintendent's contract, the Board may negotiate a salary increase, which shall be set forth in a new contract. The Board may request a waiver of this paragraph from the Commissioner of Education. If the Commissioner denies the waiver request, the Board may request a waiver in accordance with KRS 156.161.

The Board shall approve the salary, benefits and other conditions of employment to be provided to the Superintendent in an open and public meeting. All such payments, benefits, and conditions shall be clearly documented in the Superintendent's current employment contract and in any contractual extensions approved by the Board thereafter.

In accordance with KRS 160.350 the Superintendent's contract, and any amendments, renewals, extensions or addendums, shall be published on the District's website and submitted to the Kentucky Department of Education, within thirty (30) days of execution.

VACANCY

In case of a vacancy in the office of Superintendent prior to the expiration of the term set by the Board, the term shall expire on the date the vacancy occurs.

When a vacancy occurs between a school Board election and the time that new members take office, the vacancy may not be filled until the new members take office. The Board may appoint an acting Superintendent during that period for a term not to exceed six (6) months. Such term may be renewed once for a period not to exceed three (3) months.

RESIGNATION

No Superintendent may resign his/her term prior to its expiration date and accept a new term from the same Board.

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 160.350

[KRS 156.161](#)

[KRS 157.350](#)

LEGAL: HB 869 AMENDS KRS 61.805 DEFINING TIME AS MEANING THE TIME OF DAY STATED IN BOTH EASTERN AND CENTRAL TIME. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS EFFECTIVE AS OF APRIL 27, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

ADMINISTRATION

02.423

School Council Meetings

SCHEDULE

The first meeting of the council shall be called by the Principal; thereafter, the council shall set its own meeting schedule. At this meeting, the council shall adopt a schedule of regular meetings for the fiscal year, identifying the date, time (stated in both Eastern and Central time⁴) and place of each meeting. Any change to this schedule shall be a special-called meeting.¹

All meetings of the council, and any committees or subcommittees thereof, shall be held at specified times and places which are convenient to the public. The schedule of regular meetings shall be made available to the public.²

PUBLIC MEETINGS

All meetings of a quorum of the members of the council at which any public business is discussed or at which any action is taken are to be public meetings, open to the public at all times, except as provided in KRS 61.810.³

OPEN MEETING AND OPEN RECORD REQUIREMENTS

All meetings of the council are open to the public and subject to the open meetings law. Council records are also subject to open records law and the Records Retention Schedule, Public School District.

OPEN RECORDS

The Principal shall be the Chair of the council and shall be responsible for securing minutes that record the council's actions. Minutes shall be approved by the council, kept in a permanent file along with other council records, and open to public inspection. A copy of the minutes of each council meeting shall be forwarded by the Principal to the Superintendent **who shall forward same to each Board member**.

REFERENCES:

¹92-OMD-1677

²KRS 61.820; OAG 78-274, OAG 78-614

³KRS 61.810

⁴KRS 61.805

KRS 61.815; KRS 61.823; KRS 61.826; KRS 61.835

KRS 61.840; KRS 61.846; KRS 61.848; KRS 61.850; KRS 61.870

KRS 61.872; KRS 61.874; KRS 61.876; KRS 61.884

Records Retention Schedule, Public School District

RELATED POLICIES:

01.43; 01.44; 10.11

LEGAL: HB 500 PROVIDES THAT A LOCAL BOARD MAY REDUCE THE ALLOCATIONS TO INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS AS OUTLINED IN 702 KAR 3:246, NOTWITHSTANDING KRS 160.345(8). ALLOCATIONS SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN \$100 PER PUPIL IN AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

ADMINISTRATION

02.4242

School Budget and Purchasing (SBDM)

BOARD ALLOCATIONS

The Board shall appropriate to each school an amount equal to or greater than that specified by the formula prescribed in 702 KAR 3:246. Notwithstanding KRS 160.345(8), the Board may reduce the allocations to individual schools within the District; however, the allocation shall not be less than one hundred (\$100) dollars per pupil in average daily attendance.¹ School councils shall be provided notice of allocations for the next budget year in accordance with the timelines required by regulation.⁺²

An amount for professional development shall be allocated as required by Kentucky Administrative Regulation.

The Board shall allocate Section 7 funds according to the options provided in 702 KAR 3:246. Notice of the Section 7 allocation shall be provided in accordance with that regulation. Based on the needs assessment conducted by the school, the council shall forward to the Board a list of those priorities no later than January 1 each year.

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITY

The school shall, in expending allocated funds, comply with all state and Board budgeting, purchasing and reporting laws, regulations, policies and procedures. Board purchasing procedures shall be followed in the expenditure of these funds. Expenditure of these funds, with the exception of personnel salaries, shall be accomplished only by completing a central office purchase order.

The Board allocation is the total financial resource available to that school in those budget categories for the fiscal year. The council may reassign these funds to alternate budget categories for purposes consistent with its responsibilities. The school shall not expend or commit to expend any funds in excess of those allocated to the school. Should this occur, the employee(s) responsible shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, and the Superintendent may require the school/council to present, for Board approval, a plan to reimburse the District for the amount spent in excess of the allocation.

All state allocated funds managed by the school but not expended by the end of the fiscal year, shall revert to the District general fund, unless the school council has received Board approval to escrow the funds to be used at a future date for an approved project.

BOARD APPROPRIATION

The Superintendent shall determine which curriculum, textbooks, instructional materials, and student support services shall be provided in the school after consulting with the Board, the Principal, and the school council and after a reasonable review and response period for stakeholders in accordance with applicable state laws, regulations, and Board policy.

PURCHASING

In order to comply with state accounting and bidding requirements, all purchases of goods and services shall be made in conformity with Board policy.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

The Superintendent/designee shall prepare and provide the school a monthly statement of the current financial status of funds allocated to the school. This statement shall include the beginning unencumbered balance for each category of authorized expenditure, an itemized listing of purchase orders paid, an itemized listing of purchase orders authorized but not paid, and the end-of-the-month unencumbered balance of funds allocated.

School Budget and Purchasing (SBDM)**EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS**

In schools where SBDM has been implemented, the school council shall determine the expenditure of funds allocated to the school. In schools not operating under SBDM, the District administration shall determine the expenditure of these funds.

REFERENCES:

¹[2026 Budget Bill](#)

²702 KAR 3:246; School Council Allocation Formula

704 KAR 3:510; KRS 156.445; KRS 160.345

OAG 91-10

OAG 91-206

OAG 92-59

RELATED POLICIES:

04.1; 08.1

LEGAL: HB 500 REQUIRES SCHOOLS TO DISPLAY ACADEMIC INFORMATION ON THE SCHOOL'S
INTERNET LANDING PAGE.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

ADMINISTRATION

02.442

Comprehensive School Improvement Plan

RESPONSIBILITY

Each school council, or Principal, in a school without a council, shall develop, review, and revise annually a Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) by January 1 of each school year.

In an SBDM school, the school council shall organize a planning process, consistent with District's established planning process. The structure of the CSIP shall include completion of a narrative summary of the current state of the school between August 1 and October 1 of each school year and completion of the needs assessment between October 1 and November 1 of each school year. A process for development of the CSIP is to be completed between November 1 and January 1 of each school year, and other components required by state statutes or regulations. Unless otherwise noted, all additional components of the CSIP may be complete by May 1 of each school year.

In a school without a council, the Principal shall appoint a School Planning Committee comprised, at a minimum, of four (4) teachers, four (4) parents, and a community representative. The high school(s) shall include a student on the committee. The community representative shall not be a teacher, spouse of a teacher, or a parent of child(ren) attending the District schools.

The primary purposes of the CSIP shall be:

- To improve student achievement on state and federal mandated testing/accountability instruments; and
- To eliminate achievement gaps among groups of students.

FORM

Unless the school planning committee requests and is granted a waiver by the Board, the school committee shall use any improvement plan format that has been established and approved by the Board. The CSIP structure shall include the components set out in 703 KAR 5:225, Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) and the elements required by KRS 158.649.

In addition, the school council, or school planning committee appointed by the Principal if there is no council, shall review annually the school's disaggregated student data and revise the school's improvement plan, as required by applicable statute and regulation, to address any achievement gaps between various groups of students.

The plan shall also address reduction of physical and mental health barriers to learning, student equity, District safety and student discipline assessments, and District goals established by the Board.

The school plan shall serve as a resource for school/council decision making and shall be posted to the school's web site.

PUBLIC REVIEW

The Principal shall convene a public meeting at the school to present and discuss the plan prior to submitting it to the Superintendent and Board.

Comprehensive School Improvement Plan

SCHOOL REPORT CARDS

Each school shall post its school report card on its website as required by ESSA. School report cards shall be widely accessible to the public, in an understandable and uniform format, and when possible, written in a language that parents can understand.

As outlined in KRS 160.463, a copy of the report card is to be publicized by one of the following methods:

- a. In the newspaper of the largest general circulation in the county;
- b. Electronically on a website of the District; or
- c. By printed copy at a prearranged site at the main branch of the public library within the District.

If b or c above is selected, the Superintendent shall be directed to publish notification in the newspaper with the largest circulation in the county. The notification shall include the electronic address of the website or the address of the library where the report card can be viewed by the public.

Each school shall send to parents a school report card containing information about school performance as outlined in KRS 158.6453 and 703 KAR 5:140, and information on electronic access to a summary of the results for the District shall be published in the newspaper with the largest circulation in the county.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT RESULTS

The School shall prominently display in a banner format, in not less than 16-point type, on the School's internet landing page and at the top of each page of the School's website, the School's percentage of students scoring the following on the most recent Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA):

- Proficient and Distinguished in Reading; and
- Proficient and Distinguished in Mathematics.

The information above will also be displayed at the top of each page of the School's website in a banner format.

The School shall display on the internet landing page a web link to the detailed results of the School's performance on the most recent [KSA-Summative Assessment](#).

BOARD REVIEW

The school's plan for eliminating achievement gaps among various groups of students shall be presented to the Board for its review and comment. The Board may share its comments, in writing, with the council.

In keeping with Board Policy 02.44, each School Council or School Planning Committee shall annually report to the Board regarding the progress toward achieving the goals and desired outcomes and meeting the needs identified in the improvement/plan, including those for student groups for whom data indicate an achievement gap exists.

Comprehensive School Improvement Plan

REFERENCES:

KRS 158.645; KRS 158.6451; KRS 158.6453; KRS 158.649
KRS 160.290; KRS 160.345; KRS 160.463
703 KAR 5:140; 703 KAR 5:225; 703 KAR 5:280; ~~2026~~2024 Budget Bill
P. L. 114-95, (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015)

RELATED POLICIES:

01.111; 02.432; 02.44

LEGAL: HB 253 AMENDS KRS 160.380 TO REQUIRE DISTRICTS TO DISCLOSE ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS RELATED TO ABUSIVE CONDUCT OF APPLICANTS AND ADDS ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF SELF-REPORTING REQUIREMENT OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: HB 727 AMENDS KRS 160.380 REMOVING THE REQUIREMENT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO CONDUCT A SEARCH TO LOCATE MINORITY TEACHERS. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF JULY 1, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

PERSONNEL

03.11

- CERTIFIED PERSONNEL -**Hiring****SUPERINTENDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

When a vacancy occurs, the Superintendent shall submit the job posting to the statewide job posting system fifteen (15) days before the position is to be filled.

When a vacancy needs to be filled in less than fifteen (15) days to prevent disruption of necessary instructional or support services of the school District, the Superintendent may seek a waiver of the fifteen (15)-day advance notice requirement from the Commissioner of Education. If the waiver is approved, the appointment shall not be made until the person selected by the Superintendent has been approved by the Commissioner of Education.

The Superintendent shall make all appointments, promotions, and transfers of certified personnel for positions authorized by the Board and, at the first meeting following the actions, shall notify the Board of same. Such notification shall be recorded in the Board minutes. No personnel action shall be effective prior to receipt of written notice of the action by the affected employee from the Superintendent. Certified employees may be appointed by the Superintendent for any school year at any time after February 1 next preceding the beginning of the school year.

QUALIFICATIONS

The Superintendent shall employ only individuals who are certified for the positions they will hold and who possess qualifications established by Board policy, except in the case where no individual applies who is properly certified and/or who meets qualifications set by Board policy.

Board employees shall be chosen with reference to their certification and their personal, educational, physical, moral and emotional fitness for the position. Other factors which shall be considered include undergraduate and graduate academic performance, prior experience, and strength of references.

The following shall not be considered for employment by the District:

- **Applicants who have been terminated and/or non-renewed by a school district for cause;**
- **Those who have resigned in lieu of termination; and**
- **Applicants who have ever had their certification suspended or revoked.**

Hiring of certified personnel who have previously retired under TRS shall be in compliance with applicable legal requirements.²

All teachers shall meet applicable certification or licensure requirements as defined by state and federal regulation.³

Applicants, employees, and student teachers assigned within the District shall undergo records checks and testing as required by applicable statutes and regulations.¹

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AND TESTING

Each application shall contain a completed "Release Authorization" form and a check made payable to Ft. Thomas Independent Schools for the fee charged by the Justice Cabinet for processing the criminal records report.

Hiring

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AND TESTING (CONTINUED)

Each application form provided by the employer to an applicant for a certified position shall conspicuously state the following:

"FOR THIS TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT, STATE LAW REQUIRES A NATIONAL AND STATE CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK AND A LETTER, PROVIDED BY THE INDIVIDUAL, FROM THE CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES STATING THE APPLICANT HAS NO ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT FOUND THROUGH A BACKGROUND CHECK OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT RECORDS MAINTAINED BY THE CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES."

Employment shall be contingent on receipt of records documenting that the individual has not been convicted of an offense that would classify a person as a violent offender under KRS 439.3401, a sex crime defined by KRS 17.500 or a misdemeanor offense under KRS Chapter 510, is required to register as a sex offender, or other conviction determined by the Superintendent to bear a reasonable relationship to the ability of the individual to perform the job. Employment shall also be contingent on receipt of a letter from the Cabinet provided by the individual documenting that the individual does not have an administrative finding of child abuse or neglect in records maintained by the Cabinet.

"Administrative finding of child abuse or neglect" means a substantiated finding of child abuse or neglect issued by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services that is:

1. Not appealed through an administrative hearing conducted in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B;
2. Upheld at an administrative hearing conducted in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B and not appealed to a Circuit Court; or
3. Upheld by a Circuit Court in an appeal of the results of an administrative hearing conducted in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B.¹

Probationary employment shall terminate on receipt of a criminal history background check documenting a conviction for a felony sex crime or as a violent offender.

The form for requesting a CA/N check is available on the Cabinet for Health and Family Services website.

Criminal records checks on persons employed in Head Start programs shall be conducted in conformity with 45 C.F.R. § 1302.90.

In the event an emergency exists whereby a position must be filled before the criminal records check has been completed, the Superintendent is authorized to fill the position on a probationary basis until the criminal records report has been completed. Final disposition of employment status shall be determined once the criminal records report has been completed.

Hiring

REPORT TO SUPERINTENDENT

An employee shall report to the Superintendent if the employee has been found by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to have abused or neglected a child, and if the employee has waived the right to appeal such a substantiated finding or the finding has been upheld upon appeal. [The Superintendent shall annually notify District employees of the self-reporting requirement.](#)

JOB REGISTER

The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall maintain in the Central Office a job register listing all current job openings in the District. The register shall describe the duties and qualifications for each opening, and District employment policies shall be attached to the register. The job register shall be open to public inspection during Central Office business hours.

VACANCIES POSTED

Under procedures developed by the Superintendent, a listing of all District job openings shall be posted in the Central Office on a timely basis and shall refer interested persons to the Central Office job register for additional information.

Notices of all job openings shall be sent to each school for posting in appropriate locations.

~~[When a vacancy for a teaching position occurs in the District the Superintendent shall conduct a search to locate minority candidates to be considered for the position.](#)~~

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

Under procedures developed by the Superintendent, each application shall be acknowledged upon receipt of the initial application. Applications shall be kept on file for two (2) years.

RELATIONSHIPS

The Superintendent shall not employ a relative of a member of the Board.

A relative may be employed as a substitute for a certified or classified employee if the relative is not:

1. A regular full-time or part-time employee of the District;
2. Accruing continuing contract status or any other right to continuous employment;
3. Receiving fringe benefits other than those provided other substitutes; or
4. Receiving preference in employment or assignment over other substitutes.¹

A relative of the Superintendent shall not be employed except as provided by KRS 160.380.

JOB DESCRIPTION

All employees shall receive a copy of their job description and responsibilities.

EVALUATION INFORMATION

Each person being considered for employment shall be informed that the Board utilizes an evaluation procedure for certified personnel and shall be asked if there is any reason s/he would not want to be evaluated. Upon employment, the individual shall be furnished with a copy of the evaluation procedure and given the opportunity to review the procedure and ask questions about it.

Hiring

LETTER OF INTENT

By April 1 of each year, each employee shall submit to the Superintendent a letter of intent signifying his/her desire to be re-employed.

REASONABLE ASSURANCE OF CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT

Each year all full-time and part-time certified employees shall be notified in writing by the last day of school if they have reasonable assurance of continued employment for the following school year.

EMPLOYEES SEEKING A JOB CHANGE

Other than the routine transmission of administrative and personnel files, District employees are prohibited from assisting a school employee, contractor, or agent in obtaining a new job if the individual knows, or has probable cause to believe, that such school employee, contractor, or agent engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a minor or student in violation of the law and such school employee, contractor, or agent does not meet the exceptions outlined in 20 U.S.C. § 7926.

DISCLOSURE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

If requested by a school district, public school, or nonpublic school regarding an applicant for a position, the district that employs or previously employed the applicant shall disclose any disciplinary action, and any resulting resignation or termination, related to abusive conduct while the applicant was employed by the district in accordance with KRS 160.380. This also applies to a school district, public school, or nonpublic school located in a member state of the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact.

The District considering the applicant for employment shall, if the application is for a certified position, request information from the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) related to pending and resolved disciplinary action against the applicant involving abusive conduct. The EPSB shall provide the requested information, if applicable, within ten (10) working days.

If there is a finding of abusive conduct regarding an applicant, the applicant shall be:

1. Ineligible for hire by the District; and
2. Subject to dismissal or termination if the applicant is hired by the District or is a current employee of the District.

Hiring

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 160.380

²KRS 161.605; ~~702 KAR 1:150~~

³P. L. 114-95, (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015)

20 U.S.C. § 7926; 42 U.S.C. § 9843a(g)

45 C.F.R. § 1302.90

KRS Chapter 13B

KRS 17.160; KRS 17.165; KRS 17.500 to KRS 17.580

KRS 156.106; KRS 160.345; KRS 160.390

KRS 161.042; KRS 161.611; KRS 161.750

KRS 335B.020; KRS 405.435; KRS 439.3401

KRS Chapter 510

16 KAR 9:080; 702 KAR 3:320; 704 KAR 7:130

OAG 18-017; OAG 73-333; OAG 91-10; OAG 91-149; OAG 91-206

OAG 92-1; OAG 92-59; OAG 92-78; OAG 92-131; OAG 97-6

Records Retention Schedule, Public School District

RELATED POLICIES:

03.132

03.18

LEGAL: SB 2 AMENDS KRS 157.350 REGULATING SALARY INCREASES FOR ADMINISTRATORS FOR
CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

PERSONNEL

03.121

- CERTIFIED PERSONNEL -**Salaries****SINGLE-SALARY BASIS**

All salaries for certified personnel shall be based on a single-salary schedule **which recognizes training and experience. This salary schedule shall be adopted annually by the Board and provide, at minimum, for the number of working days required by law or as approved by the Board. The basic purpose of the schedule shall be to recruit, retain, and provide incentives and opportunities for the continued improvement of, quality personnel.**

An administrator, as defined in KRS 161.720, shall not receive a percentage pay increase greater than the percentage pay increase provided to classroom teachers, unless the pay increase is:

- a) In conjunction with a professional advancement that imposes a significant change in job duties and responsibilities; or
- b) The result of local board action to uniformly increase the pay associated with a specific job category.

If requested by the Board, the Commissioner of Education may grant a waiver in accordance with KRS 156.161.

A District may provide monetary compensation, in addition to that provided through the single salary schedule, to all classroom teachers employed in a school that is identified by the Kentucky Department of Education as being in targeted or comprehensive support and improvement status.

Although a school may submit a request for an increment for an extended employment position, extra service, or related adjustments, the Board must set increments in pay for positions requiring services beyond those normally expected of other positions if the duties rendered extend beyond the regular school day or require extended days.

Compensation for all services rendered as an employee of the District shall be processed through standard payroll procedures.

The rank and experience of certified personnel shall be determined at time of hire. The Board shall direct the Superintendent to validate all experience of professional personnel employed in the District.

Changes in rank and experience shall be determined on September 15 of each year.

To assist with the budgeting process, candidates for NBCT certification shall notify the Superintendent/designee in writing prior to September 15 that certification is pending in order for the employee to receive any rank-related increase retroactive to the beginning of the school year.

DETERMINATION OF EXPERIENCE

For the purpose of calculating salaries, prior experience of certified employees shall be determined in compliance with Kentucky Administrative Regulation.

Individual employees shall be responsible for validating their experience by providing to the Superintendent a properly executed experience verification form by September 1 of the school year for which the salary is being calculated.

Salaries**DETERMINATION OF EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)**

Years of experience in P-12 education are eligible for determination of placement on the certified salary schedule.

Upon initial employment, the Superintendent may grant Career Technical Education (CTE) Teachers up to ten (10) years of relevant work field experience for pay purposes when a person's specific work is determined to be of such importance as to make them the best-qualified for the position. The Board shall direct the Superintendent to validate all experience of professional personnel employed in the District.

RANK

The salary schedule shall include provisions for teachers who qualify for the following ranks:

Rank IV - Teachers holding emergency certificates and who have ninety-six (96) to one hundred twenty-eight (128) semester hours of approved college training or the equivalent.

Rank IVA - Teachers holding emergency certificates who have an approved four (4) year college degree, or a teaching certificate from another state, and who are teaching in their field.

Rank III - Teachers holding regular certifications and who have an approved four (4) year college degree or the equivalent.

Rank IIIA – Teachers with a Bachelor's Degree or its equivalent, plus fifteen (15) semester hours or more of graduate work.

Rank II - Teachers holding regular certification and who have a Master's Degree in a subject field approved by the Education Professional Standards Board or equivalent continuing education.

Rank IIA - Teachers with a Master's Degree or its equivalent, plus fifteen (15) semester hours or more of graduate work, or the successful completion of two (2) of the four (4) required components of NBCT certification leading to a Rank I certificate.

Rank I - Teachers holding regular certifications and who have a Master's Degree in a subject field approved by the Education Professional Standards Board or equivalent continuing education and who have earned thirty (30) semester hours of approved graduate work or equivalent continuing education, and those teachers who have met the requirements for Rank II and hold current certification of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

OUT-OF-STATE PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

Teachers who possess a teaching certificate, license or eligibility documentation from another state and who do not possess a Kentucky teaching certification or statement of eligibility shall be designated as either Rank II or Rank III on the salary schedule (depending on the level of undergraduate and graduate work completed), until such time as they are able to complete requirements for a Kentucky certificate or statement of eligibility, In order to continue the Rank II or III designation, those requirements must be completed within the current academic year.

Salaries

ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES

Salaries for administrative positions, other than that of the Superintendent, shall be calculated based on procedures developed by the Superintendent and shall require the approval of the Board.

EXCEPTION

The Superintendent's salary may be established without regard to the above-mentioned schedules.

STAFF INPUT

The Salary Schedule Committee comprised of two (2) Board members and the Superintendent shall develop salary schedules for employees, and shall obtain input from classified employees and a representative group of teachers selected from the education association. These representatives, in turn, shall solicit input from the employees they represent.

EXTENDED EMPLOYMENT

Compensation for employment contracted beyond the minimum number of working days required by law shall be prorated.

Extended employment positions shall be established in a position job description, funded in the District budget, and specified in an addendum to the employee's contract.

Addition of days to be worked beyond the original contract or additional days of extended employment for a position require prior Board approval before the change goes into effect.

EXTRA SERVICES AND SUPPLEMENTS

Certified employees who are assigned extra responsibilities shall be compensated according to the schedule for extra services established annually by the Board. In developing this schedule, consideration shall be given to the following factors:

- 1. Number of hours required beyond the regular school day during the regular school term.**
- 2. Number of students involved in the extra service for which the employee is responsible.**
- 3. Number, if any, of additional teachers under the supervision of the teacher in charge of the extra duty.**
- 4. Responsibility for accounting for funds.**
- 5. Pressure factors including, but not limited to, special duty.**
- 6. Other factors which are non-discriminatory as to the sex of the employee or to the school where the extra service is to be rendered.**

Salaries

NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHER (NBCT) SUPPLEMENT

As provided under law, teachers who attain certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards on or before July 1, 2020, shall be given an annual salary supplement of two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for the life of the certificate. A teacher who attains certification after July 1, 2020, shall be given an annual salary supplement for the life of the certificate, in accordance with the amount appropriated for this purpose by the General Assembly. If an annual supplement amount appropriated by the General Assembly is less than two thousand dollars (\$2,000), the Board may provide an additional supplement up to the amount required for the total annual supplement to equal two thousand dollars (\$2,000).

PAYROLL DISTRIBUTION

Payroll will be distributed according to a schedule approved annually by the Board. The District shall furnish the employee with either a paper or electronic statement. If statements are provided electronically, employees shall be provided access to a computer and printer for review and printing of their statement.

At the close of the school year, employees who have completed all responsibilities and duties may request to be paid their remaining salary prior to the end of the fiscal year.

QUALIFICATIONS

Employees shall be responsible for providing the Superintendent with all required certificates, other credentials, health examinations, and verifications of experience prior to beginning work.

NOTICE OF SALARY

Not later than forty-five (45) days before the first student attendance day of the succeeding school year or June 15, whichever occurs earlier, the Superintendent shall notify all certified personnel of the best estimate of the salary for the coming year.

The Board shall approve all payroll deductions as specified by KRS 161.158 and Board Policy 03.1211.

REFERENCES:

[KRS 156.161](#); KRS 157.075; KRS 157.320; KRS 157.350; KRS 157.360
KRS 157.390; KRS 157.395; KRS 157.397; KRS 157.420
KRS 160.290; KRS 160.291; KRS 161.1211; KRS 161.134
KRS 161.168; [KRS 161.720](#); KRS 161.760; KRS 337.070; KRS 424.120
16 KAR 4:030; 16 KAR 1:040
702 KAR 3:060; 702 KAR 3:070
702 KAR 3:100; 702 KAR 3:310; OAG 97-25
29 C.F.R. Section 541.303; 29 C.F.R. section 541.602.29; C.F.R. section 541.710

RELATED POLICIES:

03.1211; 03.4

LEGAL: HB 253 AMENDS KRS 160.380 TO REQUIRE EMPLOYEES TO NOTIFY THE SUPERINTENDENT WITHIN SEVEN (7) CALENDAR DAYS OF BEING CHARGED WITH A FELONY. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

PERSONNEL

03.1311

- CERTIFIED PERSONNEL -**Transfer**

Transfers of certified personnel shall be made by the Superintendent who, at the first meeting following the transfer, shall notify the Board of same. Such notification shall be recorded in the Board minutes. No personnel action shall be effective prior to receipt of written notice of the action by the affected employee from the Superintendent.

Transfer or reassignment of certified personnel will be made no later than thirty (30) days before the first student attendance day of the school year except to fill vacancies created by illness, death, or resignations; to reduce or increase personnel because of a shift in school population; to make personnel adjustments after consolidation or merger; or to assign personnel according to their major or minor fields of training.¹

TRANSFER OF EMPLOYEES CHARGED WITH A FELONY

Notwithstanding any ~~other policy~~ provision of the Kentucky Revised Statutes to the contrary, any certified employee of the District shall notify the Superintendent within seven (7) calendar days of being charged with any offense which is classified as a felony. †The Superintendent may transfer thean employee charged with a felony offense as permitted under to a second position in accordance with KRS 160.380.

The Superintendent shall annually notify District employees of the self-reporting requirement.

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 161.760; OAG 78-266
KRS 160.380; OAG 76-360
OAG 91-149
OAG 92-1
OAG 91-115
OAG 92-135
OAG 92-78

RELATED POLICY:

02.4244
03.172

LEGAL: SB 46 AMENDS 160.380 TO DIRECT THE SUPERINTENDENT TO REQUIRE NON-CDL DRIVERS OF NON-SCHOOL BUS PASSENGER VEHICLES TO MEET SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS BEFORE TRANSPORTING STUDENTS. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF MARCH 27, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: SB 59 AMENDS KRS 48.025 EXPLICITLY APPLYING THE PROHIBITION TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS ON USING TAX DOLLARS TO ADVOCATE FOR OR AGAINST A PUBLIC QUESTION AND ESTABLISHES PENALTIES.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

PERSONNEL

03.1321

- CERTIFIED PERSONNEL -**Use of School Property**

All personnel shall be responsible for the school equipment, supplies, books, furniture, and apparatus under their care and use. Any damaged, lost, stolen, or vandalized property shall be reported to the employee's immediate supervisor, who shall then report it to the Superintendent/designee once it is confirmed that the item cannot be recovered.

Local, state and federal tax dollars and resources shall not be used to advocate for or against any public question that appears on the ballot.

In addition, employees shall not perform personal services for themselves or for others for pay or profit during work time and/or using District property or facilities. District property being used for unauthorized purposes shall be reported to that employee's immediate supervisor.

PROHIBITIONS

An employee shall not use any District facility, vehicle, electronic communication system, equipment or materials **for personal or private use or gain**. All items (including security codes and electronic records, such as E-mail) are property of the District and shall be used solely for job-related purposes.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Employees shall not use a code, access a file, or retrieve any stored communication unless they have been given authorization to do so. Employees cannot expect confidentiality or privacy as to information entered or stored in their E-mail accounts. Authorized District personnel may monitor the use of electronic equipment from time to time.

DRIVING RECORD

Employees who have occasion to drive a Board-owned **or contracted** vehicle and/or transport students shall **biennially have** the Superintendent/**designee request** a copy of their driving record from the Kentucky Department of Transportation. Any traffic citation received shall be reported to the Superintendent/**designee** prior to driving a Board-owned **or contracted** vehicle **and/or** transporting students.

The Superintendent shall require any driver of any non-school bus passenger vehicle owned, leased or contracted by the District which is authorized to transport students to and from approved school activities and who does not have a valid commercial driver's license to meet the requirements set forth in KRS 160.380.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Employees who drive vehicles to transport students shall undergo a biennial physical examination at their own expense.

USE OF ASSIGNED TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICES

The Board authorizes the purchase and employee use of telecommunication devices, as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent. These devices shall include, but are not limited to, pagers and digital or cell phones.

District-owned telecommunication devices shall be used primarily for authorized District business purposes. However, occasional personal use of such equipment is permitted.

Use of School Property

REFERENCES:

| [KRS 48.025](#); KRS 160.290; [KRS 160.380](#); KRS 189.292
KRS 281A.205; 702 KAR 5:080
15-ORD-190

LEGAL: SB 59 AMENDS KRS 48.025 EXPLICITLY APPLYING THE PROHIBITION TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS ON USING TAX DOLLARS TO ADVOCATE FOR OR AGAINST A PUBLIC QUESTION AND ESTABLISHES PENALTIES.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

PERSONNEL

03.1324

- CERTIFIED PERSONNEL -**Political Activities**

No District employee shall promote, organize, or engage in political activities while performing his/her duties or during the work day. Promoting or engaging in political activities shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Encouraging students to adopt or support a particular political position, party, or candidate; or
2. Using school property or materials to advance the support of a particular political position, party, or candidate.

"Political positions" shall not be defined to include communications approved by the Superintendent to be distributed to **students**, parents or the community concerning District needs or proposed actions by the Board. Examples of such communications may include, but not be limited to, those addressing designation of attendance zones/areas and District facility and financial needs.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

The Superintendent shall inform all District employees of the provisions of KRS 161.164.

USE OF TAX DOLLARS AND RESOURCES

Local, state, and federal tax dollars and resources shall not be used to advocate for or against any public question that appears on the ballot. The Superintendent shall inform all District employees of the provisions of KRS 48.025.

REFERENCES:

KRS 48.025; KRS 161.164; KRS 161.990
OAG 63-572; OAG 72-700; OAG 92-145

RELATED POLICY:

03.113

LEGAL: HB 253 CREATES A NEW SECTION OF KRS 158 TO PROHIBIT DISTRICTS FROM PROVIDING OR UTILIZING ANY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT THAT USES THE THREE-CUEING SYSTEM OF TEACHING STUDENTS TO READ. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: HB 253 ALSO AMENDS KRS 156.095 ADDING TRAINING FOR ALL EMPLOYEES ON APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNICATIONS. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: COST OF TRAINING

PERSONNEL

03.19

- CERTIFIED PERSONNEL -**Professional Development****PROGRAM TO BE PROVIDED**

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) shall establish, direct and maintain a statewide program of professional development (PD) to improve instruction in the schools. The KDE shall create a four (4) year recurring PD training schedule that includes all PD for certified staff. The District shall implement the PD training schedule created by the KDE.

All certified employees shall complete at least one (1) hour of each of the following trainings within twelve (12) months of initial hire and **on even** years thereafter:

- a. How to respond to an active shooter situation training prepared by the Department of Criminal Justice Training in collaboration with the Kentucky Department of Education, the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council, and the Center for School Safety;
- b. Child abuse and neglect prevention, recognition, and reporting training from the list of trainings approved by the KDE;
- c. Suicide prevention training:
 1. High-quality, evidence-based suicide prevention training, including risk factors, warning signs, protective factors, response procedures, referral, postvention, and the recognition of signs and symptoms of possible mental illness.

Postvention means a series of planned supports and interventions with persons affected by a suicide for the purpose of facilitating the grieving or adjustment process, stabilizing the environment, reducing the risk of negative behaviors, and limiting the risk of further suicides through contagion; and
- d. Self-study review of seizure disorder materials.

The PD program for the District and each school shall be incorporated into the Comprehensive School/District Improvement Plan. Prior to the implementation of the program, the school PD plan shall be made public, and the District PD plan shall be posted to the District web site. Programs may also include classified staff and parent members of school councils and committees.

The District is prohibited from providing or utilizing any professional development that uses the three-cueing system of teaching students to read.

APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH STUDENTS

By June 30, 2027, all employees shall complete training developed by the Kentucky Department of Education in collaboration with the Education Professional standards Board, related to appropriate relationships and communication with students, inappropriate relationships and communication with students, sexual grooming, and sexual misconduct.

Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, all new employees shall be required to undergo the training listed above within ninety (90) days of the employee's initial hiring. Any new employee who has completed the training within the prior five (5) years with a previous employer shall be exempt from the training.

Professional Development

STAFF INPUT

Through service on committees, staff members shall participate in the planning of PD.

Each school council shall develop, in cooperation with the PD coordinator, a needs assessment to determine appropriate professional development for the District and for each school.

ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM

Under procedures developed by the Superintendent, teachers shall have the option of participating in the alternative professional development program. All such experiences shall conform to the District's master PD plan and shall take place outside regular school calendar work days or time.

DOCUMENTATION

The school/District PD plan shall include the method for evaluating impact on student learning and using evaluation results to improve professional learning.

The professional development program shall be evaluated on a regular basis. Documentation of completed professional development, including a written evaluation, shall be required. Unless an employee is granted leave under an appropriate Board policy, failure to complete and document the required hours of professional development during the academic year shall result in a reduction in salary and may be reflected in the employee's evaluation.

EDUCATIONAL STUDY SEMINARS

All certified staff must complete six (6) Educational Study Seminars within the first three (3) years of employment. Completion of the Educational Study Seminars program is a condition of continued employment with the Ft. Thomas Board of Education.

REFERENCES:

KRS 156.095; KRS 156.492; KRS 156.553
KRS 158.070; [KRS 158.306](#); KRS 158.645; KRS 158.6451; KRS 160.345
704 KAR 3:035; 704 KAR 3:325
P. L. 114-95 (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015)

RELATED POLICIES:

03.1911; 09.22

LEGAL: HB 253 AMENDS KRS 160.380 TO REQUIRE DISTRICTS TO DISCLOSE ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS RELATED TO ABUSIVE CONDUCT OF APPLICANTS AND ADDS ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF SELF-REPORTING REQUIREMENT OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

PERSONNEL

03.21

- CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL -**Hiring****SUPERINTENDENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

All appointments, promotions, and transfers of classified personnel for positions authorized by the Board shall be made by the Superintendent who, at the first meeting following the actions, shall notify the Board of same. Such notification shall be recorded in the Board minutes.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Personnel actions shall not be effective until the employee receives written notice of such action from the Superintendent.

QUALIFICATIONS

Board employees shall be chosen with reference to their certification and their personal, educational, physical, moral and emotional fitness for the position. Other factors which shall be considered include educational level, prior experience, and strength of references.

Employees who are terminated and/or non-renewed by a school district for cause or for loss of required certification or licensure, or who resigned in lieu of termination, shall not be considered for future employment by the District.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

No person shall be initially hired unless s/he holds at least a high school diploma or high school certificate of completion or High School Equivalency Diploma or is provided an opportunity by the District upon employment to obtain a High School Equivalency Diploma at no cost to the employee. Licenses or credentials issued by a government entity that require specialized skill or training may also substitute for this requirement. Employees shall hold the qualifications for the position as established by the Commissioner of Education.^{2&3}

Existing and new paraprofessionals who provide instructional service or support in programs supported by Title I funds shall satisfy educational requirements specified by federal law.⁴

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AND TESTING

Applicants and employees shall undergo records checks and testing as required by applicable statutes and regulations.^{1&2} Bus drivers and applicants requiring a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) must undergo additional background and substance use checks per Board Policy 06.221.

Each application form provided by the employer to an applicant for a classified position shall conspicuously state the following:

"FOR THIS TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT, STATE LAW REQUIRES A NATIONAL AND STATE CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK AND A LETTER, PROVIDED BY THE INDIVIDUAL, FROM THE CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES STATING THE APPLICANT HAS NO ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT FOUND THROUGH A BACKGROUND CHECK OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT RECORDS MAINTAINED BY THE CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES."

Hiring

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AND TESTING (CONTINUED)

Employment shall be contingent on receipt of records documenting that the individual has not been convicted of an offense that would classify a person as a violent offender under KRS 439.3401, a sex crime defined by KRS 17.500 or a misdemeanor offense under KRS Chapter 510, is required to register as a sex offender, or other conviction determined by the Superintendent to bear a reasonable relationship to the ability of the individual to perform the job. Employment shall also be contingent on receipt of a letter from the Cabinet provided by the individual documenting that the individual does not have an administrative finding of child abuse or neglect in records maintained by the Cabinet.

“Administrative finding of child abuse or neglect” means a substantiated finding of child abuse or neglect issued by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services that is:

1. Not appealed through an administrative hearing conducted in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B;
2. Upheld at an administrative hearing conducted in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B and not appealed to a Circuit Court; or
3. Upheld by a Circuit Court in an appeal of the results of an administrative hearing conducted in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B.¹

Probationary employment shall terminate on receipt of a criminal history background check documenting a conviction for a felony sex crime or as a violent offender.

Criminal records checks on persons employed in Head Start programs shall be conducted in conformity with 45 C.F.R. § 1302.90.

The form for requesting a CA/N check is available on the Cabinet for Health and Family Services website.

In the event an emergency exists whereby a position must be filled before the criminal records check has been completed, the Superintendent is authorized to fill the position on a probationary basis until the criminal records report has been completed. Final disposition of employment status shall be determined once the criminal records report has been completed.

Each application shall contain a completed "Release Authorization" form and a check made payable to Ft. Thomas Independent Schools for the fee charged by the Justice Cabinet for processing the criminal records report.

REPORT TO SUPERINTENDENT

An employee shall report to the Superintendent if the employee has been found by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to have abused or neglected a child, and if the employee has waived the right to appeal such a substantiated finding or the finding has been upheld upon appeal. [The Superintendent shall annually notify District employees of the self-reporting requirement.](#)

Hiring

BUS DRIVERS

Prior to the employees' initial employment or upon return from any break in service (excluding summers), the Superintendent shall perform a criminal records and driving history check on all school bus drivers. No person shall be employed as a school bus driver who has been convicted of driving any motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or any illegal drug within the last five (5) years.

JOB REGISTER

The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall maintain in the Central Office a job register listing all current job openings in the District. The register shall describe the duties and qualifications for each opening, and District employment policies shall be attached to the register. The job register shall be open to public inspection during Central Office business hours.

VACANCIES POSTED

Under procedures developed by the Superintendent, a listing of all District job openings shall be posted in the Central Office on a timely basis and shall refer interested persons to the Central Office job register for additional information.

Notices of all job openings shall be sent to each school for posting in appropriate locations.

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

Under procedures developed by the Superintendent, each application shall be reviewed and each applicant so notified. Applications shall be kept on file for two (2) years.

RELATIONSHIPS

The Superintendent shall not employ a relative of a member of the Board.

A relative may be employed as a substitute for a certified or classified employee if the relative is not:

1. A regular full-time or part-time employee of the District;
2. Accruing continuing contract status or any other right to continuous employment;
3. Receiving fringe benefits other than those provided other substitutes; or
4. Receiving preference in employment or assignment over other substitutes.¹

A relative of the Superintendent shall not be employed except as provided by KRS 160.380.¹

EMERGENCY HIRING

During emergency situations, job openings may be filled without listing in the job register or posting in District buildings.

JOB DESCRIPTION

All employees shall receive a copy of their job description and responsibilities.

Hiring

PROBATIONARY PERIOD

Upon initial employment in the District, a classified employee shall be on probationary status for a period of sixty (60) calendar days. During this period, the employee shall be covered by the school system's sick leave, personal leave, emergency and maternity leave policies.

CONTRACT

All regular full-time and part-time employees shall receive a contract.

REASONABLE ASSURANCE OF CONTINUED EMPLOYMENT

Each year, all full-time and part-time classified employees, including substitutes, shall be notified in writing by the last day of school if they have reasonable assurance of continued employment for the following school year.

EMPLOYEES SEEKING A JOB CHANGE

Other than the routine transmission of administrative and personnel files, District employees are prohibited from assisting a school employee, contractor, or agent in obtaining a new job if the individual knows, or has probable cause to believe, that such school employee, contractor, or agent engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a minor or student in violation of the law and such school employee, contractor, or agent does not meet the exceptions outlined in 20 U.S.C. 7926.

DISCLOSURE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

If requested by a school district, public school, or nonpublic school regarding an applicant for a position, the district that employs or previously employed the applicant shall disclose any disciplinary action, and any resulting resignation or termination, related to abusive conduct while the applicant was employed by the district in accordance with KRS 160.380. If there is a finding of abusive conduct regarding an applicant, the applicant shall be:

1. Ineligible for hire by the District; and
2. Subject to dismissal or termination if the applicant is hired by the District or is a current employee of the District.

Hiring

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 160.380

²702 KAR 5:080

³KRS 161.011

⁴P. L. 114-95, (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015)

20 U.S.C. 7926; 42 U.S.C. § 9843a(g)

34 C.F.R. § 200.58; 45 C.F.R. § 1302.90

49 C.F.R. § 382.701; 49 C.F.R. § 382.703

KRS Chapter 13B

KRS 17.160; KRS 17.165; KRS 17.500 to KRS 17.580

KRS 156.070; KRS 160.345; KRS 160.390

KRS 335B.020; KRS 405.435

KRS 439.3401

KRS Chapter 510

OAG 18-017; OAG 91-10; OAG 91-149; OAG 91-206

OAG 92-1; OAG 92-59; OAG 92-78; OAG 92-131; OAG 97-6

Kentucky Local District Classification Plan; 13 KAR 3:030; 702 KAR 3:320

Records Retention Schedule, Public School District

RELATED POLICIES:

01.11; 02.4244; 03.232; 03.27; 03.5; 06.221

LEGAL: HB 253 AMENDS KRS 160.380 REQUIRING EMPLOYEES TO NOTIFY THE SUPERINTENDENT WITHIN SEVEN (7) CALENDAR DAYS OF BEING CHARGED WITH A FELONY. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

PERSONNEL

03.2311

- CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL -**Transfer**

The transfer of classified personnel shall be made by the Superintendent who, at the first meeting following the transfer, shall notify the Board of same. Such notification shall be recorded in the Board minutes. No personnel action shall be effective prior to receipt of written notice of the action by the affected employee from the Superintendent.

TRANSFER OF EMPLOYEES CHARGED WITH A FELONY

Notwithstanding any ~~other policy~~ provision of the Kentucky Revised Statutes to the contrary, any classified employee of the District shall notify the Superintendent within seven (7) calendar days of being charged with any offense which is classified as a felony. ¶The Superintendent may transfer ~~the~~an employee charged with a felony offense as permitted under ~~to~~ a second position in accordance with KRS 160.380.

The Superintendent shall annually notify District employees of the self-reporting requirement.

REFERENCES:

KRS 160.380
KRS 160.390
OAG 92-135
OAG 92-1

LEGAL: SB 46 AMENDS 160.380 DIRECTING THE SUPERINTENDENT TO REQUIRE NON-CDL DRIVERS OF NON-SCHOOL BUS PASSENGER VEHICLES TO MEET SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS BEFORE TRANSPORTING STUDENTS. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF MARCH 27, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: SB 59 AMENDS KRS 48.025 EXPLICITLY APPLYING THE PROHIBITION TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS ON USING TAX DOLLARS TO ADVOCATE FOR OR AGAINST A PUBLIC QUESTION AND ESTABLISHES PENALTIES.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

PERSONNEL

03.2321

- CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL -**Use of School Property**

All personnel shall be responsible for the school equipment, supplies, books, furniture, and apparatus under their care and use. Any damaged, lost, stolen, or vandalized property shall be reported to the employee's immediate supervisor, who shall then report it to the Superintendent/designee once it is confirmed that the item cannot be recovered.

Local, state and federal tax dollars and resources shall not be used to advocate for or against any public question that appears on the ballot.

In addition, employees shall not perform personal services for themselves or for others for pay or profit during work time and/or using District property or facilities. District property being used for unauthorized purposes shall be reported to that employee's immediate supervisor.

PROHIBITIONS

An employee shall not use any District facility, vehicle, electronic communication system, equipment, or materials **for personal or private use or gain**. These items (including security codes and electronic records, such as E-mail) are property of the District and shall be used solely for job-related purposes.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Employees shall not use a code, access a file, or retrieve any stored communication unless they have been given authorization to do so. Employees cannot expect confidentiality or privacy as to information entered or stored in their E-mail accounts. Authorized District personnel may monitor the use of electronic equipment from time to time.

DRIVING RECORD

Employees who have occasion to drive a Board-owned **or contracted** vehicle and/or transport students, shall **biennially have the Superintendent/designee request** a copy of their driving records from the Kentucky Department of Transportation. Any traffic citation received shall be reported to the Superintendent/designee prior to driving a Board-owned **or contracted** vehicle **and/or** transporting students.

The Superintendent shall require any driver of any non-school bus passenger vehicle owned, leased or contracted by the District which is authorized to transport students to and from approved school activities and who does not have a valid commercial driver's license to meet the requirements set forth in KRS 160.380.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Employees who drive vehicles to transport students shall undergo a biennial physical examination at their own expense.

USE OF ASSIGNED TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICES

The Board authorizes the purchase and employee use of telecommunication devices, as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent. These devices shall include, but are not limited to, pagers and digital or cell phones.

District-owned telecommunication devices shall be used primarily for authorized District business purposes. However, occasional personal use of such equipment is permitted.

Use of School Property

REFERENCES:

| [KRS 48.025](#); KRS 160.290; [KRS 160.380](#); KRS 189.292
KRS 189.294; KRS 281A.205
702 KAR 5:080
15-ORD-190

LEGAL: SB 59 AMENDS KRS 48.025 EXPLICITLY APPLYING THE PROHIBITION TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS ON USING TAX DOLLARS TO ADVOCATE FOR OR AGAINST A PUBLIC QUESTION AND ESTABLISHES PENALTIES.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

PERSONNEL

03.2324

- CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL -**Political Activities**

No District employee shall promote, organize, or engage in political activities while performing his/her duties or during the work day. Promoting or engaging in political activities shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Encouraging students to adopt or support a particular political position, party, or candidate; or
2. Using school property or materials to advance the support of a particular political position, party, or candidate.

"Political positions" shall not be defined to include communications approved by the Superintendent to be distributed to **students**, parents or the community concerning District needs or proposed actions by the Board. Examples of such communications may include, but not be limited to, those addressing designation of attendance zones/areas and District facility and financial needs.

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

The Superintendent shall inform all District employees of the provisions of KRS 161.164.

USE OF TAX DOLLARS AND RESOURCES

Local, state, and federal tax dollars and resources shall not be used to advocate for or against any public question that appears on the ballot. The Superintendent shall inform all District employees of the provisions of KRS 48.025.

REFERENCES:

KRS 48.025; KRS 161.164; KRS 161.990
OAG 63-572; OAG 72-700; OAG 92-145

RELATED POLICY:

03.212

LEGAL: HB 253 AMENDS KRS 156.095 ADDING TRAINING FOR ALL EMPLOYEES ON APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNICATIONS. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: KRS 161.011 SPECIFIES THAT DISTRICTS MAY PROVIDE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES TO CLASSIFIED STAFF.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: COST OF TRAINING

PERSONNEL

03.29

- CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL -**Staff Development**

~~The Superintendent may develop and implement a program for continuing training for selected classified personnel.~~

APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH STUDENTS

By June 30, 2027, all employees shall complete training developed by the Kentucky Department of Education in collaboration with the Education Professional standards Board, related to appropriate relationships and communication with students, inappropriate relationships and communication with students, sexual grooming, and sexual misconduct.

Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, all new employees shall be required to undergo the training listed above within ninety (90) days of the employee's initial hiring. Any new employee who has completed the training within the prior five (5) years with a previous employer shall be exempt from the training.

OTHER TRAINING

If financially feasible, the Board may provide training opportunities for classified employees focusing on topics to include but not be limited to suicide prevention, abuse recognition, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

REFERENCES:

KRS 156.095; KRS 158.070; **KRS 161.011**
P. L. 114-95, (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015)
34 C.F.R. 200.58

LEGAL: HB 67 CREATES A NEW SECTION OF KRS 160 ESTABLISHING THE CALENDAR AND PROCEDURES TO ADOPT A DISTRICT BUDGET AND INCLUDES THE FINANCE OFFICER TO ASSIST IN ESTABLISHING THE DISTRICT BUDGET.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

04.1

Budget Planning and Adoption

PREPARATION OF BUDGETS

As part of the annual budget process, the Board shall determine priorities to guide the Superintendent and Finance Officer in developing draft budgets for the next fiscal year. Prior to the Board setting budget priorities, the Superintendent shall provide the Board with the estimated amounts that will be received from available sources, including tax rate(s) necessary to generate such amounts. In setting budget priorities, the Board shall consider the following:

1. Results of the current needs assessment, recommendations resulting from that process, and current District/school improvement and/or long-range plans.
2. Revenue projections for the coming year.

After receiving the Board's budget priorities, the **Budget Committee** shall prepare for Board consideration and action **proposed District budgets for all active MUNIS fund accounts. Budgets shall address the educational needs of the District as reflected by priorities established by the Board and shall show** the amount of money needed and source of funds for the upcoming school year.

The Budget Committee shall consist of two (2) Board members, the Finance Officer and the Superintendent.

Each year, school councils shall review the budgets for all categorical programs and provide comments to the Board prior to the adoption of the budgets.

PLANNING

In preparing the general budget, the committee shall arrange for individual members of the leadership team to present budgetary requests. In January, prior to the appearance of each leadership team member before the Budget Committee, the member shall secure input and recommendations from other certified and classified employees. This initial stage of the budget development process shall conclude when state officials notify the Board as to the assessed valuation of property in the District subject to taxation for school purposes and the maximum allowable school tax rate.

The Superintendent shall establish procedures to provide for community input in the development of recommendations to be considered for the District budget.

Procedures **to provide for budgetary input** shall include a needs assessment process to identify, confirm, reassess and/or prioritize recommendations regarding District goals for future financial emphasis. The plan shall provide for reviewing the achievement of established goals and academic expectations of the District.

APPROVAL

In early July or within one (1) month of receiving notification from state officials, the Budget Committee shall present its recommendations to the Board at a regular or special meeting. Notice of the meeting shall be published in the local newspaper which meets the requirements of applicable statutes. At this meeting, school tax rates shall be set, and the general budget shall be adopted. The budget shall be published in accordance with applicable statutes, and the Superintendent shall notify appropriate city officials as the school tax rates to be levied.

These timelines and meetings will need to be reviewed with the 04.1 AP.11 procedure which includes the new timelines and meetings in the new statute.

Budget Planning and Adoption**ADMINISTRATION**

Once the general budget has been approved, the Superintendent shall notify leadership team members of the amount of their request which was approved. After such notification, purchase orders may be processed.

FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30.

TIMELINE

~~The calendar and timeline for establishing the District budget shall be in accordance with KRS 160.461. On or before January 31, the Board shall formally and publicly examine a detailed estimate of revenues and proposed expenditures by line item for the following fiscal year. On or before May 30, the Board shall adopt a tentative working budget, which includes a minimum reserve of two percent (2%) of the total budget. The Superintendent shall not propose and the Board shall not adopt a draft, tentative, or working budget that does not include a minimum reserve of at least two percent (2%) of the total budget. When permitted by the Kentucky executive branch budget, the District may adopt, and the Kentucky Board of Education may approve, a working budget that includes a minimum reserve less than two percent (2%) of the total budget.~~

Within thirty (30) days of receipt of property assessment data, the Board shall levy tax rates for the District and forward them to the Kentucky Board of Education for approval or disapproval. ~~By September 30, the Board shall adopt a close estimate or working budget for the District.~~

PUBLICATION

At the same time that copies of the budget of the District are filed with the clerk of the tax levying authority for the District, as provided in KRS 160.470, the Board shall cause the budget to be advertised in a newspaper and on the district's website.

REFERENCES:

KRS 156.160; KRS 157.330; KRS 157.350; KRS 157.360
KRS 157.440; KRS 160.370; KRS 160.390
KRS 160.460; KRS 160.461; KRS 160.470; KRS 160.530
KRS 424.145; KRS 424.250
702 KAR 3:100; 702 KAR 3:110; 702 KAR 3:246; OAG 67-510

RELATED POLICIES:

01.11; 02.4242; 02.4331; 04.91

LEGAL: HB 67 AMENDS KRS 160.530 CLARIFYING THAT EXPENDITURES SHALL BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DISTRICT'S WORKING BUDGET APPROVED BY THE KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: SB 59 AMENDS KRS 48.025 EXPLICITLY APPLYING THE PROHIBITION TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS ON USING TAX DOLLARS TO ADVOCATE FOR OR AGAINST A PUBLIC QUESTION AND ESTABLISHES PENALTIES.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

04.31

Authority to Encumber and Expend Funds

Authority to Encumber and Expend Funds

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The daily administration of the budget shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall provide the Board with a monthly financial statement. This shall include a report of receipts and disbursements and estimated status by major budget category, the cash balance on hand, and the amount of invested funds at the end of the immediate preceding month.

EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

Expenditures from any District fund shall be made in accordance with the Board approved working budgets ~~approved by the Board~~ that has been submitted and approved by the Kentucky Board of Education. All purchases shall require the prior approval of the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.

Local, state, and federal tax dollars and resources shall not be used to advocate for or against any public question that appears on the ballot.¹

AUTHORITY TO OBLIGATE

Administrators designated by the Superintendent may initiate a purchase order, subject to the limits of their designated budgeted funds and approval by their supervisor.

The Board shall not be responsible for expenditures not properly authorized and not made according to the purchasing procedures developed by the Superintendent.

REVIEW OF CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS

The Superintendent shall establish a process consistent with Board policy to regulate use of credit cards and credit card accounts. This process will include procedures for recovery of District funds for any unauthorized purchases.

Employees shall report immediately any District/school credit card that is lost. Personal purchases on District/school credit cards are prohibited. Unauthorized charges made by employees to District/school credit cards may result in disciplinary action.

BOARD APPROVAL REQUIRED

Prior Board approval shall be required in order for the District to participate in any cash management, bond issuance, tax revenue anticipation note, or other program involving commitment of District funds. The Board shall designate the fiscal agent and bond counsel.

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 48.025

KRS 160.340; KRS 160.370

KRS 160.390; KRS 160.470

KRS 160.530; KRS 160.550

702 KAR 3:050; 702 KAR 3:120

702 KAR 3:246

School Council Allocation

RELATED POLICIES:

02.4242; 04.311; 04.3111

LEGAL: HB 757 CREATES NEW SECTION OF KRS 160 ALLOWING THE ROUNDING OF CASH
TRANSACTIONS WHEN PENNIES ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR DEBTS OWED TO THE DISTRICT.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

04.311

District Accounts

SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTING

The Board intends that accounting practices follow state and federal laws and regulations and generally accepted accounting principles. Therefore, the District shall follow a uniform financial accounting system provided by the Kentucky Department of Education.

As advised by the Board's auditor/Certified Public Accountant, determination of liabilities and assets, prioritization of expenditures of governmental funds, and provisions for accounting disclosures shall be made in accordance with governmental accounting standards. This process shall include leave accumulated by employees and all Board properties and funds, including those that have been escrowed.

CASH ROUNDING TRANSACTIONS

In payment of debts owed to the District the rounding of cash transactions shall be in accordance with KRS 160.515. Noncash transactions shall continue to be settled to the cent without rounding.

ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER (EFT)

The District may participate in EFTs. Properly approved electronic payments on behalf of the District may be made in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The Board authorizes schools to accept electronic receipts and make payments in accordance with Accounting Procedures for Kentucky School Activity Funds and applicable laws and regulations.

REFERENCES:

KRS 157.060

KRS 160.340

KRS 160.515; KRS 160.560

702 KAR 3:120; KETS District Administrative System Chart of Accounts and Chart of Accounts Descriptions

702 KAR 3:130; Accounting Procedures for Kentucky School Activity Funds
Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB)

LEGAL: HB 392 AMENDS KRS 45A.385 INCREASING THE AMOUNT FOR SMALL PURCHASE PROCEDURES.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: POTENTIAL SAVINGS FROM REDUCED USAGE OF FULL RFP PROCESS

LEGAL: REVISIONS TO 7 C.F.R. 210.21 REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

NEW LANGUAGE IS MOVED TO POLICY AREA 07.13.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: POTENTIAL COST SAVINGS IN SCHOOL NUTRITION PROCUREMENT

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

04.32

Model Procurement Code Purchasing

AUTHORITY

Purchasing procedures shall conform to the Model Procurement Code, KRS 45A.345 – KRS 45A.460, except as otherwise provided by law.¹ All contracts or purchases shall be awarded by competitive sealed bidding or competitive negotiation, both of which may include the use of a reverse auction, except as otherwise provided by law.²

All purchases of Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS) components shall adhere to KETS architectural standards and procedures.

The District may purchase supplies and/or equipment outside an established price contract of the federal government (GSA), the State Division of Purchases, a cooperative agency bid approved by the Board, or a District bid if:

1. The supplies and/or equipment meet the specifications of contracts awarded by the Division of Purchases, a federal agency (GSA), a cooperative agency, or a District bid;
2. The supplies and/or equipment are available for purchase at a lower price;
3. The purchase does not exceed \$2,500⁴ & ⁸; and
4. The District's finance or purchasing officer has certified compliance with the first and second requirements.

Prior to purchase of education technology components defined in the master technology plan, the Department of Education must certify that the items to be purchased meet or exceed the specifications of components of the original equipment of manufacturers currently holding Kentucky price contracts.⁴

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

The Board may utilize a public-private partnership delivery method. Public-private partnerships shall comply with KRS 65.028 and other applicable state laws and regulations.

FEDERAL AWARDS/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No employee, officer, or agent of the District may participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by a Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract.⁷

The officers, employees, and agents of the District may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. In determining whether an activity constitutes an impermissible acceptance of a gratuity or item of monetary value, the definition of "gratuity" (covering anything of more than fifty dollars [\$50] value) set forth in KRS 45A.445 shall apply. Violation of these standards may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited, to suspension, dismissal, or removal.

Model Procurement Code Purchasing

ETHICAL STANDARDS

To avoid conflicts that may arise during the decision-making process for procurement of services and products for the District, employees shall adhere to the ethical standards set out in KRS 45A.455.

PREFERENCE FOR RESIDENT BIDDERS

For all contracts funded in whole or in part by the District, the Board shall apply the reciprocal preference for resident bidders required by law. Geographical preferences relating to school nutrition service purchases may be utilized only as permitted by applicable federal law.³

EXEMPTIONS

~~Federal regulatory requirements do not provide a bidding exception for purchase of perishables using school nutrition service funds. Such purchases must follow applicable federal regulations.⁷~~

PRICE REDUCTIONS

Price reductions may be accepted on supplies and/or equipment being offered by the vendor with whom a price agreement has been made if the supplies and/or equipment meet all terms and conditions specified in the price agreement except for price and if the price reduction is offered to all participants in the price agreement. Price reductions may be accepted even if the reduced price requires the purchase of a specified quantity of units different from the quantity stated in the original price agreement.

SMALL PURCHASES

District small purchase procedures may be used for any contract in which the aggregate amount does not exceed ~~\$50,000.00~~~~40,000.00~~. [Beginning on January 1, 2030, and then every five \(5\) years thereafter the small purchase maximum shall be increased by \\$10,000.](#)⁵

BACKGROUND CHECKS

The Superintendent shall require an adult who is permitted access to school grounds on a regularly scheduled and continuing basis pursuant to a written agreement for the purpose of providing services directly to a student or students as part of a school-sponsored program or activity to submit, at no expense to the District, to a national and state criminal history background check by the Kentucky State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation and to provide a clear CA/N check in keeping with KRS 160.380.⁶

The form for requesting a CA/N check is available on the Cabinet for Health and Family Services website.

Model Procurement Code Purchasing

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 45A.343

²KRS 45A.345; KRS 160.290; KRS 45A.380

³KRS 160.303; 200 KAR 5:400; KRS 45A.494

⁴KRS 156.076

⁵KRS 45A.385

⁶KRS 160.380

⁷2 C.F.R. 200.318

⁸KRS 45A.360

KRS 45A.352; KRS 45A.365; KRS 45A.370

KRS 45A.420; KRS 45A.445; KRS 45A.455; KRS 45A.460; KRS 45A.620

KRS 65.027; KRS 65.028; KRS 160.151; KRS 164A.575; KRS 176.080

200 KAR 5:355

OAG 79-501; OAG 82-170; OAG 82-407

Kentucky Educational Technology Systems (KETS)

RELATED POLICIES:

05.6; 06.4; 07.13

LEGAL: HB 67 AMEND KRS 160.463 REQUIRING A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PUBLISH FINANCIAL REPORTS ON A DISTRICT FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE WEBSITE AND IDENTIFYING THE INFORMATION THAT SHALL BE PUBLISHED ON THE WEBSITE.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

04.91

Financial Statements and Reports

The Board shall direct the Superintendent to publish on the District's main website a link to the District financial disclosure website that contains the required financial information and The Superintendent shall cause financial statements and annual financial reports to be produced and reported in accordance with KRS 160.431 and KRS 160.463. Annual financial reports shall be posted on the District's financial disclosure website as required by law. The District shall post on the financial disclosure website for a minimum of two (2) years the written report from the Kentucky Department of Education indicating the financial status of the District.

The finance officer shall present a detailed monthly financial report for Board approval to include the previous month's revenues and expenditures of the District. ~~Financial reports shall be posted on the District website as required by law.~~

REFERENCES:

KRS 160.431

KRS 160.463

KRS 424.230

Governmental Accounting Standards Board

RELATED POLICY:

04.1

LEGAL: HB 652 AMENDS KRS 158.4433 MOVING THE SCHOOL MAPPING DATA PROGRAM TO THE KENTUCKY 911 SERVICES BOARD. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 14, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

SCHOOL FACILITIES

05.4

Safety

BOARD TO ADOPT PLAN

The Board shall adopt a plan for immediate and long-term strategies to address school safety and discipline, which shall be reviewed annually and revised, as needed. This plan shall utilize information gathered from the District assessment of school safety and student discipline required by law and shall include the Board's Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline and a description of instructional placement options for threatening or violent students. The committee that develops the plan for Board consideration shall include at least one (1) representative from each school in the District, as well as representatives from the community as required by law.

The plan shall identify measures to be taken in protecting students, staff, visitors, and property. Areas addressed by the plan shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Employment practices and employee management;
2. School facility design, maintenance and usage;
3. Safety and security procedures, orientation and training in use and management of equipment and facilities;
4. Supervision of students;
5. Compliance with state and federal safety requirements;
6. Quarterly reports to the Board concerning implementation of the plan and its effects on District students, personnel and operations;
7. Emergency/crisis intervention (**including disaster response**); and
8. Community involvement.

SCHOOL MAPPING DATA

"School mapping data" means mapping information provided in an electronic or a digital format to assist first responders in responding to emergencies at schools. A participating district or campus shall not be required to adopt new school mapping data if, as of July 1, 2024, the District or campus previously implemented school mapping data with capabilities that meet the requirements of the [Kentucky 911 Services Board, Center for School Safety](#)

DISTRICT SCHOOL SAFETY COORDINATOR

The Superintendent shall appoint an individual to serve as the District's School Safety Coordinator (SSC) and primary point of contact for public school safety and security functions.¹ The SSC shall:

1. Complete the school safety coordinator training program developed by the Center for School Safety within six (6) months of his or her date of appointment;
2. Designate a school safety and security threat assessment team at each school in the District consisting of two (2) or more staff members to identify and respond to students exhibiting behavior that indicates a potential threat to school safety or security. Members of a threat assessment team may include school administrators, school counselors, school resource officers, school-based mental health services providers, teachers, and other school personnel;
3. Provide training to school Principals on procedures for completion of the school security risk assessment;

Safety**DISTRICT SCHOOL SAFETY COORDINATOR (CONTINUED)**

4. Review all school security risk assessments completed within the District and prescribe recommendations as needed in consultation with the state school security marshal;
5. Advise the Superintendent annually of completion of required security risk assessments;
6. Formulate recommended policies and procedures, which shall be excluded from the application of KRS 61.870 to KRS 61.884, for an all-hazards approach including conducting emergency response drills for hostage, active shooter, and building lockdown situations in consultation and coordination with appropriate public safety agencies to include but not be limited to fire, police, and emergency medical services for review and adoption as part of the school emergency plan required by KRS 158.162. The recommended policies shall encourage the involvement of students, as appropriate, in the development of the school's emergency plan;
7. Maintain the District's copies of the school mapping data created through the School Mapping Data Program to be made available to appropriate public safety agencies, but which shall be excluded from the application of KRS 61.870 to 61.884; and
8. Ensure each school campus is toured at least once per school year, in consultation and coordination with appropriate public safety agencies, to review policies and procedures and provide recommendations related to school safety and security.

The SSC, and any school employees participating in the activities of a School Safety and Security Threat Assessment Team, acting in good faith upon reasonable cause in the identification of students, shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed from:

- a. Identifying the student and implementing a response pursuant to policies and procedures adopted as required above; or
- b. Participating in any judicial proceeding that results from the identification.

SUPERINTENDENT TO REPORT

No later than November 1 of each year, the Superintendent shall report to the Center for School Safety the number and placement of School Resource Officers (SROs) in the District. The report shall include the source of funding and method of employment for each position.

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AEDS)

The District shall maintain AEDs in designated locations throughout the District. An AED shall be used in emergency situations warranting its use in accordance with KRS 311.665 to KRS 311.669.

The District shall notify the local emergency medical services system and the local emergency communications or vehicle dispatch center of the existence, location, and type of each AED.

AEDs shall be kept on school property and will not accompany EMS personnel to a hospital emergency room.

Safety**SCHOOL EMERGENCY PLANNING**

The Board shall require the school council or, if none exists, the Principal to adopt an emergency plan for the school that shall include:

1. Procedures to be followed in cases of medical emergency, fire, severe weather, earthquake, or a building lockdown as defined in KRS 158.164;
2. A written cardiac emergency response plan; and
3. A copy of the data created through the School Mapping Data Program or, if the school mapping data is unavailable, a diagram of the facility that clearly identifies the location of each AED.

The emergency plan shall be provided to appropriate first responders, and all school staff.

Following the end of each school year, the school nurse, the school council, or if none exists, the Principal, and first responders shall review the emergency plan and revise it as needed.

The school emergency plan shall address staff responsibilities for safely evacuating students needing special assistance during safety drills and actual emergency situations, including students with disabilities and those with 504 plans. The Principal shall discuss the emergency plan with all school staff prior to the first instructional day annually and document the date and time of any discussion.

The cardiac emergency response plan shall be rehearsed by simulation prior to the beginning of each athletic season by all:

1. Licensed athletic trainers, school nurses, and athletic directors; and
2. Interscholastic coaches and volunteer coaches of each athletic team active during that athletic season.

Whenever possible, first responders shall be invited to observe emergency response drills.

In addition, the school council or, if none exists, the Principal shall:

1. Establish and post primary and secondary evacuation routes in each room by any doorway used for evacuation;
2. Identify the best available severe weather safe zones, in consultation with local and state safety officials and informed by guiding principles set forth by the National Weather Service and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and post the location of the safe zones in each room;
3. Develop school procedures to follow during an earthquake;
4. Develop and adhere to practices to control access to the school. Practices shall include but not be limited to:
 - Controlling outside access to exterior doors during the school day;
 - Controlling the main entrance of the school with electronically locking doors, a camera, and an intercom system;
 - Controlling access to individual classrooms;

Safety**SCHOOL EMERGENCY PLANNING (CONTINUED)**

- Requiring classroom doors to be equipped with hardware that allows the door to be locked from the outside but opened from the inside;
 - Requiring classroom doors to remain closed and locked during instructional time, except in instances when only one (1) student and one (1) adult are in the classroom or when approved in writing by the State School Security Marshal;
 - Requiring classroom doors with windows to be equipped with material to quickly cover the window during a building lockdown;
 - Allowing for the use of secondary locking mechanisms on classroom doors, notwithstanding any provisions of the Kentucky Building Code promulgated pursuant to KRS Chapter 198B to the contrary;
 - Requiring all visitors to report to the front office of the building, provide valid identification, and state the purpose of the visit; and
 - Providing a visitor's badge to be visibly displayed on a visitor's outer garment;
5. Maintain a portable AED in a public, readily accessible, well-marked location in every school building and, as funds become available, at school-sanctioned athletic practices and competitions and:
- a) Adopt procedures for the use of the portable AED during an emergency;
 - b) Adopt policies for compliance with KRS 311.665 to KRS 311.669 on training, maintenance, notification, and communication with the local emergency medical services system;
 - c) Ensure that a minimum of three (3) employees in the school and all interscholastic athletic coaches be trained on the use of a portable AED in accordance with KRS 311.667;
 - d) Ensure that all interscholastic athletic coaches maintain a cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification recognized by a national accrediting body on heart health; and
 - e) No later than November 1 of each school year, submit an annual report to the Kentucky Department of Education on:
 - i. The number and location of each portable AED in every school building;
 - ii. The name, school, and training date of each District employee and interscholastic athletic coach in the District trained in the use of a portable AED; and
 - iii. The progress made towards having a portable AED at all school-sanctioned athletic practices and competitions; and
6. Require development of an event-specific emergency action plan for each school-sanctioned nonathletic event held off-campus to be used during a medical emergency, which may include the provision of a portable AED. The plan shall:

Safety**SCHOOL EMERGENCY PLANNING (CONTINUED)**

- a) Include a delineation of the roles of staff and emergency personnel, methods of communication, any assigned emergency equipment including a portable AED, a cardiac emergency response plan, and access to and plan for emergency transport; and
- b) Be in writing and distributed to any member of school personnel attending the school-sanctioned event in an official capacity.

No later than November 1 of each school year, the Superintendent shall send verification to the Kentucky Department of Education that all schools are in compliance with school emergency planning requirements.

By August 1 of each year, the Superintendent shall report to the Kentucky Department of Education on the number of portable AEDs at each school within the District.²

PRECAUTIONS

Precautions will be taken for the safety of the students, employees, and visitors.

REPORTING HAZARDS

Each employee observing a potential safety or security hazard shall report such hazard in writing to his immediate supervisor who shall cause the situation to be remedied or reported to the proper authority for remedy.

COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

The Board shall establish a process for a two-way communication system for employees to notify the Principal, supervisor or other administrator of an emergency. The process may include, but is not limited to, use of intercoms, telephones, and two-way radios.

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 158.4412

²KRS 158.1621

KRS Chapter 198B

KRS 61.870 to KRS 61.884

KRS 158.110

KRS 158.148; KRS 158.162; KRS 158.164; KRS 158.4410; KRS 158.4433; KRS 158.445

KRS 160.290; KRS 160.445

KRS 311.665 to KRS 311.669; KRS 311.667; KRS 411.148

702 KAR 1:180

RELATED POLICIES:

02.31; 03.14; 03.24; 05.2; 05.21; 05.41; 05.411; 05.42; 05.45; 05.47; 05.5
09.22; 09.221; 09.4 (entire section); 10.5

LEGAL: SB 101 AMENDS KRS 158.150 ADDING BUS STOP TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE DISTRICT.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: POTENTIAL LOSS OF ADA FUNDING

SCHOOL FACILITIES

05.48

Weapons

This policy applies to students, staff members, and visitors to the school.

WEAPONS PROHIBITED

Except where expressly and specifically permitted by Kentucky Revised Statute, the carrying, bringing, using, or possessing any weapon or dangerous instrument in any school building, on school grounds or a bus stop, in any school vehicle or at any school-sponsored activity is prohibited.

Violation of this policy by staff members shall constitute reason for disciplinary action, including possible termination.

Violation of this policy by students shall require that the Principal immediately make a report to the Superintendent, who shall determine if charges for expulsion from the District schools should be filed under Policy 09.435. In addition, when they have reasonable belief that a violation has taken place, principals shall immediately report to law enforcement officials when an act has occurred on school property or at a school-sponsored function that involves student possession of a firearm in violation of the law or assault involving the use of a weapon.

Violations by visitors shall be reported to a law enforcement agency.

EXCEPTIONS:

- Each school resource officer shall be armed with a firearm, notwithstanding any provision of local board policy, local school council policy, or memorandum of agreement.²
- An exception may be made for students participating in an authorized curricular or extracurricular activity or team involving the use of firearms and to those persons listed in KRS 527.070.
- Law enforcement officials, including peace officers and police as provided in KRS 527.070 and KRS 527.020, are authorized to bring weapons onto school property in performance of their duties.

FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS REGARDING STUDENTS

The penalty for students possessing a firearm at school or bringing a firearm or other deadly weapon, destructive device, or booby trap device to school or onto the school campus/property under jurisdiction of the District shall be expulsion for a minimum of twelve (12) months under Policy 09.435. However, the Board may modify such expulsions on a case-by-case basis. Any case-by-case modification of the one (1)-year expulsion requirement, including those made for students with disabilities to meet the requirements of IDEA and Section 504, shall be in writing and may be based upon a recommendation of the Superintendent/designee.¹

Any student who possesses a firearm at school or brings to school a firearm or other deadly weapon, destructive device, or booby trap device shall be referred to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system.

Weapons**STATE POSTING REQUIREMENTS**

The Superintendent shall post the following notice in prominent locations in the schools, including, but not limited to, sports arenas, gymnasiums, stadiums, and cafeterias. The notice shall be at least six (6) inches high and fourteen (14) inches wide and shall state:

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF A WEAPON ON SCHOOL PROPERTY IN KENTUCKY IS A FELONY PUNISHABLE BY A MAXIMUM OF FIVE (5) YEARS IN PRISON AND A TEN THOUSAND DOLLAR (\$10,000) FINE.¹

The above criminal penalty shall not apply to those persons listed in KRS 527.070 (3).

STATE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Employees of the District shall promptly make a report to the local police department, sheriff, or Kentucky State Police, by telephone or otherwise, if they know or have reasonable cause to believe that conduct has occurred which constitutes the carrying, possession, or use of a deadly weapon on the school premises or within one thousand (1,000) feet of school premises, on a school bus, or at a school sponsored or sanctioned event.

For state reporting purposes, a deadly weapon shall be defined as:

1. a weapon of mass destruction;
2. any weapon from which a shot, readily capable of producing death or serious physical injury, may be discharged;
3. any knife other than an ordinary pocket knife or hunting knife;
4. billy, nightstick, or club;
5. blackjack or slapjack;
6. nunchaku karate sticks;
7. shuriken or death star; or
8. artificial knuckles made from metal, plastic, or other similar hard material.

Employees who receive information from a student or other person regarding conduct required to be reported shall report the conduct in the same manner as stated above.

ENFORCEMENT

In the enforcement of this policy, principals may authorize, if they have reasonable suspicion, searches in compliance with applicable Board policies.

Weapons

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 527.070; ~~KRS 158.150~~; 20 U.S.C. § ~~79617141~~ (Gun-Free Schools Act)

²KRS 158.4414

KRS 158.150; 18 U.S.C. §921(a)

KRS 158.155; KRS 158.4431

KRS 160.290; KRS 160.340; KRS 161.790

KRS 237.106; KRS 237.110; KRS 237.138 to KRS 237.142

KRS 500.080; KRS 508.075; KRS 508.078; KRS 527.020

20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended

RELATED POLICIES:

02.31; 09.435; 09.436; 09.4361

LEGAL: SB 46 AMENDS KRS 156.153 REVISING NINE (9) PASSENGER VEHICLE TO TEN (10) OR FEWER PASSENGERS TO BE USED ALONG REGULAR BUS ROUTES AND APPROVED SCHOOL ACTIVITIES. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF MARCH 27, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: HB 7 CREATES NEW SECTION OF KRS 158 ALLOWING THE USE OF CAMERA MONITORING SYSTEMS ON SCHOOL BUSES OPERATED BY THE DISTRICT AND ALLOWS THE ENFORCEMENT OF A CIVIL PENALTY FOR STOP ARM CAMERA VIOLATIONS RECORDED BY A CAMERA MONITORING SYSTEM.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: COST OF CAMERA MONITORING SYSTEM, AND NOTIFICATION OF AND COLLECTION OF FINES

TRANSPORTATION

06.2

Safety

DEVELOPMENT OF PROGRAM

The Superintendent shall develop a transportation safety program as required by applicable law and administrative regulation. Appropriate safety information shall be disseminated annually in writing to employees, parents, and pupils of the school District.

BOOSTER SEATS

When students who are under eight (8) years old and between forty (40) and fifty-seven (57) inches in height are transported in District-owned or leased vehicles designed for ten (10)~~nine (9)~~ or fewer passengers, they shall be properly secured in a child booster seat. Per KRS 189.125, a child of any age who is greater than fifty-seven (57) inches in height is not required to be secured in a booster seat.

Child Safety Restraint Systems shall be utilized for preschool Head Start students being transported using District vehicles in compliance with guidelines established by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

CAMERA MONITORING SYSTEM

In accordance with **KRS 158.485 – KRS 158.490** the District may install and maintain a camera monitoring system on any school bus for the enforcement of a civil penalty against the owner of a motor vehicle for a stop arm camera violation.

REFERENCES:

KRS 156.153

KRS 158.110

KRS 158.485-KRS 158.490

KRS 189.125

702 KAR 5:030

702 KAR 5:060

702 KAR 5:080

45 C.F.R. § 1310.11

RELATED POLICY:

06.12

LEGAL: SB 46 AMENDS KRS 156.153 REVISING NINE (9) PASSENGER VEHICLE TO TEN (10) OR FEWER PASSENGERS TO BE USED ALONG REGULAR BUS ROUTES AND APPROVED SCHOOL ACTIVITIES. DRIVERS MUST SUBMIT TO DRUG TESTING CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL DRUG TESTING REQUIREMENTS AND BACKGROUND CHECKS. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF MARCH 27, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: COST OF DRUG TESTING, BACKGROUND CHECKS, AND CA/N CHECKS

TRANSPORTATION

06.31

Bus Scheduling and Routing

RESPONSIBILITY

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for scheduling and routing all buses **in keeping with applicable statutes and regulations**. This shall include a system of notifying parents, pupils, and drivers of bus schedules and routes.

Buses shall be routed only on public roads which are safe for bus travel.

REGULAR ROUTE VEHICLES

School buses shall be clearly marked as transporting students and shall undergo a safety inspection no less than once every thirty (30) days.

Districts may also use vehicles owned, leased, or contracted by the District that were designed and built by the manufacturer for passenger transportation of ten (10)~~nine (9)~~ or fewer passengers, including the driver, for transporting students to and from school along regular bus routes and approved school activities in accordance with KRS 156.153.~~under an alternative transportation plan approved by the Kentucky Department of Education.~~[‡]

REFERENCES:

- [‡]KRS 156.153
- KRS 158.070
- KRS 158.110
- 702 KAR 5:030

LEGAL: HB 555 AMENDS KRS 158.854 ADDING AND ALLOWING STUDENT-BASED ENTERPRISE PROGRAM TO SELL COMPETITIVE FOODS THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL DAY AND AUTHORIZES THE BOARD TO ESTABLISH POLICIES REGARDING THE OPERATION OF AND REVENUE GENERATED BY THE STUDENT-BASED ENTERPRISE.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

SUPPORT SERVICES

07.111

Competitive Foods

MINIMAL NUTRITIONAL VALUE

The sale of competitive foods and beverages to students during the school day shall be in compliance with current federal and state regulations.

DEFINITIONS

“Competitive Food” shall mean all food and beverages sold to students on the school campus during the school day, other than those meals reimbursable under the programs authorized by the National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act.

"School-day" means the period of time from midnight before to thirty (30) minutes after the end of the official school day.

“School Campus” shall mean all areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the school that are accessible to students during the school day.

NUTRITIONAL STANDARDS

No school may sell competitive foods or beverages, whether from vending machines, school stores or canteens, classrooms, teacher or parent groups, from midnight before until thirty (30) minutes after the last school lunch period of the school day. From thirty (30) minutes after the last lunch period closes until thirty (30) minutes after the school day, food and beverages sold must conform with nutritional standards specified in state and federal regulations.

Fund-raising activities held off of the school campus or not during the school day are not subject to regulatory requirements of 702 KAR 6:090 or federal competitive food limitations.

STUDENT-BASED ENTERPRISE

“Student-based enterprise” means a District approved program operated by the District’s students as part of a course designed to provide students with knowledge and experience of the operation of a business.

The Board may identify a student-based enterprise to sell competitive foods throughout the school day and establish policies for the operation of and the use of the proceeds from the student-based enterprise. Competitive foods sold by a student-based enterprise shall comply with the minimum nutritional standards established in 702 KAR 6:090.

REFERENCES:

7 C.F.R. 210.11b; 7 C.F.R. 220.12

KRS 156.160; KRS 158.850; KRS 158.854; 702 KAR 6:090

U. S. Dept. of Agriculture's *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*

RELATED POLICIES:

07.12

09.2

LEGAL: SB 5 CREATES A NEW SECTION OF KRS 158 ALLOWING A BOARD PARTICIPATING IN ANY OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS TO PURCHASE KENTUCKY-GROWN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF MARCH 27, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

SUPPORT SERVICES

07.13

School Nutrition Procurement

OPEN BIDDING

In all applicable cases, food, food products, supplies, and equipment purchased with school food service funds shall be procured in accordance with the process and procedures established in Policy 04.32 in a manner that provides full and open competition consistent with the standards in applicable federal regulations.

KENTUCKY-GROWN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

If the District participates in any of the United States Department of Agriculture Child Nutrition Programs, the District may purchase Kentucky-grown agriculture products, as defined in KRS 260.016, in accordance with federal law and shall not be subject to KRS 45A.345 to 45A.460 or 424.260. This shall not be construed to exempt the Board from any other requirement established by state or federal law.

When purchasing Kentucky-grown agricultural products, the District may purchase up to \$15,000 using federal micro-purchase thresholds or up to \$350,000 using federal simplified acquisition thresholds.

EXEMPTIONS

Federal regulatory requirements provide a geographic preference bidding exception for purchase of unprocessed locally grown or locally raised agricultural products using school nutrition service funds. Such purchases must follow applicable federal regulations.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The following conduct will be expected of all persons who are engaged in the award and administration of contracts supported by School Food Service Program Funds.

1. No employee, officer, or agent of the District shall participate in selection or in the award or administration of a contract supported by Program funds if a conflict of interest, real or apparent, would be involved. Conflicts of interest arise when one of the following has a financial or other interest in the firm selected for the award:
 - a) District employee, officer, or agent;
 - b) Any member of his/her immediate family;
 - c) His/her partner;
 - d) An organization that employs or is about to employ one of the above.
2. District employees, officers, or agents shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, potential contractors, or parties to subagreements. In determining whether an item is an impermissible gratuity or of monetary value, the definition of “gratuity” (covering anything of more than fifty dollars [\$50] value) set forth in KRS 45A.445 shall apply.
3. The purchase during the school day of any food or service from a contractor for individual use is prohibited.
4. The removal of any food, supplies, equipment, or school property such as records, recipe books, and the like is prohibited.

School Nutrition Procurement**CONFLICT OF INTEREST (CONTINUED)**

5. The outside sale of such items as used oil, empty cans, and the like will be sold by contract between the District and the outside agency. Individual sales by any school person to an outside agency or other school person is prohibited.

Failure of any employee to abide by the above-stated code may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to, a fine, suspension, or dismissal.

REFERENCES:

KRS 158.855

KRS 160.290; **KRS 260.016**; KRS 424.260

KRS 45A.345 – KRS 45A.460

702 KAR 6:010

7 C.F.R. 200.212 ~~C.F.R. 200.318~~; 2 C.F.R. 200.320

RELATED POLICY:

04.32 **or** **04.33**

LEGAL: HB 253 CREATES A NEW SECTION OF KRS 158 PROHIBITING DISTRICTS FROM UTILIZING A THREE-CUEING SYSTEM BY THE 2029-2030 SCHOOL YEAR AND TO REQUIRE INTERDISCIPLINARY EARLY CHILDHOOD THROUGH GRADE FIVE EDUCATORS TO COMPLETE A SCIENCE OF READING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING PROGRAM BY JUNE 30, 2029. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.1

Curriculum

The curriculum in each school shall be designed to achieve the student capacities established by KRS 158.645 and the school goals established by KRS 158.6451. The curriculum shall comply with all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations.

CAPACITIES

The curriculum shall allow and assist all students to acquire the following capacities:

1. Literacy, including communication skills necessary to function in a complex and changing world;
2. Knowledge to make wise economic, social, career, and political choices;
3. Core values and qualities of good character to make moral and ethical decisions throughout life;
4. Understanding of our constitutional republic, the three (3) branches of government, and how government impacts citizens, the community, the state, the nation, **and the global world**;
5. Sufficient self-knowledge and knowledge of the student's own mental and physical wellness;
6. Sufficient grounding in the arts to enable each student to appreciate the student's own cultural and historical heritage;
7. Sufficient preparation to choose and pursue the student's life's work intelligently;
8. Skills to enable each student to compete competitively with students in other states **and across the globe**.

READING CURRICULUM AND INTERVENTIONS

By the 2029-2030 school year, the District shall not use any curriculum, reading intervention, or program of instruction that utilizes the three-cueing system of teaching students to read.

The District shall ensure that:

1. All curriculum, reading interventions, and programs of instruction utilized to teach students to read are high-quality, fully aligned to state content standards, and based on literacy strategies that are scientifically researched with proven results in teaching phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension;
2. Beginning with the 2029-2030 school year, no school in the District is utilizing a three-cueing system of teaching students to read; and
3. By June 30, 2029, all interdisciplinary early childhood through grade five (5) educators have completed a science of reading professional learning program approved by the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE).

Curriculum

SUPERINTENDENT RESPONSIBILITY

In any school administered under the provisions of KRS 160.345, the Superintendent shall determine which curriculum, textbooks, instructional materials, and student support services shall be provided in the school after consulting with the Board, the Principal, and the school council and after a reasonable review and response period for stakeholders. All council policies shall be designed to meet student academic achievement expectations and goals established by statute, regulation and Board policy.

~~Effective July 1, 2026, t~~The Superintendent shall use the instructional materials depository to report the District's selection of instructional materials to the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), unless the District purchases approved alternate instructional materials under KRS 156.412. The Superintendent shall submit a notification to the KDE if the District plans to adopt instructional materials or a program as a core comprehensive resource for reading and writing, mathematics, science, or social studies that is not on the state-approved list by submitting evidence per KRS 156.445.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Board shall operate programs for students with disabilities in accordance with the legal obligations contained in the District's policy and procedures manual relating to such programs.

PERMISSION REQUIRED

Students in grades six through twelve (6-12) shall not be permitted to drop a course in which they have enrolled without consent of their parent and teacher and approval of the Principal or designee.

REFERENCES:

KRS 156.160; KRS 156.162; KRS 156.412; KRS 156.445
KRS 158.075; KRS 158.183; KRS 158.188
KRS 158.301; KRS 158.302; KRS 158.305; KRS 158.306
KRS 158.645; KRS 158.6451; KRS 158.6453; KRS 158.791; KRS 158.8402
KRS 160.345; KRS 161.028
704 KAR 3:305; 704 KAR 3:440
Kentucky Academic Standards

RELATED POLICIES:

Section 02.4 (All Policies)

LEGAL: HB 253 AMENDS KRS 158.307 REQUIRING RATHER THAN ALLOWING THE BOARD TO DEVELOP A POLICY ON DYSLEXIA. REVIEW KRS 158.307 FOR THE SPECIFICS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE POLICY. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.1313

Dyslexia

The Board shall implement a program for the identification of and strategies for assisting students in kindergarten through grade three (3) with characteristics of dyslexia.

The policy shall include but not be limited to:

- "Dyslexia" means a specific learning disability that is neurological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede the growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.
- A process for identifying students who are displaying characteristics of dyslexia;
- A process for the utilization of evaluation tools to accurately identify students who are displaying characteristics of dyslexia;
- A process for how evaluation tools are administered and evaluated by trained District personnel or licensed professionals;
- A process for outreach to parents of students with or displaying the characteristics of dyslexia with information and resource materials and how dyslexia may be addressed in the student's educational setting;
- Identification of evidence-based interventions, structured multisensory and literacy approaches to teach language and reading skills, and accommodations that schools may utilize to provide services to students identified as having dyslexia; and
- A process for monitoring a student's progress including assessments to ascertain whether the intervention services improve the student's language processing and reading skills.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

By June 30, 2028, and June 30 of each year thereafter for five (5) years, the District shall provide the [Kentucky Department of Education](#) the following data for the current school year:

- (a) The number of students in kindergarten through grade three (3) that were identified through the approved universal screener and reading diagnostic assessment as defined in KRS 158.3058 as displaying characteristics of dyslexia;
- (b) The number of students in paragraph (a) that were identified as needing enrichment programs as defined in KRS 158.305;
- (c) The number of students in kindergarten through grade three (3) that were participating in literacy interventions within the school setting; and
- (d) The process or tools used to evaluate student progress.

Dyslexia

REFERENCES:

KRS 158.305

KRS 158.307

707 KAR 1:340

RELATED POLICY:

08.131

LEGAL: HB 727 AMENDS KRS 158.1413 REMOVING THE ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENT ON THE ESSENTIAL WORKPLACE ETHICS PROGRAM. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS EFFECTIVE AS OF JULY 1, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.1341

Essential Workplace Programs

INDICATORS

~~Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, t~~The District shall implement essential workplace ethics programs that promote characteristics that are critical to success in the workplace. Each student in elementary, middle, and high school shall receive essential workplace ethics instruction that includes but is not limited to the following characteristics:

- a) Adaptability, including an openness to learning and problem solving, an ability to embrace new ways of doing things, and a capability for critical thinking;
- b) Diligence, including seeing a task through to completion;
- c) Initiative, including taking appropriate action when needed without waiting for direct instruction;
- d) Knowledge, including exhibiting an understanding of work-related information, the ability to apply that understanding to a job, and effectively explain the concepts to colleagues in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and technology as required by the job;
- e) Reliability, including showing up on time, wearing appropriate attire, self-control, motivation, and ethical behavior;
- f) Remaining drug free; and
- g) Working well with others, including effective communication skills, respect for different points of view and diversity of coworkers, the ability to cooperate and collaborate, enthusiasm, and the ability to provide appropriate leadership to or support for colleagues.

The District shall use these characteristics when creating or choosing an existing program. **Every odd-numbered year**~~By January 1, 2019 and every two (2) years thereafter,~~ the Board shall collaborate with the local workforce investment board, in conjunction with local economic development organizations and other economic, workforce, or industry organizations the workforce investment board deems necessary, to establish essential workplace ethics indicators for middle and high school students that are aligned with the characteristics listed above.

ATTAINMENT

The Board shall design and adopt a diploma seal, certificate, card, or other identifiable symbol to award students deemed as having minimally demonstrated attainment of the Board's essential workplace ethics indicators.

REPORTING REQUIREMENT

~~By September 1, 2019, and every two (2) years thereafter, the Superintendent shall provide a report to the Commissioner of Education, in a format specified by the Commissioner, describing the District's essential work ethics programs and their implementation at each school.~~

REFERENCE:

KRS 158.1413

LEGAL: REVISION TO 704 KAR 4:010 AMENDING THE REGULATION GOVERNING THE PHYSICAL
EDUCATION REQUIREMENT FOR STUDENTS.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.1346

Physical Education

All elementary and secondary school pupils shall receive organized physical education instruction **in accordance with 704 KAR 8:050** ~~as recorded in the Kentucky Academic Standards~~ and in the minimum ~~unit~~ requirements for high school graduation set forth in 704 KAR 3:305.

In the event that a high school student's physical condition or religious convictions prohibit participation in the one-half (1/2) unit physical education course, the Board may authorize a variance in or exempt the student from graduation requirements for the course **in accordance with 704 KAR 4:010**. ~~† Upon presentation of a certificate from a licensed physician or an affidavit from the pastor of the church to that effect, a course may be substituted that is within the student's capabilities as specified by the physician or the student may be exempted from the course.~~

REFERENCES:

~~†704 KAR 4:010~~

-KRS 156.160; KRS 158.302

-704 KAR 3:305

704 KAR 4:010

704 KAR 8:050

RELATED POLICIES:

08.113

09.2

LEGAL: HB 257 AMENDS KRS 158.6453 REQUIRING THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ADOPT POLICIES THAT DETERMINE THE WRITING PROGRAM FOR THE DISTRICT AND THAT IS PUBLISHED ON THE DISTRICT'S WEBSITE.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.215

Writing Program

The Superintendent shall adopt policies that determine the writing program for the District and ensure the writing program policy is published on the District's website.

The writing program shall include disciplinary-specific writing across the curriculum and incorporate a variety of language resources, technological tools, and multiple opportunities for students to develop complex communication skills for a variety of purposes.

REFERENCE:

KRS 158.6453

LEGAL: IN THE CASE OF *MAHMOUD V. TAYLOR*, 606 U.S. ____ (2025) THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT HELD THAT THE FIRST AMENDMENTS REQUIRES THE DISTRICT TO PROVIDE PARENTS/GUARDIANS WITH NOTICE OF MATERIALS TO BE TAUGHT AND THE RIGHT TO OPT OUT BASED ON SINCERELY HELD RELIGIOUS BELIEFS.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.231

Religious Beliefs Excusal

NOTICE

At the beginning of each school year, or upon enrollment of a student during the school year, the District shall provide written notice to all parents/guardians that the curriculum used in their child's grade level may contain material that families may find in conflict with their sincerely held religious beliefs. The notice shall inform parents/guardians of their right to request excusal from specific curriculum. The District is not required to identify or enumerate specific materials in the annual notice.

REQUEST FOR EXCUSAL

A parent/guardian may request that their child be excused from instruction involving specific curricular material that the parent/guardian sincerely believes conflicts with their religious beliefs; however, this Policy does not apply to entire courses or subject areas. No provision of this Policy shall be construed to authorize the excusal of a student from curriculum, instruction, or programming that is required by federal law or federal regulation.

Excusal under this Policy means the student is not required to read, listen to, view, or participate in discussion of the specifically identified material. Excusal does not extend to the entire course, unit, or subject area in which the material appears.

A student may not be excused under this Policy from curriculum or instruction that is required by Kentucky law or Kentucky administrative regulation, including but not limited to any course of study, instructional content, or assessment mandated by statute or by the Kentucky Board of Education. The right of excusal established by this Policy applies only to discrete instructional materials within a course and does not authorize excusal from a course or subject area in its entirety.

All requests for excusal under this Policy shall be submitted in writing to the Principal of the school in which the student is enrolled and shall include:

- a. the name of the complainant;
- b. the name and grade level of the student;
- c. a reasonably detailed description of the specific material to which the parent/guardian objects, sufficient to allow the Principal to locate and evaluate the material; and
- d. a statement that the parent/guardian sincerely believes the identified material conflicts with their religious beliefs.

DISTRICT REVIEW OF REQUEST

The District shall not inquire into the reasonableness, validity, or internal consistency of the claimed religious belief, and shall not require the parent/guardian to identify a specific religious denomination or institution. The Principal/designee shall review the identified material to confirm whether it demonstrably contains the content described before acting on the request. If the Principal determines that the identified material does not demonstrably contain the content described by the parent/guardian, the request may be denied.

Religious Beliefs Excusal

DISTRICT REVIEW OF REQUEST (CONTINUED)

If the Principal denies a request, the parent/guardian may appeal in writing to the Superintendent within ten (10) calendar days of the Principal's decision. The Superintendent shall render a written decision within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the appeal, affirming or overruling the Principal's decision.

If the Superintendent denies the appeal, the parent/guardian may appeal in writing to the Board within ten (10) calendar days of the Superintendent's decision. The Board shall render a written decision within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the appeal, affirming or overruling the Superintendent's decision.

RESULT OF EXCUSAL

No student shall be penalized, disciplined, or subjected to differential treatment by any District employee because the student's parent/guardian has submitted a request under this Policy, whether granted or denied.

This Policy is independent of, and does not alter, limit, or supersede the rights provided under KRS 158.1415 or KRS 158.192. A parent/guardian seeking rights under either of those statutes shall proceed under the applicable statutory framework.

This Policy does not affect any right, obligation, or requirement imposed by federal law or federal regulation governing curriculum, instructional content, or student participation in educational programs.

Complaints regarding other issues shall be submitted pursuant to other appropriate policies including but not limited to: Grievances; Harassment/Discrimination; Title IX Sexual Harassment; Review of Instructional Materials; and Citizen Suggestions and Complaints.

REFERENCES:

KRS 158.1415; KRS 158.192
Mahmoud v. Taylor, 606 U.S. ____ (2025)

RELATED POLICIES:

03.16; 03.162; 03.1621; 03.26; 03.262; 03.2621
08.23; 08.2322; 09.4281; 09.42811; 09.428111; 10.2

LEGAL: HB 67 AMENDS KRS 160.145 ADDING ADDITIONAL INDIVIDUALS FOR REPORTING PURPOSES. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 13, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.2323

Access to Electronic Media

(Responsible Use Policy)

The Board supports reasonable access to various information formats for students, employees and the community and believes it is incumbent upon users to utilize this privilege in an appropriate and responsible manner as required by this policy and related procedures, which apply to all parties who use District technology.

SAFETY PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

The Superintendent shall develop and implement appropriate procedures to provide guidance for access to electronic media and authorized communication system(s). Guidelines shall address teacher supervision of student computer use, ethical use of electronic media (including, but not limited to, the Internet, e-mail, and other District technological resources), and issues of privacy versus administrative review of electronic files and communications. In addition, guidelines shall prohibit utilization of networks for prohibited or illegal activities, the intentional spreading of embedded messages, or the use of other programs with the potential of damaging or destroying programs or data.

Guidelines and procedures should encourage details on how the District implements and facilitates digital learning tools and portable/mobile technologies to foster ubiquitous access for staff and students, emphasizing always-on, everywhere digital opportunity and empowering Districts and schools to fully understand digital access beyond the campus. With such District implemented resources, the guidelines for acceptable and responsible use shall still apply, regardless of the time, place, and means of utilization.

The District shall support teacher efforts in taking ownership of digital citizenship skills and educating their students in the same skills to foster a responsible, safe, secure, and empowered digital learning environment. Students shall be provided instruction about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Internet safety measures, which shall apply to all District-owned devices with Internet access, District-managed systems and accounts, and personal devices that are permitted to access the District's network, shall be implemented that effectively address the following, regardless of the time, place, and means of utilization:

- Controlling access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web;
- Safety and security of minors when they are using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- Preventing unauthorized access, including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online;
- Unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and
- Restricting minors' access to materials harmful to them.

A technology protection measure may be disabled by the Board's designee during use by an adult to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purpose.

The District shall provide reasonable public notice of, and at least one (1) public hearing or meeting to address and communicate its initial Internet safety measures.

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy)

SAFETY PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES (CONTINUED)

Specific expectations for appropriate Internet use shall be reflected in the District's code of acceptable behavior and discipline including appropriate orientation for staff and students.

PERMISSION/AGREEMENT FORM

The required permission/agreement form, which shall specify responsible uses, rules of on-line behavior, access privileges and penalties for policy/procedural violations, must be signed by the parent or legal guardian of minor students (those under 18 years of age) and also by the student.

This document shall be kept on file as a legal, binding document. In order to modify or rescind the agreement, the student's parent/guardian (or the student who is at least 18 years old) must provide the Superintendent with a written request.

EMPLOYEE USE

Employees shall not use a code, access a file, or retrieve any stored communication unless they have been given authorization to do so. (Authorization is not required each time the electronic media is accessed in performance of one's duties.) Each employee is responsible for the security of his/her own authentication credentials.

Employees are encouraged to use electronic mail and other District technology resources to promote student learning and communication with the home and education-related entities. If those resources are used, they shall be used for purposes directly related to work-related activities.

Technology-based materials, activities and communication tools shall be appropriate for and within the range of the knowledge, understanding, age and maturity of students with whom they are used.

In accordance with KRS 160.145, the Board shall designate a traceable communication system ~~to be the exclusive means~~ for District employees and qualified school volunteers to communicate electronically with students enrolled in the District. ~~The Principal of each school shall provide parents written or electronic notification within the first ten (10) days of the school year of each electronic school notification and communication program designated within the traceable communication system. The notification shall include instructions for parents to access and review communications sent through each electronic school notification and communication program. See policy 08.2324 for complete details and guidelines.~~

A District employee or qualified school volunteer, ~~unless authorized,~~ shall not engage in unauthorized electronic communication. ~~communicate electronically with a student:~~

1. ~~Outside of the traceable communication system designated by the Board; or~~
2. ~~Through an unauthorized electronic communication program or application.~~

~~This shall not restrict any electronic communications between a student and his or her family member who is a District employee or volunteer.~~

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy)

EMPLOYEE USE (CONTINUED)

Networking, communication systems, and other options offering the ability to communicate directly with students may be used for the purpose of supplementing classroom instruction and to promote communications with students and parents concerning school-related activities—in accordance with Policy 08.2324.

Students may only be invited or granted access to Board approved traceable electronic communications systems, including social media platforms and other digital communication sites, if the District has verified that the system meets acceptable data privacy standards and includes appropriate protections for student information. Furthermore, the students must meet the platform's minimum age requirements before being granted access or invited to access.

Staff members shall not use or create personal social networking accounts to which they communicate directly with or invite students to be friends.

See policy 08.2324 for complete details and guidelines regarding Traceable Communications.

EMPLOYEE CONDUCT AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR TECHNOLOGY USE

All employees and volunteers are subject to disciplinary action if their conduct relating to the use of technology or online resources violates this policy or any other applicable statutory, regulatory or policy provisions governing employee conduct. This includes, but is not limited to, unauthorized electronic communications.

The Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel requires certified staff to protect the health, safety, and emotional well-being of students and the confidentiality of student information. Any conduct in violation of this Code – particularly involving technology or online resources - must be reported to the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) as required by law and may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

~~REPORTING PROCEDURES—POLICY 08.2324~~

~~A District employee or volunteer who receives a report alleging that another District employee or volunteer has engaged in unauthorized electronic communication must immediately notify the appropriate authority:~~

- ~~1. — If the subject of the report is a staff member, notify the Principal.~~
- ~~2. — If the subject is the Principal, notify the Superintendent.~~
- ~~3. — If the subject is the Superintendent, notify the Commissioner of Education and the Chair of the local Board.~~

COMMUNITY USE

On recommendation of the Superintendent/designee, the Board shall determine when and which District technology resources (including internet access, computer equipment, software, and information access systems) may be available to the community.

Upon request to the Principal/designee, community members may have access to the Internet and other electronic information sources and programs available through the District's technology system, provided they attend any required training and abide by the rules of usage established by the Superintendent/designee.

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy)

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND RESPONSIBLE USE

All District technology users shall demonstrate safe, savvy, and social digital citizenship skills by practicing respectful, responsible, and ethical use of technology. The District will ensure comprehensive instruction on digital citizenship, focusing on the nine (9) elements of digital citizenship: Digital Access; Digital Commerce; Digital Communication & Collaboration; Digital Fluency; Digital Etiquette; Digital Law; Digital Rights and Responsibilities; Digital Health and Welfare; and Digital Security & Privacy, as well as cyberbullying awareness and response strategies, are provided. All digital citizenship instruction shall align with the Kentucky Academic Standards for Technology and be reviewed regularly to reflect current best practices and emerging technologies. The District shall support efforts to instill digital citizenship skills in students to foster a responsible, safe, and empowered digital learning environment. District-provided technology resources shall be used in a manner that upholds the integrity, security, and privacy of district systems and supports educational goals regardless of the time, place, and means of utilization.

DISREGARD OF RULES

Individuals who opt-out of required responsible use documents or who violate District rules governing the use of District technology shall be subject to loss or restriction of the privilege of using equipment, software, information access systems, or other computing and telecommunications technologies.

Employees and students shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination (employees) and expulsion (students) for violating this policy and acceptable use rules and regulations established by the school or District.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES

Individuals shall reimburse the Board for repair or replacement of District property lost, stolen, damaged, or vandalized while under their care. Students or staff members who deface a District web site or otherwise make unauthorized changes to a web site shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion and termination, as appropriate.

RESPONDING TO CONCERNS

School officials shall apply the same criterion of educational suitability used to review other educational resources when questions arise concerning access to specific databases or other electronic media.

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

The District shall establish and maintain procedures that address the safe, secure and responsible uses of emerging technologies, including, but not limited to, artificial intelligence (AI) and AI-enhanced or generative AI features. These procedures shall be reviewed and updated regularly to ensure alignment with current technological advancements, fostering a proactive approach while emphasizing safeguards for student safety, data privacy, and ethical practices. Such procedures will support innovative strategies while addressing potential risks and maintaining the confidence of district stakeholders. Additionally, procedures will address the responsible use of these emerging technologies, including appropriate and inappropriate uses of AI (e.g., for inspiration vs. cheating, plagiarism).

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy)

AUDIT OF USE

Users with network access shall not utilize District resources to establish electronic mail accounts through third-party providers or any other nonstandard electronic mail system.

The Superintendent/designee shall establish a process to determine whether the District's education technology is being used for purposes prohibited by law or for accessing social media (unless authorized by a teacher for instructional purposes) and sexually explicit materials. The process shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Utilizing technology that meets the requirements of Kentucky Administrative Regulations and that blocks or filters internet access for both minors and adults to certain visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or, with respect to computers with Internet access by minors, harmful to minors. For instructional purposes, age/grade-level appropriateness and meets traceable/inspectable guidelines set forth in this and related policies;
2. Utilizing the latest available filtering technology to ensure that social media is not made available to students, unless authorized by a teacher for instructional purposes;
3. Maintaining and securing a usage log; and
4. Monitoring online activities of both minors and adults using District-owned or managed systems, regardless of the time, place, and means of utilization.

RETENTION OF RECORDS FOR E-RATE PARTICIPANTS

Following initial adoption, this policy and documentation of implementation shall be retained for at least ten (10) years after the last day of service in a particular funding year.

REFERENCES:

KRS 156.675; KRS 160.145; KRS 365.732; KRS 365.734
701 KAR 5:120
16 KAR 1:020 (Code of Ethics)
47 U.S.C. 254/Children's Internet Protection Act; 47 C.F.R. 54.520
Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS)
47 C.F.R. 54.516
15-ORD-190

RELATED POLICIES:

03.13214/03.23214
03.1325/03.2325
03.17/03.27
08.1353; 08.2322; 08.2324
09.14; 09.421; 09.422; 09.425; 09.426; 09.4261
10.5

LEGAL: HB 67 AMENDS KRS 160.145 EXPANDING DEFINITIONS, LIMITING THE SCOPE OF UNAUTHORIZED ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION AND EXCLUDING DESIGNATED TYPES OF COMMUNICATION FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN WRITTEN PARENTAL PERMISSION. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 13, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.2324

Traceable Communications

The Board shall designate a traceable communication system ~~to be the exclusive means~~ for District employees and qualified school volunteers to communicate electronically with students enrolled in the District. The Principal of each school shall provide parents written or electronic notification within the first ten (10) days of the school year of each electronic school notification and communication program designated within the traceable communication system. The notification shall include instructions for parents to access and review communications sent through each electronic school notification and communication program.

A District employee or qualified school volunteer; ~~unless authorized,~~ shall not engage in unauthorized electronic communication as defined in KRS 160.145. A District employee that violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary actions in accordance with, for certified employees, KRS 161.120 and 161.790, and for classified employees KRS 161.011. A qualified school volunteer that violates this policy may be prohibited by the District from future school volunteer opportunities. ~~communicate electronically with a student:~~

~~8. Outside of the traceable communication system designated by the Board; or~~

~~9. Through an unauthorized electronic communication program or application.~~

~~This shall not restrict any electronic communications between a student and his or her family member who is a District employee or volunteer.~~

DEFINITIONS

Family

~~“Family member” means parent, brother, sister, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, or grandparent.~~

Parent

~~—“Parent” means parent, legal guardian, or other person or agency responsible for a student.~~

District Employee or Volunteer

~~“District employee or volunteer” means a school administrator, classified or certified employee, volunteer, nonfaculty coach or assistant coach, student teacher, or sponsor of an extracurricular program or activity.~~

Traceable Communication System

~~“Traceable communication system” means one (1) or more electronic school notification and communication programs or applications that:~~

~~d. Are designated by a Board of Education;~~

~~e. Trace all communications sent to or by a student; and~~

~~f. Provide parents an opportunity to access and review those communications.~~

UNAUTHORIZED ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

~~“Unauthorized electronic communication” means an electronic communication with a student by a District employee or volunteer who is not the student's family member that occurs outside of a designated traceable communication system and without prior written parental consent; and includes any personal email account, text messaging, social media, or other electronic notification and communication programs outside of the traceable communication system.~~

Traceable Communications

CONSENT TO AUTHORIZE

A parent may submit written consent to authorize a designated District employee or **qualified school** volunteer who is not a family member to **participate in private electronic communication**~~communicate electronically~~ with his or her child outside of the traceable communication system.

WRITTEN DISCLOSURE

A District employee or qualified school volunteer may submit a written disclosure notifying the District of a commercial, nonprofit, or local government affiliation that could reasonably result in private electronic communication with a student outside of the traceable communication system. Upon filing the written disclosure, subsequent private electronic communication directly related to the disclosure is no longer subject to KRS 160.145.

REPORTING

A District employee or **qualified school** volunteer that **participated in unauthorized electronic communication subject to KRS 160.145 or reasonably believes**~~receives a report alleging~~ that another District employee or **qualified school** volunteer participated in unauthorized electronic communication **that is subject to KRS 160.145 that has not been previously reported** shall immediately notify the Principal **or applicable supervisor**.

If the subject of the report is the Principal **or a District-wide employee**, the **reporting** employee or volunteer shall immediately notify the Superintendent.

If the subject of the report is the Superintendent **or a Kentucky Department of Education employee assigned to a school or area technology center within the District on a full-time and continuing basis**, the **reporting** employee or volunteer shall immediately notify the Commissioner of Education and the Chair of the local Board.

Upon receipt of a report alleging that a District employee or **qualified school** volunteer **violated KRS 160.145**~~participated in unauthorized electronic communication~~, the Commissioner of Education, a Principal, or the Superintendent shall immediately:

1. Notify the parent of each student that is an alleged party to the unauthorized electronic communications; and
2. If the individual that is the subject of the report is a certified employee:
 - a. Notify the Education Professional Standards Board, which shall promptly investigate all allegations received under this subsection and proceed with appropriate disciplinary actions in accordance with KRS 160.145; and
 - b. Investigate the underlying allegations and proceed with appropriate disciplinary actions in accordance with KRS 161.790;
3. If the individual that is the subject of the report is a classified employee, investigate the underlying allegations and proceed with appropriate disciplinary actions in accordance with KRS 161.011(7); and

Traceable Communications

4. If the individual that is the subject of the report is a **qualified school** ~~District~~ volunteer, the school or District shall investigate the underlying allegations and, if substantiated, the **qualified school** volunteer ~~may~~ **shall** be prohibited from future school and District volunteer opportunities.

4.5. Notwithstanding any statute to the contrary, notify the parent of each student that is an alleged party to the unauthorized electronic communication of each material phase of the investigation and disciplinary action including but not limited to a written summary of the results of an investigation and the final outcome of the disciplinary action.

A Principal or Superintendent who violates **this reporting requirement** shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with KRS 161.120 and KRS 156.132.

REFERENCES:

KRS 156.132

KRS 160.145

KRS 161.011; KRS 161.120; KRS 161.790

RELATED POLICIES:

03.1321; 3.13214; 03.1325; 03.162; 03.17

03.2321; 03.23214; 03.2325; 03.262; 03.2621; 03.27

03.6

08.13531; 08.2323

RECOMMENDED: THE KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SUGGESTED THE POLICY CLARIFICATION THAT HOMELESS STUDENTS BE IMMEDIATELY ENROLLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH 704 KAR 7:090 AND 42 U.S.C. 11431 ET SEQ. (MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT).
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

STUDENTS

09.12

Admissions and Attendance

RESIDENCE DEFINED

A pupil **who is a bona fide resident of the District and** whose parent or guardian, **with custody of the pupil, is a bona fide resident of the District**, or as otherwise provided by state or federal law, shall be considered residents and entitled to the privileges of the District's schools.

All other pupils shall be classified as nonresidents for school purposes.¹

HOMELESS CHILDREN AND UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH

The District shall provide educational and related services to homeless children and youth, including preschool-aged homeless children, and homeless children or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian (unaccompanied youth) in a manner that does not segregate or stigmatize students on the basis of their homeless status.

The District shall provide its schools with guidelines that detail the rights of homeless students and the responsibilities that schools have to meet their needs and eliminate barriers to school attendance. These guidelines shall emphasize the right of homeless students to:

1. Be immediately enrolled in the District;
- ~~1.2.~~ Have equal access to all educational programs and services, including transportation, that non-homeless children enjoy;
- ~~2.3.~~ Have access to preschool programs as provided to other children in the District;
- ~~3.4.~~ Continue attending their school of origin, when deemed in the best interest of the child, for the duration of homelessness;
- ~~4.5.~~ Attend regular public school with non-homeless students; and
- ~~5.6.~~ Continue to receive all services for which they are eligible (i.e., special education, gifted and talented, English learner).

The District shall provide transportation to the school of origin for homeless children at the request of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the liaison) if the child continues to live within the area served by the District in which the school of origin is located. If the child locates to a District other than that of his/her school of origin, the districts shall work together to apportion transportation to and from the school of origin and associated costs. If the districts are unable to reach agreement, responsibility and costs for transportation shall be shared equally.

The District shall designate an appropriate staff person to serve as liaison to homeless children and unaccompanied youth. In addition to coordination of McKinney-Vento implementation in the District, the liaison is responsible for:

- “Outreach” to other entities and agencies so that homeless students are identified;
- Providing public notice of the educational rights of homeless children in locations frequented by parents/guardians and unaccompanied youths. This notice is to be in a manner and form that is understandable;²
- Seeing that school personnel who provide McKinney-Vento Services receive professional development and other support; and
- Ensuring that unaccompanied youths are enrolled in school and receive support to accrue credits and access to higher education.

Admissions and Attendance**HOMELESS CHILDREN AND UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH (CONTINUED)**

The District shall inform school personnel, service providers, advocates working with homeless families, parents, guardians and homeless children and unaccompanied youths of the duties of the liaison.

All concerns regarding the education of homeless children and unaccompanied youth shall be referred to the District liaison. If a complaint arises regarding services or placement of homeless children and unaccompanied youth, the dispute resolution procedures as set forth in 704 KAR 7:090 shall apply.

Disputes over eligibility, school selection, or enrollment are to be appealed to the Kentucky Department of Education using the Dispute Resolution for Homeless form located at the link below:

<https://education.ky.gov/federal/progs/txc/Documents/Homeless%20Dispute%20Resolution%20Form.pdf>

The liaison shall provide a copy of the referenced form to the complainant.

The District shall provide services for homeless children and unaccompanied youths with disabilities as required by law.

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

Students in foster care shall have equal access to all educational programs and services, including transportation, which all other students enjoy.

Foster children are to be immediately enrolled in a new school. The District shall collaborate with the Cabinet to ensure immediate and appropriate enrollment of the child and immediately contact the student's previous school for relevant records. The previous school shall provide the new school records within the student information system maintained by the Kentucky Department of Education by the end of the working day on the day of receipt of a request. If a record provided to the new school is incomplete, the previous school shall provide the completed record within three (3) working days of the original request. Remaining records shall be provided within ten (10) working days of the request.

The Superintendent shall appoint a Foster Care Liaison to coordinate activities relating to the District's provision of services to children placed in foster care, including transportation services, when the District is notified by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services in writing that the Cabinet has designated its foster care point of contact for the District. The Superintendent may appoint the District Foster Care Liaison prior to such notice from the Cabinet.

Children in foster care, including preschool aged children if the District offers a preschool program, shall be eligible to attend their "school of origin" unless a determination is made that it is not in the child's best interest. Such determination will be made in collaboration with the child welfare agency. Dispute resolutions shall be handled by all agencies involved in the determination of the foster child's placement.

When possible, a child exiting the foster care program during the school year shall be allowed to complete the school year in the school of origin.

Admissions and Attendance**BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD**

Determining the best interest of the child takes into consideration the following factors, including but not limited to:

- The benefits to the child of maintaining educational stability;
- The appropriateness of the current educational setting;
- The child's attachment and meaningful relationships with staff and peers at the current educational setting;
- The influence of the school's climate on the child;
- The safety of the child; and
- The proximity of the placement to the school of origin, and how the length of a commute would impact the child.

Upon the determination that changing a child's school of enrollment is in the best interest of the child, the Cabinet, any applicable child-caring facility, child-placing agency, school, districts, and the child's state agency caseworker shall collaborate to ensure the immediate and appropriate enrollment of the child;

1. The child's state agency caseworker shall immediately contact the receiving district to inform the district of the pending enrollment changes.
2. The child's state agency caseworker or child-caring facility or child placing agency case manager shall either accompany the child and the foster parent to the new school to enroll the child or contact applicable staff at the new school via telephone during the day of enrollment, to assist with the enrollment, to share information relating to the child's unique needs and prior experiences that may impact their education, and to identify and prevent disruptions in any instructional or support services that the child may have been receiving prior to that time, including but not limited to medical and behavioral health history and individual service plans.

IMMIGRANTS

No student shall be denied enrollment based on his/her immigration status, and documentation of immigration status shall not be required as a condition of enrollment.

The District may provide an approved high school program to a student who is a refugee or legal alien until the student graduates or until the end of the school year in which the student reaches the age of twenty-one (21), whichever comes first.

NONRESIDENTS

Nonresident pupils may be enrolled in the District's schools in accordance with Board policies 09.1222, 09.124, and upon approval of the Superintendent. Once a nonresident student is enrolled for the academic year, the student may not be dismissed during that academic year without applicable due process.³

Admissions and Attendance**NONRESIDENTS (CONTINUED)**

Nonresident students designated as homeless or foster children may be required to be enrolled consistent with the “best interest of the child” or “school of origin” requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the McKinney-Vento Act as amended by ESSA.

NON-IMMIGRANT FOREIGN STUDENTS

Non-immigrant foreign students qualifying for F-1 immigration status or who obtain an F-1 student visa may be admitted to the District based on the following guidelines:

1. These students shall not be permitted to attend any publicly funded adult education program.
2. These students may be permitted to attend in grades nine through twelve (9-12), but not at earlier grade levels.
3. As required by law, these students shall pay a tuition fee equal to the full, unsubsidized per capita cost to the District for providing education to the student for the period of attendance.
4. The period of attendance shall not exceed twelve (12) months.

These requirements do not apply to immigrant students residing in the District or foreign students in any other immigration status, including exchange students.

EXPELLED/CONVICTED STUDENTS

The parent, guardian, Principal, or other person or agency responsible for the student shall provide to the school prior to admission, a sworn statement or affirmation concerning any of the following that have occurred in or outside Kentucky:

1. If a student has been expelled from school; or
2. If a student has been adjudicated guilty/convicted of, homicide, assault, or an offense in violation of state law or school regulations relating to weapons, alcohol, or drugs.

Assault shall mean any physical assault, including sexual assault.

The sworn statement or affirmation shall be on a form provided by the appropriate state agency and shall be sent to the receiving school within five (5) working days of official notification that a student has requested enrollment in the new school.⁴

If a student is suspended or expelled for any reason, or faces charges that may lead to suspension or expulsion, but withdraws prior to a hearing from any public or private school in Kentucky or any other state and then moves into the District and seeks to enroll, the District shall review the details of the charges, suspension, or expulsion and determine if the student will be admitted, and if so, what conditions may be imposed upon the admission. Prior to a decision to deny admission, the District shall offer the student, parent/guardian, or other persons having legal custody or control of the student a hearing before the Board.

Admissions and Attendance**REFERENCES:**

¹KRS 159.010; OAG 78-64; OAG 91-171

²42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq. (McKinney-Vento Act)

³KRS 158.120; OAG 80-47; OAG 79-327; OAG 75-602; G.C. v. Owensboro Public Schools, 711 F.3d 623 (6th Cir., 2013)

⁴KRS 158.155; KRS 157.320; KRS 157.330; KRS 158.150

KRS 157.320; KRS 157.350; KRS 157.360; KRS 158.100; KRS 199.802

702 KAR 7:125; 704 KAR 7:090

P. L. 104-208

P. L. 114-95 (Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015), 20 U.S.C. § 6301 et seq.

8 U.S.C. Sections 1101 and 1184; 8 C.F.R. Section 214

22 C.F.R. §62.25

Plyler v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 (1982)

Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974 (EEOA)

RELATED POLICIES:

06.32; 08.1114; 09.11; 09.121; 09.1222; 09.1223; 09.123; 09.124

09.126 (re requirements/exceptions for students from military families)

09.14; 09.211

LEGAL: SB 101 AMENDS KRS 158.155 REQUIRING SCHOOL EMPLOYEES REPORT INTENTIONAL PHYSICAL INJURY OR INTENTIONAL ATTEMPT TO CAUSE PHYSICAL INJURY OF ANY SCHOOL EMPLOYEE AND INTENTIONAL ASSAULT RESULTING IN SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT UNLESS THE SCHOOL EMPLOYEE HAS CAUSE TO BELIEVE A STUDENT'S DISABILITY INTERFERED WITH HIS OR HER ABILITY TO CONFORM TO THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT. ADDITIONAL REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR DISTRICT CREATED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: HB 253 AMENDS KRS 160.380 REQUIRING DISTRICTS TO REPORT AND INVESTIGATE ABUSIVE CONDUCT INVOLVING A MINOR OR STUDENT. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

STUDENTS

09.2211

Employee Reports of Criminal Activity

To promote the safety and well-being of students, the District requires employees to make reports required by state law in a timely manner. Supervisors and administrators shall inform employees of the following required reporting duties:

KRS 158.155

Any school employee who knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a person has made threats or plans of violence which are intended to target a school or students or who knows that a firearm is present on school property in violation of KRS 527.070 shall immediately cause a report to be made to the District's law enforcement agency and to either the local law enforcement agency or to the Kentucky State Police.

Any school employee shall immediately report to the District's law enforcement agency and to either the local law enforcement agency or to the Kentucky State Police any act which the employee has a reasonable cause to believe has occurred on school property or at a school-sponsored or sanctioned event involving:

a. Intentional physical injury, or intentional attempt to cause physical injury, as defined in KRS 500.080, to any school employee;

~~a.b.~~ Intentional Assault resulting in serious physical injury, as defined in KRS 500.080;

~~b.c.~~ A sexual offense;

~~c.d.~~ Kidnapping;

~~d.e.~~ Assault with the use of a weapon;

~~e.f.~~ Possession of a firearm or deadly weapon in violation of the law;

~~f.g.~~ The use, possession, or sale of a controlled substance in violation of the law; or

~~g.h.~~ Intentional or wanton Damage to property causing a pecuniary loss of five hundred dollars (\$500) or more.

Any school employee who receives information from a student or other person of conduct which is required to be reported shall report the conduct to the District's law enforcement agency and to either the local law enforcement agency or to the Kentucky State Police, unless the school employee has cause to believe a student's disability interfered with his or her ability to conform to the Student Code of Conduct.

A District that has created their own law enforcement agency shall designate a local law enforcement agency not created by the District to receive reporting information from the District's law enforcement agency. The District's law enforcement agency shall file a weekly report for the preceding week identifying all reports received under KRS 158.155.

KRS 158.156

Any employee of a school or a local board of education who knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a school student has been the victim of a violation of any felony offense specified in KRS Chapter 508 committed by another student while on school premises, on school-sponsored transportation, or at a school-sponsored event shall immediately cause an oral or written report to be made to the Principal of the school attended by the victim.

Employee Reports of Criminal Activity**KRS 158.156 (CONTINUED)**

The Principal shall notify the parents, legal guardians, or other persons exercising custodial control or supervision of the student when the student is involved in an incident reportable under this section. The Principal shall file a written report with the local school board and the local law enforcement agency or the Department of Kentucky State Police or the county attorney within forty-eight (48) hours of the original report.

KRS 160.380

When an allegation of abusive conduct, as defined in KRS 160.380, is made against a District employee to another District employee, the District employee in receipt of the allegation, whether communicated in writing, electronically, or orally, shall report the allegation to the Principal and in accordance with KRS 620.030. The Principal shall document the allegation in writing and notify the Superintendent/designee. An investigation of the allegation shall be conducted by the District until it is completed and shall not end prior to completion due to the employee transferring positions within the District or leaving the District, unless directed by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services or law enforcement officials to cease the investigation.

KRS 209A.100

Upon the request of a victim, school personnel shall report an act of domestic violence and abuse or dating violence and abuse to a law enforcement officer. School personnel shall discuss the report with the victim prior to contacting a law enforcement officer.

KRS 209A.110

School personnel shall report to a law enforcement officer when s/he has a belief that the death of a victim with who s/he has had a professional interaction is related to domestic violence and abuse or dating violence and abuse.

KRS 620.030

Any person who knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a child is dependent, neglected, or abused, or is a victim of human trafficking, or is a victim of female genital mutilation, shall immediately cause an oral or written report to be made to a local law enforcement agency or the Department of Kentucky State Police; the cabinet or its designated representative; the Commonwealth's Attorney or the County Attorney; by telephone or otherwise. Any supervisor who receives from an employee a report of suspected dependency, neglect, or abuse shall promptly make a report to the proper authorities for investigation.

REFERENCES:

KRS 158.155; KRS 158.156; **KRS 160.380**

KRS 209A.100; KRS 209A.110

KRS 508.125; KRS 525.070; KRS 525.080; KRS 527.070; KRS 527.080

KRS 620.030

STUDENTS

09.2211
(CONTINUED)

Employee Reports of Criminal Activity

RELATED POLICIES:

03.13251; 03.23251; 03.13253; 03.23253

05.48

09.227; 09.422; 09.423; 09.425; 09.426; 09.438

LEGAL: HB 253 AMENDS KRS 160.380 REQUIRING DISTRICTS TO REPORT AND INVESTIGATE ABUSIVE CONDUCT INVOLVING A MINOR OR STUDENT. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE AND IS IN EFFECT AS OF APRIL 10, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

STUDENTS

09.227

Child Abuse

REPORT REQUIRED

Any teacher, school administrator, or other school personnel who knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a child under age eighteen (18) is dependent, abused or neglected¹, or a victim of human trafficking, or is a victim of female genital mutilation, shall immediately make an oral or written report, including but not limited to electronic submission, to a local law enforcement agency or the Kentucky State Police, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services or its designated representative, the Commonwealth's or County Attorney in accordance with KRS 620.030.²

After making that report, the employee shall then immediately notify the Principal of the suspected abuse. If the Principal is suspected of child abuse, the employee shall notify the Superintendent/designee.

Upon notification, the Principal or the Superintendent/designee shall facilitate the cooperation of the school with the investigation of the report. Any person who knowingly causes intimidation, retaliation, or obstruction in the investigation of the report shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

Only agencies designated by law are authorized to conduct an investigation of a report of alleged child abuse. Therefore, the District shall not first investigate a claim before an employee makes a report to the proper authorities. However, in certain situations, reports involving claims made under state and federal laws, such as Title IX, shall require the District, after making the required report, to conduct an independent investigation of the allegations in order to determine appropriate personnel action.

When an allegation of abusive conduct, as defined in KRS 160.380, is made against a District employee to another District employee, the District employee in receipt of the allegation, whether communicated in writing, electronically, or orally, shall report the allegation to the Principal and in accordance with KRS 620.030. The Principal shall document the allegation in writing and notify the Superintendent/designee. An investigation of the allegation shall be conducted by the District until it is completed and shall not end prior to completion due to the employee transferring positions within the District or leaving the District, unless directed by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services or law enforcement officials to cease the investigation.

WRITTEN REPORT

The person reporting shall, if requested, in addition to the report required above, file with the local law enforcement agency or the Kentucky State Police or the Commonwealth's or County Attorney or the Cabinet for Health and Family Services or its designated representative within forty-eight (48) hours of the original report a written report containing specific information regarding the child, the child's parents or guardians, and the person allegedly responsible for the abuse or neglect.

WRITTEN RECORDS

Copies of reports kept by the District that are submitted to authorities in compliance with the child abuse law are educational records and subject to inspection by the parents of the alleged victim of child abuse. Whether the records are considered "internal records," and not maintained with the students' "permanent records," is immaterial if such records are directly related to students and are maintained by the school or District.

Child Abuse**INTERVIEWS**

If the student is an alleged victim of abuse or neglect, school officials shall follow directions provided by the investigating officer or Cabinet for Health and Family Services representative as to whether to contact a parent³ and shall provide the Cabinet access to a child subject to an investigation or assessment without parental consent.⁴

AGENCY CUSTODY

If, as a result of dependency, neglect, or abuse, a child has been placed in the custody of the Cabinet, the Principal, or any Assistant Principal of the school in which the child is enrolled, and the District's Director of Pupil Personnel shall be notified of the names of persons authorized to contact the child at school, in accordance with school visitation or communication policy, or remove the child from school grounds.

The notification shall be provided to the school by the Cabinet:

- a) By written notice via email or fax on the day that a court order is entered and again on any day that a change is made with regard to persons authorized to contact or remove the child from school. Verbal notification shall occur on the next school day immediately following the day a court order is entered or a change is made if the court order or change occurs after the end of the current school day; and
- b) By email, fax, or hand delivery of a copy of the court order within ten (10) calendar days following the Cabinet's receipt of the court order of a change of custody or change in contact or removal authority.

OTHER

Each school shall prominently display the statewide child abuse hotline number administered by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, the National Human Trafficking Reporting Hotline number administered by the United States Department for Health and Human Services, and the Safe Haven Baby Boxes Crisis Line number administered by the Safe Haven Baby Boxes national organization or any equivalent successor entity.

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 600.020

²KRS 620.030; KRS 620.040

³OAG 85-134; OAG 92-138

⁴KRS 620.072

KRS 17.160; KRS 17.165; KRS 17.545; KRS 17.580

KRS 156.095; KRS 158.041; [KRS 160.380](#); KRS 199.990

KRS 209.020; KRS 508.125; KRS 620.050; KRS 620.146

OAG 77-407; OAG 77-506; OAG 80-50; OAG 85-134

34 C.F.R. 106.1-106.71, U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights
Regulations Implementing Title IX

RELATED POLICIES:

03.19; 09.1231; 09.3; 09.31; 09.42811; 09.4361; 10.5

LEGAL: SB 101 AMENDS KRS 158.150 PROHIBITING A STUDENT EXPELLED FROM PARTICIPATING IN SCHOOL SPONSORED EXTRACURRICULAR OR INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

STUDENTS

09.3

Student Activities

TO BE ENCOURAGED

Student activities of an educational nature shall be encouraged and maintained, based upon the needs and interests of pupils.

In schools operating under SBDM, the council shall determine selection of extracurricular activities, as well as academic qualifications, attendance requirements, evaluation procedures and supervision for these programs.

CONTROL

All school-sponsored student activities shall be under the direction of the Principal and faculty of the school, except that a nonfaculty coach or nonfaculty assistant may accompany student on athletic trips as provided in statute.¹

The Principal may suspend a student's eligibility to participate in extracurricular and cocurricular activities, pending investigation of any allegation that the student has violated either the District behavior standards or the school council's criteria for participation.²

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities shall have an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular services and activities, including, but not limited to, extracurricular athletics, intramural athletics, and clubs.

NOTE: The District may require a level of skill or ability of a student in order for that student to participate in a selective or competitive program or activity, so long as the selection or competition criteria are not discriminatory.

EXPULSION

An expelled student shall not participate in any school-sponsored extracurricular or interscholastic activity while the student is expelled.³

CRITERIA

The following eligibility criteria for participation shall only apply to SBDM schools in the absence of council policy that establishes school criteria or when the council chooses to adopt criteria established by the Board:

ELIGIBILITY

In order to enroll or participate in or try out for school-sponsored extracurricular activities, students enrolled in grades seven through twelve (7-12) must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- 1. Students may not be failing more than one (1) subject at any time;**
- 2. They may not have failed more than one (1) subject during the preceding semester or, in the case of first semester activities, the preceding school year;**
- 3. They shall be making normal progress toward graduation; and**
- 4. They shall demonstrate continued compliance with policy 09.423.**

If a student is failing more than one (1) subject, s/he shall not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities for at least one (1) week. At the end of that week, the student's eligibility shall be re-checked and evaluated.

Student Activities

PROHIBITION ON PARTICIPATION

The Superintendent, Principal, and Assistant Principal shall prohibit a student who has been suspended or expelled from participating in extracurricular activities sponsored by the school. In addition, they may restrict the student's participation either as a spectator or actual participant in the extracurricular activity. The period of restriction may be from one (1) day to the remainder of the current school term, and may apply to a specific activity or to all extracurricular activities.

SCHEDULING

The Superintendent or designee shall determine the scheduling of school-sponsored student activities. Every effort shall be made to avoid scheduling these activities on Wednesday evenings or on Sundays.

PERFORMING ARTS ACTIVITIES

Before an arts performance is undertaken, the following steps shall be taken:

1. The group sponsor shall discuss the matter with the Principal and secure written permission. The sponsor shall forward a copy to the Superintendent.
2. The group sponsor shall secure the written permission of the appropriate individual or agency owning the copyright to a production or material. The sponsor shall provide copies to the Principal and the Superintendent.
3. All stipulations recorded in the contract with the individual or agency shall be followed.

HONORING STATE CHAMPIONS

The Board shall recognize those students who win a state championship while representing the District in a student competition.

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 161.185

²KRS 158.153

³[KRS 158.150](#)

KRS 158.120; KRS 158.183; KRS 161.180; KRS 620.146

702 KAR 7:125; 702 KAR 7:140; 704 KAR 3:535; OAG 57-40812

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

RELATED POLICIES:

09.1224; 09.126 (re requirements/exceptions for students from military families)

09.3211; 09.36; **09.423**; [09.435](#); 09.438

LEGAL: SB 101 AMENDS KRS 158.155 REQUIRING SCHOOL EMPLOYEES REPORT INTENTIONAL PHYSICAL INJURY OR INTENTIONAL ATTEMPT TO CAUSE PHYSICAL INJURY OF ANY SCHOOL EMPLOYEE AND INTENTIONAL ASSAULT RESULTING IN SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY TO LAW ENFORCEMENT UNLESS THE SCHOOL EMPLOYEE HAS CAUSE TO BELIEVE A STUDENT'S DISABILITY INTERFERED WITH HIS OR HER ABILITY TO CONFORM TO THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT. ADDITIONAL REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR DISTRICT CREATED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

LEGAL: KRS 209.160 HAS BEEN RENUMBERED AS KRS 209A.045.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

STUDENTS

09.425

Assault and Threats of Violence

For purposes of this Policy, a “threat” shall refer to a communication made by any means, including, but not limited to, electronic and/or online methods.

STUDENTS

Any student who threatens, physically assaults, batters or abuses school personnel or another student on school property, at a bus stop, or at a school function shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion.¹

Students may also be subject to prosecution or juvenile justice interventions for assault, threats, or other abusive conduct.

The Principal shall provide written notice to all students, parents, and guardians of students within ten (10) days of the first instructional day of each school year of the provision of KRS 508.078 and potential penalties under KRS 532.060 and KRS 534.030.²

EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL

Any student who threatens, physically assaults, batters or physically or verbally abuses educational personnel on or off school property (and the incident is likely to substantially disrupt the educational process) shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action¹ up to and including expulsion from school and/or legal action.

REMOVAL OF STUDENTS

School administrators, teachers, or other school personnel may immediately remove or cause to be removed threatening or violent students from a classroom setting or from the District's transportation system pending any further disciplinary action that may occur. Threatening or violent behavior shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Disrupts the classroom environment and education process or the student challenges the authority of a supervising adult.
2. Verbal or written statements or gestures by students indicating intent to harm themselves, others or property.
3. Physical attack by students so as to intentionally inflict harm to themselves, others or property.

The Principal may establish (school) procedures for a student's removal from and reentry to the classroom when the student's behavior disrupts the classroom environment and education process or the student challenges the authority of a supervising adult. In addition to removal, the student shall be subject to further discipline for the behavior consistent with the school's code of conduct.

Removal of students from a bus shall be made in compliance with 702 KAR 5:080.

Each school shall designate the site(s) to which employees may remove students from a classroom setting and the employee(s) who will supervise the student at the site.

When teachers or other personnel remove a student, they shall complete and submit a form to document the removal and the causes as soon as practicable. The Principal/designee shall review the removal as soon as possible to determine if further disciplinary action is warranted or if the student is to be returned to the classroom.

Assault and Threats of Violence**REMOVAL OF STUDENTS (CONTINUED)**

Per KRS 158.150, a student who is removed from the same classroom three (3) times within a thirty (30) day period shall be considered “chronically disruptive” and may be suspended from school and no other basis for suspension shall be deemed necessary.

At any time during the school year, for a student who has been removed from the classroom the Principal may require a review of the classroom issues with the teacher and the parent, guardian, or other person having legal custody or control of the student and determine a course of action for the teacher and student regarding the student's continued placement in the classroom.

At any time during the school year, the Principal may permanently remove a student from a classroom for the remainder of the school year if the Principal determines the student's continued placement in the classroom will chronically disrupt the education process for other students.

When a student is removed from a classroom temporarily or permanently, the Principal shall determine the placement of the student in lieu of that classroom, which may include but is not limited to:

- Another classroom in that school; or
- An alternative program or setting, which may be provided virtually, as approved by the Superintendent.

Any permanent action by the Principal shall be subject to an appeal process in accordance with Policy 09.4281/Grievances.

REPORT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

Per KRS 158.155, any school employee who knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a person has made threats or plans of violence which are intended to target a school or students or who knows that a firearm is present on school property in violation of KRS 527.070, shall immediately cause a report to be made to the District's law enforcement agency and either to the local law enforcement agency or to the Kentucky State Police.

Any school employee shall immediately report to the District's law enforcement agency and to either the local law enforcement agency or to the Kentucky State Police any act which the employee has a reasonable cause to believe has occurred on school property or at a school-sponsored or sanctioned event involving:

i. Intentional physical injury, or intentional attempt to cause physical injury, as defined in KRS 500.080, to any school employee;

h-j. Intentional Assault resulting in serious physical injury, as defined in KRS 500.080;

i-k. A sexual offense;

j-l. Kidnapping;

k-m. Assault with the use of a weapon;

l-n. Possession of a firearm or deadly weapon in violation of the law;

Assault and Threats of Violence**REPORT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

~~m.o.~~ _____ The use, possession, or sale of a controlled substance in violation of the law; or

~~m.p.~~ **Intentional or wanton** ~~D~~amage to property **causing a pecuniary loss of five hundred dollars (\$500) or more.**

Any school employee who receives information from a student or other person of conduct which is required to be reported shall report the conduct to the District's law enforcement agency and to either the local law enforcement agency or to the Kentucky State Police, **unless the school employee has cause to believe a student's disability interfered with his or her ability to conform to the Student Code of Conduct.**

A District that has created their own law enforcement agency shall designate a local law enforcement agency not created by the District to receive reporting information from the District's law enforcement agency. The District's law enforcement agency shall file a weekly report for the preceding week identifying all reports received under KRS 158.155.

DOMESTIC/DATING VIOLENCE REPORTING AND EDUCATION

Upon the request of a victim, school personnel shall report an act of domestic violence and abuse or dating violence and abuse to a law enforcement officer. School personnel shall discuss the report with the victim prior to contacting a law enforcement officer.

School personnel shall report to a law enforcement officer when s/he has a belief that the death of a victim with whom s/he has had a professional interaction is related to domestic violence and abuse or dating violence and abuse.

These reporting requirements covering domestic violence and abuse or dating violence and abuse do not relieve school personnel of the duty to report any known or suspected abuse, neglect, or dependency of a child pursuant to KRS 620.030. This separate reporting requirement covers abuse, neglect or dependency of a child committed or caused by a parent, guardian, other person exercising control or supervision, or a person in a position of authority or special trust.

If individual school personnel has reasonable cause to believe that a victim with whom s/he has had a professional interaction has experienced domestic violence and abuse or dating violence and abuse, s/he shall provide educational materials to the victim relating to such form(s) of abuse and including information on access to regional domestic violence programs or rape crisis centers and how to access protective orders. These materials shall be made available to school personnel in print form or on the web by the primary domestic violence, shelter, and advocacy service provider designated by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to serve the school District's area.

NOTIFICATIONS

As soon as the Superintendent/designee confirms that a serious threat has been confirmed, designated personnel shall attempt to notify staff members and/or students who have been threatened and parents of students who are the subject of a threat. Such notification shall observe and comply with confidentiality requirements of applicable law including, but not limited to, state and federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws.

Assault and Threats of Violence**NOTIFICATIONS (CONTINUED)**

Any District employee assigned to work directly with, or who comes in contact with, a student with a documented history of physical abuse of a school employee or of carrying a concealed weapon on school property or at a school function, shall be notified in writing of the student's history by the Principal or designee, guidance counselor or other official who has knowledge of the student's behavior prior to the assignment or contact.

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 158.150

²KRS 158.1559

KRS 158.155; KRS 160.290

KRS 161.155; KRS 161.190; KRS 161.195

KRS 209A.020; ~~KRS 209.160~~ **KRS 209A.045**

KRS 209A.100; KRS 209A.110; KRS 209A.130

KRS 211.160; KRS 403.720; KRS 456.010

KRS 508.025; KRS 508.075; KRS 508.078; KRS 525.080

KRS 527.070; KRS 532.060; KRS 534.030; KRS 620.030

702 KAR 5:080

RELATED POLICIES:

03.123; 03.13253; 03.223; 03.23253; 05.4; 05.48

06.34; 09.14; 09.2211; 09.422; 09.423; 09.426; 09.4281; 09.429; 09.4341

LEGAL: HB 48 (2025) AMENDED KRS 158.4416 REMOVING TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH PLAN FROM THE COMPREHENSIVE DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

STUDENTS

09.43

Student Disciplinary Processes

GOOD DISCIPLINE ESSENTIAL

Good pupil discipline is an essential to a good school program, and pupil self-discipline should be a primary aim. Without good discipline, school personnel cannot discharge their primary responsibility in the development of individual pupil potentials. Without good discipline, pupils will not realize their greatest potentials for growth.

MUTUAL TRUST AND RESPECT

Primary responsibility for classroom discipline shall rest with the teacher, and every teacher in the system should strive to maintain a classroom in which students are interested in learning and in which mutual trust and respect prevail.

USE OF OTHER PERSONNEL

Study of individual differences, conferences with student and parents, assistance from other teachers, the Principal, and support personnel should be used in helping a pupil improve behavior patterns which are retarding his/her own development or interfering with the rights of others.

SCHOOL-RELATED ACTIVITIES

The authority of the District in matters of student behavior is not limited to school buildings and grounds or to times when the pupil is on his/her way to or from school, but extends to any activity which is school-related or school-sponsored.

TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH PLAN

“Trauma-informed approach” means incorporating principles of trauma awareness and trauma-informed practices in a school in order to foster a safe, stable, and understanding learning environment for all students and staff and ensuring that all students are known well by at least one (1) adult in the school setting.

The Board shall develop a plan for implementing a trauma-informed approach in the District. The plan shall be based on the Trauma-Informed Toolkit from the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and include but not be limited to:

- a) strategies for enhancing trauma awareness throughout the school community;
- b) conducting an assessment of the school climate including but not limited to inclusiveness and respect for diversity;
- c) developing trauma-informed discipline policies;
- d) collaborating with the Department of Kentucky State Police, the local sheriff, and the local chief of police to create procedures for notification of trauma-exposed students; and
- e) providing services and programs designed to reduce the negative impact of trauma, support critical learning, and foster a positive and safe school environment for every student.²

The trauma-informed approach plan shall be reviewed and updated annually, ~~incorporated into the annual Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP) required by 703 KAR 5:225,~~ and submitted to the KDE.²

Student Disciplinary Processes

TREATMENT OF PUPILS

Student disciplinary measures should not be administered in a manner that is humiliating, degrading, or unduly severe or in a manner that would cause the pupil to lose status before his/her peer group. Teachers should guard against making remarks to other pupils concerning a student's shortcomings.

Unless an administrator or the Board acts under authority of KRS 158.150, no school, school administrator, teacher, or other school employee shall expel or punish a student based on juvenile court information received by the employee from any source. Administrators may act to protect staff and students when the student's conduct, as reflected by the information, indicates a substantial likelihood of an immediate and continuing threat of harm to students or staff. In cases where such actions are necessary, the following provisions shall apply:

1. Restrictions imposed on the student shall represent the least restrictive alternative available and appropriate to remedy the threat.
2. Supporting material shall be documented in and kept with the student's juvenile court record.
3. The student and/or parent/guardian may appeal actions taken to the Superintendent or to the Circuit Court with appropriate jurisdiction.¹

SERIOUS PROBLEMS

Serious disciplinary problems shall be promptly reported to the Principal and to the parent(s) of the student.

COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITY

Each school council shall select and implement discipline and classroom management techniques for the school. The council's discipline policies shall provide for involvement of parents in disciplinary situations involving their children.

In non-SBDM schools, the Principal shall make these decisions in compliance with Board policy.

REPORTING

Each school shall annually provide to the KDE, using the student information system, an assessment of school incidents relating to disruptive behaviors resulting in a criminal or juvenile status offense or public complaint, including whether:

1. The incident involved a public offense or noncriminal misconduct;
2. The incident was reported to law enforcement or the court-designated worker and the charge or type of noncriminal misconduct that was the basis of the referral or report; and
3. The report was initiated by a school resource officer.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES

Discipline for children and youth with disabilities shall observe, and be in conformity with, federal and state procedures and guidelines.

Student Disciplinary Processes

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 158.153
²KRS 158.4416
KRS 158.150; KRS 158.449
KRS 160.290; KRS 160.340; KRS 160.345
KRS 161.180; KRS 610.345
703 KAR 5:225
P. L. 105-17

RELATED POLICIES:

| ~~01.111~~; 08.14; 09.14; 09.429; 09.438

LEGAL: SB 101 AMENDS KRS 158.150 REQUIRING A BOARD TO EXPEL A STUDENT IN GRADES SIX (6) THROUGH TWELVE (12) FOR AT LEAST TWELVE (12) MONTHS IF THE STUDENT PHYSICALLY ASSAULTS, BATTERS, OR ABUSES SCHOOL PERSONNEL WITHOUT JUST CAUSE OR PROVOCATION ON SCHOOL PROPERTY OR AT A SCHOOL FUNCTION.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: POTENTIAL LOSS OF ADA FUNDING

STUDENTS

09.435

Expulsion

BOARD MAY EXPEL

The Board may expel or extend the expulsion of any student from the regular school setting for misconduct as defined by law. Provision of educational services will be required unless the Board determines, on the record and supported by clear and convincing evidence, that the expelled student posed a threat to the safety of other students or school staff and could not be placed in an appropriate alternative program or setting ~~state-funded agency program.~~¹

The Board shall require the expulsion from school for a period of at least twelve (12) months for a student who is determined by the Board:

1. Through clear and convincing evidence to have made threats that pose a danger to the well-being of students, faculty, or staff of the District;
2. To have brought a weapon ~~onto a school~~ property under its jurisdiction or a bus stop per Board Policy 05.48; or
3. Is in grade six (6) to twelve (12) and is determined by the Board to have recklessly, with a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument, or intentionally caused or attempted to cause physical injury to a District employee on school property or at a school function under the Board's jurisdiction. In considering the actions of a student a Board shall use the definitions of "dangerous instrument," "deadly weapon," and "physical injury" in KRS 500.080 and "intentionally" and "recklessly" in KRS 501.020.

School personnel does not include a student who is employed by the school or enrolled in any school-based apprenticeship program.

The Board may expel a student for longer than twelve (12) months.

Behavior that may be determined to pose a threat shall include, but not be limited to, the physical assault, battery, or abuse of school personnel or other students ~~others~~ on or off school property, including bus stops and school functions (and the incident is likely to substantially disrupt the educational process); the threat of physical force; being under the influence of drugs or alcohol; the use, possession, sale, or transfer of drug or alcohol; the carrying, possessing, or transfer of weapons or dangerous instruments; and any other behavior that may endanger the safety of others.

The Superintendent shall present to the Board for its approval options for providing or ensuring that educational services are provided to expelled students. Educational services provided shall not include transportation from the student's residence to, or returning from, an appropriate alternative program setting.

An expelled student shall not participate in any school-sponsored extracurricular or interscholastic activity while the student is expelled.

In lieu of expelling a student, or upon the expiration of a student's expulsion, the Superintendent may place a student into an alternative program or setting if the Superintendent determines placement of the student in his or her regular school setting is likely to substantially disrupt the educational process or constitutes a threat to the safety of other students or school staff.

Expulsion

HEARING AND RECORDS REQUIRED

Action to expel, extend the expulsion, or place in an alternative program or setting a student shall not be taken until the parent, guardian, or other person having legal custody or control of the student has had an opportunity for a hearing before the Board.¹ The special education and disciplinary records of IDEA eligible students shall be sent to the Board for review before the decision is made to expel.³ If applicable, a bus driver shall have the opportunity to be heard at any disciplinary hearing against a student relating, at least in part, to misconduct that occurred during the operator's transportation of the student or to misconduct by the student's parent or guardian.

Within thirty (30) days prior to the end of a student's expulsion, the Board shall review the details of the expulsion and current factors and circumstances, including if ending the expulsion will substantially disrupt the education process or constitute a threat to the safety of students or school staff, to determine if the expulsion shall be extended for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months. The expulsion review process shall be used prior to the end of each expulsion period until the Board ends the expulsion or the student is no longer subject to compulsory attendance under KRS 159.010.

BOARD DECISION FINAL

The Board may establish an appeals committee and delegate authority to hear appeals to the committee. Otherwise, the Board's decision shall be final.¹

Within five (5) days of a student being expelled the District shall enter the expulsion in the student's record within the student information system.

RETURN TO SCHOOL

An expelled student shall be allowed to return to school in accordance with KRS 158.150.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In cases which involve students with disabilities, procedures mandated by federal and state law for students with disabilities shall be followed. (Students with disabilities who are eligible for services under federal law may be expelled for behavior unrelated to their disabilities, as long as legally required procedural safeguards are followed. Educational services must continue for IDEA eligible students who are expelled.)^{1&3}

TRANSFER OF RECORDS

Records transferred to another school must reflect the charges and final action of an expulsion hearing if the student was expelled for homicide, assault, or an offense in violation of state law or school regulations governing weapons, alcohol or drugs. Records of a student facing an expulsion hearing on charges described above shall not be transferred until the expulsion hearing process is completed.²

Expulsion

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 158.150

²KRS 158.155

³20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); 707 Chapter 1;
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended

KRS 158.110, KRS 159.010

[KRS 527.070](#)

Honig v. Doe, 108 S.Ct. 592(1988); OAG 78-673

RELATED POLICIES:

05.48; 06.22; 06.34

09.12; 09.226; 09.2261; [09.3](#); 09.423; 09.425; 09.426; 09.43; 09.431; 09.434