

## **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

### **STAFF NOTE**

#### **Waiver:**

16 KAR 2:120. Request to Waive Emergency Certificate Requirements for Bardstown Independent Schools

#### **Action Question:**

Should the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approve Bardstown Independent's request to allow for a third issuance of an emergency certificate?

#### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, 16 KAR 2:120

#### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** 16 KAR 2:120, Section 2(3)(b) provides that "The emergency certificate shall be limited to two (2) issuances. A candidate may qualify for an additional issuance if: 1. The emergency certificate was issued after February 15 of a school year; or 2. The emergency certificate was issued for less than fifty (50) percent of the person's class schedule."

***Summary:*** Bardstown Independent Schools has been unsuccessful in finding qualified teachers for Spanish. The candidate has been unsuccessful in passing the World Language Spanish Praxis Test (5195) after multiple attempts but, per the district, "has demonstrated steady growth through each attempt." The district reports that the candidate, who successfully completed the Bardstown Teacher Intern Program, is a "proficient teacher" and a "highly effective resource," particularly for their English Learner population. The district also reports that it has provided two (2) high school Spanish teachers as mentors to the candidate and that, on her most recent Praxis attempt, the candidate was just two (2) points away from being "within -1 SEM of Kentucky's passing benchmark score." The district is hopeful "that an additional year of emergency certification will help her reach that passing test score" and, accordingly, is requesting that the EPSB waive the number of years an emergency certificate can be offered and issue a third emergency certificate for this candidate.

**Budget Impact:** There is no budgetary impact.

#### **Contact Person:**

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