

Andy Beshear
Governor



Jamie Link
Secretary, Education and
Labor Cabinet

Robin Fields Kinney
Interim Commissioner of Education

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Phone: (502) 564-3141 · www.education.ky.gov

January 10, 2024

Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations & Revenue
Jennifer Hays, Committee Staff Administrator
702 Capital Ave Frankfort, KY 40601

RE: EKSAFE Funds Report (December 2023)

Dear Co-Chairs Senator McDaniel and Representative Petrie:

HB 1 (2022 SS) establishes the East Kentucky State Aid Funds for Emergencies (EKSAFE) Fund to provide disaster relief for areas impacted by the July 2022 storms and flooding. Included in the appropriation is \$40M to the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) for impacted school districts. KDE is required to report to the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue beginning on September 10, 2022, and every month thereafter through July 10, 2024. The report will include the name of each school district receiving EKSAFE funds, the dollar amount of funds issued, a description of how the funds were used, and a list of all requests submitted. The list of submitted requests shall include the amount requested, any denials with the reason for denial, and if the award is more or less than requested, an explanation for the increase or decrease.

At this time, the KDE has not disbursed any funds from the KDE EKSAFE Fund. Districts continue to work with FEMA towards determinations on their claims.

If members of the Committee have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the email or phone number below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Ross".

Matthew T. Ross
Associate Commissioner
matt.ross@education.ky.gov
(502)564-1976

Cc: Chay Ritter
Karen Wirth
Brian Perry

