

1 AN ACT related to teacher professional development.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 156.095 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) The Kentucky Department of Education shall establish, direct, and maintain a  
5 statewide program of professional development to improve instruction in the public  
6 schools.

7 (2) Each local school district superintendent shall appoint a certified school employee  
8 to fulfill the role and responsibilities of a professional development coordinator who  
9 shall disseminate professional development information to schools and personnel.  
10 Upon request by a school council or any employees of the district, the coordinator  
11 shall provide technical assistance to the council or the personnel that may include  
12 assisting with needs assessments, analyzing school data, planning and evaluation  
13 assistance, organizing districtwide programs requested by school councils or groups  
14 of teachers, or other coordination activities.

15 (a) The manner of appointment, qualifications, and other duties of the  
16 professional development coordinator shall be established by Kentucky Board  
17 of Education through promulgation of administrative regulations.

18 (b) The local district professional development coordinator shall participate in the  
19 Kentucky Department of Education annual training program for local school  
20 district professional development coordinators. The training program may  
21 include, but not be limited to, the demonstration of various approaches to  
22 needs assessment and planning; strategies for implementing long-term,  
23 school-based professional development; strategies for strengthening teachers'  
24 roles in the planning, development, and evaluation of professional  
25 development; and demonstrations of model professional development  
26 programs. The training shall include information about teacher learning  
27 opportunities relating to the core content standards. The Kentucky Department

1 of Education shall regularly collect and distribute this information.

2 (3) The Kentucky Department of Education shall provide or facilitate optional,  
3 professional development programs for certified personnel throughout the  
4 Commonwealth that are based on the statewide needs of teachers, administrators,  
5 and other education personnel. Programs may include classified staff and parents  
6 when appropriate. Programs offered or facilitated by the department shall be at  
7 locations and times convenient to local school personnel and shall be made  
8 accessible through the use of technology when appropriate. They shall include  
9 programs that: address the goals for Kentucky schools as stated in KRS 158.6451,  
10 including reducing the achievement gaps as determined by an equity analysis of the  
11 disaggregated student performance data from the state assessment program  
12 developed under KRS 158.6453; engage educators in effective learning processes  
13 and foster collegiality and collaboration; and provide support for staff to incorporate  
14 newly acquired skills into their work through practicing the skills, gathering  
15 information about the results, and reflecting on their efforts. Professional  
16 development programs shall be made available to teachers based on their needs  
17 which shall include but not be limited to the following areas:

- 18 (a) Strategies to reduce the achievement gaps among various groups of students  
19 and to provide continuous progress;
- 20 (b) Curriculum content and methods of instruction for each content area,  
21 including differentiated instruction;
- 22 (c) School-based decision making;
- 23 (d) Assessment literacy;
- 24 (e) Integration of performance-based student assessment into daily classroom  
25 instruction;
- 26 (f) Nongraded primary programs;
- 27 (g) Research-based instructional practices;

- 1 (h) Instructional uses of technology;
- 2 (i) Curriculum design to serve the needs of students with diverse learning styles  
3 and skills and of students of diverse cultures;
- 4 (j) Instruction in reading, including phonics, phonemic awareness,  
5 comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary;
- 6 (k) Educational leadership; and
- 7 (l) Strategies to incorporate character education throughout the curriculum.
- 8 (4) The department shall assist school personnel in assessing the impact of professional  
9 development on their instructional practices and student learning.
- 10 (5) The department shall assist districts and school councils with the development of  
11 long-term school and district improvement plans that include multiple strategies for  
12 professional development based on the assessment of needs at the school level.
- 13 (a) Professional development strategies may include but are not limited to  
14 participation in subject matter academies, teacher networks, training institutes,  
15 workshops, seminars, and study groups; collegial planning; action research;  
16 mentoring programs; appropriate university courses; and other forms of  
17 professional development.
- 18 (b) In planning the use of the four (4) days for professional development under  
19 KRS 158.070, school councils and districts shall give priority to programs that  
20 increase teachers' understanding of curriculum content and methods of  
21 instruction appropriate for each content area based on individual school plans.  
22 The district may use up to one (1) day to provide district-wide training and  
23 training that is mandated by state or federal law. Only those employees  
24 identified in the mandate or affected by the mandate shall be required to attend  
25 the training.
- 26 (c) State funds allocated for professional development shall be used to support  
27 professional development initiatives that are consistent with local school

1 improvement and professional development plans and teachers' individual  
2 growth plans. The funds may be used throughout the year for all staff,  
3 including classified and certified staff and parents on school councils or  
4 committees. A portion of the funds allocated to each school council under  
5 KRS 160.345 may be used to prepare or enhance the teachers' knowledge and  
6 teaching practices related to the content and subject matter that are required  
7 for their specific classroom assignments.

8 (6) (a) By August 1, 2010, the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services  
9 shall post on its Web page suicide prevention awareness information, to  
10 include recognizing the warning signs of a suicide crisis. The Web page shall  
11 include information related to suicide prevention training opportunities  
12 offered by the cabinet or an agency recognized by the cabinet as a training  
13 provider.

14 (b) By September 15 of each year, every public school shall provide suicide  
15 prevention awareness information in person, by live streaming, or via a video  
16 recording to all students in grades six (6) through twelve (12). The  
17 information may be obtained from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services  
18 or from a commercially developed suicide prevention training program.

19 (c) 1. Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, and every year thereafter, a  
20 minimum of one (1) hour of high-quality suicide prevention training,  
21 including the recognition of signs and symptoms of possible mental  
22 illness, shall be required for all school district employees with job duties  
23 requiring direct contact with students in grades six (6) through twelve  
24 (12). The training shall be provided either in person, by live streaming,  
25 or via a video recording and may be included in the four (4) days of  
26 professional development under KRS 158.070.

27 2. When a staff member subject to the training under subparagraph 1. of

1           this paragraph is initially hired during a school year in which the training  
2           is not required, the local district shall provide suicide prevention  
3           materials to the staff member for review.

4           (d) The requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection shall apply to  
5           public charter schools as a health and safety requirement under KRS  
6           160.1592(1).

7       (7) (a) By November 1, 2019, and November 1 of each year thereafter, a minimum of  
8           one (1) hour of training on how to respond to an active shooter situation shall  
9           be required for all school district employees with job duties requiring direct  
10          contact with students. The training shall be provided either in person, by live  
11          streaming, or via a video recording prepared by the Kentucky Department of  
12          Criminal Justice Training in collaboration with the Kentucky Law  
13          Enforcement Council, the Kentucky Department of Education, and the Center  
14          for School Safety and may be included in the four (4) days of professional  
15          development under KRS 158.070.

16          (b) When a staff member subject to the training requirements of this subsection is  
17          initially hired after the training has been provided for the school year, the local  
18          district shall provide materials on how to respond to an active shooter  
19          situation.

20          (c) The requirements of this subsection shall also apply to public charter schools  
21          as a health and safety requirement under KRS 160.1592(1).

22       (8) (a) **Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, and every year thereafter, high-**  
23           **quality training on behavioral and mood disorders, anxiety, obsessive-**  
24           **compulsive disorder, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder shall be**  
25           **required for all certified employees. The training shall be provided either in**  
26           **person, by live streaming, or via a video recording and may be included in**  
27           **the four (4) days of professional development under KRS 158.070.**

1           **(b) The requirements of paragraph (a) of this subsection shall apply to public**  
2           **charter schools as a health and safety requirement under KRS 160.1592(1).**

3       **(9) (a)** The Kentucky Department of Education shall develop and maintain a list of  
4           approved comprehensive evidence-informed trainings on child abuse and  
5           neglect prevention, recognition, and reporting that encompass child physical,  
6           sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect.

7           (b) The trainings shall be Web-based or in-person and cover, at a minimum, the  
8           following topics:

- 9           1. Recognizing child physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect;
- 10          2. Reporting suspected child abuse and neglect in Kentucky as required by  
11           KRS 620.030 and the appropriate documentation;
- 12          3. Responding to the child; and
- 13          4. Understanding the response of child protective services.

14          (c) The trainings shall include a questionnaire or other basic assessment tool upon  
15           completion to document basic knowledge of training components.

16          (d) Each local board of education shall adopt one (1) or more trainings from the  
17           list approved by the Department of Education to be implemented by schools.

18          (e) All current school administrators, certified personnel, office staff,  
19           instructional assistants, and coaches and extracurricular sponsors who are  
20           employed by the school district shall complete the implemented training or  
21           trainings by January 31, 2017, and then every two (2) years after.

22          (f) All school administrators, certified personnel, office staff, instructional  
23           assistants, and coaches and extracurricular sponsors who are employed by the  
24           school district hired after January 31, 2017, shall complete the implemented  
25           training or trainings within ninety (90) days of being hired and then every two  
26           (2) years after.

27          (g) Every public school shall prominently display the statewide child abuse

1 hotline number administered by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services,  
2 and the National Human Trafficking Reporting Hotline number administered  
3 by the United States Department for Health and Human Services.

4 ~~(10)~~<sup>(9)</sup> The Department of Education shall establish an electronic consumer bulletin  
5 board that posts information regarding professional development providers and  
6 programs as a service to school district central office personnel, school councils,  
7 teachers, and administrators. Participation on the electronic consumer bulletin board  
8 shall be voluntary for professional development providers or vendors, but shall  
9 include all programs sponsored by the department. Participants shall provide the  
10 following information: program title; name of provider or vendor; qualifications of  
11 the presenters or instructors; objectives of the program; program length; services  
12 provided, including follow-up support; costs for participation and costs of materials;  
13 names of previous users of the program, addresses, and telephone numbers; and  
14 arrangements required. Posting information on the bulletin board by the department  
15 shall not be viewed as an endorsement of the quality of any specific provider or  
16 program.

17 ~~(11)~~<sup>(10)</sup> The Department of Education shall provide training to address the  
18 characteristics and instructional needs of students at risk of school failure and most  
19 likely to drop out of school. The training shall be developed to meet the specific  
20 needs of all certified and classified personnel depending on their relationship with  
21 these students. The training for instructional personnel shall be designed to provide  
22 and enhance skills of personnel to:

- 23 (a) Identify at-risk students early in elementary schools as well as at-risk and  
24 potential dropouts in the middle and high schools;
- 25 (b) Plan specific instructional strategies to teach at-risk students;
- 26 (c) Improve the academic achievement of students at risk of school failure by  
27 providing individualized and extra instructional support to increase

- 1            expectations for targeted students;
- 2            (d) Involve parents as partners in ways to help their children and to improve their
- 3            children's academic progress; and
- 4            (e) Significantly reduce the dropout rate of all students.
- 5            (12)~~(11)~~ The department shall establish teacher academies to the extent funding is
- 6            available in cooperation with postsecondary education institutions for elementary,
- 7            middle school, and high school faculty in core disciplines, utilizing facilities and
- 8            faculty from universities and colleges, local school districts, and other appropriate
- 9            agencies throughout the state. Priority for participation shall be given to those
- 10           teachers who are teaching core discipline courses for which they do not have a
- 11           major or minor or the equivalent. Participation of teachers shall be voluntary.
- 12           (13)~~(12)~~ The department shall annually provide to the oversight council established in
- 13           KRS 15A.063, the information received from local schools pursuant to KRS
- 14           158.449.