

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
STAFF NOTE

Action/Discussion Item:

Request for an alternative model of school-based decision making (SBDM) from Mount Sterling Elementary, Montgomery County School District

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 160.345(7)

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education approve the alternative SBDM model requested by Mount Sterling Elementary School?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. KRS 160.345 (7) allows a school that chooses to have school-based decision making but requests to be exempt from the administrative structure set forth in the statute to develop a model for implementing SBDM that includes, but is not limited to, a description of the membership, organization, duties and responsibilities of a school council. The school is required to submit the model through the local board of education to the commissioner of education and the Kentucky Board of Education, which shall have the final authority for approval. The application for approval of the model is required to show evidence that it has been developed by representatives of the parents, students, certified personnel, and the administrators of the school and that 2/3 of the faculty have agreed to the model.

The Mount Sterling Elementary School faculty voted on December 12, 2010 on the alternative model. Seventy-three percent voted in favor of the SBDM alternative model. The Montgomery County Board of Education chair signed a statement on January 24, 2011 supporting the alternative model. The school is requesting permission to add a classified member who would not have voting privileges to the council. As a school community, they feel strongly that classified staff members are a vital part of their success and that classified staff can contribute greatly to the decision making process as a member of the SBDM council.

No other changes in structure, authority or requirements are being requested.

Staff Recommendations(s) and Rationale(s):

Staff recommends approval of the request for an alternative model of school-based decision making from Mount Sterling Elementary School. Including a classified person in decisions about student achievement has been a successful practice of other councils across the Commonwealth. The alternative model requested by the Mount Sterling Elementary School is consistent with all requirements listed in 701 KAR 5:100, Guidelines for alternative models for school-based decision making.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

An effective council is critical to ensuring progress toward proficiency.

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Commissioner of Education

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