

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Review Item:

Update on Recommendations from the Transforming Education in Kentucky Task Force

History/Background:

Existing Policy. On February 21, 2011, the final report of the Transforming Education in Kentucky Task Force, *Breaking New Ground*, was released to the public. This task force was appointed by Governor Steven L. Beshear in October 2009 and worked over a period of 15 months studying Kentucky's education system in order to provide recommendations to the Governor for transforming the state's education system to meet the needs of 21st century students.

The report contains 35 recommendations “. . . that would serve as a blueprint for how schools throughout the Commonwealth can make prompt and significant gains in school readiness, student proficiency, the closing of persistent achievement gaps, graduation rates and college and career readiness and how elected leaders can develop a supportive state policy environment.” The executive summary of the report is attached (Attachment A).

Also, attached is a chart (Attachment B) prepared by Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) staff that lists each of the recommendations from the report along with columns showing the entities/persons responsible for implementation, specific tasks to be completed, the due date of the work and the KBE Strategic Plan Goal, if applicable. Commissioner Holliday will make comments about the chart as well as about the report itself.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

For Kentucky's education system to continue to make improvements and gains in achievement, consideration of ideas and initiatives from statewide task forces, such as the Transforming Education in Kentucky Task Force, must be given serious consideration by policy makers.

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Commissioner of Education

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