

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
STAFF NOTE**

Review Item:

Program Reviews – Study Session

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 158.6453

History/Background:

Existing Policy. In March 2009, Kentucky’s General Assembly passed Senate Bill 1. Passage of this bill established the implementation of a program review to be included as part of a new assessment and accountability model. At this time neither the accountability model nor the role program reviews will play has been finalized.

Program reviews provide evidence of access and opportunity to quality programs. Program reviews are tools to assist in continuous improvement across the school.

A “program review” is: *...a systematic method of analyzing components of an instructional program, including instructional practices, aligned and enacted curriculum, student work samples, formative and summative assessments, professional development and support services, and administrative support and monitoring (KRS 158.6453(1)(i)).*

At the December KBE meeting, staff updated the board on the purpose and design of program reviews. During the February KBE meeting, there was a discussion about adding a world language program review. The board indicated they are committed to pursuing a program review for world languages as a priority after the three program reviews mandated by SB 1 are in place. The KBE asked staff to come back to the KBE during the 2011-12 school year with recommendations.

Currently, in addition to adding a world language program review, staff recommends the addition of a primary program review. The recommended timeline for world language and primary program reviews development and implementation is found in Attachment A. The timeline for the world language program review implementation, along with previous capacity building in the state, provides a path to add world language proficiency to the graduation requirements in 2015.

Policy Questions:

1. Are there other program reviews the KBE wants to consider for inclusion?

2. Is the proposed timeline for developing, implementing and adding to accountability reasonable?
3. How should additional program reviews be weighted? Should they be weighted equally across the reviews or should weights for first three take into consideration the fact that others will be added?

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

Program Review, as an on-going, year-round, reflective process will provide support for strengthening the quality of instructional programs.

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