

HB 184 Passed and is effective July 15

KRS 160.345 has been revised to reflect the passing of HB 184 by the General Assembly earlier this year. This new law allows a “school district in a county with a consolidated local government” to use an “alternative principal selection process.” Because Jefferson County is the only consolidated local government in Kentucky, this law only applies to JCPS.

According to this new law, the SBDM will continue to conduct the screening and interviewing of principal candidates, but the changes include:

- The superintendent can call together the SBDM and move into closed session to recommend a candidate.
- The council can interview the recommended candidate while in closed session.
- At the end of the closed meeting, the council can decide in a public meeting, by majority vote of the council, whether to accept or reject the recommended candidate.

New Council Starting Points Principal Selection Guidance

With the new school year right around the corner, a new SBDM council should have already been elected for each school and the first meeting scheduled. At those initial meetings, there are some important documents to review to make sure the council runs efficiently. Every school council member should have copies of these basic documents governing the school’s work. These can be placed in a binder with room to add others as needed or on a thumb drive or cloud drive. The following items are a place to start:

- School council policies – Policies are the written guidelines and procedures for the school to follow. These policies are developed and adopted by the school council. Include with the policies a checklist of the required policy areas and the date in which they were last reviewed and/or revised. Policies need to be reviewed annually.
- School council bylaws – Bylaws are the operating procedures of the school council. These bylaws will help effectively and efficiently conduct meetings. Include with these bylaws the last date of review and/or revision. Bylaws need to be reviewed annually.
- Current School Improvement Plan – School Improvement Plans define the school’s goals for the future. The plan includes a needs assessment that points out the priority needs of the school. It lays out the strategies and activities that are addressing these priority needs including the staff’s professional learning requirements.
- Budget – Each spring, the school council is to approve the budget for the Section 6 instructional funds. The new school council will need to review this budget and may make amendments as necessary to meet the needs of the instructional staff.

Because of the addition of HB 184 to KRS 160.345, the principal selection training materials have been updated to include that law. Those documents can be found [here](#).

During the summer, principal vacancies are common. Principal selection training needs to be done with council members in any school that has a principal vacancy. Please feel free to use the guidance documents on our website to help you. Also, remember that principal selection training does not count toward SBDM training hours.



New Coordinator Webinar

KDE will be conducting a webinar for new SBDM coordinators at 10:30 a.m. ET Aug. 2. It should last about 1½ hours. The purpose of this webinar is to assist new SBDM district coordinators in reviewing and establishing effective SBDM councils within their school district. To register for the webinar, please email [Ashlie Cox](mailto:Ashlie.Cox@kde.edu).

Verification Database is Open

Once trainings are conducted for SBDM members, the training information and EILAs can be entered into the new database. This database is housed in the [KEPS web applications](#) and should be accessible with your KEPS username and password. If you do not have a KEPS login, please email [Windy Newton](mailto:Windy.Newton@kde.edu) and she will give you access.

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