



## Continuous improvement

We are currently in Phase III of the continuous improvement cycle. During this phase, the following reports should be completed in eProve:

- Executive Summary
- Development of Goals and Objectives
- Development of Strategies and Activities
- School/District Equitable Access
- Closing the Achievement Gap

The council's role with the continuous improvement process – as it specifically relates to the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) – is explicitly described in KRS 160.345 (h)(2)(j). As a reminder, CSIPs are due in eProve by Jan. 1. If your council has not already reviewed and/or approved the school's CSIP, please plan to do so at the council's December meeting.

## Civics test manual

When reviewing your council's curriculum policy, please remember that beginning in July 2018, a student must pass a civics test composed of 100 questions in order to graduate from high school with a diploma. The local board of education will be expected to prepare or approve an exam that includes questions from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services test. Your council will want to make sure it chooses a curriculum that covers this material.

A [Civics Test and Administration Manual](#) is available from the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to offer guidance to districts in preparation for the administration of the legislatively required exam. This document provides considerations for the administration, implementation, scoring and recording of results on the civics test. Additionally, this manual includes two complete 100-question sample versions of the test, both in short answer and multiple choice formats. Visit the [KDE civics test webpage](#) for more information or email [Lauren Gallicchio](#) with questions.

## Bible literacy standards

The passage of House Bill 128 (2017) called for the Kentucky Department of Education to create academic standards for elective social studies courses to include the following:

- Hebrew Scriptures and the Old Testament of the Bible;
- The New Testament of the Bible; and,
- Hebrew Scripture and the New Testament of the Bible.

Public feedback is currently being considered to refine the proposed standards. Make sure your councils are aware that Bible literacy standards are in the works and a curriculum will need to be selected for those elective social studies courses.

## New writing standards

The Kentucky Department of Education is currently composing new writing standards that will be available in fall 2018. Once these are released, councils will need to update their school's writing policy to reflect the changes. The SBDM consultants will also be revising their sample writing policy for councils to use as an example.

## Office of Next Generation Schools and Districts

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