

**REPORT FROM COMMISSIONER TERRY HOLLIDAY  
FOR  
NOVEMBER 6, 2009 COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION  
MEETING**

**Commissioner of Education's Items**

➤ ***GOVERNOR LAUNCHES TRANSFORMING EDUCATION IN KENTUCKY  
TASK FORCE***

In a move to re-energize the support of public schools that nearly 20 years ago sparked Kentucky to implement the nation's most comprehensive school reform, Gov. Steve Beshear has launched his new education initiative, Transforming Education in Kentucky (TEK).

Governor Beshear and I will co-chair the group. The members of the task force include education advocates, teachers, superintendents, legislators, business leaders and others who have been handpicked for their commitment to education and to Kentucky. Council on Postsecondary Education President Robert King was named as a member of the group.

The group will examine efforts under way in the state, such as the Common Core Standards Initiative; Graduate Kentucky; the Gates Foundation/SREB college and career readiness initiative; the Race to the Top competition; and the Governor's Task Force on Early Childhood Development and Education. The panel will recommend ways to channel all of these efforts into an integrated and comprehensive system of education in Kentucky.

In addition, the task force will explore career and technical education; expanded use of technology for learning; increased opportunities for students to earn college credit in high school; and other issues that affect student success. The goal is to formulate recommendations by the end of 2010, for consideration during the 2011 legislative session.

➤ ***WEBCASTS CONDUCTED TO SOLICIT FEEDBACK TO HELP SHAPE  
KENTUCKY'S RACE TO THE TOP APPLICATION***

I conducted three webcasts (one for superintendents, one for principals and one for teachers) on the Race to the Top application, common core standards and Senate Bill 1 implementation. I want all constituencies to be informed about the Kentucky Department of Education's work and have a chance to provide us with feedback as we finalize the Race to the Top application. In order to gather feedback, I included a link to a survey that can be completed online in each of the sessions.

I would also like to offer Council on Postsecondary Education members the opportunity to provide feedback on these issues. Thus, I am including the links to my webcast that I did for teachers below:

- video and audio: [mms://video1.education.ky.gov/On-Demand2009/Comm\\_Teacher\\_10-22-2009-video.wmv](mms://video1.education.ky.gov/On-Demand2009/Comm_Teacher_10-22-2009-video.wmv)
- downloadable audio podcast: [http://media.education.ky.gov/video1/On-Demand2009/Comm\\_Teacher\\_10-22-2009.mp3](http://media.education.ky.gov/video1/On-Demand2009/Comm_Teacher_10-22-2009.mp3)

Please complete the survey that is mentioned at the end of the webcast that can be found on the KDE Web site at: [www.education.ky.gov/FormServ/?ID=RTTTsurvey](http://www.education.ky.gov/FormServ/?ID=RTTTsurvey).

➤ ***SENATE BILL 1 STEERING COMMITTEE CONTINUES ITS WORK***

CPE President Robert King and I are co-chairs of the Senate Bill 1 Steering Committee that has been meeting over the last few months to get direct input from representatives of the legislature, superintendents and higher education officials on implementing the various elements of Senate Bill 1 (SB 1). This group is key to keeping the lines of communication open with the General Assembly as to the funding that will be required to carry out the educational system (P-20) as it was designed within SB 1.

We have two more meetings, one in November and the other in December, which will focus on the professional development needs that are crucial to enable successful implementation of what the legislature envisioned. Collaboration between the staffs of the Council on Postsecondary Education, the Kentucky Board of Education and the Education Professional Standards Board is essential and the agency heads of each are part of the SB 1 Steering Committee.

**October 7-8, 2009, Kentucky Board of Education Meeting, Frankfort, KY**

Highlights of the meeting were as follows:

➤ ***BOARD AUTHORIZES KDE TO SUBMIT BUDGET***

As part of the October meeting, the Kentucky Board of Education reviewed the department's proposal for configuring the 2010-2012 budget proposal that must be submitted to the Governor's Office of Policy and Management in November. The board was provided with descriptions of all line item programs. Due to tight economic times, Commissioner Holliday suggested that board members consider looking at programs according to three categories: programs recommended for discussion/possible redirection, programs recommended for continuation and programs recommended for expansion.

The commissioner emphasized that the department needs the authority to discuss with the General Assembly the possibility of redirecting dollars from some programs to address the expansion needs necessary to implement the requirements of Senate Bill 1 (testing, program reviews, standards and the associated professional development), expand preschool to students at the 200% of poverty level, fund the Individual Learning Plan, cover the costs of Infinite Campus and the Kentucky Education Network, complete the

statewide longitudinal data system required by Race to the Top, provide the required additional SEEK funding and support the virtual high school operational system. He also explained that many programs will be requested to continue at enacted FY10 funding levels.

The board agreed to approve the budget priorities as submitted by the department and authorize staff to submit the 2010-2012 budget proposal to GOPM by the deadline and continue discussions on budget priorities with the General Assembly during the upcoming session, in accordance with the points identified above.

For more information on the department's budget proposal, contact Hiren Desai at (502) 564-1976 or via e-mail at [Hiren.Desai@education.ky.gov](mailto:Hiren.Desai@education.ky.gov).

### ***DRAFT LEGISLATIVE AGENDA REVIEWED***

Items for possible inclusion in the state board's legislative agenda were reviewed at the October meeting with final approval not occurring until the December meeting. The following were discussed:

- Expand pre-K learning opportunities to 200% of poverty level for four-year-olds
- Modify pre-K fund distribution to base it on the average number of pre-K children served on December 1 and March 1 of the prior year without further adjustments
- Amend KRS 157.440 (Facilities Support Program of Kentucky) to increase the five-cent equivalent tax rate for facilities to ten cents. All districts should be required to levy ten cents. Those districts already levying ten cents or more are authorized to levy an additional five cents, but are not required to do so. All facility funding (except the growth levy) should become part of the FSPK program.
- Amend KRS 160.470 to permit a local board of education to levy a tax rate no lower than the rate set by the board in the previous year.
- Amend KRS 158.146(4) to remove priority in the awarding of dropout prevention grants to districts with chronically high dropout rates, remove the requirement to direct 75% of available funds to elementary and middle school students and 25% to high school students, and focus the grant program on supporting promising and proven practices that are systemic, scalable, and replicable, and aligned with the principles of secondary reform.
- Add chronic low student academic performance as a cause for removal of a superintendent or school board member (KRS 156.132).
- Raise the compulsory school age to 17 in 2010-2011 and 18 in 2011-2012.
- Address possible statutory changes to achieve improvement in student learning through classroom teaching, fairly and robustly assess teacher strengths and needs with multiple measures and provide the teacher, school and district with the resources for improvement.

For more information on the legislative agenda, contact Frank Rasche at (502) 564-4474 or via e-mail at [Frank.Rasche@education.ky.gov](mailto:Frank.Rasche@education.ky.gov).

### **703 KAR 5:060, INTERIM ASSESSMENT PROCESS REVIEWED**

The first review of 703 KAR 5:060, Interim Assessment Process, occurred at the October board meeting. The revision of this regulation is necessary due to Senate Bill 1's creation of a three-year interim assessment period (2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11), with a new assessment system scheduled to begin in 2011-12. Key provisions of the regulation include:

- KRS 158.6455 requires the Kentucky Board of Education to promulgate an administrative regulation to provide for an interim assessment process that ensures all student assessments, data collection and reporting necessary for compliance with the federal accountability and proficiency requirements under No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.
- Required assessments during the interim period are criterion referenced tests administered in reading (3-8 and 10), mathematics (3-8 and 11), science (4, 7 and 11), social studies (3, 8 and 11) and writing on-demand (5, 8 and 12); norm referenced test (3-7); readiness examinations (EXPLORE, PLAN and the ACT) and alternate assessments for the 1% of Kentucky's students with the most severe disabilities.
- Test windows during the interim period for the criterion and norm referenced tests will be established by the Kentucky Department of Education. Schools will develop a test schedule within the state-established window for a six-day administration of the criterion referenced test with four additional days allowed for make-up testing. Districts will choose one week before or after the criterion referenced test to administer the norm referenced test.
- The three steps of the transition plan for moving to the federally required cohort graduation model are detailed in Section 2.
- Section 3 emphasizes the public reporting of all state-required assessments and the inclusion of alternate assessment students in that reporting. Additionally, federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) shall identify Title I schools for federal assistance and non-Title I schools eligible for state assistance.
- Section 3 denotes the revised calculations for the other academic indicator at elementary and middle school and safe harbor.
- Assistance to be provided to schools that do not meet AYP is described in Section 6.

To view the actual draft regulation language, go to:

<http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Administrative+Resources/Kentucky+Board+of+Education/October+7+8+2009+Kentucky+Board+of+Education+Meeting+Agenda+and+Agenda+Book+Documents.htm> and scroll down to Item XII.C.

The regulation will come back to the board's December meeting to consider final approval of the proposed language.

For more information on 703 KAR 5:060, contact Ken Draut at (502) 564-2256 or via e-mail at [Ken.Draut@education.ky.gov](mailto:Ken.Draut@education.ky.gov).

**Next Meeting: December 9-10, 2009, Frankfort, KY**

# GOVERNOR STEVE BESHEAR

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### **Governor Steve Beshear's Communications Office**

## **Governor Beshear launches new education initiative**

**Press Release Date:** Monday, October 19, 2009

**Contact Information:** Jay Blanton  
Jill Midkiff  
502-564-2611

*TEK task force will be catalyst to reinvigorate public support for K-12 education*

LEXINGTON, Ky. – In a move to re-energize the support of public schools that nearly 20 years ago sparked Kentucky to implement the nation's most comprehensive school reform, Gov. Steve Beshear today launched his new education initiative, Transforming Education in Kentucky (TEK). The goal is to create a unified vision of what schools in the Commonwealth need to offer in order to better serve students today and tomorrow.

"Our world has changed dramatically since the reforms of 1990," said Gov. Beshear. "We must now turn our focus to the future and again to our schools to ensure that our strategies and programs are designed to meet the challenges of the 21st century."

To that end, Gov. Beshear appointed the TEK Task Force to help develop new strategies while reinvigorating public and business support for K-12 education in the Commonwealth.

The members of the task force include education advocates, teachers, superintendents, legislators, business leaders and others who have been handpicked for their commitment to education and to Kentucky.

The group will examine efforts currently underway in the state, such as the Common Core Standards Initiative, Graduate Kentucky, the Gates Foundation/SREB college and career readiness initiative, the Race to the Top competition and the Governor's Task Force on Early Childhood Development and Education. Against this backdrop of renewed energy and activity, the panel will recommend ways to channel all of these efforts into an integrated and comprehensive system of education in Kentucky.

In addition, the task force will explore career and technical education, expanded use of technology for learning, increased opportunities for students to earn college credit in high school and other issues that affect student success.

The goal is to formulate recommendations by the end of 2010, for consideration during the 2011 legislative session.

In an effort to build awareness of the initiative and to receive input from citizens statewide, Gov. Beshear is visiting 10 cities across the state for a series of press conferences and town hall forums. The Governor and the TEK Task Force will use this input as guidance for the work of Transforming Education in Kentucky.

"This effort seeks to build off the progress of the last 20 years in order to lay the foundation for the 20 years ahead," said Gov. Beshear. "Today, I'm calling on our state and our people to recommit ourselves to ensuring the future of our children."

Gov. Beshear and Kentucky Department of Education Commissioner Terry Holliday will serve as co-chairs of the task force.

Other members of the task force include:

- Sen. Ken Winters, R-1st District
- Sen. Jack Westwood, R-23rd District
- Sen. Tim Shaughnessy, D-19th District
- Rep. Leslie Combs, D-94th District;
- Rep. Jeffrey Hoover, R-83rd District;
- Rep. Carl Rollins, D-56th District;
- Helen Mountjoy, secretary, Education and Workforce Development Cabinet
- David Adkisson, president, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce;
- Sheldon Berman, superintendent, Jefferson County;
- Mary Ann Blankenship, executive director, Kentucky Education Association;
- Karen Cash, classroom teacher, Louisville;
- Margaret Cleveland, school board member, Woodford County;
- Sam Corbett, chair, Prichard Committee;
- Ben Cundiff, Cundiff Farms, Cadiz;
- Sharon Darling, president, National Center for Family Literacy;
- Betty Griffin, The Griffin Group, Frankfort;
- Tim Hanner, superintendent, Kenton County;
- Trichel House, classroom teacher, Russell;
- Nannette Johnson, superintendent, Hardin County;
- Eleanor Jordan, executive director, Kentucky Commission on Women;
- Robert King, president, Council on Postsecondary Education;
- Nana Lampton, American Life & Accident Insurance Company of Kentucky, Louisville;
- William Lovell, school board member, McLean County;
- Brent McKim, president, Jefferson County Teachers' Association;
- Bob Porter, mayor, City of Paintsville;
- Johnna Reeder, Duke Energy, Covington;
- Stu Silberman, superintendent, Fayette County;
- Stephen Trimble, superintendent, Johnson County; and
- Diane Whalen, mayor, City of Florence.

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