- 1 AN ACT relating to education.
- 2 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:
- 3 → Section 1. KRS 158.645 is amended to read as follows:
- 4 The General Assembly recognizes that public education involves shared responsibilities.
- 5 State government, local communities, parents, students, and school employees must work
- 6 together to create an efficient public school system to achieve excellence in education.
- 7 Parents and students must assist schools with efforts to assure student attendance,
- 8 preparation for school, and involvement in learning. The cooperation of all involved is
- 9 necessary to assure that desired outcomes are achieved. It is the intent of the General
- Assembly to create a system of public education which shall allow and assist all students
- 11 to acquire the following capacities:
- 12 (1) Literacy, including communication skills necessary to function in a complex and
- changing *world*[civilization];
- 14 (2) Knowledge to make <u>wise</u> economic, social, <u>career</u>, and political choices;
- 15 (3) Core values and qualities of good character to make moral and ethical decisions
- throughout his or her life;
- 17 (4) Understanding of our constitutional republic, the three (3) branches of
- 18 government, and how government impacts citizens, [governmental processes as
- 19 they affect] the community, the state, and the nation;
- 20 (5) Sufficient self-knowledge and knowledge of the student's own[his] mental and
- 21 physical wellness;
- 22 (6) Sufficient grounding in the arts to enable each student to appreciate the student's
- 23 <u>own[his or her]</u> cultural and historical heritage;
- 24 (7) Sufficient preparation to choose and pursue the student's [his] life's work
- 25 intelligently; and
- 26 (8) Skills to enable each student[him] to compete competitively[favorably] with
- students in other states.

1		→ Se	ection	2. KRS 158.6451 is amended to read as follows:
2	(1)	The	Gener	ral Assembly finds, declares, and establishes that:
3		(a)	Scho	ools shall expect a high level of <u>academic</u> achievement of all students:
4		(b)	Scho	ools shall develop their students' ability to:
5			1.	Use[basic] communication and mathematics skills for purposes and
6				situations they will encounter throughout their lives;
7			2.	Apply core concepts and principles from mathematics, the sciences, the
8				arts, the humanities, social studies, civics, and practical living studies to
9				situations they will encounter throughout their lives;
10			3.	Become self-sufficient individuals of good character exhibiting the
11				qualities of altruism, citizenship, courtesy, hard work, honesty, human
12				worth, justice, knowledge, patriotism, respect, responsibility, and self-
13				discipline;
14			4.	Become responsible members of a family, work group, or community,
15				including demonstrating effectiveness in community service;
16			5.	Think <u>critically</u> , <u>creatively</u> , <u>and independently to [and]</u> solve problems
17				in school situations and in a variety of situations they will encounter in
18				life;
19			6.	Connect and integrate experiences and new knowledge from all subject
20				matter fields with what they have previously learned and build on past
21				learning experiences to acquire new information through various media
22				sources; and
23			7.	Express their creative talents and interests in visual arts, music, dance,
24				and dramatic arts:[.]
25		(c)	Scho	ools shall increase their students' rate of school attendance:[.]
26		(d)	Scho	ools shall increase their students' graduation rates and reduce their
27			stude	ents' dropout and retention rates:[.]

I		(e)	Schools shall reduce physical and mental health barriers to learning; and [.]
2		(f)	Schools shall be measured on the proportion of students who make a
3			successful transition to work, post-secondary education, and [the]military
4			<u>service</u> .
5	(2)	The	Kentucky Board of Education shall disseminate to local school districts and
6		scho	ools a model curriculum framework which is directly tied to the goals,
7		outc	omes, and assessment strategies developed pursuant to this section and KRS
8		158.	645 and 158.6453. The framework shall provide direction to local districts and
9		scho	ools as they develop their curriculum. The framework shall identify teaching and
10		asse	ssment strategies, instructional material resources, ideas on how to incorporate
11		the	resources of the community, a directory of model teaching sites, alternative
12		way	s of using school time, and strategies to incorporate character education
13		thro	ughout the curriculum.
14		→ S	ection 3. KRS 156.010 is amended to read as follows:
15	(1)	The	commissioner of education shall be the chief executive of the Department of
16		Edu	cation. The commissioner shall be responsible for administering, structuring,
17		and	organizing the department and its services, including[,] but not limited to[,] the
18		follo	owing:
19		(a)	Technical assistance with curriculum design, school administration and
20			finance, computer and technology services, media services, community
21			education, <u>career and technical</u> [secondary vocational] education, <u>STEM</u>
22			education as defined in KRS 158.845, education for exceptional children, and
23			professional development;
24		(b)	Compensatory education;
25		(c)	Research and planning, which shall include, but not be limited to, a statewide

practices to be used in the public schools of the Commonwealth.

1		Appropriations for this purpose may be used within the department or for
2		contracting with other individuals, agencies, universities, laboratories, or
3		organizations;
4		(d) Kentucky School for the Blind and the Kentucky School for the Deaf;
5		(e) Performance and outcome assessments;
6		(f) Monitoring the management of school districts, including administration and
7		finance, implementation of state laws and regulations, and student
8		performance; and
9		(g) Implementing state laws and the policies promulgated thereunder by the
10		Kentucky Board of Education and the Education Professional Standards
11		Board.
12	(2)	The commissioner of education may delegate[to his assistants] any authority to act
13		on the commissioner's behalf[for him] in the supervision, inspection, and
14		administration of the schools to the extent <u>the commissioner</u> [he] has supervisory
15		and administrative control.
16	(3)	All employees of the Department of Education shall be reimbursed for necessary
17		traveling expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties, and no part
18		of the reimbursement shall be included in or accounted as a part of their salaries.
19	(4)	The State Department of Education, in the operation and management of its schools
20		and the programs at these schools, shall meet all required federal and state standards
21		relating to facilities and personnel qualifications; however, no license or license fee
22		shall be required for any school or program operated by the State Department of
23		Education.
24	(5)	The Department of Education shall be the sole state agency for the purpose of
25		developing and approving state plans required by state or federal laws and
26		regulations as prerequisites to receiving federal funds for elementary and secondary
27		education.

→ Section 4. KRS 160.345 is amended to read as follows:

2	(1)	For	For the purpose of this section:			
3		(a)	"Minority" means American Indian; Alaskan native; African-American;			
4			Hispanic, including persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, and Central or			
5			South American origin; Pacific islander; or other ethnic group			
6			underrepresented in the school;			
7		(b)	"School" means an elementary or secondary educational institution that is			
8			under the administrative control of a principal and is not a program or part of			
9			another school. The term "school" does not include district-operated schools			
10			that are:			
11			1. Exclusively vocational-technical, special education, or preschool			
12			programs;			
13			2. Instructional programs operated in institutions or schools outside of the			
14			district; or			
15			3. Alternative schools designed to provide services to at-risk populations			
16			with unique needs;			
17		(c)	"Teacher" means any person for whom certification is required as a basis of			
18			employment in the public schools of the state, with the exception of principals			
19			and assistant principals; and			
20		(d)	"Parent" means:			
21			1. A parent, stepparent, or foster parent of a student; or			
22			2. A person who has legal custody of a student pursuant to a court order			
23			and with whom the student resides.			
24	(2)	Eacl	n local board of education shall adopt a policy for implementing school-based			
25		deci	sion making in the district which shall include but not be limited to a			
26		desc	description of how the district's policies, including those developed pursuant to			
27		KRS	3 160.340, have been amended to allow the professional staff members of a			

school to be involved in the decision-making process as they work to meet educational goals established in KRS 158.645 and 158.6451. The policy may include a requirement that each school council make an annual report at a public meeting of the board describing the school's progress in meeting the educational goals set forth in KRS 158.6451 and district goals established by the board. The policy shall also address and comply with the following:

- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b)2. of this subsection, each participating school shall form a school council composed of two (2) parents, three (3) teachers, and the principal or administrator. The membership of the council may be increased, but it may only be increased proportionately. A parent representative on the council shall not be an employee or a relative of an employee of the school in which that parent serves, nor shall the parent representative be an employee or a relative of an employee in the district administrative offices. A parent representative shall not be a local board member or a board member's spouse. None of the members shall have a conflict of interest pursuant to KRS Chapter 45A, except the salary paid to district employees;
- (b) 1. The teacher representatives shall be elected for one (1) year terms by a majority of the teachers. A teacher elected to a school council shall not be involuntarily transferred during the teacher representative's [his or her] term of office. The parent representatives shall be elected for one (1) year terms. The parent members shall be elected by the parents of students preregistered to attend the school during the term of office in an election conducted by the parent and teacher organization of the school or, if none exists, the largest organization of parents formed for this purpose. Council elections may allow voting to occur over multiple days and via electronic means. A school council, once elected, may adopt a

1 policy setting different terms of office for parent and teacher members subsequently elected. The principal shall be the chair of the school 2 council. 3 2. School councils in schools having eight percent (8%) or more minority 4 students enrolled, as determined by the enrollment on the preceding 5 6 October 1, shall have at least one (1) minority member. If the council 7 formed under paragraph (a) of this subsection does not have a minority 8 member, the principal, in a timely manner, shall be responsible for 9 carrying out the following: 10 Organizing a special election to elect an additional member. The a. 11 principal shall call for nominations and shall notify the parents of 12 the students of the date, time, and location of the election to elect a minority parent to the council by ballot; and 13 14 b. Allowing the teachers in the building to select one (1) minority 15 teacher to serve as a teacher member on the council. If there are no 16 minority teachers who are members of the faculty, an additional teacher member shall be elected by a majority of all teachers. 17 18 Term limitations shall not apply for a minority teacher member 19 who is the only minority on faculty; 20 (c) 1. The school council shall have the responsibility to set school policy that 21 shall be consistent with district board policy and which shall provide an 22 environment to enhance the students' achievement and help the school 23 meet the goals established by KRS 158.645 and 158.6451 and goals for 24 the district established by the board. The principal shall be the primary 25 administrator and the instructional leader of the school, and with the 26 assistance of the total school staff shall administer the policies

established by the school council and the local board.

2. If a school council establishes committees, it shall adopt a policy to facilitate the participation of interested persons, including, but not limited to, classified employees and parents. The policy shall include the number of committees, their jurisdiction, composition, and the process for membership selection;

- (d) The school council and each of its committees shall determine the frequency of and agenda for their meetings. Matters relating to formation of school councils that are not provided for by this section shall be addressed by local board policy;
- (e) The meetings of the school council shall be open to the public and all interested persons may attend. However, the exceptions to open meetings provided in KRS 61.810 shall apply;
- (f) After receiving notification of the funds available for the school from the local board, the school council shall determine, within the parameters of the total available funds, the number of persons to be employed in each job classification at the school. The council may make personnel decisions on vacancies occurring after the school council is formed but shall not have the authority to recommend transfers or dismissals;
- (g) The local superintendent shall determine which curriculum, textbooks, instructional materials, and student support services shall be provided in the school after consulting with the local board of education, the school principal, and the school council and after a reasonable review and response period for stakeholders in accordance with local board of education policy. Subject to available resources, the local board shall allocate an appropriation to each school that is adequate to meet the school's needs related to instructional materials and school-based student support services, as determined by the school principal after consultation with the school council. The school council

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1		shall consult with the school media librarian on the maintenance of the school
2		library media center, including the purchase of instructional materials,
3		information technology, and equipment;
4	(h)	Personnel decisions at the school level shall be as follows:
5		1. From a list of qualified applicants submitted by the local superintendent,

- the principal at the participating school shall select personnel to fill vacancies, after consultation with the school council, consistent with paragraph (i)11. of this subsection. The superintendent shall provide additional applicants to the principal upon request when qualified applicants are available. The superintendent may forward to the school principal the names of qualified applicants who have pending certification from the Education Professional Standards Board based on recent completion of preparation requirements, out-of-state preparation, or alternative routes to certification pursuant to KRS 161.028 and 161.048. Requests for transfer shall conform to any employer-employee bargained contract which is in effect;
- 2. If the vacancy to be filled is the position of principal:
 - a. The superintendent shall fill the vacancy after consultation with the school council consistent with paragraph (i)11. of this subsection;
 - Prior to consultation with the school council, each member shall sign a nondisclosure agreement forbidding the disclosure of information shared and discussions held during consultation;
 - c. A person who believes a violation of the nondisclosure agreement referred to in subdivision b. of this subparagraph has occurred may file a written complaint with the Kentucky Board of Education; and

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1		d.	A school council member found to have violated the nondisclosure
2			agreement referred to in subdivision b. of this subparagraph may
3			be subject to removal from the school council by the Kentucky
4			Board of Education under subsection (9)(e) of this section;
5	3.	Not	withstanding subparagraph 2. of this paragraph, if the vacancy to be
6		fille	d is the position of principal in a county school district in a county
7		with	a consolidated local government adopted under KRS Chapter 67C,
8		then	:
9		a.	The outgoing principal shall not serve on the council during the
10			principal selection process. The superintendent or the
11			superintendent's designee shall serve as the chair of the council for
12			the purpose of the hiring process and shall have voting rights
13			during the selection process;
14		b.	The council shall have access to the applications of all persons
15			certified for the position. The principal shall be elected on a
16			majority vote of the membership of the council. The school
17			council shall receive training in recruitment and interviewing
18			techniques prior to carrying out the process of selecting a
19			principal. The council shall select the trainer to deliver the
20			training; and
21		c.	Notwithstanding the requirement that a principal be elected by a
22			majority vote of the council, the selection of a principal shall be
23			subject to approval by the superintendent. If the superintendent
24			does not approve the principal selected by the council, then the
25			superintendent may select the principal;
26	4.	No 1	principal who has been previously removed from a position in the

district for cause may be considered for appointment as principal in that

1			district;
2		5.	Personnel decisions made at the school level under the authority of
3			subparagraph 1. of this paragraph shall be binding on the superintendent
4			who completes the hiring process;
5		6.	Applicants subsequently employed shall provide evidence that they are
6			certified prior to assuming the duties of a position in accordance with
7			KRS 161.020; and
8		7.	Notwithstanding other provisions of this paragraph, if the applicant is
9			the spouse of the superintendent and the applicant meets the service
10			requirements of KRS 160.380(3)(a), the applicant shall only be
11			employed upon the recommendation of the principal and the approval of
12			a majority vote of the school council;
13	(i)	The	school council shall adopt a policy that shall be consistent with local
14		boar	ed policy and shall be implemented by the principal in the following
15		addi	tional areas:
16		1.	Curriculum responsibilities under KRS 158.6453(19);
17		2.	Assignment of all instructional and noninstructional staff time;
18		3.	Assignment of students to classes and programs within the school;
19		4.	Determination of the schedule of the school day and week, subject to the
20			beginning and ending times of the school day and school calendar year
21			as established by the local board;
22		5.	Determination of use of school space during the school day related to
23			improving classroom teaching and learning;
24		6.	Planning and resolution of issues regarding instructional practices;
25		7.	Selection and implementation of discipline and classroom management
26			techniques as a part of a comprehensive school safety plan, including
27			responsibilities of the student, parent, teacher, counselor, and principal;

8. Selection of extracurricular programs and determination of policies relating to student participation based on academic qualifications and attendance requirements, program evaluation, and supervision;

- 9. Adoption of an emergency plan as required in KRS 158.162;
- Procedures, consistent with local school board policy, for determining alignment with state standards, technology utilization, and program appraisal; and
- 11. Procedures to assist the council with consultation in the selection of the principal by the superintendent, and the selection of personnel by the principal, including but not limited to meetings, timelines, interviews, review of written applications, and review of references. Procedures shall address situations in which members of the council are not available for consultation; and

student assessments required under KRS 158.6453. The data shall include but not be limited to information on performance levels of all students tested, and information on the performance of students disaggregated by race, gender, disability, and participation in the federal free and reduced price lunch program. After completing the review of data, each school council, with the involvement of parents, faculty, and staff, shall develop and adopt a plan to ensure that each student makes progress toward meeting the goals set forth in KRS 158.645 and 158.6451(1)(b) by April 1 of each year and submit the plan to the superintendent and local board of education for review as described in KRS 160.340. The Kentucky Department of Education shall provide each school council the data needed to complete the review required by this paragraph no later than October 1 of each year. If a school does not have a council, the review shall be completed by the principal with the involvement

of parents, faculty, and staff.

2	(3)	The	The policies adopted by the local board to implement school-based decision making		
3		shal	shall also address the following:		
4		(a)	School budget and administration, including: discretionary funds; activity and		
5			other school funds; funds for maintenance, supplies, and equipment; and		
6			procedures for authorizing reimbursement for training and other expenses;		
7		(b)	Assessment of individual student progress, including testing and reporting of		
8			student progress to students, parents, the school district, the community, and		
9			the state;		
10		(c)	School improvement plans, including the form and function of strategic		
11			planning and its relationship to district planning, as well as the school safety		
12			plan and requests for funding from the Center for School Safety under KRS		
13			158.446;		
14		(d)	Professional development plans developed pursuant to KRS 156.095;		
15		(e)	Parent, citizen, and community participation including the relationship of the		
16			council with other groups;		
17		(f)	Cooperation and collaboration within the district, with other districts, and with		
18			other public and private agencies;		
19		(g)	Requirements for waiver of district policies;		
20		(h)	Requirements for record keeping by the school council; and		
21		(i)	A process for appealing a decision made by a school council.		
22	(4)	In a	ddition to the authority granted to the school council in this section, the local		
23		boar	ed may grant to the school council any other authority permitted by law. The		
24		boar	rd shall make available liability insurance coverage for the protection of all		
25		men	nbers of the school council from liability arising in the course of pursuing their		
26		duti	es as members of the council.		
27	(5)	All	schools shall implement school-based decision making in accordance with this		

section and with the policy adopted by the local board pursuant to this section. Upon favorable vote of a majority of the faculty at the school and a majority of at least twenty-five (25) voting parents of students enrolled in the school, a school meeting its goal as determined by the Department of Education pursuant to KRS 158.6455 may apply to the Kentucky Board of Education for exemption from the requirement to implement school-based decision making, and the state board shall grant the exemption. The voting by the parents on the matter of exemption from implementing school-based decision making shall be in an election conducted by the parent and teacher organization of the school or, if none exists, the largest organization of parents formed for this purpose. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a local school district shall not be required to implement school-based decision making if the local school district contains only one (1) school.

The Department of Education shall provide professional development activities to assist schools in implementing school-based decision making. School council members elected for the first time shall complete a minimum of six (6) clock hours of training in the process of school-based decision making, no later than thirty (30) days after the beginning of the service year for which they are elected to serve. School council members who have served on a school council at least one (1) year shall complete a minimum of three (3) clock hours of training in the process of school-based decision making no later than one hundred twenty (120) days after the beginning of the service year for which they are elected to serve. Experienced members may participate in the training for new members to fulfill their training requirement. School council training required under this subsection shall be conducted by trainers endorsed by the Department of Education. By November 1 of each year, the principal through the local superintendent shall forward to the Department of Education the names and addresses of each council member and verify that the required training has been completed. School council members

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elected to fill a vacancy shall complete the applicable training within thirty (30) days of their election.

- A school that chooses to have school-based decision making but would like to be exempt from the administrative structure set forth by this section may develop a model for implementing school-based decision making, including but not limited to a description of the membership, organization, duties, and responsibilities of a school council. The school shall submit the model through the local board of education to the commissioner of education and the Kentucky Board of Education, which shall have final authority for approval. The application for approval of the model shall show evidence that it has been developed by representatives of the parents, students, certified personnel, and the administrators of the school and that two-thirds (2/3) of the faculty have agreed to the model.
- (8) The Kentucky Board of Education, upon recommendation of the commissioner of education, shall adopt by administrative regulation a formula by which school district funds shall be allocated to each school council. Included in the school council formula shall be an allocation for professional development that is at least sixty-five percent (65%) of the district's per pupil state allocation for professional development for each student in average daily attendance in the school. The school council shall plan professional development in compliance with requirements specified in KRS 156.095, except as provided in KRS 158.649. School councils of small schools shall be encouraged to work with other school councils to maximize professional development opportunities.
 - (a) No board member, superintendent of schools, district employee, or member of a school council shall intentionally engage in a pattern of practice which is detrimental to the successful implementation of or circumvents the intent of school-based decision making to allow the professional staff members of a school and parents to be involved in the decision making process in working

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toward meeting the educational goals established in KRS 158.645 and 158.6451 or to make decisions in areas of policy assigned to a school council pursuant to paragraph (i) of subsection (2) of this section.

- (b) An affected party who believes a violation of this subsection has occurred may file a written complaint with the Office of Education Accountability. The office shall investigate the complaint and resolve the conflict, if possible, or forward the matter to the Kentucky Board of Education.
- (c) The Kentucky Board of Education shall conduct a hearing in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B for complaints referred by the Office of Education Accountability.
- (d) If the state board determines a violation has occurred, the party shall be subject to reprimand. A second violation of this subsection may be grounds for removing a superintendent or a member of a school council from office or grounds for dismissal of an employee for misconduct in office or willful neglect of duty.
- (e) Notwithstanding paragraph (d) of this subsection and KRS 7.410(2)(c), if the state board determines a violation of the nondisclosure agreement required by subsection (2)(h)2.b. of this section by a school council member has occurred, the state board shall remove the member from the school council, and the member shall be permanently prohibited from serving on any school council in the district.
- (10) Notwithstanding subsections (1) to (9) of this section, a school's right to establish or maintain a school-based decision making council and the powers, duties, and authority granted to a school council may be rescinded or the school council's role may be advisory if the commissioner of education or the Kentucky Board of Education takes action under KRS 160.346.
- (11) Each school council of a school containing grades K-5 or any combination thereof,

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or if there is no school council, the principal, shall develop and implement a wellness policy that includes moderate to vigorous physical activity each day and encourages healthy choices among students. The policy may permit physical activity to be considered part of the instructional day, not to exceed thirty (30) minutes per day, or one hundred and fifty (150) minutes per week. Each school council, or if there is no school council, the principal, shall adopt an assessment tool to determine each child's level of physical activity on an annual basis. The council or principal may utilize an existing assessment program. The Kentucky Department of Education shall make available a list of available resources to carry out the provisions of this subsection. The department shall report to the Legislative Research Commission no later than November 1 of each year on how the schools are providing physical activity under this subsection and on the types of physical activity being provided.] The policy developed by the school council or principal shall comply with provisions required by federal law, state law, or local board policy.

- → Section 5. KRS 157.065 is amended to read as follows:
- 17 Any school that does not offer a school breakfast program shall submit an annual (1) 18 report no later than September 15 to the Kentucky Board of Education indicating 19 the reasons for not offering the program. The report shall include the number of 20 children enrolled at the school and the number of children who are eligible for free 21 or reduced priced meals under the federal program.
- 22 The state board shall inform the school of the value of the school breakfast (2) 23 program, its favorable effects on student attendance and performance, and the 24 availability of funds to implement the program.
- (3) The commissioner of education shall submit an annual report no later than 26 December 1 to the Interim Joint Committee on Education regarding the status of the school breakfast program including, but not limited to, information describing the

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1	schools that do not offer the program, the reasons given by the schools for not
2	offering the program, the number of children enrolled in each school, the number of
3	children in each school who are eligible for free or reduced priced meals under the
4	federal program, and the action taken by the state board to encourage schools to
5	implement the program.]
6	→ Section 6. KRS 424.250 is amended to read as follows:
7	At the same time that copies of the budget of a school district are filed with the clerk of
8	the tax levying authority for the district, as provided in KRS 160.470, the board of
9	education of the district shall cause the budget to be advertised for the district by
10	publishing a copy of the budget in a newspaper and on the district's website.
11	→ Section 7. The following KRS sections are repealed:
12	157.061 Annual audits of school districts.
13	158.856 Annual assessment and evaluation of school nutrition in district Special
14	board meeting and public forum to discuss nutrition and physical activity in the
15	schools School district to prepare and submit findings and recommendations to
16	Board of Education.