KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Consent Item:

District facility plan amendments: Jackson County and Owensboro Independent

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

702 KAR 1:001

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the proposed amendments to the current District Facility Plans for the above listed Kentucky school districts?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. KRS 157.420 - requires that the capital outlay and Facilities Support Program of Kentucky (Building Fund) allotment from the public school funds be used by school districts for capital construction projects defined by the district's long range facility plan (702 KAR 1:001).

KRS 157.620 - requires each school district to establish unmet facility needs (equal the sum of all capital construction priorities from the district facility plan less local available revenue) to participate in the School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC) Offer of Assistance.

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) shall approve all District Facility Plans submitted by the local school district upon recommendation of the Commissioner of Education. The amendment hearing reports are attached.

We have also reviewed the non-resident agreements and the number of "out of district" students in each school district affected. (This information is enclosed under separate cover.)

Staff Recommendation & Rationale:

Staff recommends the KBE approve the proposed amendments to the District Facility Plans for Jackson County and Owensboro Independent. The plans were developed in accordance with 702 KAR 1:001. The Division of Facilities Management staff certify that all requested actions are justified, meet the intent to provide upgraded facilities, and are in accordance with all applicable statutes and regulations.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

In Standard 4 of the Standards and Indicators for School Improvement it is noted that the school's physical environment has an impact on student achievement. Research also indicates

that better facilities enhance equity (equal opportunities for all students), attitudes and retention of staff, and parental involvement.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

A public forum and a local public hearing were held in the two school districts.

Jackson County

The Local Planning Committee (LPC) voted 12-0 and (1 abstention in favor) to approve the proposed amended plan. The Board voted 5 – 0 to approve the amendment.
No public comments were noted at the scheduled local State Board public hearing.

Owensboro Independent

The Local Planning Committee (LPC) voted unanimously (17-0) in favor of the proposed amended plan and the Board voted 4-0 to approve the amendment. Public comments noted at the scheduled local State Board public hearing are outlined in the Hearing Report.

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Deputy Commissioner

Interim Commissioner of Education

Date:

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