



West Virginia Department of Education Innovation Zone and Drop-Out Prevention Grant

Section 1- Applicant Information

Name of entity applying: Kanawha County Schools
County: Kanawha
Principal/Superintendent: Ronald Duerring, Ed.D., Superintendent
Contact Name & Title: J. Robert Calhoun, Director of Elementary Education
Phone: (304) 348-1344
Email: jcalhoun@kcs.kana.k12.wv.us

Number of students served/affected by plan: 160
 Number of teachers involved/affected by plan: 161
 Number of service personnel involved/affected by plan: dependent on participating students' representative schools, 1 Elementary Alternative Education Program Aide

Please place a check beside the appropriate entity(ies) applying for innovation zone designation

- School
- Department or Subdivision of School
- Coalition of Schools (fill out multiple listings below)
- Higher Education Institution (*must check another entity)
- Feeder System of Schools
- District Application

Please place a check beside the appropriate grant for which you are applying

- Innovation Zone Grant
- Drop-Out Prevention Grant

LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS - Identify the school or consortium's leadership team.		
Name	Title	Signature
J. Robert Calhoun	KCS - Director of Elementary Education	
Brenda Isaac	KCS - Lead School Nurse	
Joseph Godish	KCS – Deputy Superintendent	
Sandy Boggs	KCS – Exceptional Students Director	
Eddie Ivy	KCS – Social Services Lead Attendance Director	
Bill Mullett	KCS – Counseling/Testing Lead Counselor	
Rev. Matthew Watts	HOPE Community Dev. Corp. - Executive Director	
Robert Hansen	Prestera Center - Executive Director	
Joumana Elkhansa	Prestera Center – Director Children’s Services, East	
Jenni Durham	Prestera Center – School-Based Clinical Supervisor	
Elizabeth Willard	KCS – Elementary Education Psychologist	

- Record of Commitment from Staff, Parent, and LSIC Council (Appendix)
- Local Educational Agency Report of Support or Concerns (Appendix)
- Multiple Community Partner Records of Commitment for Dropout Grants (Appendix)

Section 2- Abstract and Waiver Requests

Provide a project summary that briefly describes the project's vision, goals, activities, and key features for student success that will be addressed. Please limit the length of the abstract to the text box found on this page only.

In 2010-2011, Kanawha County Schools had a drop-out rate of 3.3% representing 400 students. Four other West Virginia counties had higher drop-out rates, but the number of students in these four counties combined represents only 218 students in the same year. Research demonstrates that students who are suspended are at increased risk of dropping out of school. From 2000-2011, Kanawha County Schools saw a 1,350% increase in the number of days that elementary students are being suspended or expelled. In 2011, there were 2,896 WVEIS Discipline Reports from the 44 Elementary Schools in Kanawha County.

The vision of the Kanawha County Schools Elementary Alternative Education project is that all elementary school students will have healthy social/emotional development leading to academic success. The goal of the project is to enhance healthy social/emotional development, learning and academic success of Kanawha County Schools' at-risk elementary school-age students. Kanawha County Schools, Pretera Center for Mental Health Services and HOPE Community and Family Development Corporation have outlined the following objectives for the Elementary Alternative Education project:

- Formalize the Elementary Alternative Education six-week program to serve a total of 160 students who have been suspended, expelled or have multiple violations of school policies and rules
- Meet the academic needs of participating students through a blended curriculum of online programs, webcam in the regular classroom and two days a week of individualized face-to-face instruction
- Meet the social/emotional needs and increase appropriate behavior of students through psychological assessment and evaluation, individual/group therapy and supportive intervention
- Provide mentors/tutors match for students for extra tutoring and connection to social activities in the community
- Provide counseling and linkage to needed services to participating students' families
- Provide follow-up support for students returning to their regular classroom

This project aligns with goals and objectives in the Kanawha County Schools five-year strategic plan and is designed to support students with school behavior risk factors for dropout of misbehavior and early aggression. The project is built on six of the fifteen effective strategies to address dropout prevention that have been identified by the National Dropout Prevention Center/Network.

The Innovation Zone funding request for FY12 is \$90,855, which will be used for start-up costs. In FY13 and FY14, the funding request is \$99,957, primarily for contracts with Community Partner Agencies. The FY13 and FY14 match is \$108,833 for Kanawha County Schools staff assigned to the project. Other in-kind contributions not included in the budget are all the Leadership Team members' time devoted to at least quarterly meetings. Kanawha County Schools and the Leadership Team commits to evaluating the project by monitoring student outcomes in academics, social/emotional well-being and family participation.

Waiver Requests

Indicate the specific type(s) of policy or code that prohibit or constrain the design that you wish to request a waiver from:

- ___ Specific waiver requested of county policy
- ✓ Specific waiver requested of WVBOE policy
- ___ Specific waiver requested of WV code/statute

WV Code Waiver Request (Specify section and article)	WVBOE Policy Waiver Request (specify section and article)	Impact of the waiver – What will the waiver enable the school to do differently?
	Policy 2510	Allow us to alter the school day to offer psychological services for our students.

Section 3- Vision and Needs Assessment

Creative Vision for the Project

1. What is the vision for the purpose and outcome of this project?

The vision of the Kanawha County Schools Elementary Alternative Education project is that all elementary school students will have healthy social/emotional development leading to academic success. The purpose of the project objectives is to provide interventions to at-risk elementary students who have been expelled, suspended or have multiple violations of school policies and rules. To achieve the vision, the project will provide 160 students a structured program with interventions in three areas: 1) academic needs, 2) social/emotional needs and behavior, and 3) family intervention and support.

All 44 Kanawha County Schools' elementary schools may refer students for inclusion in this program. A student can be recommended for the project by the individual schools' Student Assistance Team (SAT) and/or the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) Team after identifying the needs of the student, interventions that have been implemented and the outcomes of these interventions. The placement of the student will be the decision of the Director of Elementary Education, the Elementary Education Psychologist and the Principal of the requesting school.

The Elementary Alternative Education project will serve eight students per six-week program with two sessions being operated simultaneously. (16 students per simultaneous sessions offered 5 times in FY13 and 5 times in FY2014 - 16 students x 10 sessions = 160 students) In FY 2013, the program will be offered at one of the elementary schools in Charleston's west side, until the completed construction of Edgewood Elementary School in FY 2014. Students participating in the Elementary Alternative Education program will have access to Kanawha County Schools' transportation services, School Nurses, School Social Workers and School Counselors.

Academic Needs

Two days a week will be focused on academics using a blended curriculum of online programs, web-cam in the student's regular classroom and face-to-face instruction. The online programs currently used in Kanawha County Schools include: Acuity, Pearson Success.Net, Reading Assistant, Scholastic Math Intervention, Scholastic Reading Intervention and Achieve 3000. Students will be on web cam with their regular classroom and have a face-to-face Elementary Alternative Education teacher and aide. The

Elementary Alternative Education classroom will also be equipped with web cam for therapeutic and student/staff security purposes. HOPE Community Development Corporation will provide each student a mentor/tutor that will continue to have a relationship with the student for a minimum of six months upon completion of the six-week program. Each mentor/tutor will be invited to participate in SAT or IEP Team meetings.

Social/Emotional Needs and Behavior

Prestera Center for Mental Health Services: School-Based Services will address social/emotional needs and behavior two days per week through assessment, psychological evaluation, individual/group therapy and supportive intervention. Psychiatric medication management is also available to students, if needed. The mentor/tutor will also connect the student to extra-curricular events in the community.

Family Intervention and Support

The fifth day of the week, Prestera Center School-Based personnel will provide family therapy sessions. Families will also receive home visits as part of follow-up programming. Prestera Center staff will participate in SAT and IEP meetings, manifestation and expulsion hearings. Kanawha County Schools and HOPE Community Development Corporation have an existing partnership (along with 28 other state, business and community-based organizations) addressing Truancy Diversion through the HOPE Youth and Family Services Clearinghouse Project, due to funding from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources. Families of students participating in the Elementary Alternative Education project will be referred to a Youth/Family Development Specialist at the Clearinghouse. The Specialist will provide information, referral and case management on a wide range of community services, such as economic support, job training, housing and health. The purpose of the Clearinghouse is to provide comprehensive coordination for families and bridge school- and community-based services.

2. How is this vision linked to the school or consortium's five-year strategic plan?

This project aligns with goals and objectives in the Kanawha County Schools five-year strategic plan.

Kanawha County Schools will reduce inappropriate student behavior.

The district continues to collect data to measure against annual Targets on the number of out-of school suspensions, reported violent student behavior incidences, incidences of bullying, harassment and intimidation, suspensions related to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Data is also collected and monitored on other relevant risk indicators – attendance, failure in two or more subjects, grades and number of referrals to mental health services. The Kanawha County Student Support Team meets monthly to review data, policy and trends and discuss attendance and inappropriate student behavior strategies. All of this information is shared with Principals on a monthly basis. Professional development activities are provided to staff to address effective strategies for working with student attendance and behavior.

Kanawha County Schools will improve the graduation rate of our students and reduce the dropout rate.

The bulk of resources are directed to middle and high schools in Kanawha County. One of the identified strategies specifically addressing elementary school students is to secure funding to address students with social and emotional tendencies. The Retention Policy was recently updated (5-2-11) to state that elementary students shall not be retained more than one time in grades K-5, a significant risk factor for dropout.

3. How is the school or consortium's vision connected to best practice and current research in reference to raising student achievement and/or dropout prevention?

A National Dropout Prevention Center/Network and Communities in Schools (2007) report identifies

several elementary school risk factors related to dropout. School performance factors include low achievement and retention/over-age for grade and school behavior factors include misbehavior and early aggression. This project will target Kanawha County Schools' elementary school students that exhibit the school behavior risk factors of misbehavior and early aggression, having been suspended, expelled or having multiple violations of policies and rules.

Fifteen effective strategies to address drop-out prevention have been identified by the National Dropout Prevention Center/Network and the Elementary Alternative Education project addresses six of these strategies.

School-Community Collaboration

Kanawha County Schools has a long history of collaboration with community organizations and this project strengthens relationships with Pretera Center for Mental Health Services and HOPE Community Development Corporation to address the needs of at-risk elementary students. Kanawha County Schools and Pretera Center have been conducting monthly meetings over the last year to discuss current contractual programming and to plan for the Elementary Alternative Education project. There are 28 other partners participating in the Clearinghouse project with HOPE Community Development Corporation and Kanawha County Schools.

Family Engagement

A key and integral part of the project is engaging the at-risk student's family to fully participate in interventions, as research has shown the positive effect the family can have on the child's achievement. Pretera Center will provide family counseling, interventions and home visits, with HOPE Community Development Corporation serving families through the Youth and Family Services Clearinghouse Project. Written parental consent for participation is required for students to be accepted into the Elementary Alternative Education project. Parents will be invited by Kanawha County Schools and partnering agencies to participate in any SAT, IEP Team and/or treatment planning meetings. Kanawha County Schools Social Workers are available to the project to assist with family interventions.

Early Childhood Education

Drop-out prevention must be addressed as early as possible to prevent middle and high school difficulties. The best classroom instruction from the beginning of a student's school experience through the primary grades is imperative, as well as early intervention for those students experiencing challenges. Kanawha County Schools has a commitment to increasing supports available for dropout prevention on the primary level.

Mentoring/Tutoring

HOPE Community Development Corporation will match the identified students with a mentor that receives the appropriate background checks, training and ongoing supervision. A one-to-one caring and supportive relationship based on trust with a mentor/tutor to address specific needs in reading, writing or math strengthens the connections between school, family and community.

Alternative Education and Individualized Instruction

The project's alternative school and individualized instruction activities allow the students to stay connected with their classmates and prevent their falling behind academically. The students will log in to their respective classrooms and receive added assistance from the Elementary Alternative Education teacher and aide to keep in touch and get extra help on their basic skills.

4. How has the school or consortium's current data influenced the creative vision described in question one?

In 2010-2011, Kanawha County Schools had a drop-out rate of 3.3% representing 400 students. Four other West Virginia counties had higher drop-out rates, but the number of students in these four counties combined represents only 218 students in the same year. Research demonstrates that students

who are suspended are at increased risk of dropping out of school. Kanawha County Schools has seen an increase in the number of days that elementary students are being suspended or expelled. In 2000, the number of elementary school students that were expelled was four. In 2011, that number rose to fifty-four, a 1,350% increase. This increase in exhibited discipline problems illustrates the need to address these social/emotional difficulties. In 2011, there were 2,896 WVEIS Discipline Reports from the 44 Elementary Schools in Kanawha County.

Currently, all 44 elementary schools have school-wide discipline programs, such as Positive Behavior Support and Respect and Protect. When students break rules and become more disruptive, the schools develop individualized behavior plans. The Office of Elementary Education employs a psychologist and two Marshall University Psychology interns, with the Office of Special Education having Special Education Specialists and Home-School Behavior Liaisons available to assist with these plans. Additionally, Kanawha County Schools' School Counselors are a resource. If a student continues to be unsuccessful, they are moved to Tier 4, with interventions being dependent on the severity of the actions and the response of the parents. Serious offenses may result in a recommendation for expulsion, meaning the above steps may be waived and a hearing is held to ensure the student's Due Process were not violated.

Kanawha County Schools offers several programs and initiatives designed to address drop-out prevention for high school and middle school students offering an alternative program for students who have been expelled. When elementary students are expelled they have traditionally received home-bound services for the duration of the expulsion disconnecting them their regular class and the wide range of other support services available through Kanawha County Schools. Some of these students receive services from outside agencies. Students receiving these additional services are considered for early readmission to school. Currently, Kanawha County Schools offers or contracts with other organizations to offer the following:

Innerchange: An intensive six-week outpatient program operated by Pretera Center at Charleston Area Medical Center - General offering four hours of counseling and one hour of academics per day

SOCRATES (Specialized Outpatient Counseling Resources Available to Elementary Students) - A school-based program operated by Pretera Center providing services to students in their current school who are in jeopardy of being suspended or expelled, due to behavior issues. Services are designed to address the individual needs of each student and include primarily assessment, treatment planning, targeted case management, individual and family therapy and individual supportive intervention. Staff also conduct home visits to strengthen the school-home connection.

Damous Center – operated by Damous Psychological Services – an intensive eight-week outpatient program in Nitro offering six hours of group, individual and family therapy, supportive counseling and two hours of academics per day

The proposed project builds on the successes of these programs and addresses the gaps and barriers. Access to these programs can be limited by the family's ability to pay for these services, especially if the student is not receiving Medicaid or does not have private insurance. These programs can be cost prohibitive for families that are relying on health insurance, as co-pays can be a financial burden. Transportation to these program locations can also be a significant barrier for some families. As students are participating in these programs, they are disconnected from their regular classroom making reconnecting more challenging. In addition, a wide range of supports available through Kanawha County Schools is not available – school nurses, transportation and school social workers. Often, student behavior is addressed and the student returns to the regular classroom further behind academically, due to the limited amount of time focused on academics.



Section 4- Goals, Objectives, Evaluation, Timeline

GOALS:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance healthy social/emotional development, learning and academic success of Kanawha County Schools' at-risk elementary school-age students 				
Objectives	Activities	Personnel	Timeline	Budget
<p><i>Identify the measurable objectives that will be used to determine success in achieving these goals</i></p> <p>(Must be specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and timely goals (SMART)</p>	<p><i>Develop activities for each objective that are: Creative and innovative; Impact student success; Allow for greater flexibility; change the way the school(s)/district currently operate</i></p>	<p><i>Indicate the name and title of personnel that will be responsible for the activities.</i></p>	<p><i>Identify the timeline for the activities (include month/year)</i></p>	<p><i>Indicate budget requirements (include formulas used to derive totals in budget sections e.g. 3 subs @\$143/day=total)</i></p>
Formalize Kanawha County Schools Elementary Alternative Education project	Finalize Elementary Alternative Education project policies and procedures	Leadership Team	1/12 through 7/12	
	Communication to and from Elementary Principals, SATs and Faculty Senates	J. Robert Calhoun, Director of Elementary Education	1/12 through 7/14	
	Advertise and hire 1 teacher and 1 program aide	Kanawha County Schools	3/12	FY12 Request - Teacher @ 10 days = \$2,315, Aide @ 10 days = \$1,280
	Professional Development for academic staff addressing online curriculum, web cams, Crisis Prevention Intervention	J. Robert Calhoun and Leadership Team members	5/12 through 7/12	FY12 Request \$5,000
	Purchase necessary equipment and supplies to set-up Elementary Alternative Education classroom	J. Robert Calhoun and Rebecca Butler, Office of Technology	5/12 through 7/12	FY12-Request - Equipment – Desktop computers

				<p>@ \$1,026 x 10 = \$10,260; Webcams @ \$100 x 20 = 2,000; Networked Printer @ \$1,000; HON Simplicity II Acoustical Panels \$150 x 30 = \$4,500; Smart Board @ 3,000; Camera system @ \$1,500; Fax/Copier/Printer @ \$500</p> <p>FY12 Request - Supplies Software @ \$1,000; ink @ \$1,000; Office Supplies @ \$1,000; Math manipulatives @ \$500; Reading materials @ \$1,000; Teacher manuals @ \$2,400</p> <p>FY13 and 14 Request – supplies @ \$1,500</p>
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	Hold quarterly Leadership Team meetings to evaluate project process and outcome data and make necessary adjustments	J. Robert Calhoun and Leadership Team members	1/12, 4/12, 7/12, 10/12, 1/13, 4/13, 7/13, 10/13, 1/14, 4/14 and 7/14	
Meet academic needs of 160 Elementary Alternative Education students	Offer on-line curriculum and assessments	Kanawha County Schools Pretera Center	8/12 through 7/14	
	Web cam in regular classroom	Kanawha County Schools faculty	8/12 through 7/14	
	Provide face-to-face individualized instruction	KCS Elementary Alternative Education teacher and aide	8/12 through 7/14	<p>FY13 and FY14 Request – EAE Teacher 9 days @ \$2,084; EAE Aide 9 days @ \$1,152</p> <p>FY13 and FY14 In-Kind – EAE Teacher @ \$46,314; EAE Aide @ 24,216; KCS Nurse 1 day per month @ \$2,387</p>
Meet social/emotional needs and increase appropriate behavior of 160 Elementary Alternative Education students	Conduct Functional Behavioral Assessments and Develop Behavior Plans	KCS School Psychologist and Interns	3/12 through 7/14	<p>FY12 Request – KCS Psychologists 20 days @ \$15,600 and fringes at \$4,500</p> <p>FY12 In-Kind –</p>

				<p>KCS Psychologist 3 days per month @ \$7,788; 2 KCS Psychologist interns 3 days per month @ \$7,800</p> <p>FY13 and FY14 Request – KCS Psychologist 10 days @ 11,700 and fringes @ \$3,521</p> <p>FY13 and FY14 In-Kind – KCS Psychologist 3 days per month @ \$7,788; 2 KCS Psychologist interns 3 days per month @ \$7,800;</p>
	Offer assessment, evaluation, individual/group counseling, and supportive intervention to address social/emotional difficulties	Pretera Center	8/12 through 7/14	<p>Request</p> <p>FY12 - \$25,000 FY13 - \$65,000 FY14 - \$65,000</p>
	Provide weekly reports on interventions and student progress	Pretera Center	8/12 through 7/14	
	Weekly measurement of students' goals set forth in the behavior plan	Pretera Center Kanawha County Schools	8/12 through 7/14	

Provide mentor/tutor match for 160 Elementary Alternative Education students	Recruit mentors/tutors	HOPE Community Development Corporation	1/12 through 7/14	Requests: FY12 - \$7,500 FY13 - \$15,000 FY14 - \$15,000
	Conduct background checks	HOPE	1/12 through 7/14	
	Provide training and orientation sessions	HOPE	1/12 through 7/14	
	Obtain written parental consent for youth to participate	HOPE and Kanawha County Schools	3/12 through 7/14	
	Match mentor to student	HOPE	8/12 through 7/14	
	Provide ongoing support to mentors/tutors	HOPE	1/12 through 7/14	
	Mentors/Tutors meet with matched students providing tutoring and socialization	HOPE - Mentors/Tutors	8/12 through 7/14	
	Keep parents informed of their child's progress	HOPE	8/12 through 7/14	
Provide counseling and linkage to needed services for participating students' families	Offer family counseling and intervention strategies	Pretera Center Kanawha County Schools	8/12 through 7/14	FY13 and FY14 In-Kind – KCS Social Worker 1 day per month @ \$2,300
	Offer Clearinghouse services to families	All Project partners HOPE	3/12 through 7/14	

Provide follow-up support for students returning to their regular classroom	Meeting with schools' SAT and/or IEP Team every 6 weeks to transition the student back to school and monitor Behavior Plans	Pretera Center Kanawha County Schools Mentors/Tutors Parents	9/12 through 7/14	
	Enroll student in the SOCRATES program for three- to six-month follow-up	Pretera Center Kanawha County Schools	9/12 through 7/14	
	Weekly WVEIS Discipline Reports on students that have returned to regular class	Kanawha County Schools	9/12 through 7/14	
	Notify Leadership Team of any issues that need to be addressed	Kanawha County Schools	9/12 through 7/14	
	Make referrals to any needed additional services	Kanawha County Schools Pretera Center	9/12 through 7/14	



Section 5- Project Evaluation and Sustainability

1. How will you evaluate and report the impact this innovation has on increasing student success and/or other stated goals and objectives?

Kanawha County Schools staff will administer the Functional Behavioral Assessment and develop individualized Behavior Plans. The Plans will be monitored throughout the six-week sessions and after returning to the regular classroom. Pretera Center staff administer the Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment System (CAFAS) upon entry and exit to the Elementary Alternative Education program, which allows for pre- and post-intervention data. A number of student indicators will be tracked by the Leadership Team, such as attendance and grades. Exiting students will be monitored for repeat offenses using weekly WVEIS Discipline Reports.

Kanawha County Schools welcomes the opportunity to share the successes and lessons learned from this project with KCS staff, parents, the West Virginia Department of Education and other school districts throughout West Virginia. The Elementary Alternative Education project can be a model for other districts. The Leadership Team will ensure a continuous communication loop with Principals, faculty, SAT, IEP Teams, Leadership Team members and parents. The Kanawha County Schools' website will be one venue for sharing the successes and lessons learned with the public.

2. How will this innovation be sustained beyond the initial funding period?

The Innovation Zone grant funding will provide much needed support for start-up costs of the Elementary Alternative Education project. Kanawha County Schools is contributing a large portion of the personnel expenses necessary to implement the project. At the conclusion of the grant period, Kanawha County Schools will use a portion of their Step VII monies from state formula funding to support the project. This funding is currently supporting the Marshall University Psychology interns. Additional funding will be secured through the Kanawha County Schools general budget, which currently supports the Elementary Education Psychologist.

Pretera Center is able to bill third parties, if the student and family have Medicaid or private insurance. Kanawha County Schools has a long contractual relationship with Pretera Center to support those students who do not have a payment source. HOPE Community Development Corporation has the funding necessary for the Clearinghouse and Mentor/Tutors. The requested funding for this contract will enable HOPE to expand the targeted geographic area of Charleston's west side to all of Kanawha County.



Section 6- Budget Justification

FY 2012

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>In-Kind (Optional)</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional Salaries	\$19,195	\$15,588	\$34,783
Fringe Benefits	\$4,500		\$4,500
Equipment	\$22,760		\$22,760
Supplies	\$6,900		\$6,900
Professional Development	\$5,000		\$5,000
Travel			
Contracts/Consultants	\$32,500		\$32,500
Other			
Total	\$90,855	\$15,588	\$106,443

FY 2013

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>In-Kind (Optional)</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional Salaries	\$14,936	\$90,805	\$105,741
Fringe Benefits	\$3,521	\$18,028	\$21,549
Equipment			
Supplies	\$1,500		\$1,500
Professional Development			
Travel			
Contracts/Consultants	\$80,000		\$80,000
Other			
Total	\$99,957	\$108,833	\$208,790

FY 2014

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>In-Kind (Optional)</u>	<u>Total</u>
Professional Salaries	\$14,936	\$90,805	\$105,741
Fringe Benefits	\$3,521	\$18,028	\$21,549
Equipment			
Supplies	\$1,500		\$1,500
Professional Development			
Travel			
Contracts/Consultants	\$80,000		\$80,000
Other			
Total	\$99,957	\$108,833	\$208,790



Appendix

Record of Commitment from Staff, Parent, and LSIC Council (Appendix)

On Tuesday, November 20, 2011, J. Robert Calhoun, Director of Elementary Education, contacted Shelly DeBerry at the WV Department of Education concerning the two week special notice before conducting a vote among all employees affected by the plan. The two week notice was waived for Kanawha County Schools.

Mr. Calhoun communicated with each of the 44 elementary principals on the same day. Each faculty senate discussed the plan on November 28, with faculty voting on whether they supported the application. Thirty-two of the 44 schools submitted the Record of Commitment via fax to Mr. Calhoun certifying that 80% of their faculty supported the plan, which far exceeds the required 80% of affected faculty approval. (80% of 160 = 128) (See attached document for Record of Commitment from Central, Chesapeake, Dunbar, Elk, Malden, Nitro, Pinch, and J.E. Robins, representing 177 Kanawha County Schools faculty.)

Local Educational Agency Report of Support or Concerns (Appendix)

An overview of the Elementary Alternative Education project was presented to the Kanawha County Schools Board of Education during their meeting on November 28, 2011. The attached document contains the Local Educational Agency Report of Support or Concerns signed by the following five Directors:

President: William Thaw

President Pro Tem: William Raglin

Member: Jim Crawford

Member: Becky Jordon

Member: Robin Rector

Multiple Community Partner Records of Commitment for Dropout Grants (Appendix)

See attached document containing Community Partner Records of Commitment for Dropout Grants from Pretera Center for Mental Health Services, signed by Robert Hansen, Executive Director and HOPE Community Development Corporation, signed by Reverend Matthew Watts, Executive Director.