

KENTUCKY SCHOOL UPDATES

EXTENDED SCHOOL SERVICES

THE BASICS OF THE LAW

- Extended school services (ESS) are designed to provide **additional instruction to help struggling learners** succeed in school. These services take place outside the regular school day with one exception. School districts may request permission through a waiver process from the Kentucky Board of Education to use ESS funds for programs during the school day.
- The Extended School Services program is primarily intended to be an intervention model, to help students when they need it, not wait until they have fallen behind. Students who have already fallen behind may receive remedial assistance. Sometimes an accelerated approach can help these students catch up with peers.
- Each school district is required to provide extended school services to meet student learning needs and receives state monies for this program.
- Extended School Service programs take many forms including after-school instruction, evening sessions, Saturday activities, daytime programs, or summer programs. Times may vary, depending on student needs. Support services such as transportation should be provided as necessary.
- Eligibility for these programs is determined by the district, based on students' needs for additional time to meet performance goals of the regular classroom. Districts should see that students with the greatest need are referred and served first. ESS cannot be used to discipline students.

RESULTS

- Most school districts offer summer-school and after-school programs.
- Over 600 schools had daytime ESS programs during the 2005-06 school year. Most programs focused on reading and math and provided immediate help for targeted students.
- Extended school services programs throughout the state served 163,406 students in the 2004-05 school year and 130,543 in the 2005-06 school year after having a 50 percent cut in funding. Full funding was restored for 2006-2007. Extended school services allow many students to advance to the next grade or graduate.
- The most common areas of study for students in the ESS programs are reading, writing, and mathematics.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- ✍ Approximately \$32 million is available for ESS in 2006-07 and 2007-08.
- ✍ Extended school services programs will continue to focus more on early intervention in major content areas. These funds can be used to provide supplemental instructional services to students in NCLB improvement schools.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

- ★ **Talk** with students and parents about how extended school services is being used to help struggling students and close gaps in achievement in your district.
- ★ **Ask** your school council members how extended school services fit into the comprehensive school improvement plan. Suggest a committee on extended school services and volunteer to be a member. Ensure that parents have a voice in how extended school services are provided.
- ★ If your school has a PTA/PTO/PTSA, **ask** how it can help support extended school services.
- ★ **Volunteer** to be a teacher's aide or tutor in an extended school services program.
- ★ **Be sure** your extended school services programs are instructional programs, not study halls.
- ★ If your district does not provide transportation for students in ESS, **encourage** your local board to do so.
- ★ **Write** to your elected officials with examples of successes and weaknesses in extended school services. See chapter on parent involvement for information on contacting state legislators.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

- **Kentucky Department of Education, Extended School Learning Branch** at (502) 564-4772 or visit the Web site at www.education.ky.gov
- **Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence**, P.O. Box 1658, Lexington, KY 40588-1658; (859) 233-9849 or (800) 928-2111; e-mail: admin@prichardcommittee.org or visit the Web site at <http://www.prichardcommittee.org/>.

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