

## **Senate Bill 1: Raising the Bar for KY Schools**

On March 2009, Gov. Steve Beshear signed into law Senate Bill 1 - a piece of legislation that will transform education in Kentucky as it raises the bar for schools in preparing students for college and careers. The goals of this legislation are two fold: (1) to reduce college remediation rates of recent high school grads by at 50% by 2014 and (2) to increase the college completion rates of students enrolled in one or more remediation classes by 3% annually.

How does this translate to your child's education? A new assessment and accountability system is now in place focusing on Kentucky Department of Education's four strategic priorities to promote college and career readiness and degree completion.

- Accelerated Learning Opportunities (focusing on the expansion of AP/IB access and dual credit opportunities)
- Secondary Intervention Programs (focusing on the development of transitional coursework)
- College and Career Readiness Advising (focusing on the full implementation of the Individual Learning Plan and comprehensive advising programs)
- Postsecondary College Persistence and Degree Completion (focusing on bridge programming, accelerated learning opportunities, and student support and intervention systems)

Kentucky, to our credit, was the first to adopt national core academic standards. These standards are more rigorous and are aligned from primary through high school. With the implementation of these new standards, you may observe some positive changes including the incorporation of school themes with topic integration providing context to learning; more technology incorporation; more emphasis on student generated projects, and more ongoing (formative) assessment as well as end of course (summative) assessment.

Additionally, Senate Bill 1 requires schools to provide a monitored intervention for every student not meeting college readiness benchmarks in English/language arts or mathematics.

Muhlenberg County Schools are poised and ready to meet the challenges proposed by Senate Bill 1. It is our goal to help our students succeed by preparing them for college and/or the workforce enabling them to compete in a global economy.

For more information regarding Senate Bill 1, please contact District Assessment Coordinator Micky Strader, any school administrator, or visit Kentucky Department of Education's website at [www.education.ky.gov](http://www.education.ky.gov).