



FRANKFORT:

STATE LAWMAKERS HAVE PROPOSED CHANGING KENTUCKY'S NEW 5-STAR SCHOOL RATING SYSTEM. A BILL FILED BY SEN. DAVID GIVENS (R-GREENSBURG) PROPOSES CHANGES TO GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, GRADING METRICS AND HOW SCHOOLS ARE IDENTIFIED FOR TURNAROUNDS. GIVENS SAID THE BILL IS AN "UPDATE" TO THE 2017 LEGISLATION THAT CREATED THE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.

THE KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE) ROLLED OUT A NEW ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM IN OCTOBER 2019. IT GIVES SCHOOLS A RATING FROM 1 TO 5 STARS BASED MOSTLY ON STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES AND GRADUATION RATES. ONE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGES GIVENS IS PROPOSING IS TO START GRADING SCHOOLS ON A CURVE. THE BILL WOULD ALSO GIVE STUDENTS' PROGRESS ON TESTS EQUAL WEIGHT TO THEIR PERFORMANCE.

THE MEASURE WOULD ALSO CHANGE HOW OFTEN THE STATE IDENTIFIES TURNAROUND SCHOOLS, OR SCHOOLS IN THE



BOTTOM 5%. MANAGEMENT DECISIONS ARE TURNED OVER TO THE STATE OR OUTSIDE GROUPS AT THESE SCHOOLS, AND SOMETIMES THERE ARE STAFFING CHANGES. THE CURRENT SYSTEM REQUIRES THE STATE TO IDENTIFY SCHOOLS FOR TURNAROUND EVERY YEAR. GIVENS' BILL WOULD HAVE THE STATE IDENTIFY SCHOOLS EVERY THREE YEARS.

INTERIM STATE EDUCATION COMMISSIONER KEVIN BROWN SAID HIS DEPARTMENT IS ALREADY EXPLORING THE CHANGES IT WOULD NEED TO MAKE.

“ANYTIME THERE’S CHANGE IT CAN BE DIFFICULT AND FRUSTRATING FOR SCHOOLS AND DISTRICTS,” HE SAID.

THE BILL WOULD ALSO MAKE IT EASIER FOR DISTRICTS TO USE PRIVATE VENDORS TO LEAD TURNAROUND EFFORTS IN STRUGGLING SCHOOLS. RIGHT NOW, MOST DISTRICTS USE THE KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE) TO MANAGE TURNAROUNDS. THE BILL WOULD REQUIRE KDE TO CREATE A LIST OF APPROVED “VENDORS” TO LEAD TURNAROUND EFFORTS. VENDORS COULD BE NONPROFIT GROUPS, COLLEGES OR



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UNIVERSITIES, OR FOR-PROFIT COMPANIES. SCHOOL DISTRICTS COULD CHOSE WHICH VENDOR TO USE. GIVENS SAID THE BILL DOES NOT EXCLUDE DISTRICTS FROM CHOOSING THE KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

THE BILL PASSED OUT OF COMMITTEE AND HEADS TO THE SENATE FLOOR.

DETROIT:

LIZZO HAS ACCUSED TIKTOK OF REMOVING CERTAIN IMAGES OF HER FROM THE VIDEO-SHARING APP — AND THE GRAMMY-AWARD WINNING ARTIST HAS MORE THAN A FEW THINGS TO SAY ABOUT IT.

THE “TRUTH HURTS” SINGER, WHO POSTS REGULARLY TO THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM, SENT A MESSAGE TO TIKTOK AFTER SHE CLAIMS THAT VIDEOS OF HER IN BATHING SUITS WERE REMOVED. IN THE VIDEO, SHE CAN BE SEEN LIP-SYNCING THE POPULAR SONG, “I KNOW,” WHICH WAS MADE POPULAR BY TIKTOK USER ERIN MCMILLEN, WHILE GETTING HER HAIR DONE.

“TIKTOK KEEPS TAKING DOWN MY VIDEOS WITH ME IN MY BATHING SUITS,” LIZZO WROTE OVER A CLIP OF HER LIP-SYNCING THE WORDS “I KNOW.” SHE WENT ON TO ADD THAT TIKTOK “ALLOWS OTHER VIDEOS WITH GIRLS IN BATHING SUITS. I WONDER WHY? TIKTOK WE NEED TO TALK.”

TIKTOK RESPONDED THAT IT REINSTATED A VIDEO OF LIZZO THAT HAD INITIALLY BEEN REMOVED FROM THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM. A SPOKESWOMAN FOR TIKTOK SAID THAT A VIDEO IN QUESTION WAS REMOVED BECAUSE IT WAS THOUGHT TO BE IN VIOLATION OF ITS COMMUNITY GUIDELINES AFTER IT APPEARED THE “TRUTH HURTS” SINGER FLASHED THE CAMERA WHEN SHE LIFTED UP HER DRESS. TIKTOK LATER DETERMINED THAT LIZZO WAS WEARING A BATHING SUIT, AND AS OF WEDNESDAY, THE VIDEO WAS BACK UP.

“I JUST WANT TO EXPRESS HOW AMAZING LIZZO IS AS A CREATOR, AS AN ARTIST AND AS A TRENDSETTER,” THE SPOKESWOMAN SAID. “AND OUR COMMUNITY LOVES HER, SO IMMEDIATELY, AS SOON AS WE SAW IT MIGHT BE AN ISSUE, LOOKED INTO IT. AND OUR TEAM IS IN TOUCH WITH HER TEAM, SO WHEN SHE’S LIKE ‘TIK TOK LET’S TALK,’ OUR TEAM TALKS.”

ACCRA, GHANA:

GHANA'S PRESIDENT NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDO ON THURSDAY LAID THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR A NATIONAL CATHEDRAL TO BE LOCATED IN THE CAPITAL ACCRA. THE PRESIDENT WAS JOINED BY LEADERSHIP OF MAJOR CHRISTIAN CONGREGATIONS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AMBASSADORS, TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES AND A CROSS-SECTION OF CITIZENS AT THE EVENT.

A KEY TALKING POINT ABOUT THE EVENT WAS THE IMPORTATION OF A STONE FROM JERUSALEM WHICH THE PRESIDENT DROPPED INTO THE FIRST DIGGING AT THE SITE. LOCAL ONLINE PORTAL GHANAWEB REPORTED THAT THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR SHANI COOPER PRESENTED THE STONE TO PRESIDENT AKUFO-ADDO.

THE STONE, ACCORDING TO HER, WILL SYMBOLIZE THE SACREDNESS OF THE LAND EARMARKED FOR THE PROJECT AS CHRISTIANS REGARD JERUSALEM TO BE THE MOST SACRED SITE

IN THE WORLD. SHE ADDED THAT ISRAEL'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GHANA NATIONAL CATHEDRAL WILL STRENGTHEN TIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, THE REPORT ADDED.

THE INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHRISTIAN CATHEDRAL, WHEN COMPLETED, WILL HAVE A 5,000 SEATING CAPACITY WITH CHAPELS, A BAPTISTERY, A MUSIC SCHOOL, AN ART GALLERY, AND A BIBLE MUSEUM. IT WILL ALSO SERVE AS A VENUE FOR FORMAL STATE OCCASIONS OF RELIGIOUS NATURE SUCH AS STATE FUNERALS, THANKSGIVING SERVICES AMONG OTHERS.

SIKESTON, MISSOURI

THE RESIDENTS OF A MISSOURI TOWN AWOKE TO FIND MORE THAN 1,000 DEAD BIRDS AND FEATHERS EVERYWHERE EARLIER THIS WEEK. SCOTT COUNTY CONSERVATION AGENT ANDREW MOTHERSHEAD ESTIMATED THERE WERE MORE THAN 1,000 DEAD BIRDS, HE SAID IN A STATEMENT ON [FACEBOOK](#). THE REPORTS OF BIRDS DYING STARTED SUNDAY NIGHT, HE SAID, WHEN THUNDERSTORMS WITH HEAVY RAIN, LIGHTNING AND STRONG WINDS ROLLED THROUGH THE TOWN, ACCORDING TO THE [NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN PADUCAH, KENTUCKY](#).

MOTHERSHEAD AND KEVIN BRUNKE, A NATURAL HISTORY BIOLOGIST FOR THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION, WENT TO THE SCENE TO INVESTIGATE WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BIRDS. SIKESTON IS IN THE SOUTHEASTERN CORNER OF THE STATE, NEAR THE MISSOURI-KENTUCKY STATE LINE. THEY FOUND MULTIPLE DEAD RED-WINGED BLACKBIRDS, GRACKLES, EUROPEAN STARLINGS AND BROWN-HEADED

COWBIRDS IN THE FIELDS, MOTHERSHEAD SAID. THERE WERE ALSO MANY BIRDS WHO WERE INJURED AND STILL ALIVE.

AFTER LOOKING AT THE CONDITION OF THE DEAD AND INJURED BIRDS AND CONSIDERING THE WEATHER, MOTHERSHEAD SAID HE THINKS THE BIRDS GOT IN TROUBLE DURING THE SEVERE WEATHER.

SIKESTON HAS ABOUT 16,000 RESIDENTS, HE SAID.

SOME RESIDENTS STARTED SEEING BIRDS FALL FROM THE SKY AND HEARING THEM HIT THE GROUND, MOTHERSHEAD SAID.

THERE ARE NO PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS REGARDING THE BIRDS, AN ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICIAL SAID. RESIDENTS

CLEANED UP SOME OF THE MESS THEMSELVES AND THE CITY OF SIKESTON ALSO HELPED WITH THE EFFORT, MOTHERSHEAD

SAID. SOME OF THE DEAD BIRDS WERE TAKEN TO THE MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION FOR ANALYSIS, WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN RELEASED, HE SAID.

(SESAME STREET)

ASK COOKIE MONSTER TO DEMONSTRATE SELF-CONTROL? SOUNDS LIKE THE SETUP TO A JOKE. THE BLUE, FURRY MONSTER WE GREW UP WITH WAS PURE ID. BUT IN RECENT YEARS, COOKIE HAS EVOLVED AS SESAME WORKSHOP HAS SHARPENED ITS FOCUS ON SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS. RESEARCH SHOWS THAT AT LEAST HALF A CHILD'S SUCCESS IS DETERMINED BY THOSE SKILLS.

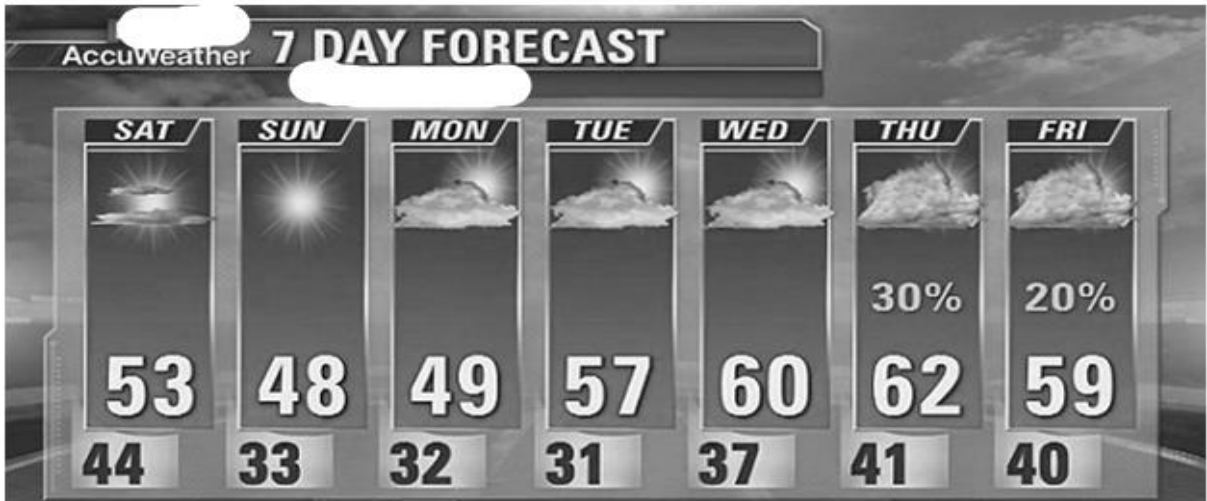
THUS, WHEN A RECENT GROUP OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCHERS WERE LOOKING AT STRATEGIES FOR HELPING KIDS LEARN EMOTIONAL SELF-REGULATION AND SELF-CONTROL, THEY CALLED ON COOKIE MONSTER TO GUEST STAR IN THEIR VIDEO FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS, LIFE KIT. RESEARCHERS PUT OUT A PLATE OF HIS FAVORITE CHOCOLATE CHIPPIES AND MR. MONSTER DEMONSTRATED KEY STRATEGIES FOR WAITING OUT OR COOLING DOWN A "HOT" MOMENT OF ANGER, FEAR OR, IN THIS CASE, TEMPTATION!

HERE'S WHAT COOKIE DID TO KEEP HIS MONSTER HANDS OFF THOSE SWEETS — AND WHAT YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILDREN DO (AND ALSO DO YOURSELF) TO RESIST TEMPTATION AND REACH GOALS.

- TAKE A DEEP BELLY BREATH.
- LOOK IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION.
- FOCUS ON THE REASON YOU ARE WAITING — FOR EXAMPLE, A PROMISE TO SHARE THE COOKIE WITH A FRIEND.
- DISTRACT YOURSELF — FOR EXAMPLE, WITH SINGING.
- TALK ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE — SAY, A BOOK YOU ARE READING.

THE EDUCATIONAL RESEARCHERS SUGGEST THAT THESE STRATEGIES ARE KEY INGREDIENTS TO BAKE A LIFE FILLED WITH SUNNY DAYS THAT ARE CHASING THE CLOUDS AWAY.

AREA WEATHER FORECAST



COMMERCIAL TOPIC

WHATCHAMACALLIT Candy Bar, 1.6 oz

When your hunger calls for chewy caramel, rich chocolate and peanut flavored crunch, reach for the treat that's impossible to forget: the original WHATCHAMACALLIT Candy Bar.



- 5 stars

It was the best thing ever! When I first took a bite, it felt like a slap in the face from heaven. – STUDENT JON ORENTEA FROM CLEVELAND, OHIO, IN AN ONLINE REVIEW.

The History of WHATCHAMACALLIT Candy Bars

Hershey introduced WHATCHAMACALLIT Bars in 1978. The product name was chosen from a list of nearly 100 possible names brainstormed by Hershey and ad agency staff. Ultimately they landed on one that is catchy, unique, memorable and fun.



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