

Kentucky Board of Education

The Board's Vision:
Every Child—Proficient and Prepared for Success



Dr. Terry Holliday
Commissioner of Education

Terry Holliday, Ph.D., was selected as Kentucky's fifth commissioner of education in July 2009.

Holliday served as superintendent of the more than 20,000-student Iredell-Statesville school district from 2002 until 2009. During his tenure, he has received recognition in a variety of areas, including being named 2009 North Carolina Superintendent of the Year; receiving the 2009 Grayson Medal for Innovation in Quality from the American Productivity Quality Council; being named the 2008 North Carolina Music Educators Association Superintendent of the Year; and selection as a 2008 Friend of NCAAPERD, a physical education and health award.

Under his leadership, the Iredell-Statesville school district received the 2008 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, which was created by an act of Congress in 1987 to recognize companies, organizations, businesses and other entities that have shown long-term improvement in quality and productivity.

Holliday's previous experience includes: superintendent of the Transylvania County school system in Brevard, North Carolina; associate superintendent and director of accountability for Rock Hill School District 3 in York County, South Carolina; principal, assistant principal and director of instrumental music for Fort Mill High School in Fort Mill, South Carolina; and band director at Northside Junior High, Parker High and Gaffney High in South Carolina.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Furman University; a master's degree and education specialist degree from Winthrop University; and a doctorate from the University of South Carolina.

A native of Belton, South Carolina, Holliday and his wife, Denise, are the parents of two children.

The Role of the Commissioner

The commissioner of education is by statute the chief executive officer for both the Kentucky Board of Education and the Kentucky Department of Education. The commissioner recommends and implements Kentucky Board of Education policies and directs the Department of Education in the management of public schools.

What Does "Prepared for Success" Mean?

As defined in the board's strategic plan, it means college- and career-ready. The strategic plan can be found on the Kentucky Department of Education's website (www.education.ky.gov) under Kentucky Board of Education.

Kentucky Board of Education

The Kentucky Education Reform Act of 1990 created a new State Board for Elementary and Secondary Education. By authority of executive order from the governor, the board's name was changed to Kentucky Board of Education, effective February 1, 1995.

The board has 12 members. The governor appoints 11 voting members, seven representing the Supreme Court districts and four representing the state at large. These 11 voting members must be confirmed by the legislature. The additional member, the president of the Council on Postsecondary Education, serves as a non-voting member.

The members serve four-year terms and may be reappointed. At the beginning of each fiscal year, the membership elects the board chair and vice chair.

The board appoints the commissioner of education, who serves at the pleasure of the board and receives compensation as set by the board. The commissioner is the board's executive secretary.

How the Board Functions

The Kentucky Board of Education meets at least six times a year either at the Frankfort offices of the Kentucky Department of Education or at other locations in the state. The board has two standing committees: Management and Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment. Special task forces and work groups are appointed as needed.

Board meetings are open to the public, and agendas are set in advance. The board seeks and encourages the attendance of individuals, representatives of professional organizations and members of citizen groups.

The Board's Responsibilities

As mandated by law, the Kentucky Board of Education develops and adopts the regulations that govern Kentucky's public school districts and the actions of the Kentucky Department of Education. This includes management and control of interscholastic athletics, the Kentucky School for the Blind, the Kentucky School for the Deaf and community education programs and services. Department officials follow board guidelines as they both lead and serve public elementary, middle and high schools.

The board is responsible for setting standards for local school districts to meet in student, program, service and

operational performance and mandates corrective action when any district does not meet those standards or its leaders are not successful in making improvements. However, the board tempers its legal power with a respect for the local autonomy of each school district.

The board reviews the Department of Education's budget requests and makes recommendations to the governor. The board's Strategic Plan provides focus and guidance in carrying out its responsibilities.

Communicating with the Board

Members of the Kentucky Board of Education represent all geographic regions of Kentucky. If you have a concern and are seeking the most effective way to bring it to the attention of the entire board, please write to:

Chair
Kentucky Board of Education
1st Floor, Capital Plaza Tower
500 Mero Street
Frankfort, KY 40601
e-mail: MaryAnn.Miller@education.ky.gov

For information on State Board meetings, or copies of meeting minutes/tapes, please contact the board's policy advisor:

Mary Ann Miller
Office of the Commissioner
1st Floor, Capital Plaza Tower
500 Mero Street
Frankfort, KY 40601
e-mail: MaryAnn.Miller@education.ky.gov





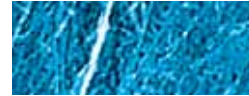
Dorie Combs

Dorie Combs is a professor in the College of Education at Eastern Kentucky University, where she is the chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in middle grades curriculum and reading/language arts. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in secondary English education from the University of South Carolina and a doctorate in educational psychology from the University of Kentucky. Dorie has 15 years of teaching experience at the middle school level in South Carolina and Lexington, Kentucky. Dorie and her husband, Craig, live in Richmond and have two sons, Christopher and John.



Martha Jones

Martha Jones is a native of Danville and graduated from Danville High School. After attending Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina, she graduated from the University of Kentucky with a degree in sociology. Martha worked as a social worker for the Cabinet for Health and Family Services in Boyle County, Jessamine County and Boyd County. She was a continuing education counselor in Boyd County. Martha has been active with Friends of the Children, a non-profit organization that provides clothes for children referred by Family Resource Centers. She is an elder in the First Presbyterian Church. Martha and her husband, William, reside in Ashland and have two sons, Will and Neal.



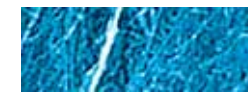
Jonathan Parrent

Jonathan Parrent currently serves as dean of student affairs at Madisonville Community College. He earned his bachelor's degree in history from Kentucky Wesleyan College and completed a master of arts in history from Murray State University and a master of arts in higher education administration from the University of Louisville. He is enrolled at the University of Kentucky in the educational leadership doctoral program. Jonathan serves on the Glema Mahr Center for the Arts Advisory Committee and volunteers with the Caldwell County Soccer Association. Jonathan and his wife, Jennifer, live in Princeton and have two children, Parker and Jacob, attending the Caldwell County school system.



Mary Gwen Wheeler

Mary Gwen Wheeler of Louisville is interim executive director of 55,000 Degrees, a partnership focused on improving education attainment. She previously served for eight years in Louisville Metro Government as the mayor's senior advisor for Education and Youth and cabinet secretary for Health and Family Services. Mary Gwen spent ten years as a project manager and vice president of Planning and Development with the National Center for Family Literacy. She received a bachelor's degree from Yale University and a master's from Yale's School of Management. Mary Gwen also volunteers her time with the University of Louisville Overseers, the Jefferson County Public Education Foundation and the Yale-China Association. She is married to David A. Jones, Jr. and they have two children.



Judith H. Gibbons

Judith H. Gibbons of Lakeside Park is a retired vice president of a professional career management firm. She holds a bachelor of science degree from the University of Florida and has a long history of involvement in education initiatives. As a community volunteer, her focus has been on promoting education excellence and implementing stronger collaboration between the business and education communities. Judy is a graduate of Leadership Northern Kentucky and serves on the Northern Kentucky University Foundation, Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce Education Alliance and Education Policy committees, the Northern Kentucky Education Action Team and the Northern Kentucky Education Council. She and her husband, Mike, have three children and three grandchildren.



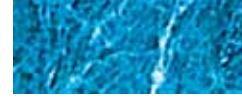
David Karem

David Karem of Louisville is president of the Louisville Waterfront Development Corporation. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Cincinnati's College of Design, Architecture, Art and Planning and a juris doctorate degree from the University of Louisville. For 33 years, David served in the Kentucky General Assembly and for 20+ years on the Southern Regional Education Board (committee chair and treasurer). He is the past chair of the Louisville Science Center's Educational Advisory Board and is a member of the boards of Spalding University and the Louisville Main Street Association. David and his wife, Anne, have two sons, Dr. Jeff Karem and doctoral candidate Andrew Karem, both educated in the Jefferson County school system.



Brigitte Blom Ramsey

Brigitte Ramsey of Pendleton County holds a master's degree in public policy from the University of Kentucky and undergraduate degrees in economics and international studies from Northern Kentucky University. She served on the Pendleton County Board of Education for ten years, where she maintained a strong focus on individual academic achievement and establishing educational leadership. Brigitte has worked in various research capacities for Northern Kentucky University, the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, the University of Cincinnati and Kentucky Youth Advocates. Currently, she is working as Associate Manager, Strategic Resources and Public Policy for United Way of Greater Cincinnati. She has four school-age children.



Billy Harper

Billy Harper is a graduate of Heath High School and the University of Kentucky with a degree in engineering. Billy serves as president of Harper Industries Inc., a construction holding company with subsidiaries in Kentucky and Tennessee. He serves on the University of Kentucky Mechanical Engineering Advisory Council and helped establish the Paducah Campus Engineering Program. Billy has served on state and national boards for the Council of Economic Education, the Governor's Scholars Program and the McCracken County Board of Education. Billy is also a professional race car driver competing on the ADRL and NHRA circuits. Billy and his wife, Laura, live in Paducah and have four children.



Roger L. Marcum

Roger L. Marcum is executive vice president of St. Catharine College after retiring from 34 years of service as a teacher, principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent in Kentucky public education. A native of London, Roger earned his bachelor's degree from Berea College and his master's from Eastern Kentucky University. He also earned his Rank I and Kentucky superintendent certification from ECU. Active in community service, Roger recently served as the chair of the Centre Square Committee of the City of Lebanon and for the past 10 years as a member of Marion County/Lebanon Industrial Foundation Board of Directors. He also served as past president of the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents, Kentucky Association of School Administrators, the Kentucky Association of School Councils and the Council for Better Education. Roger and his wife, Bobbie, have two children.



William L. Twyman

William L. Twyman is a semi-retired educator and works part-time with Educational Directions of Louisville. He taught math and science mainly in the Glasgow Independent school district and served in administration as a principal and in the central office. He was among the first educators in Kentucky to receive the Milken Educator Award (1993). William did his undergraduate work at Campbellsville University and George Peabody University and earned a master's and a Rank I at Western Kentucky University. He serves on the Western Kentucky University Advisory Board and the Glasgow Community Medical Care Board and is a member of the Glasgow Kiwanis Club. He and his wife, Lou Frances, have four children and seven grandchildren.

