

**Kentucky Board of Education Retreat  
December 2, 2020 9:00 AM  
Kentucky Department of Education, 300 Sower Boulevard  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
Video Teleconference Meeting**

*Minutes*

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) held its regular meeting on December 2, 2020. Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-243 and a memorandum issued by the Finance and Administration Cabinet dated March 16, 2020, and in an effort to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the KBE met utilizing a video teleconference. Members of the public were not be permitted to attend the meeting in person, but were encouraged to view the meeting on the Kentucky Department of Education’s (KDE) Media Portal. The board conducted the following business:

**1. Call the meeting to order**

Chair Young welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. ET. Chair Young reminded members that the meeting still must comply with the requirements of the Open Meeting Act. Chair Young also stated that for any items that required a vote, a roll call vote was necessary to record the vote of each board member. Additionally, Chair Young shared the vision of the board’s July 10 resolution and highlighted one statement from the resolution, “critical conversations about racial trauma and implicit bias are needed across Kentucky regardless of the racial makeup in our schools, districts, or communities.”

**2. Roll Call**

Chair Young asked for a roll call of members. The following members were present: JoAnn Adams, Claire Batt, Holly Bloodworth, Alvis Johnson, Cody Pauley Johnson, Patrice McCrary, Randy Poe, Sharon Porter Robinson, Lee Todd, Lu Young, Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, Amanda Ellis on behalf of CPE President Dr. Aaron Thompson, Solyana Mesfin and Allison Slone.

KBE member Mike Bowling was absent.

KBE Executive Director Jennifer Fraker stated a quorum was present.

**3. Internal Board Business**

**A. Approval of Resolution**

Chair Young asked the board for a consideration of a resolution in honor of KBE Executive Director Jennifer Fraker’s last board meeting.

A motion to approve bringing forward a resolution honoring Jennifer Fraker was made by Alvis Johnson and seconded by Patrice McCrary. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote, while members expressed appreciation for Fraker’s efforts.

Chair Young read the resolution. A motion to approve the resolution as read was made by Holly Bloodworth and seconded by Sharon Robinson. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

**B. Approval of Summary Minutes for October 6, 2020 Retreat Meeting, October 7, 2020 Regular Meeting, November 6, 2020 Special Meeting and December 1, 2020 Awards Committee Meeting (Action/Discussion Item)**

Chair Young shared that the minutes for August 6, 2020 Regular Meeting, August 28, 2020 Special Meeting and October 2, 2020 Awards Committee Meeting were distributed to members in advance. The chair asked for any corrections to any of these minutes; there were none.

Chair Young asked for a motion to approve the minutes and Lee Todd made the motion. Alvis Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

**C. Adoption of Resolution to Establish the Commonwealth Education Continuum (Action/Discussion Item)**

Chair Young shared information on the history and development of the Commonwealth Education Continuum which would be announced publicly via a press conference on December 3, 2020 with Gov. Andy Beshear. Commissioner of Education Dr. Glass shared that the resolution was crucial to best prepare Kentucky's students for future success. CPE President Aaron Thompson shared similar comments and expressed that the council will not be a council in name only, but one that seeks to use data to help students holistically. Chair Young then read the resolution.

Chair Young asked for a motion to approve the resolution and Alvis Johnson made the motion. Randy Poe seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

**D. Discussion and Approval of the KBE Kevin C. Brown Strategic Priority Award Recipient (Action/Discussion Item)**

Patrice McCrary, on behalf of the Awards Committee, shared that the committee met and determined two candidates who best met the criteria of the award, candidates 5 and 7. However, after further review, it was determined that candidate 7 was ineligible. Accordingly, Committee Chair McCrary moved approval of candidate 5 as the sole recipient of the Kentucky Board of Education Kevin C. Brown Strategic Priority Award.

Chair Young asked for a motion for approval of candidate 5 as this year's KBE Kevin C. Brown Strategic Priority Award winner. Claire Batt made the motion and Holly Bloodworth seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

**E. Approval of Committee Assignments for KBE Members Randy Poe and Solyana Mesfin (Action/Discussion Item)**

Chair Young explained that the board's two new members, Dr. Randy Poe and Solyana Mesfin, need to be assigned to committees according to Board Policy.

Chair Young asked for a motion to approve Randy Poe and Solyana Mesfin to serve on the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee. Sharon Robinson made the motion and Lee Todd seconded the motion. The motion passed by a majority roll call vote, while Randy Poe abstained from voting as he was named in the motion.

Chair Young then asked for a motion to approve Solyana Mesfin to serve on the Awards Committee. Holly Bloodworth made the motion and Patrice McCrary seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote with thanks from Patrice McCrary to the members of the Awards Committee on their efforts.

**F. Discussion and Possible Amendment of KBE Policy Manual (Action/Discussion Item)**

KBE Executive Director Jennifer Fraker presented proposed changes to the KBE Policy Manual for discussion and consideration of adoption. KDE General Counsel Todd Allen clarified the nature of the proposed changes and Chair Young explained the board's intent on using only one reading of a regulation due to the lengthened regulatory process.

Chair Young asked for a motion to approve the KBE Policy Manual as proposed. JoAnn Adams made the motion and Lee Todd seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

**4. Action to Suspend Standing Committee Meetings (Action/Discussion Item)**

Chair Young announced that the board needed to take action to suspend standing committees as they are established in the KBE Policy Manual. Committee meetings needed to be suspended during this meeting due to teleconferencing limitations and for efficiency.

Alvis Johnson made a motion to suspend standing committee meetings. Holly Bloodworth seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

**5. Good News Items (Review Item)**

Patrice McCrary shared information about Dishman McGinnis Elementary (BGID) being selected as Kentucky's Representative for the White House Holiday Tree. Solyana Mesfin shared that the 2021 National Language Teacher of the Year (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) was Elena Kamenetzky, a Japanese teacher at Eastern High School in Jefferson County. Cody Pauley Johnson shared that one of the nation's top youth beekeepers named by the North American Bayer Bee Care Program was, 16-year-old junior, Emma Stevens from Greenup County High School. Lt. Governor

congratulated the 2020 Recognizing Inspirational School Employees (RISE) Award winners: Robert Walker, a school safety and wellness coordinator in Harrison County, and Shelly Thomas, a family resource center coordinator in Barren County. Chair Young shared the story of Pat Harkleroad and Ana Reyes and expressed her appreciation of the efforts of all of Kentucky's teachers.

**6. Report from the President of the Council on Postsecondary Education – CPE Associate Vice President Amanda Ellis**

CPE Associate Vice President Dr. Amanda Ellis thanked the board for the adoption of the resolution to establish the Commonwealth Education Continuum and presented brief updates on the postsecondary initiatives.

**7. Report from the Secretary of the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet**

Lt. Governor Coleman shared that she also was thankful for the board's adoption of the Commonwealth Education Continuum and expressed that since being named as Secretary of the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet, she wanted to have an education system in Kentucky focused on a cradle-to-career approach. Coleman also presented brief remarks on workforce development efforts in the midst of the COVID pandemic.

**8. Report from the Commissioner of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA)**

KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett presented information on the composition and makeup of the KHSAA Board of Control. Tackett then gave brief remarks concerning updates on fall and winter sports.

**9. Report from the Commissioner of Education**

Dr. Glass shared updates on COVID-related impacts; introductions of new staff; updates from the Kentucky School for the Blind, Kentucky School for the Deaf and Area Technology Centers. Dr. Woods-Tucker shared an update on the Equity and Inclusion Scan distributed to superintendents earlier this month, and KDE Chief Communications Officer Toni Konz-Tatman shared a brief update on the board-commissioner communications survey.

**10. Update on the Jefferson County Public Schools 2018 Settlement Agreement and 2020 Management Audit (Review Item)**

KDE Commissioner of Education Dr. Glass provided an overview of the Jefferson County Schools settlement agreement and management audit. Associate Commissioner Kelly Foster presented an update on the commissioner's position following the management audit (audit) of Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS).

## **11. Approval of Consent Agenda (Approved as a Group)**

This item allowed the board to approve the consent agenda as a group in one action as opposed to hearing each individual agenda item. KDE staff identified these items as those that were non-controversial and routine in nature. The items contained in the consent agenda, were as follows:

### **A. Action Consent Items**

1. Approval of New District Facility Plans for the Anderson County, Bellevue Independent, Caldwell County, Carter County, Marshall County, Pike County and Raceland-Worthington Independent School Districts - KDE Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter (Family/Community Involvement)
2. Approval of District Facility Plan Amendments for the Hardin and Scott County School Districts - KDE Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter (Family/Community Involvement)
3. Approval of 2020-2021 Local District Tax Rates Levied - KDE Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter (Family/Community Involvement)
4. Amendment to 702 KAR 5:080, Bus Drivers' Qualifications, Responsibilities and Training (First Reading) - KDE Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and KDE Branch Manager Elisa Hanley (Family/Community Involvement)
5. Approval of the 2019 Carl D. Perkins Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) - KDE Associate Commissioner David Horseman and KDE Policy Advisor Leslie Slaughter (Accountability Reporting)
6. Approval of Waiver of KY Tech Policy 08.5- Flagging Programs and Student/Teacher Ratios - KDE Associate Commissioner David Horseman and KDE Policy Advisor Leslie Slaughter (Student/Family Supports and Coursework Completion)
7. Amendment to 703 KAR 5:280, School Improvement Procedures (Second Reading) - KDE Associate Commissioner Kelly Foster (Strengthening Educators, Student/Family Supports, Student Interventions and Coursework Completion)
8. Approval of Application of Waiver of Administrative Regulations from the Kenton County School District - KDE Associate Commissioner Kelly Foster and KDE Division Director David Cook (District Innovation)

### **B. Information Items**

1. Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) Annual Report on Title IX Deficiencies - KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett, KHSAA General Counsel Chad Collins and KDE General Counsel Todd G. Allen (Student/Family Supports and Accountability Reporting)
2. KDE Employment Report - KDE Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and KDE Division Director Lynn McGowan-McNear (Family/Community Involvement)

The Chair reminded the board members the consent agenda was distributed to members in advance of the meeting to allow sufficient time for review. Chair Young asked if any member wished to have any of the consent agenda items moved to regular discussion items.

No items were moved off of the consent agenda. Chair Young asked for a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda. Alvis Johnson made the motion and JoAnn Adams seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

**12. Presentation and Recognition of Recipients of the 2019-2020 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)**

Commissioner Jason E. Glass, Ed.D., OTL Program Consultants Rae McEntyre and Maggie Doyle recognized the awardees as the most recent recipients of the national award: Torri Martin, Mathematics 2019 PAEMST Winner, J. Graham Brown School (Jefferson County) and Keri Meador, Science 2019 PAEMST Winner, Central High School (Jefferson County). Ms. Martin and Ms. Meador both joined the meeting and shared a few words expressing their gratitude. Jefferson County Superintendent Marty Pollio also thanked the teachers and relayed a congratulatory sentiment.

**13. Presentation of the 2020 Kevin M. Noland-Mary Ann Miller Award**

Commissioner Glass, joined by former KDE Chief of Staff Mary Ann Miller, presented the annual KDE award to Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton and shared comments provided by the nominator in her honor. To celebrate this accomplishment, Hylton's family joined the meeting and provided words of encouragement.

**14. 30-Minute Recess (No Business Was Conducted)**

**15. Public Comment Segment – Public Expression Will Be Accepted Via Email Only and Limited to 30 Minutes.**

Chair Young reminded the public that public expression was solicited via the meeting's news release and distributed to members and staff prior to the meeting. Chair Young thanked Donnie Wilkerson, the sole commenter.

**16. Action/Discussion Items**

**A. New Regulation 704 KAR 8:110 Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for World Language (First Reading)**

KDE Division Director Krista Hall, KDE Branch Manager Thomas Clouse and KDE Program Consultant Erin Chavez presented the proposed new administrative regulation 704 KAR 8:110, which incorporates by reference the newly-drafted *Kentucky Academic Standards for World Language*. Board members shared support for the standards and the important role culture plays in the standards document.

Chair Young asked for a motion to approve the proposed new regulation 704 KAR 8:110, which incorporates by reference the Kentucky Academic Standards for World Language. Sharon Robinson made the motion and JoAnn Adams seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

## **B. Approval of 2020-2021 Local District Working Budgets**

KDE Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter presented the 2020-2021 Local District Working Budgets in accordance with KRS 160.470(6)(b) and 702 KAR 3:110. Ashland Independent Superintendent Sean Howard shared his district's situation and plan to remedy the requirement to turn in a working budget.

Chair Young asked for a motion to approve the 2020-2021 Local District Working Budgets in accordance with KRS 160.470 and to instruct the department to request Ashland Independent school district, which has not submitted a working budget, provide KDE with a report of the financial position of the district within thirty (30) days. Alvis Johnson made the motion and Holly Bloodworth seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

## **17. Review Items**

### **A. Amendment to 703 KAR 5:270, Kentucky's Accountability System (First Reading)**

KDE Associate Commissioner Rhonda Sims and KDE Division Directors Jennifer Stafford and Kevin Hill presented updates on the proposed amendments to 703 KAR 5:270, Kentucky's accountability system, that will align with legislation established in Senate Bill (SB) 158 (2020). Members questions mainly centered on changes to the color-ratings and the minimum number of students needed to form subgroups.

### **B. Introduction and Discussion on Kentucky's Assessment System (Review Item)**

KDE Associate Commissioner Rhonda Sims and KDE Division Director Jennifer Stafford presented an introductory review and discussion on Kentucky's assessment system. Commissioner of Education Dr. Glass shared that little is known about what the future of testing will look like this school year and advised the best plan was to be prepared. It also was announced that beginning in mid-December, the Office of Assessment and Accountability will work to explore innovative, performance-based assessments, with partnership from The Center for Innovation in Education, The Center for Assessment, and KDE's Division of Innovation and Districts of Innovation.

### **C. Audit Update and Expense Reports for the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) and Commissioner of Education (Review Item)**

KDE Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and KDE Division Director Karen Wirth presented an update on the status of the most recent audit activities in the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and local school districts; and allowed for questions on the provided expense reports for the Commissioner and the KBE.

**18. Discussion and Approval of the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) Policy Priorities for the 2021 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly (Action/Discussion Item)**

KDE Commissioner Jason E. Glass, Ed.D. and KDE Interim Director of Government Relations Tracy Goff-Herman presented a proposal in consideration and approval of the board's policy priorities in preparation for the upcoming 2021 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly. Ms. Goff-Herman also shared happenings in the legislature and what members can expect this legislative session.

Chair Young asked for a motion to approve the KBE Policy Priorities for the 2021 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly. JoAnn Adams made the motion and Randy Poe seconded the motion. The motion passed by a majority roll call vote.

**19. Discussion and Possible Adoption of the Commissioner of Education's 2021 Performance Evaluation Goals (Action/Discussion Item)**

KDE Chief Performance Officer Karen Dodd presented the Commissioner of Education's proposed 2020-2021 goals to be used as part of the Commissioner's 2021 performance evaluation. Chair Young reminded members that, in accordance with the KBE Policy Manual, the board shall conduct its annual evaluation of the Commissioner of Education at its October meeting.

Chair Young asked for a motion to approve the KBE Policy Priorities for the 2021 Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly. Alvis Johnson made the motion and Patrice McCrary seconded the motion. The motion passed by a majority roll call vote.

**20. Discussion and Approval of the Kentucky Board of Education Vision and Mission and Goals (Action/Discussion Item)**

KDE Chief Performance Officer Karen Dodd led the board in a discussion to finalize the board's vision and mission and goals. Ms. Dodd presented possible mission statements for the members to consider and members selected option A. Ms. Dodd also had members consider and decide on changes to the board goals.

Chair Young asked for a motion to approve the proposed vision, mission and revised board goals. Claire Batt made the motion and JoAnn Adams seconded the motion. The motion passed by a majority roll call vote.

**21. Hearing Officer's Report**

General Counsel Todd Allen presented a review of regulations.

**A. Statement of Consideration for 702 KAR 4:090, Property Disposal (Action/Discussion Item)**



General Counsel Todd Allen, along with Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and Policy Advisor Matt Ross, presented information on the recommended amendments to 702 KAR 4:090, Property Disposal.

Chair Young asked for a motion to accept the recommended amendments. Patrice McCrary made the motion and Alvis Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed by a majority roll call vote.

**B. Statement of Consideration for 702 KAR 1:190E, District Employee Emergency Leave (Action/Discussion Item)**

General Counsel Todd Allen, along with Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and Policy Advisor Matt Ross, presented information on the public comments to 702 KAR 1:190E, District Employee Emergency Leave. KDE staff explained that based on the public comment that was received, no further changes would be made to the regulation.

Chair Young asked for a motion to accept the Statement of Consideration which did not make changes to the regulation. Alvis Johnson made the motion and Claire Batt seconded the motion. The motion passed by a majority roll call vote.

**22. Litigation Report**

KDE Interim General Counsel Todd Allen shared that the litigation report, which provided updates to the KBE on pending litigation involving the KBE and/or KDE, could be found on the internal board portal.

**23. Board Member Sharing**

Chair Young shared that KBE member Cody Johnson had to step away from the meeting, but that she would share updates on the Whole School, Whole Child, Whole Community subcommittee at the board's regular February meeting. Chair Young also expressed appreciation for and value of KBE members' -- Lu Young, Claire Batt and Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman -- involvement in the National Association of School Boards of Education (NASBE) Whole Child Policy Study Group.

**24. Adjournment**

Chair Young thanked the KBE members for another meeting. She then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alvis Johnson made the motion to adjourn and Patrice McCrary seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.