

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) held day one of its regular meeting on February 5, 2025. The KBE met both virtually and in-person at the Kentucky Department of Education, 300 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort KY. Members of the public were permitted to attend the meeting in person although encouraged to view the meeting on the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) Media Portal. The board conducted the following business:

I. Call to Order

Chair Sharon Robinson welcomed all board members and guests to the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. ET.

II. Roll Call

Chair Robinson asked for a roll call of members. The following members were present: Holly Bloodworth, Mike Borchers, Juston Pate, Julie Pile, Randy Poe, Sharon Porter Robinson, Lee Todd, Steve Trimble, Diane Woods, Lu Young, Lawrence McCrobie, Preston Graham, and Secretary Jamie Link. KDE Director of Education Policy GlyptusAnn Grider Jones stated a quorum was present.

III. Public Comment Session

Chair Robinson stated that the Public Comment Segment is limited to 10 speakers at a maximum of 3 minutes each. No one submitted items via the KBE email inbox, however one individual, Tanyqua Oliver, attended in-person to comment.

IV. Internal Board Business

A. Summary Minutes for December 4, 2024 KBE Regular Meeting Day 1; December 4, 2024 KBE State Schools Committee Meeting; December 4, 2024 United We Learn Committee Meeting; December 5, 2024 KBE Regular Meeting Day 2; and January 30, 2025 KBE Awards Committee Meeting (Action/Discussion)

The minutes of the December 4, 2024 KBE Regular Meeting Day 1; December 4, 2024 KBE State Schools Committee Meeting; December 4, 2024 United We Learn Committee Meeting; December 5, 2024 KBE Regular Meeting Day 2; and January 30, 2025 KBE Awards Committee Meeting were distributed to members in advance. Chair Robinson asked for any corrections to any of the minutes. There were no corrections. Chair Robinson asked for a motion to approve all of the meeting minutes. The motion was made by Holly Bloodworth and seconded by Julie Pile. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

B. Recipient of the 2025 Robinson Award for Diversity and Equity in Public Education (Action/Discussion)

On behalf of the KBE Awards Committee, Chair Diane Woods presented the information related to the award description. Chair Woods shared that the committee met on Thursday, January 30 and determined that candidates 10/13 and 11 best met the criteria of the award. Chair Woods moved to approve candidates 10/13 and 11 as the recipients and asked the chair for the board's approval to recognize the recipients at the board's March regular meeting. The motion did not require a second as it came from the committee. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

V. Consent Agenda

- A. Hearing Officer's Report-** KDE General Counsel Todd G. Allen
- B. Amendment to 701 KAR 5:055, Removal hearing procedures-** KDE General Counsel Todd G. Allen
- C. Certification of 701 KAR 5:120, Prevention of sexually explicit materials transmitted to schools via computer-** KDE Associate Commissioner David Couch and KDE Policy Advisor Lisa Moore
- D. Certification of 704 KAR 3:480, Reading diagnostics and intervention grants-** KDE Deputy Commissioner and Chief Equity Officer Thomas Tucker, Ph.D., KDE Chief Academic Officer Micki Ray Marinelli, and KDE Policy Advisor Sarah Peace
- E. Certification of 704 KAR 3:530, Mathematics Achievement Fund-** KDE Deputy Commissioner and Chief Equity Officer Thomas Tucker, Ph.D., KDE Chief Academic Officer Micki Ray Marinelli, and KDE Policy Advisor Sarah Peace
- F. 2024-2025 Tax Rates Levied-** KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter

Chair Robinson remarked that the consent agenda items were distributed to members in advance of the meeting for review, however, if an item is moved, the chair may decide to take up the matter immediately or move it to a discussion item later in the agenda. None of the items were moved and Chair Robinson asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was made by Steve Trimble and seconded by Lee Todd. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

VI. Action/Discussion Items

A. Litigation Report

For the purpose of discussing the Litigation Report, Chair Robinson recommended that the board enter into closed session under the Open Meetings Act, KRS 61.810 (1) (c) and KRS 61.815 to discuss proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the KBE. Lu Young made a motion to move to closed session and Diane Woods seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote. After returning from the closed session, Chair Robinson said that the KBE took no action.

B. Waiver Request from the Carroll County Board of Education Related to 702 KAR 4:180- KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter

KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross presented the waiver request. Following a discussion with the full board, Chair Robinson called for a motion to approve the waiver requests from the Carroll County Board of Education, specifically the waiver of Sec. 305.2.4 as well as the 125% limitation in Sec. 305 of the Kentucky Facilities Planning Manual, incorporated in 702 KAR 4:180. The motion was made by Randy Poe and seconded by Steve Trimble. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

C. Waiver Request from the Campbell County Board of Education Related to 702 KAR 4:180- KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter

KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross presented the waiver request. Following a discussion with the full board, Chair Robinson called for a motion to approve the waiver request from the Campbell County Board of Education, specifically the 125% limitation in Sec. 305 of the Kentucky Facilities Planning Manual, incorporated in 702 KAR 4:180. The motion was made by Mike Borchers and seconded by Lu Young. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

D. Waiver Request from the Edmonson County Board of Education Related to 702 KAR 4:050- KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter

KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross presented the waiver request. Following a discussion with the full board, Chair Robinson called for a motion to approve the waiver of 702 KAR 4:050, Sec. 4(4)(b), for the Edmonson County Board of Education, for property acquisition to replace

Kyrook Elementary School. The motion was made by Diane Woods and seconded by Lee Todd. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

E. Waiver Request from the Newport Independent Board of Education Related to 702 KAR 4:170- KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter

KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross presented the waiver request. Following a discussion with the full board, Chair Robinson called for a motion to approve the waiver request from the Newport Independent Board of Education to waive Part 2.A.15 of the Facility Programming Construction Criteria Planning Guide, incorporated in 702 KAR 4:170. The motion was made by Randy Poe and seconded by Julie Pile. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

VII. Review Items

A. Boyd County Update

KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter presented the financial report from Boyd County Schools. District representatives, including Superintendent Bill Boblett, also attended the meeting virtually to address the board. The presentation updated board members regarding the loan KDE provided the Boyd County School District and the district's steps moving forward.

B. Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) Annual Report on Title IX Deficiencies

KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett and KDE Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel Todd Allen presented the update. Tackett said that a report provided to KBE members in advance of the meeting detailed 43 visits to schools regarding Title IX. The report detailed visits from 2024.

C. Legislative Update

KDE Director of Government Relations Brian Perry, Ph.D., presented an update on the current legislative session. Perry highlighted key bills and their potential impact on education. He discussed topics such as teacher misconduct, red tape reduction, and Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) days.

D. AdvanceKY Annual Update

Executive Director Anthony Mires, Access to Algebra Director Annette Williams, College Readiness Program Director Aaron Timmons, KDE Chief Academic Officer Micki Ray Marinelli, and KDE Deputy Commissioner Dr. Thomas Tucker presented the annual update. The presenters said that Kentucky's AdvanceKY program, funded through a combination of federal, state, and foundation sources, aims to improve student outcomes, particularly in math. Modeled after the Advanced Placement (AP) program, it offers initiatives like "Access to Algebra" for middle schoolers, focusing on 8th-grade algebra readiness. Through the Kentucky Numeracy Counts Act (2024), AdvanceKY will expand its reach, doubling the number of schools served and providing more professional development, including a new teacher mentoring program, presenters said. The program also supported the statewide launch of AP Precalculus for the 2023-24 school year.

E. Communicating College and Career Opportunities to Kentucky Students

KDE Communications Director Jennifer Ginn; Jessica Fletcher, Kentucky Center for Statistics; and Amanda Ellis, Council on Postsecondary Education, presented the update. The presenters described Futuriti, a new tool and website that aggregates information related to careers, education, financial aid, and job opportunities to assist Kentucky students explore college and career opportunities. They discussed the website development process and its alignment with KBE goals.

F. Update from the 2025 Kentucky Teacher of the Year (KTOY)

2025 Kentucky Teacher of the Year Jennifer Montgomery presented the update, with KDE program consultant Allie Green joining. Montgomery introduced herself to board members and spoke about her teaching style. She said that she was excited to spend a six-month sabbatical experience with KDE as part of her year-long term as KTOY.

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Robinson thanked everyone for a productive meeting and asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Steve Trimble and seconded by Juston Pate. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 3:59 P.M. E.T.