

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) Awards Committee met on July 29, 2026. The committee members met virtually. Members of the public were encouraged to view the meeting on the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) Media Portal. The committee conducted the following business:

I. Call to Order

Chair Julie Pile called the meeting to order and welcomed those watching virtually. The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. ET.

II. Roll Call

Chair Pile asked for a roll call of members. The following members were present: Julie Pile, Lu Young. KDE Executive Administrative Secretary Taylor Perry stated that a quorum was present.

III. 2026 Kelly Award for Business and Education Partnership

A. Review of Criteria for Selecting the Recipient of the Kelly Award for Business and Education Partnership

Chair Pile provided an overview and brief discussion of the criteria for the Kelly Award. She said that "the award is given each year to a Kentucky businessperson or business who has partnered with a public school or district to provide outstanding leadership that promotes school improvement and student success." She also stated that "Criteria for the award include: creating or sustaining strategic partnership between a business and school or district that leads to improved outcomes, including but not limited to, postsecondary success and workforce outcomes; and, significant contribution to a school or a district that leads or will likely lead to increased or improved educational opportunities or improved educational, postsecondary, or workforce outcomes for students."

B. Review and Discussion of Nominations for the Kelly Award for Business and Education Partnership

Committee members were asked to review the candidates prior to the meeting using a provided rubric. Chair Pile led members in a review and discussion of nominations. All members positively commented on the qualifications of candidate 2.

C. Approve Recommendation of Individual(s) as the Recipient of the Kelly Award for Business and Education Partnership

The committee determined that its top applicant was candidate 2. A vote was necessary to bring the recommendation before the full board for consideration of approval at its August 5, 2026 regular meeting. Based on

the candidate's extraordinary efforts and contributions in the area of business and education partnership, Chair Pile asked the committee to entertain a motion to approve candidate 2 as the recipient of the 2026 Kelly Award for Business and Education Partnership. The motion was made by Lu Young and seconded by Julie Pile. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

IV. Adjournment

Chair Pile thanked everyone for their time and a productive meeting. Chair Pile requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Lu Young and seconded by Julie Pile. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 P.M. ET.