



KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION

JUNE BOARD NOTES

NOTE: The agenda and materials for all Kentucky Board of Education meetings can be found on the [board's online materials site](#). Also, [a recording of the June 6 regular session](#) can be found online.

Volume 25, No. 3 – Report of the June 6, 2018 Regular Meeting

INTERIM COMMISSIONER LEWIS SHARES EDUCATION POLICY PRIORITIES

Interim Commissioner Wayne Lewis discussed his education policy priorities with the board as follows:

Education Policy Priorities:

Achievement Gap: Interim Commissioner Lewis defined achievement gaps as the differences between the performance of different groups of students. He pointed out the gaps in Kentucky and across our country have been extraordinary. He stated we have made very little progress in our state in closing achievement gaps. He indicated that in some cases and in some districts, racial, economic, and ethnic achievement gaps have widened. He stated closing achievement gaps is at the top of his priority list.

Early Learning: Interim Commissioner Lewis stated the need to significantly increase young learners' proficiency in reading and mathematics as measured by standardized examinations in third grade. He noted we must move forward on literacy and numeracy in early learning.

High School Graduation Requirements: He expressed we can no longer have a public education system where we issue high school diplomas to students who cannot read. He stated there are two non-negotiables. One, we will not issue high school diplomas to kids we have not taught to read, and we will not issue high school diplomas to kids who we have not taught to do basic math. He pointed out that perhaps we should not issue high school diplomas to kids if they have not demonstrated the ability to be prepared to do something after they leave high school. He said that may mean an associate's degree, a four-year degree, a certificate program or a career where they can make a living wage and support a family someday.

Sills Gap: He stated Kentucky must increase the number and percentage of high school students completing CTE pathways and earning industry recognized credentials in high-demand sectors.

Early Postsecondary Opportunities (EPOs): He expressed the importance of increasing the number and percentage of high school students successfully completing early postsecondary opportunities (EPOs), i.e., including dual credit, dual enrollment, articulated credit, Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Cambridge.

Reducing Bureaucracy: Interim Commissioner Lewis communicated a need for flexibility and autonomy for public schools and school districts in exchange for performance accountability. He pointed out a component of the solution may be including revision of the current Districts of Innovation (DOI) program through proposed changes to regulation and statute, and continuing to advocate for increased flexibility for public schools with the Kentucky General Assembly.

School/Program Choice: He shared the necessity to expand the number and type of high-quality public school options available to Kentucky's students. These may include high-quality schools and programs of choice within traditional public school districts, KDE-operated schools and area technology centers (ATCs), and the growth of a new public charter school sector.

The full report given by Interim Commissioner Lewis can be found on the KBE online materials site.

ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS OF DISTINCTION RECOGNITION

The following alternative programs of distinction were recognized for their outstanding work:

- Jackson Academy (Warren County)
- McDaniel Learning Center (Laurel County)
- Perry County Alternative School
- Adair Youth Development Center
- Calloway County Day Treatment
- Covington Alternative Programs (Covington Independent)
- Cumberland Hall School (Christian County)
- McCracken Regional School
- Ramey-Estep High School (Boyd County)
- Western Day Treatment (JCPS)

PAST KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS RECOGNITION

Former Kentucky Board of Education Chair, Mary Gwen Wheeler, was honored and recognized for her service.

MINIMUM HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Kentucky Board of Education members were in consensus that Kentucky must make stronger connections of what students are learning with more application of the learning. There was discussion that high school graduation in Kentucky should ensure students successful transition to postsecondary or career ready for the next step. For more information on the high school graduation requirements, please contact Laura Arnold at (502) 564-4286 or via email at laura.arnold@education.ky.gov or Amanda Ellis at (502) 564-9850 or via email at Amanda.ellis@education.ky.gov.

ITEMS APPROVED AT THE JUNE BOARD MEETING WERE:

- Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) Advisory Board Appointments
- New District Facility Plans: Fulton County, Mercer County and Metcalfe County

- 2019 Kentucky Minimum Specifications for School
- Approval of School District Indirect Cost Rates for Fiscal Year 2018-2019
- Approval of KBE Curriculum and Management Committee Members
- 703 KAR 5:280, School Improvement Procedures
- Approval of Opportunity and Access data review timeline
- Test Widow Flexibility to Support Online Testing
- Voluntary Certification of Non-Public Schools
- 2018-19 Preschool Grant Allotment system and Funding Rates
- 704 KAR 3:015, Kentucky All STARS for Preschool Programs
- Kentucky Academic Standards for Historical and cultural Influences of the Bible Elective Social Studies Course
- KDE Capital Funds Request Guidelines for Fiscal Year 2018 -19
- Approval Annual In-Service Training of Board members; 2017 Report, 2017 Exceptions and 2019 Plan

ITEMS REVIEWED AT THE JUNE BOARD MEETING WITH NO ACTION TAKEN WERE:

- Kentucky Department of Education Strategic Plan
- 2018-2020 Biennial Budget Update
- 701 KAR 5:140 Districts of Innovation
- High School Graduation Requirements
- Standard Setting Process
- Designation of Agent to manage middle and high school athletics and revisions to bylaws
- State management in Breathitt and Menifee School Districts

Future KBE Regular Meeting Dates for 2018

August 1-2, 2018	KBE Retreat at Kentucky Chamber of Commerce & Regular meeting	Frankfort
October 2-3, 2018	Commissioner’s Evaluation Discussion & Regular Meeting	Frankfort
December 5, 2018	Regular meeting	Frankfort

Future KBE Regular Meeting Dates for 2019

February 6, 2019	Regular meeting	Frankfort
April 10, 2019	Regular meeting	Frankfort
June 5, 2019	Regular meeting	Frankfort
August 6-7, 2019	KBE Retreat & Regular meeting	Frankfort
October 2-3, 2019	Commissioner’s Evaluation Discussion & Regular Meeting	Frankfort
December 4, 2019	Regular meeting	Frankfort

For more information on meeting dates, please contact [Susan Palmer](#) at (502) 564-3141, ext. 4808.

The actions described above were taken in open session of the Kentucky Board of Education at the June 6, 2018, regular meeting, conducted in Frankfort, Kentucky. This information is provided in summary form, and an official record of the meeting is available on tape in the permanent records of the Kentucky Board

of Education, 300 Sower Blvd., 5th Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. These records are open for inspection Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Kentucky Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.