Kentucky Board of EDUCATION

KENTUCKY Education Professional Standards Board

Joint Resolution Adopting the Recommendations of the Research Practice Collaborative

WHEREAS, the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) has statutory authority to manage all common or public schools in the Commonwealth and all programs operated in such schools;

WHEREAS, the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) has statutory authority to establish the standards and requirements for obtaining and maintaining educator certification; accredit educator preparation providers and approving educator preparation programs; select assessments for teachers and administrators; and, process, pursuant to KRS 161.120, complaints of educator misconduct in the Commonwealth of Kentucky;

WHEREAS, the KBE and the EPSB jointly formed the Research Practice Collaborative in October 2025;

WHEREAS, participants in the Research Practice Collaborative included members of the KBE and EPSB as well as KDE staff members, classroom educators, school and district administrators, educator preparation program faculty, and education-focused community stakeholders;

WHEREAS, in order to understand and support Kentucky's educator workforce, with a particular focus on factors influencing educator retention and the role of vibrant learning environments in promoting teacher satisfaction and career persistence, the Research Practice Collaborative was tasked with gathering, over the course of approximately seven (7) months, insights on what drives educator retention, why mid-career teachers leave, and how vibrant classroom learning environments influence teacher satisfaction and career persistence;

WHEREAS, the Research Practice Collaborative determined that a review of scholarly literature and Kentucky-specific data indicates that working conditions, leadership support, access to high-quality, embedded professional learning, and career advancement opportunities are some of the primary drivers of educator retention; and,

WHEREAS, in light of these findings, the Research Practice Collaborative made two (2) overarching recommendations for consideration by the KBE and the EPSB, including (1) to develop a continuum of growth and support for educators from pre-service to retirement and (2) to develop a continuum of support and growth for school leaders in order to strengthen principal capacity for talent management, working conditions, and instructional leadership. These recommendations were presented to the KBE at its meeting on June 3-4, 2026 and to the EPSB at its meeting on June 22, 2026.

NOW, THREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the KBE and the EPSB (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Boards") desire to formalize their appreciation of the work done by the Research Practice Collaborative and commit to undertaking implementation efforts, within each Boards' respective

statutory authority, of the two (2) recommendations of the Research Practice Collaborative as set forth herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, as to Research Practice Collaborative Recommendation (1), the Boards, by and through staff of the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), will continue to work independently and, where appropriate, collaboratively to further the establishment of a structured statewide system that supports educators at every career stage by integrating mentoring, professional learning, coaching, communities of practice, and teacher leadership—allowing educators to grow, lead, and remain connected to the classroom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, as to Research Practice Collaborative Recommendation (2), the Boards, by and through staff of the KDE, will collaborate to timely and effectively implement the principal leadership development practicum established in Senate Bill 4 (2026) and, thereafter, will continue to work independently and, where appropriate, collaboratively to identify additional ways to strengthen principal capacity for talent management, improve working conditions, and advance instructional leadership.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Boards support policy and funding conditions that enable implementation of Research Practice Collaborative Recommendations (1) and (2) and, to that end, urge the Kentucky General Assembly to continue prioritizing investments in public education as well as educators and to continue partnering with the Boards, KDE, and other stakeholders to establish a coherent, career-long system of support that strengthens educator effectiveness and improves long term workforce stability in the Commonwealth's public schools.

ADOPTED by the Kentucky Board of Education on this ____day of _____, 2026.

ADOPTED by the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board on this ____day of _____, 2026.

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Chair
Kentucky Board of Education

Chair
Education Professional Standards Board