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MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Lu Young, Chair of the Kentucky Board of Education

COPY: All Members of the Kentucky Board of Education

FROM: L. Amber Snell
Ms. L. Amber Snell, Chair of the Education Professional Standards Board

DATE: October 6, 2026

SUBJECT: Report from the Education Professional Standards Board

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide the Kentucky Board of Education with a brief written update on recent happenings of the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB). At its meeting on August 18, 2026, the EPSB initiated the process to amend 16 KAR 2:010, which pertains to Kentucky professional and provisional teacher certificates, as well as 16 KAR 5:040, which governs admission, placement, and supervision in student teaching. Those revisions will not be final until they successfully complete the required legislative review processes, which should occur around April or May 2027 and in time for the 2027-2028 school year.

At the August meeting, the EPSB further approved several educator preparation programs, including:

- The University of the Cumberlands' School District Administration Education Specialist Program for Supervisor of Instruction, Director of Pupil Personnel and Superintendent Certifications;
- The University of Louisville's Learning and Behavior Disorders, Moderate to Severe Disabilities and Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education Initial Undergraduate Programs for Single Certification and Dual Certification LBD & MSD or MSD and IECE;
- Morehead State University's Proficiency Evaluation Plan for Initial Graduate Business and Marketing Education, Health and Physical Education, and Agriculture Education; and,

- Six (6) new Option 9 programs.

The EPSB also met on September 8, 2026, and, at that time, considered proposed amendments to 16 KAR 8:040, which addresses ranking of occupation-based career and technical education teachers. Further, the EPSB considered the Joint Resolution Adopting the Recommendations of the Research Practice Collaborative (Resolution), which was favorably received by EPSB members. I anticipate the EPSB taking action on this Resolution at its upcoming meeting on October 20, 2026.

Finally, the EPSB met virtually on September 28, 2026, to review character and fitness as well as new educator complaints and reports. This meeting supported our board's mission to enforce rigorous professional standards for preparation, certification, and responsible and ethical behavior of all professional educators in Kentucky.

The EPSB will hold its next regular, in-person meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 2026. That agenda is not yet final; however, in addition to taking action on the Resolution as noted above, I expect that the EPSB will consider its priorities for the upcoming legislative session as well as take action on several regulatory amendments at that meeting.