Kentucky Board of EDUCATION

2026-2027 Commissioner Goals

Goal 1: Strengthen Kentucky's Education Workforce Through a Statewide Talent Pipeline and Development of a Continuum of Growth and Support for Educators

Implement and continuously improve a statewide application and talent management system that streamlines access to employment opportunities for certified and classified staff, strengthens recruitment and retention efforts, ensures every Kentucky school has access to a highly qualified workforce, and supports the expansion of opportunities for educators to grow, lead, and remain connected to the classroom.

Evidence of Progress

- Launch and expand statewide participation in the educator and classified staff application system.
- Increase applicant access to employment opportunities across districts and regions.
- Utilize workforce data to identify shortages, support targeted recruitment strategies, and inform policy recommendations.
- Collaborate with Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB), postsecondary partners, districts, and education cooperatives to establish a statewide vision for career-long educator development and teacher leadership in order to strengthen educator pipelines workforce sustainability.

Goal 2: Build Leadership Capacity to Support High-Quality Teaching and Vibrant Learning

Lead the statewide implementation of the principal development program established through Senate Bill 4 to ensure new principals possess the instructional leadership skills necessary to improve student outcomes, support educators, and create vibrant learning environments in every Kentucky school.

Evidence of Progress

- Successfully implement the statewide principal training program.
- Establish mentorship and coaching structures that support principal growth.

- Align principal learning experiences with Kentucky's vision for vibrant learning and continuous improvement.
- Utilize participant and district feedback to strengthen program quality and long-term impact.

Goal 3: Advocate for Equitable Access Through Sustainable Investment in Students and Schools

Work with policymakers to secure funding that supports student success through full-funding of school transportation and modernization of Kentucky's school facilities funding model.

Evidence of Progress

- Advance legislative and budget proposals supporting full transportation funding.
- Develop recommendations to modernize school facilities financing and planning.
- Communicate the impact of transportation and facilities funding on student opportunity and achievement.

Goal 4: Scale Local Accountability and Vibrant Learning Across the Commonwealth

Expand the implementation of Kentucky's local accountability model by increasing the percentage of participating schools and districts and ensuring local measures are trustworthy and directly connected to vibrant learning experiences, community priorities, and meaningful student outcomes.

Evidence of Progress

- Increase district and school participation in local accountability implementation.
- Support school communities in developing high-quality local indicators of success.
- Connect local accountability measures to student engagement, application of learning, community partnerships, and postsecondary readiness.
- Share promising practices and lessons learned to support statewide adoption and continuous improvement.

Goal 5: Sustain Effective Communication and Engagement with KBE Members

Building on the success of this goal in 2025–2026, continue providing timely updates, meaningful opportunities for input, and transparent communication with Kentucky Board of Education members, with a particular focus on supporting the onboarding and engagement of new Board members.

Evidence of Progress

- Weekly commissioner updates and other communications between Board meetings, including but not limited to weekly emails and bi-weekly meetings with Board leadership.
- Timely sharing of key challenges, successes, and emerging issues.
- Effective orientation and support for newly appointed Board members.