The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) held day one of its regular meeting on December 3, 2025. The KBE met in-person at the Kentucky Department of Education, 300 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort KY. Members of the public were permitted to attend the meeting in person although encouraged to view the meeting on the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) Media Portal. The board conducted the following business:

I. Call to Order

Chair Sharon Robinson welcomed all board members and guests to the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. ET.

II. Roll Call

Chair Robinson asked for a roll call of members. The following members were present: Harold McKinney, Juston Pate, Julie Pile, Randy Poe, Sharon Porter Robinson, Lee Todd, Steve Trimble, Lu Young, Harper Blake, Alfonso De Torres Núñez, and Secretary Jamie Link. Holly Bloodworth, Diane Woods, and President Aaron Thompson were absent.

III. Public Comment Session

Chair Robinson stated that the public comment segment is limited to 10 speakers at a maximum of 3 minutes each. No one submitted items via the KBE email inbox, however two individuals, Brandi Dunk and Olivia Tipton, attended in-person to comment

IV. Internal Board Business (Action/Discussion)

A. Summary Minutes for October 1, 2025 KBE Regular Meeting Day 1, October 2, 2025 KBE Regular Meeting Day 2, and November 25, 2025 KBE Awards Committee Meeting

The minutes of the October 1, 2025, KBE Regular Meeting Day 1; October 2, 2025 KBE Regular Meeting Day 2; and November 25, 2025 KBE Awards Committee Meeting were distributed to members in advance. Chair Robinson asked for any corrections to any of the minutes. There were no corrections. Chair Robinson asked for a motion to approve all of the meeting minutes. The motion was made by Julie Pile and seconded by Steve Trimble. The motion passed with a voice vote.

B. Recipient of the 2025 Kevin C. Brown Strategic Priority Award

On behalf of the KBE Awards Committee, Chair Julie Pile presented the information related to the award description. Chair Pile shared that the committee met on Tuesday, November 25 and determined that candidate

4 best met the criteria of the award. Chair Pile moved to approve candidate 4 as the recipient and asked the chair for the board's approval to recognize the recipient at the board's February regular meeting. The motion did not require a second as it came from the committee. The motion passed with a voice vote.

C. **KBE Self-Assessment Results- National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) CEO and President Paolo DeMaria**

Next, Chair Robinson welcomed Paolo DeMaria, CEO and President of the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) to present the results of the board's self-assessment. The last time the board engaged in this type of self-assessment was in 2022. The board reviewed survey results indicating strong collaboration and consensus-building, while acknowledging areas for deeper discussion and engagement with underrepresented stakeholders. The importance of student voice and continuous improvement was emphasized. Members discussed the frequency of self-assessment, the need for disciplined inquiry into data, and the importance of aligning board, legislative, and departmental goals. Plans were discussed relating to continued enhancement of board development processes.

D. **KBE Goals- KDE Chief Performance Officer Karen Dodd and KDE Strategic Plan Program Manager Susan Strange**

Chair Robinson said that in the October regular meeting, the board approved a goal related to adding measurability to the 2025-2026 board goals. She said that KDE's Chief Performance Officer Karen Dodd and Strategic Plan Manager Susan Strange have proposed SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound) goals for the board's review and discussion. The goals were shared with members in advance. Dodd recommended restructuring the board's goals to better align with legislative priorities and the Commissioner's goals, including moving "educational innovation" to the first goal and refining sub-bullets for clarity and measurability. Board members provided feedback on the scope of innovation and the importance of focusing on K-12 transformation, leading to suggested language changes to broaden the focus beyond high school. A tracking spreadsheet was developed and made available in the board portal to assist the board in monitoring progress toward strategic goals.

E. **KBE/KDE Procedural Updates- Commissioner of Education Robbie Fletcher, KDE Director of Education Policy GlyptusAnn Grider Jones, Ph.D., and KDE Chief Performance Officer Karen Dodd**
Next, Chair Robinson invited Commissioner Fletcher and KDE Director of Education Policy Dr. GlyptusAnn Grider Jones to join Karen Dodd for an update on the alignment of the board's goals, commissioner's goals, and legislative priorities. The team outlined procedural changes, including adjustments to staff notes, to further reflect this alignment. Jones provided an update on the planned topics for upcoming 2026 virtual KBE regular meetings for the purpose of board working sessions.

V. Consent Agenda

A. **Request to approve the Hearing Officer's Report-** KDE Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel Todd G. Allen
   a. **Request to approve Statement of Consideration for 701 KAR 5:170, Waiver Requests-** KDE Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel Todd G. Allen
B. **Request to approve the Litigation Report-** KDE Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel Todd G. Allen
C. **Request to approve 2024-2025 Tax Rates Levied by Anchorage Independent School District-** KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter
D. **Request to approve 2025-2026 Tax Rates Levied-** KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter
E. **Request for Approval of 2025-2026 Local District Working Budgets-** KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter
F. **Request for Certification of 702 KAR 1:160, School health services-** KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Policy Advisor Lindsey Swartz
G. **Request for Certification of 704 KAR 8:010, Kentucky academic standards for computer science elective-** KDE Associate Commissioner David Couch, KDE Deputy Commissioner Thomas Tucker, Ph.D., KDE Associate Commissioner Beth Hargis, Ed.D., and KDE Chief Digital Officer Marty Park
~~H. **Request to approve the 156 Salary Schedule**- KDE Associate Commissioner Beth Hargis, Ed.D.~~
~~I. **Request to approve the Federal Carl D. Perkins Consolidated Annual Report (CAR)-** KDE Associate Commissioner Beth Hargis, Ed.D., and KDE Branch Manager Lori Looney~~

J. **Request to approve Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) Advisory Board Appointment of Dr. Robin Cochran-** KDE Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton, Ed.D., and Director Shannon Sparkman
K. **Request to approve Waiver Request, 2025-WV-003, Danville Independent Schools-** KDE Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton, Ed.D. and KDE Division Director Carol Ann Morrison
L. **Request to approve Waiver Request, 2025-WV-006, Adair County-** KDE Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton, Ed.D. and KDE Division Director Carol Ann Morrison
M. **Request to approve Waiver Request, 2025-WV-010, Clay County-** KDE Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton, Ed.D. and KDE Division Director Carol Ann Morrison
N. **Request to approve Waiver Request, 2025-WV-011, Clay County-** KDE Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton, Ed.D. and KDE Division Director Carol Ann Morrison
O. **Request to approve Waiver Request, 2025-WV-012, Clay County-** KDE Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton, Ed.D. and KDE Division Director Carol Ann Morrison
P. **Request to approve Waiver Request, 2025-WV-013, Clay County-** KDE Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton, Ed.D. and KDE Division Director Carol Ann Morrison
Q. **Request to approve Waiver Request, 2025-WV-014, Whitley County-** KDE Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton, Ed.D. and KDE Division Director Carol Ann Morrison
R. **Request to approve Waiver Request, 2025-WV-015, Whitley County-** KDE Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton, Ed.D. and KDE Division Director Carol Ann Morrison

Note: Chair Robinson said that “KDE staff identified items in the consent agenda as those that are non-controversial and routine in nature.” She said that the consent agenda items were distributed to members in advance of the meeting for review and asked if any member wished to move an item from the consent agenda. Chair Robinson said, however, if an item is moved, the chair may decide to take up the matter immediately or move it to a discussion item later in the agenda. Lee Todd requested that consent items H and I be moved to the action/discussion agenda. Chair Robinson asked the board to entertain a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda with the exception of H and I. The motion was made by Randy Poe and seconded by Julie Pile. The motion passed with a voice vote.

Next, Chair Robinson dismissed the members of the board to committees.

The United We Learn Committee met in the State Board Room. The State Schools Committee met in conference room 516. Chair Robinson noted that agendas and committee information is accessible through the KBE portal.

VI. United We Learn/Teaching and Learning Committee

A. Kentucky United We Learn Council Information Sharing- KDE Chief Performance Officer Karen Dodd and KDE Strategic Plan Manager Susan Strange
B. AdvanceKY Annual Update- AdvanceKY Executive Director Aaron Timmons and KDE Chief Academic Officer Micki Ray Marinelli

VII. State Schools Committee

A. Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) American Rescue Plan Updates- KDE Director Shannon Sparkman, KDE Director Jarod Mills and KSD Principal Lynn Petrey, Ed.D.

Return from KBE Committees to the main board meeting room.

Chair Robinson called the board to order.

VIII. Action/Discussion Items

A. Report on United We Learn/Teaching and Learning Committee on Action/Discussion Items

Vice Chair Lu Young provided an update on the committee's meeting in place of Committee Chair Holly Bloodworth. Vice Chair Young shared that the committee heard several items, with topics including the future of the Kentucky United We Learn Council and an annual report from AdvanceKY related to expanding student access to rigorous coursework.

B. Report on State Schools Committee on Action/Discussion Items

State Schools Committee Chair Randy Poe provided an update on the committee's meeting. Chair Poe shared that the committee heard updates regarding the Kentucky School for the Deaf's use of American Rescue Plan funds, as well as additional resources and information about KSD.

C. 156 Salary Schedule and Federal Carl D. Perkins Consolidated Annual Report (CAR)- KDE Associate Commissioner Beth Hargis, Ed.D., and KDE Branch Manager Lori Looney.

As requested by Lee Todd, these items (I and H) were pulled from the consent agenda for further discussion. KDE staff responded to technical questions from Todd regarding the items. Chair Robinson called for a motion to approve consent items I and H. The motion was made by Lee Todd and seconded by Harold McKinney. The motion passed with a voice vote.

D. Amendments to 707 KAR 1:002, Definitions and 707 KAR 1:350, Placement Decisions

KDE Associate Commissioner Dr. Gretta Hylton, Division Director Carol Ann Morrison, and Policy Advisor Melody Cooper presented the proposed amendments. Following a discussion with the full board, Chair Robinson called for a motion to approve the amendments to 707 KAR 1:002, Definitions, and 707 KAR 1:350, Placement Decisions. The motion was made by Randy Poe and seconded by Steve Trimble. The motion passed with a voice vote.

E. Amendment to 704 KAR 3:370, Kentucky Framework for Personnel Evaluation

KDE Associate Commissioner Dr. Meredith Brewer, Division Director Todd Davis, and Policy Advisor Cassie Trueblood presented the proposed amendment. Following a discussion with the full board, Chair Robinson called for a motion to approve the amendments to 704 KAR 3:370, Kentucky Framework for Personnel Evaluation. The motion was made by Harold McKinney and seconded by Julie Pile. The motion passed with a voice vote.

F. Amendment to 702 KAR 3:130, Internal accounting

KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross, Division Director Chay Ritter, and Policy Advisor Lindsey Swartz presented the proposed amendment. Following a discussion with the full board, Chair Robinson called for a motion to approve the amendments to 702 KAR 3:130, Internal accounting. The motion was made by Julie Pile and seconded by Steve Trimble.The motion passed with a voice vote.

IX. Adjournment

Chair Robinson thanked everyone for their time and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Steve Trimble and seconded by Lu Young. The motion passed with a voice vote.The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 P.M. E.T.

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) held the State Schools Committee meeting on December 3, 2025. The committee met in-person at the Kentucky Department of Education, 300 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort KY. Members of the public were permitted to attend the meeting in person although encouraged to view the meeting on the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) Media Portal. The following business was conducted:

I. Call to Order

Chair Randy Poe welcomed the committee members and guests to the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 P.M. E.T.

II. Roll Call

Chair Poe asked for a roll call of members. The following members were present: Harold McKinney, Sharon Robinson, Steve Trimble, and Alfonso De Torres Núñez. Diane Woods was absent.

III. Review Item

A. Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) American Rescue Plan Updates

KDE Division Director Shannon Sparkman, KSD Information Systems Supervisor Jarod Mills and KSD Principal Lynn Petrey, Ed.D., presented the updates on technology projects implemented at KSD through American Rescue Plan funding. The presenters shared that funding was used to implement several projects at KSD designed to increase literacy, provide transferable skills, facilitate networking and collaboration opportunities, develop students' skills for capturing and preserving American Sign Language (ASL), deaf poetry and storytelling, and to provide greater accessibility to stakeholders.

IV. Adjournment

Chair Poe thanked everyone for the update and requested a motion to adjourn the committee. The motion was made by Steve Trimble and seconded by Harold McKinney. The motion passed with a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 P.M. E.T.

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) held the United We Learn/Teaching and Learning Committee meeting on December 3, 2025. The committee met in-person at the Kentucky Department of Education, 300 Sower Boulevard, Frankfort KY. Members of the public were permitted to attend the meeting in person although encouraged to view the meeting on the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) Media Portal. The following business was conducted:

I. Call to Order

Due to Chair Holly Bloodworth's absence, Lu Young facilitated the meeting. Vice Chair Young welcomed the committee members and guests to the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 P.M. E.T.

II. Roll Call

Vice Chair Young asked for a roll call of members. The following members were present: Juston Pate, Julie Pile, Lee Todd, Lu Young, and Harper Blake. Holly Bloodworth was absent.

III. Review Items

A. Kentucky United We Learn Council Information Sharing

KDE Chief Performance Officer Karen Dodd and KDE Strategic Plan Manager Susan Strange presented the update. Dodd shared about the accomplishments of the Kentucky United We Learn Council over the past year. She said that new council members were sought to replace members who rolled off. Dodd also shared graphs demonstrating the diversity of the new council membership and a new graphic that was developed to illustrate how the current and upcoming work of the council intertwine. The graphic included a new focus area on high school transformation.

B. AdvanceKY Annual Update

AdvanceKY Executive Director Aaron Timmons and KDE Chief Academic Officer Micki Ray Marinelli presented the update. Timmons shared background regarding the AdvanceKY initiative. He said that, with the addition of the Access to Algebra program in 2016, the program acts as an academy to help address math performance in middle schools across Kentucky with a renewed focus on expanding access to high school algebra for students in grade 8. Due to resources received from the Kentucky Numeracy Counts Act (HB 162 (2024)), AdvanceKY has increased the number of schools served and expanded professional development opportunities to more schools across Kentucky, including a

new mentoring program to support teachers who are either new to the profession or new to teaching math. Timmons shared that AdvanceKY has received contributions through federal, state or foundation funds since 2008. The 2024-2026 state budget allocated $1.9 million in general funds each year. Additionally, AdvanceKY has received an additional $1 million per fiscal year from the Numeracy Counts Fund (codified under KRS 158.843).

IV. Adjournment

Vice Chair Young requested a motion to adjourn the committee. The motion was made by Juston Pate and seconded by Lee Todd. The motion passed with a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 P.M. E.T.