

Kentucky Board of Education Regular Meeting October 6, 2015

SUMMARY MINUTES

The Kentucky Board of Education held its regular meeting on October 6, 2015, in the State Board Room, First Floor, Capital Plaza Tower, Frankfort, Kentucky. The board conducted the following business:

I. Call to Order - 8:30 a.m. ET (Full Board)

Chair Roger Marcum called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. ET. He noted that the materials for the meeting could be found on the board's online materials system and stated the address for the system is posted in the board room and on the department's main page on the website. Marcum welcomed those watching via the webcast.

II. Roll Call

Marcum then asked Mary Ann Miller to call the roll.

Attendance Taken at 8:30 AM:

Present Board Members:

Mr. Grayson Boyd
Mr. Leo Calderon
Ms. Debra Cook
Ms. Sarah M. Ford
Mr. Samuel Hinkle
Mr. David Kareem
Mr. Roger Marcum
Ms. Nawanna Privett
Mr. William Twyman
Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler
Mr. Robert King

Absent Board Members:

Mr. Jonathan Parrent

III. Swearing-in of New Kentucky Board of Education Member

At this time, Chair Marcum indicated that Judge Phillip Shepherd would swear-in a new board member, Sarah M. Ford of Owensboro.

Judge Shepherd then administered the oath of office to Ms. Ford.

IV. Approval of Minutes from the August 5-6, 2015 Kentucky Board of Education Meeting

Chair Marcum moved on to the approval of minutes from the last meeting. He asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the August 5 retreat and August 6 regular meeting. None were brought forward. Thus, Marcum asked for a motion, second and vote to approve these minutes.

Motion Passed: Approval of minutes from the August 5 Retreat Meeting and the August 6 Regular Meeting passed with a motion by Mr. Samuel Hinkle and a second by Mr. Grayson Boyd.

Mr. Grayson Boyd	Yes
Mr. Leo Calderon	Yes
Ms. Debra Cook	Yes
Ms. Sarah M. Ford	Yes
Mr. Samuel Hinkle	Yes
Mr. David Kareem	Yes
Mr. Roger Marcum	Yes
Mr. Jonathan Parrent	Absent
Ms. Nawanna Privett	Yes
Mr. William Twyman	Yes
Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler	Yes

V. Introduction of New KDE Employees

The following new employees were introduced by Interim Commissioner Kevin Brown:

Office of the Commissioner

Alex Spurrier, Education Academic Program Manager, Delivery Unit

Office of Next Generation Learners

Molly Bowen, Education Academic Program Consultant, Division of Learning Services

Robin Hebert, Division Director, Division of Next Generation Professionals

Leann Pickerill, Education Academic Program Consultant, Diverse Learners Branch

Office of Knowledge, Information and Data Services

Matt Coffey, Systems Consultant IT, Division of Enterprise Data

Office of Next Generation Schools and Districts

Thalia Salgado, Education Administration Program Consultant, Division of Student Success

Natasha Napier, Education Administration Program Consultant, Division of Consolidated Plans and Audits

Christina Mishio, Education Administration Program Consultant, Division of Innovation

Office of Administration and Support

Ronda Devine, Education Administration Program Consultant, Division of District Support

Angela McDonald, Resource Management Analyst, Division of District Support

Matt Ross, Policy Advisor

Office of Career and Technical Education

Dana Tackett, Education Consultant Manufacturing, Division of College and Career Readiness

Brown also introduced the following Team Member of the Month:

Bart Liquori (August), Sr. Research Analyst, Office of the Commissioner

VI. Report of the Interim Commissioner of Education

Interim Commissioner Brown highlighted the work of the Kentucky team that attended the recent CCSSO career readiness meeting in Austin, Texas.

VII. Ratification of Contract for the New Commissioner of Education (Action/Discussion Item)

Chair Marcum stated that the commissioner's search has reached the point where it is time to consider ratifying the contract for Dr. Stephen Pruitt, who is present today. He reminded the board that at the last meeting, the members authorized him as chair to make an offer of employment, negotiate a contract with Dr. Pruitt and bring it forward for the board's approval. Marcum confirmed this step had been completed and said that all members had received the draft contract to review in advance. He summarized that it is for a period of four years beginning October 16 and running through October 15, 2019 at an annual salary of \$240,000. Marcum asked if there were any questions, but none came forward. He then asked for a motion, second and vote to ratify the employment contract entered into today with Dr. Stephen Pruitt as Kentucky Commissioner of Education.

Motion Passed: Ratification of the employment contract entered into today, October 6, 2015, with Dr. Stephen Pruitt as Kentucky Commissioner of Education passed with a motion by Mr. David Kareem and a second by Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler.

Mr. Grayson Boyd	Yes
Mr. Leo Calderon	Yes
Ms. Debra Cook	Yes
Ms. Sarah M. Ford	Yes
Mr. Samuel Hinkle	Yes
Mr. David Kareem	Yes
Mr. Roger Marcum	Yes
Mr. Jonathan Parrent	Absent
Ms. Nawanna Privett	Yes
Mr. William Twyman	Yes
Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler	Yes

VIII. Introduction of the New Commissioner of Education and Comments from the New Commissioner

Chair Marcum congratulated Dr. Pruitt upon his official appointment as commissioner. He then made the following introduction: It is now my pleasure to present our new commissioner. He has most recently served as senior vice president at Achieve, Inc., an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit education reform organization based in Washington, D.C. Dr. Pruitt also has prior experience as chief of staff, associate state superintendent, director of academic standards, and science and mathematics program manager with the Georgia Department of Education; and as a high school chemistry teacher in Fayetteville and Tyrone, Georgia. He earned a bachelor's degree from North Georgia College and State University, a master's from the University of West Georgia and a Doctorate of Philosophy from Auburn University. The Kentucky Board of Education was very impressed with his outstanding communication skills, academic experience, in-depth understanding of education issues, emphasis on collaboration, ability to build relationships, proven track record of building coalitions and partnerships, approachability and his enthusiasm especially for Kentucky and the future of Kentucky. I am honored to present to you, our sixth commissioner of education, Dr. Stephen Pruitt, and ask him to make some remarks.

Dr. Pruitt shared the following: I cannot begin to say how excited I am to be a Kentuckian. We have a great opportunity in this state to move forward. This is the right place at the right time for me to make this career move. I look forward to working with the board, KDE and the state's shareholders. I hope to create Kentucky fatigue in Washington, DC because so much is being talked about from what we are doing here in this state. I am humbled by taking this job and look forward to starting work.

Before moving on, Chair Marcum stated his appreciation to the members of the Kentucky Board of Education for staying on task and working hard to get a new commissioner hired. He also thanked Becky Blessing, Mary Ann Miller and Hiren Desai for their support of the board during the search process. Marcum also thanked Interim Commissioner Kevin Brown for serving in that capacity and for his guidance and support over the last few months. Finally, he pointed out that Vice-Chair Jay Parrent, who could not be present today, asked him to express his support for the contract and for the hiring of Dr. Pruitt.

IX. Report of the Secretary of the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet

In addition to his written report, Secretary Zawacki reported the following:

- Through the efforts of Governor Steve Beshear, a loan of one billion dollars in unemployment insurance has been repaid two years ahead of schedule.
- The new commissioner needs to be aware that he is a member of the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board.
- Dr. Kate Akers recently secured a grant to expand Kentucky's longitudinal data system.

X. Report of the President of the Council on Postsecondary Education

President Robert King reported the following:

- He welcomed Dr. Stephen Pruitt to Kentucky.
- Staff from the Council on Postsecondary Education met with the Prichard Committee's Student Voice Team and has invited them to help develop a set of videos that will assist high school students complete the financial aid forms necessary for seeing if they are eligible to receive funds for attending college.
- The Council on Postsecondary Education's budget request will contain a sizeable performance funding feature.
- The Council's strategic agenda that it has been developing is almost ready for release.
- At the Trusteeship Conference, Governor Beshear spoke about the efforts of his administration to preserve education funding. The two candidates for governor also presented at the conference.
- Work is continuing on dual credit and a policy was drafted to assure every student access to three general education courses and three career and technical courses. Solving the financing element of the policy is the next step.
- Co-requisite education is a new approach the Council is using to help students in need of remedial support to take credit bearing courses in college by giving the support as they take the courses instead of making them take remedial courses before being admitted to these courses. Some resistance at institutions in the math area has been encountered.
- Now that Dr. Pruitt will soon be in place and a new head of the Education Professional Standards Board will soon be chosen, Kentucky Rising will start to move forward again. Three working groups have been formed: early childhood, teacher preparation and career and technical education.

XI. Report of the Executive Director of the Education Professional Standards Board

Interim Executive Director Jimmy Adams reported the following:

- He welcomed Dr. Pruitt to Kentucky.
- He expressed a thank you to Kevin Brown for his service as interim and the continued communication while he held this position.
- Anthony Strong is the new chair of the Education Professional Standards Board.
- The SEED grant will continue over the next three years as a collaborative effort between KEA, KDE and the EPSB.

XII. Good News Items

The following board members presented the noted items of Good News:

- Nawanna Privett - Four new Kentucky schools have recently been named Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education. These schools are: Beechwood Elementary, Beechwood Independent; Bush Elementary, Laurel County; Murray High School, Murray Independent; and The School for the Creative and Performing Arts, Fayette County. These four schools qualified for this recognition in the Exemplary High Performing Schools category. They are among the

state's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests. Various student group performance and high school graduation rates also are at the highest levels.

- Bill Twyman - Ten Kentucky public schools were recently recognized for outstanding teaching and learning conditions. These Winner's Circle schools are recognized for their effective teaching and school leadership practices and will be shared as models of best practices across the state. The Winner's Circle schools were selected based upon their 2015 TELL Kentucky Survey results, school safety and student achievement scores. During the Continuous Improvement Summit in Lexington, each school received a certificate and a 4' x 6' banner. Schools recognized as being in the Winner's Circle of teaching and learning conditions are: Ballard Memorial High School, Ballard County; Earlington Elementary School, Hopkins County; North Marshall Middle School, Marshall County; Park City Elementary School, Barren County; Gamaliel Elementary School, Monroe County; Thomas Nelson High School, Nelson County; Chenoweth Elementary School, Jefferson County; Carter G. Woodson Academy, Fayette County; Arnett Elementary School, Erlanger-Elsmere; and Allen Central High School, Floyd County.

XIII. Public Comment Segment

Those who came forward for the public comment section and the topic they spoke on are as follows:

- Donnie Wilkerson - Social Studies Standards
- Lynette Baldwin - Gifted and Talented Waiver
- Tracy Inman - Gifted and Talented Waiver
- Meg Gatten - Gifted and Talented Waiver
- Donovan Fornwalt – KSB
- Julie Culp – KSB
- Shawn Herrick – KSB
- Katie O'Bryan - KSB

XIV. Assessment and Accountability Results Update (Review Item) - Associate Commissioner Rhonda Sims - 45-minute presentation/discussion - Strategic Priority: Next Generation Learners

Chair Roger Marcum stated that the board will be discussing the most recent Unbridled Learning assessment and accountability results in the next agenda item. He reminded members that this is the fourth year of this system. Marcum noted that in 2011-12, the board approved a regulation that contained use of a percentile rank process to set the standard to classify schools and districts as Proficient, Distinguished or Needs Improvement. He indicated that in this process, the overall scores associated with the 70th percentile for each school level and the district became the standard and were locked. Marcum continued that the locked overall scores provide schools and districts stable targets to work towards. He said that we know from media reports and recent commentary that there has been some misunderstanding of the role of percentiles in the reporting. He stated that the percentile reported in the School Report Card reflects how schools and districts perform compared to the standard set by the locked overall score and the associated percentile reported first

in 2013. Marcum clarified that the percentiles are not a current year comparison of scores. To help reduce confusion on this matter, he shared that KDE added a footnote to the percentile in the School Report Card and posted in Open House a current data spreadsheet that displays for all schools and districts the 2014 and 2015 overall scores and a simple rank for each set of scores. He then asked Associate Commissioner Rhonda Sims to bring further clarity to the issue as part of her presentation.

Sims used a PowerPoint that is found on the board's online materials system to make the following points:

- The score release contains the scores and assessment data, Program Review data and accountability data.
- This data is available through the School Report Card.
- The system is based on a continuous improvement model that uses a percentile rank process to set the standard or cut score for school and district classifications of Needs Improvement, Proficient or Distinguished.
- This provides a concrete goal with the locked overall score that is not dependent on how other schools and districts perform.
- A history/timeline of the use of percentiles was laid out from Year 1 through Year 4 of Unbridled Learning.
- A note was added to the 2015 School Report Card clarifying that the percentile in Kentucky compares performance to the locked percentile generated in 2013. Additionally, the note indicated that the locked percentile creates an overall score target for schools by level and districts to reach Proficient and Distinguished.
- The Open House section of the KDE website under the Accountability tab shows how schools and districts rank by level.
- The specific accountability results were summarized.

At this point, Chair Marcum clarified that on the percentile issue, it was not the intent to mislead anyone; he felt the best practice would be to stop using percentile and go to overall score.

Bill Twyman reminded the board that use of the percentile was in response to knowing how we compare nationally.

XV. Update on Kentucky's Plan to Close Achievement Gaps Through Novice Reduction (Review Item) - Associate Commissioners Kelly Foster and Amanda Ellis - 20-minute presentation/discussion - Strategic Priorities: Next Generation Learners and Next Generation Schools/Districts

Associate Commissioner Amanda Ellis indicated that this agenda item would update the board on where staff stands in the Novice Reduction process. She reminded everyone that a prior presentation from Ed Trust caused staff to pursue this work.

Then, Associate Commissioner Kelly Foster gave the following details relative to this work:

- A Novice Reduction Coordinator is now in place as well as five Novice Reduction Coaches.
- The website on Novice Reduction went live on Friday and it has received lots of hits.

- KDE staff has been to every cooperative except two regarding the Novice Reduction work.
- The next step is to schedule regional trainings and to help schools and districts to implement their plans regarding these students.

XVI. Approval of 2016-2018 Biennial Budget Request (Action/Discussion Item) - Associate Commissioner Hiren Desai and Division Director Charles Harman - 45-minute presentation/discussion - Strategic Priorities: All

Associate Commissioner Hiren Desai and Division Director Charlie Harman came forward for this agenda item. A PowerPoint was used to present the following highlights of the budget:

- The budget involves five billion dollars total.
- KDE staff met with education partners to gain feedback on what the priorities should be for additional funding requests. Partners said that KTRS will be the predominant topic in the upcoming session but there is still a need for additional K-12 funding. CTE/CCR, SEEK transportation and preschool were the top three consensus priorities for all partners. Technology and National Board Certified Teachers also were strong priorities for partners. Partners were neutral on assessment, AdvanceKentucky and Education Recovery although they recognized these are important to KDE.
- Details on recommended priority areas were covered as well as suggested capital budget items.

After discussion by board members of their preferences for budget priorities, it was agreed that the top three would be CTE/CCR, SEEK Transportation at 80% and preschool. Additionally, assessment and Education Recovery were added along with the capital requests for KSB, KSD and the FFA Training Center. It also was agreed that the Governor and General Assembly should be urged to maintain the SEEK base level for K-12.

Chair Marcum asked for a motion, second and vote to approve the budget priorities as agreed on by the board.

Motion Passed: Approval of the budget priorities as specified by the board passed with a motion by Mr. Roger Marcum and a second by Mr. Samuel Hinkle.

Mr. Grayson Boyd	Yes
Mr. Leo Calderon	Yes
Ms. Debra Cook	Yes
Ms. Sarah M. Ford	Yes
Mr. Samuel Hinkle	Yes
Mr. David Kareem	Yes
Mr. Roger Marcum	Yes
Mr. Jonathan Parrent	Absent
Ms. Nawanna Privett	Yes
Mr. William Twyman	Yes
Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler	Yes

XVII. Lunch - 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. (Lunch provided for KBE members, invited guests and commissioner's planning committee members only)

XVIII. Discussion of Input from Public Comment Segment on KSB and KSD

Walter T. Hulett, KSB/KSD Supervisor, was asked to respond to the comments that were made during the Public Comment segment regarding KSB. Chair Marcum stated that the board heard the comments from parents and is concerned.

Hulett said that 44% of the students at KSB have multiple disabilities and the Admissions and Release Committees determine the least restrictive environment for these students. He indicated that he took detailed notes from this morning's comments and will come back in December with more information.

David Karem asked that the comments be addressed because the expertise to deal with all of the disabilities may not be available at the school.

Sam Hinkle said the board needs to hear more on what demands exist in our state and how these are going to be met as well as what kinds of services are needed.

Mary Gwen Wheeler said she wanted to know who is in charge of the students that were mentioned.

Debbie Cook pointed out that another state's admission policy was mentioned and she would like to know if it is being used.

Chair Marcum summarized that the board will expect more on this at the December meeting.

XIX. The Kentucky Board of Education's Legislative Agenda for the 2016 Regular Session of the General Assembly (Review Item) - Associate Commissioner and General Counsel Kevin Brown and Legislative Liaison Tracy Herman - 30-minute presentation/discussion - Strategic Priorities: All Priorities

Associate Commissioner Kevin Brown indicated that the legislative agenda document can be used with legislators in discussing the board's vision, goals and budget initiatives during the session. He noted that it would be edited to ensure it matches the budget priorities that were approved today. He said staff needs guidance on whether to include other items relative to policy initiatives.

Legislative Liaison Tracy Herman noted that the National Guard's academies may take dollars from SEEK.

Chair Marcum stated he has concerns about how well students will be served in the academies.

Mary Gwen Wheeler felt that it would be an omission not to include something on college readiness in the document.

David Karem stated that he advised to only include the budget priorities in the document.

Mary Gwen Wheeler continued that she thought other possibilities should be included on a separate page.

Roger Marcum also advocated for thinking more narrowly and focusing on the budget priorities.

Nawanna Privett added that she reluctantly agreed with David and Roger but wished there was some way to represent National Board Certified Teachers and AdvanceKentucky.

Chair Marcum asked staff to work on the document and bring it back for approval in December.

XX. Hearing Officer's Report

General Counsel Kevin Brown went through the written Hearing Officer's Report that was accessible on the board's online materials system.

XXI. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee (1:00 p.m.; Tentative Time)

XXI.A. Action/Consent Items

XXI.A.1. Kentucky School for the Blind (KSB) Advisory Board Appointment (Strategic Priority: Next Generation Learners)

Associate Commissioner Amanda Ellis and Walter T. Hulett came forward for this item. They recommended approval of Kenis Hall's appointment to the KSB Advisory Board.

Committee Chair Mary Gwen Wheeler asked for a motion, second and vote to approve the appointment.

Committee Motion Passed: Approval of the appointment of Kenis Hall to the KSB Advisory Board passed with a motion by Ms. Nawanna Privett and a second by Mr. Samuel Hinkle.

Mr. Leo Calderon	Yes
Mr. Samuel Hinkle	Yes
Mr. Jonathan Parrent	Absent
Ms. Nawanna Privett	Yes
Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler	Yes

XXI.B. Action/Discussion Items

XXI.B.1. Request from the McCracken County Board of Education for a Waiver of 704 KAR 3:285, Programs for the Gifted and Talented, Specifically Section 9 (1) (Strategic Priority: Next Generation Learners)

Associate Commissioner Amanda Ellis said the waiver request from McCracken County is being made so that all of their allocation can be used for services. She noted that currently, 75% is used for staff. Ellis commented that the district's coordinator is here today if there are questions.

Mary Gwen Wheeler was fearful that this could open the way for districts to not have Gifted and Talented instruction.

Amanda Ellis replied that they must have certified teachers.

Sam Hinkle asked if KDE would monitor the situation and Amanda Ellis responded affirmatively. Hinkle went on to say that he was concerned in part because of the opposition that has come forward. He indicated that the board needs a clear explanation of why this is needed and felt this was not part of the staff note.

Nawanna Privett then stated that if the district has three teachers and a coordinator and is already spending dollars for staff, it was not clear to her why other funds could not be used for this purpose.

Tina Hayes, the Gifted and Talented Coordinator from McCracken Co., said that the district considers the unique needs of these students important and wants to bring in professionals in different areas to meet students' needs.

Roger Marcum commented that the intent of the waiver request is good but the question to answer is whether general funds can be used for this purpose.

Sam Hinkle agreed and asked that staff find out if this waiver is truly needed or whether this can be accomplished by shifting other dollars.

Committee Chair Wheeler then asked if there was a motion, second and vote to table the issue.

Committee Motion Passed: Approval to table this agenda item passed with a motion by Ms. Nawanna Privett and a second by Mr. Samuel Hinkle.

Mr. Leo Calderon	Yes
Mr. Samuel Hinkle	Yes
Mr. Jonathan Parrent	Absent
Ms. Nawanna Privett	Yes
Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler	Yes

XXI.B.2. Kentucky Tech System Policies and Procedures (Strategic Priority: KDE Support and Guiding Processes)

Policy Advisor Leslie Slaughter and Attorney Chase Bannister came forward for this item. They conveyed that these policies and procedures had been amended and are for the purpose of guiding the work of the 53 Area Technology Centers.

Committee Chair Wheeler asked if there was a motion, second and vote to approve the document.

Committee Motion Passed: Approval of the changes to the Kentucky Tech Policies and Procedures passed with a motion by Ms. Nawanna Privett and a second by Mr. Samuel Hinkle.

Mr. Leo Calderon	Yes
Mr. Samuel Hinkle	Yes
Mr. Jonathan Parrent	Absent
Ms. Nawanna Privett	Yes

Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler Yes

XXI.C. Review Items

XXI.C.1. 705 KAR 2:140, Equalization of Funding for Locally-Operated Area Vocational Centers and Vocational Departments (First Reading) - (Strategic Priority: KDE Support and Guiding Processes)

Leslie Slaughter and Chase Bannister remained at the table for this item. It was shared that Section 5 of the regulation had been amended at the request of the technical centers in order to provide a funding allocation before the school year starts so that planning can occur. They also noted that technical edits were made and indicated the regulation will come back for its second reading in December.

XXI.C.2. Kentucky Core Academic Standards (KCAS) Challenge Update (Strategic Priority: Next Generation Learners)

Division Director Karen Kidwell and Associate Commissioner Amanda Ellis came forward for this agenda item. Ellis noted that last fall, KDE conducted the Core Academic Challenge to gather feedback on the standards.

Karen Kidwell then used the PowerPoint on the board's online materials system site to provide the data that was gathered relative to the standards. She said that the revised standards reflecting these changes will most likely come back to the board in late winter or early spring.

Roger Marcum then asked for a one page handout on the feedback that was gathered that can be used with legislators.

The Curriculum Committee then adjourned.

XXII. Management Committee Meeting (1:45 p.m. ET; Tentative Time)

XXII.A. Action/Consent Items

XXII.A.1. New District Facility Plans: Barren County, Franklin County, Knox County, Jessamine County, Bowling Green Independent, and Silver Grove Independent (Strategic Priority: KDE Support and Guiding Processes)

Associate Commissioner Hiren Desai and Division Director Donna Duncan came forward for this agenda item. They recommended approval of all of the submitted facility plans.

Committee Chair Bill Twyman then asked for a motion, second and vote to approve the plans.

Committee Motion Passed: Approval of all submitted facility plans passed with a motion by Mr. David Karem and a second by Ms. Debra Cook.

Mr. Grayson Boyd	Yes
Ms. Debra Cook	Yes
Ms. Sarah M. Ford	Yes

Mr. David Karem	Yes
Mr. William Twyman	Yes

XXII.A.2. Site approval for the Proposed New Elementary School, Perry County (Strategic Priority: KDE Support and Guiding Processes)

Associate Commissioner Hiren Desai explained that this site is the least expensive one for the district that meets their needs. He said staff recommends approval.

Committee Chair Twyman asked for a motion, second and vote to approve the site.

Committee Motion Passed: Site approval for the proposed new elementary school in Perry County passed with a motion by Ms. Debra Cook and a second by Mr. David Karem.

Mr. Grayson Boyd	Yes
Ms. Debra Cook	Yes
Ms. Sarah M. Ford	Yes
Mr. David Karem	Yes
Mr. William Twyman	Yes

XXII.A.3. Waiver of 702 KAR 4:050, Section 4 (4)(a), to Allow for Site Approval for the Proposed New High School in Martin County (Strategic Priority: KDE Support and Guiding Processes)

Associate Commissioner Hiren Desai explained that Martin County is asking for a waiver from a specific portion of the regulation dealing with forbearance agreements. He stated that staff recommends approval and believes the district has taken all necessary steps to move forward if this waiver is approved.

Committee Chair Twyman then asked for a motion, second and vote on Martin County's waiver request.

Committee Motion Passed: Waiver of 702 KAR 4:050, Section 4 (4)(a), to allow for site approval for the proposed new high school in Martin County passed with a motion by Mr. Grayson Boyd and a second by Ms. Debra Cook.

Mr. Grayson Boyd	Yes
Ms. Debra Cook	Yes
Ms. Sarah M. Ford	Yes
Mr. David Karem	Yes
Mr. William Twyman	Yes

XXII.A.4. 2015-2016 Local District Tax Rates Levied (Strategic Priority: KDE Support and Guiding Processes)

Division Director Donna Duncan stated that the Kentucky Board of Education is required to approve the tax rates. She said that 160 districts' rates were being recommended for approval and

noted that the remaining districts will come forward in December. Duncan added that all of the districts under state management or assistance took the 4 percent rate.

Committee Chair Twyman asked for a motion, second and vote on the tax rates.

Committee Motion Passed: Approval of the 2015-16 tax rates levied passed with a motion by Ms. Debra Cook and a second by Mr. Grayson Boyd.

Mr. Grayson Boyd	Yes
Ms. Debra Cook	Yes
Ms. Sarah M. Ford	Yes
Mr. David Kareem	Yes
Mr. William Twyman	Yes

XXII.B. Review Items

XXII.B.1. Update on the Kentucky Education North Star Project (Strategic Priority: KDE Support and Guiding Processes)

Associate Commissioner Hiren Desai and Kentucky Association of School Administrators Executive Director Wayne Young came forward for this item.

Young used a PowerPoint to update the committee on the status of the North Star Project. He summarized that there are 23 districts participating in the project in either Tier I or Tier II with the next step being to sustain the progress and savings that have occurred.

XXII.B.2. Audit Update (Strategic Priority: KDE Support and Guiding Processes)

Associate Commissioner Hiren Desai and Division Director Charlie Harman presented this agenda item. An update was provided on the status of audits that are conducted by the state auditor on the various department programs.

XXII.B.3. Status Update on School Districts in State Assistance (Strategic Priority: KDE Support and Guiding Processes)

Jim Hamm, along with Hiren Desai and Kelly Foster, came forward for this item. They updated the committee on the current activities going on in Robertson and Fleming Counties and Caverna Independent relative to state assistance. The superintendents from Robertson and Caverna were present at the meeting.

XXII.B.4. Status Update on Districts in State Management (Strategic Priority: KDE Support and Guiding Processes)

Hiren Desai noted that Menifee County just started as a state-managed district in July and Breathitt County has been in this status since 2012. Tim Spencer, the state manager in Menifee, stated that the district is working on culture and transparency at the current time. Steve Meadows, Breathitt State Manager, reported that the local school board has the goal of being a self-governing school district and pointed out that current work is occurring to improve attendance and achievement. He said that a superintendent was hired in July and that communication is beginning to improve.

Bill Twyman asked that the 30-60-90-day plans be shared with the board each time and staff agreed to make these available.

Board Chair Roger Marcum asked that General Counsel Kevin Brown share the recent letter that went to the new superintendent and board members were provided with a copy.

Brown commented that staff will be following up with the new superintendent on these concerns and said that Mr. Meadows and Mr. Gibson are already working more closely together.

XXIII. Information Items

XXIII.A. KDE Employment Report (All offices except CTE)

No questions came forward on this report.

XXIII.B. KDE Employment Report (Office of Career and Technical Education)

No questions came forward on this report.

XXIV. Approval of Action/Consent Items as a Block

Board Chair Roger Marcum asked for a motion, second and vote to approve all action/consent items as a block. David Karem so moved and Leo Calderon seconded the motion. It carried.

XXV. Report of the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee on Action/Discussion Items

Chair Marcum asked for a report from Committee Chair Mary Gwen Wheeler on the action/discussion items from the Curriculum Committee.

Motion Passed: Approval to amend the Kentucky Tech System Policies and Procedures passed with a motion by Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler.

Mr. Grayson Boyd	Yes
Mr. Leo Calderon	Yes
Ms. Debra Cook	Yes
Ms. Sarah M. Ford	Yes
Mr. Samuel Hinkle	Yes
Mr. David Karem	Yes
Mr. Roger Marcum	Yes
Mr. Jonathan Parrent	Absent
Ms. Nawanna Privett	Yes
Mr. William Twyman	Yes
Ms. Mary Gwen Wheeler	Yes

XXVI. Internal Board Business

During this agenda item, Chair Marcum raised the following:

- Are there any topics that board members desire to have at a future meeting? Sam Hinkle asked for a Teach for America Program Update. Mr. Hinkle also asked if staff could look into having some of the board's meetings out in the state.
- The board will hold its annual holiday dinner on the evening of Dec. 8.
- The chairs and vice chairs of the standing committees are: Curriculum - Mary Gwen Wheeler, Chair and Nawanna Privett, Vice Chair; Management - Bill Twyman, Chair and Grayson Boyd, Vice Chair. Board members will be polled about their committee preference and that configuration will start in December.
- The board needs to approve the travel of Leo Calderon to the Southern Regional Education Board conference. Sam Hinkle so moved and Grayson Boyd seconded it. The motion carried.
- The board needs to approve the travel of Roger Marcum to the NASBE conference and the Teacher Equity session. Mary Gwen Wheeler so moved and Grayson Boyd seconded it. The motion carried.
- A committee to select the Dr. Samuel Robinson Award winner needs to be appointed. Sam Hinkle was appointed as chair and members were Sarah Ford and David Karem.

XXVII. Litigation Report

No request was made to discuss the Litigation Report.

XXVIII. Adjournment

The board meeting adjourned.

XXIX. State Evaluation Appeals Panel (Will convene upon adjournment of the full board meeting)

The State Evaluation Appeals Panel was postponed.