

**Award Committee Meeting**  
**Kentucky Department of Education, 300 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, KY 40601**  
**Video Teleconference Meeting Minutes**

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) held an awards committee meeting on November 29, 2021 via video teleconference. Members of the public were encouraged to view the meeting on the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) Media Portal or were given the option to view the livestream of the meeting in a designated meeting room at The 300 Building. The committee conducted the following business:

1. **Call to Order:** Committee Chair Patrice McCrary welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. ET. Chair McCrary reminded members that the meeting still must comply with the requirements of the Open Meeting Act. Additionally, Chair McCrary stated that for any items that required a vote, a roll call vote was necessary to record the vote of each board member.
2. **Roll Call:** Chair McCrary asked for a roll call of members. The following members were present: Claire Batt, Patrice McCrary, Solyana Mesfin and Lu Young. KDE Director of Education Policy Meredith Brewer stated all members were present.

3. **2021 Kevin C. Brown Strategic Priority Award**

**A. Review of Criteria for Selecting the Recipient of the Kevin C. Brown Strategic Priority**

**Award:** Chair McCrary read the description and reminded the committee members of the criteria of the award.

Kevin C. Brown served at the KDE in various roles from 2004 to 2018. Most recently, Brown served as the Interim Commissioner of Education from December 2019 to September 2020. Brown's time at the department throughout 2020 was marked with significant challenges that called for strategic educational leadership and clear ongoing communication that was forward-thinking, action-oriented and aimed at advancing efforts to educate, feed and support Kentucky's 650,000 students during a global pandemic. The pandemic has highlighted the critical need for additional focus on the social and emotional well-being of students. The 2021 award seeks to recognize a person, group, organization, district, school or postsecondary institution who, through policy, practice, fundraising or philanthropy, and despite any challenges, has made it a top priority to address the social and emotional needs of Kentucky's students. The criteria for the award include: Significant contributions and/or other efforts to directly support the social and emotional needs of students, families, schools and/or community members; Demonstrated leadership in measured efforts to meet social or emotional needs of students.

**B. Review and Discussion of Applications for the Kevin C. Brown Strategic Priority**

**Award:** Chair McCrary asked each member to present their top three candidates for consideration and discussion. Candidates were referred to by number and the members narrowed their top picks down to one candidate and after evaluation and discussion determined the candidate that would be brought forth for consideration of approval by the full board at its December 1, 2021 regular meeting.

**C. Approve Recommendation of Individual(s) as the Recipient of the Kevin C. Brown Strategic Priority Award:**

Chair McCrary stated that based on the candidate's demonstration of leadership by providing significant contributions and efforts to directly support the social and emotional needs of students, families, schools and/or community

members in measured efforts to meet social or emotional needs of students, she would like to entertain a motion to approve candidate #15 as the winner for the 2021 Award. Claire Batt made the motion to approve candidate #15 as the recipient of the 2021 Kevin C. Brown Strategic Priority Award. Solyana Mesfin seconded the motion and the motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

4. **Adjournment: Chair McCrary asked for a motion** to adjourn the meeting, the motion was made by Lu Young and Claire Batt seconded the motion and it was approved by a unanimous roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m. ET