

# Kentucky Board of Education

## 2023 Goals and Legislative Priorities

The Kentucky Board of Education is committed to improving the future of all Kentuckians by providing leadership, advancing policy and cultivating community partnerships to ensure every student has equitable access to high-quality, lifelong learning.

To achieve that mission, the KBE promotes the pursuit of education equity to identify and eliminate conditions that prevent the ability of all students to reach their full potential, especially those in historically underserved communities. Educational equity is defined as the promotion of access, opportunity and advancement of **all** individuals.

We pledge to develop authentic partnerships with other Kentucky agencies and education stakeholders in order to strengthen our efforts and maximize impact. To that end, we establish the following goals and legislative priorities:

### 2023 KBE Goals

- Champion the Kentucky United We Learn Council's efforts to reimagine learning in Kentucky as we co-create a vision with communities, foster local innovation and advance policy recommendations aligned with this work.
- Amplify our voices in support of historically underrepresented students, their families, and educators by listening to their aspirations and leveraging those aspirations to guide our actions. Continue to support and promote the Kentucky Department of Education's efforts to foster a culture of anti-racism and further equity within our public schools.
- In cooperation with the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB), advance policies and regulation reviews that strengthen the future teacher pipeline and increase the qualities and competencies of Kentucky's educator workforce emphasizing the critical need for increased representation of teachers of color.
- Galvanize support of strong, developmentally appropriate early childhood education as a path to equity.
- Promote the implementation of the Kentucky Profile of a Learner which identifies the knowledge, skills and dispositions all Kentucky learners need to become successful citizens. Utilize and strengthen key partnerships, including those with the Commonwealth Education Continuum, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce and the Kentucky PTA to inform this work.

### 2023 Legislative Priorities

- Reviewing the current school funding formulas to ensure equitable funding for all students.
- Increasing funding to support access for all students to school-based mental health professionals.

- Raise awareness of the unique missions and needs of the Kentucky School for the Blind and the Kentucky School for the Deaf.
- Protecting freedom of speech in schools to ensure all students have access to a wide range of political, social, and cultural perspectives needed to develop into productive citizens.
- Recruiting and retaining an educator workforce that includes individuals from diverse cultures and backgrounds who are more representative of the student population.
- Strengthening of the educator pipeline by:
  - Repurposing the existing Teacher Scholarship.
  - Providing financial support for preservice educators completing required student teaching.
  - Increasing professional learning opportunities for practicing educators to support the development of leadership skills and content expertise.
  - Advocating for expanded career opportunities for teachers/all educators.
- Increasing access to high-quality early childhood education for all Kentucky children through universal preschool programs.
- Actively involving families in their children’s educational journey. A strong partnership between school and home is critical to ensure students succeed in the classroom and beyond.