

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) held the first half of the regular meeting on April 11, 2023. The KBE met both virtually and 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 Lu Young welcomed all board members and the KDE Leadership Team to the meeting. The meeting was called to order promptly at 2:00 p.m. ET.

II. Roll Call

Chair Young asked for a roll call of members. The following members were present: JoAnn Adams, Holly Bloodworth, Patrice McCrary, Randy Poe, Sharon Porter Robinson, Lee Todd, Lu Young, Joanna Stevens, Jamie Link, and Aaron Thompson.

III. Commissioner’s Student Advisory Council School Safety Presentation

KDE Director of Education Policy Meredith Brewer, Ph.D. and the Commissioner’s Student Advisory Council presented their school safety recommendations.

IV. Internal Board Business

A. Summary Minutes for April 11, 2023, KBE Regular Meeting Day 1, April 12, 2023, KBE Regular Meeting Day 2, and March 29, 2023, KBE Awards Committee Meeting (Action/Discussion)

The minutes of these meetings were distributed to members in advance. Chair Young asked for any corrections to any of the minutes. There were no corrections. Chair Young asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes; the motion was made by Lee Todd; seconded by Holly Bloodworth. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

B. Recipient of the 2023 Karem Award for Excellence in Education Policy (Action/Discussion)

On behalf of the KBE Award Committee, Chair Patrice McCrary presented information related to the award description, and selection process on the 2023 Karem Award held May 30. Patrice McCrary made the motion that the nomination of candidate 5 was selected by the committee for the 2023 Karem Award for Excellence in Education Policy. The motion did not require a second because it came from the committee. The motion passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

C. KBE Regular Meeting Calendar (Action/Discussion)

The updated meeting calendar was distributed to the members in advance and reflects two changes: an updated location for August retreat and regular meeting and revised dates for the October regular meeting. Chair Young requested a motion to accept the proposed revisions to the calendar. The motion was made by Steve Trimble; seconded by Patrice McCrary. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

D. Selection of National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Committee Members (Action/Discussion)

Chair Young explained the purpose and requirements of the committee.

The NASBE Public Education Positions (PEP) Committee submits new resolutions or position statements and/or amendments to standing resolutions or existing policy statements that amplify members' collective national voice.

Committees are vital to the work of NASBE and require only minimal time from those involved—typically a Zoom call every other month.

Chair Young asked for nominations of the KBE member to serve on the NASBE Public Education Positions Committee and stated that, if necessary, she will gladly accept the nomination.

Lu Young was nominated to serve on the NASBE Public Education Positions Committee. Chair Young asked if there were any other nominations and there were none. Chair Young requested a motion to approve her nomination as the KBE's representative on the NASBE Public Education Positions Committee. The motion was made by Steve Trimble; seconded by Randy Poe. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

E. 2023-2024 KBE Non-Voting Student and Teacher Members (Action/Discussion)

KBE Special Committee Chair Joanna Stevens began the conversation around the 2023-2024 KBE Non-Voting Student and Teacher Members selection process by stating that the Kentucky Board of Education truly values teacher and student voice and expressed gratitude to have an active teacher and current student serving as non-voting members.

Chair Stevens stated to be selected as the 2023-2024 teacher member, the applicant must be employed on a full-time basis by a Kentucky public school district in a position for which Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) certification is required, not employed in an administrative role, and must reside in Kentucky's 1st Congressional District. To be selected as the 2023-2024 student member, the applicant must be enrolled in a Kentucky public high school, be a junior in good standing on July 1 – which means a sophomore at the time of application – and must reside in Kentucky's 5th Congressional District.

The KDE Commissioner's Student Advisory Council reviewed the applicants for the student position and the KDE Teachers Advisory Council reviewed the applicants for the teacher position. A special committee from each group recommended three candidates for each position for our consideration. We appreciate each council's support of this process and their thoughtful review of the applicants.

On behalf of the Special Committee, I would like to share that the committee met on March 29 and determined that Teacher Applicant #1 and Student Applicant #7 were the preferred candidates to serve as the 2023-2024 student and teacher non-voting members.

KBE Chair Lu Young then stated that coming from committee, the motion to accept motion to accept the approval of Teacher Applicant #1 and Student Applicant #7 as the 2023-2024 teacher and student non-voting KBE does not require a second. There were no questions or comments related to this motion. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Chair Young offered congratulations to the future KBE members and stated that she will look forward to welcoming them during our meeting in June in advance of the official start of their terms on July 1, 2023. Also, many thanks to Joanna, Joud, Steve, Holly, and Jamie for serving on the KBE special committee to review the finalists.

V. Consent Agenda

- A. Alternative School Based Decision-Making Council Applications – KDE Associate Commissioner Kelly Foster**
- B. Amendments to Perkins V State Plan – KDE Associate Commissioner Beth Hargis**
- C. Litigation Report – KDE General Counsel Todd G. Allen**

Chair Young remarked that the consent agenda items were distributed to members in advance of the meeting to allow sufficient time for review, 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. Chair Young stated that since no items are to be removed, she requested a motion to approve all items on the consent agenda. The motion was made by Lee Todd; seconded by JoAnn Adams. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote.

VI. Action Items

A. Henry County District Facility Plan Priority Waiver

KDE Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter presented the waiver request from Henry County School District to the full board.

First, Chair Young asked the board to entertain a motion to approve the Henry County District Facility Plan Priority Waiver of Section 4 (4) b. of 702 KAR 4:050. The motion was made by Steve Trimble; seconded by Sharon Robinson. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Second, Chair Young asked the board to entertain a motion to approve the Planning Manual for the Henry County District Facility Plan. The motion was made by Sharon Robinson; seconded by Holly Bloodworth. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

B. Kentucky Minimum Specifications for School Buses

KDE Division Director Chay Ritter and KDE Branch Manager Elisa Hanley presented the proposed minimum specifications for school buses.

Chair Young requested the board to entertain a motion to approve the Kentucky Minimum Specifications for School Buses. The motion was made by Patrice McCrary; seconded by Randy Poe. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

VII. Review Items

A. Legislative Update

KDE Director of Government Relations Brian Perry provided an overview of the 2023 legislative session.

B. Kentucky Department of Education 2024-2025 Biennial Budget and Capitol Plan Update

KDE Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and KDE Division Director Karen Wirth provided an update on the development of the KDE's 2024-2026 Biennial Budget Request.

C. Audit Report and Expense Reports of the Kentucky Board of Education and Commissioner of Education

KDE Associate Commissioner Robin Kinney and KDE Division Director Karen Wirth provided an overview of the audit report as well as the expense reports for the KBE and the Commissioner.

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Young expressed thanks to everyone for their time and engagement this afternoon! The board will reconvene tomorrow at 9:00 AM. Chair Young asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Steve Trimble; seconded by JoAnn Adams. The motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.