

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) held a special meeting on September 14, 2023. The KBE met at 1 p.m. ET. Members of the public were permitted to watch a livestream of the meeting which could be viewed on the Kentucky Department of Education’s (KDE) Media Portal. The board conducted the following business:

I. Call to Order

Chair Robinson welcomed all board members to the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. ET.

II. Roll Call

Chair Robinson asked for a roll call of members. The following members were present: JoAnn Adams, Holly Bloodworth, Jamie Bowling, Patrice McCrary, Randy Poe, Sharon Robinson, Lee Todd, Steve Trimble, Lu Young, Alissa Riley, and R.J. Osborne.

Diane Woods joined the meeting at 1:07 p.m. due to an information technology issue.

Chair Robinson welcomed KBE members and shared her appreciation to KDE staff for the outstanding 2024 Kentucky Teacher of the Year event held on September 13. The event recognized 22 Valvoline Teacher Achievement Award Winners and the teacher of the year winners. The finalists were Donnie Wilkerson of Jamestown Elementary (Russell County), Kevin Dailey of Ballyshannon Middle School (Boone County), and Kumar Rashad of Breckinridge Metropolitan High School (Jefferson County). She commented that it was a wonderful day to celebrate teaching excellence in Kentucky. She also thanked Valvoline again for serving as the sponsor of the event.

III. Agency Amendment to 702 KAR 7:065, Designation of agent to manage middle and high school interscholastic athletics (Action/Discussion)

KDE General Counsel Todd G. Allen presented the proposed agency amendment to *702 KAR 7:065, Designation of agent to manage middle and high school interscholastic athletics*. Since the KBE’s last approval of this regulation, KHSSA advisory groups have proposed adding three major changes to a document incorporated by reference to advance and protect student safety. Those changes were highlighted in a staff note and were related to emergency action plans, heat injury illness, and air quality. KHSAA Commissioner Tackett and KHSAA General Counsel Chad Collins will in attendance to answer any questions. By submitting an agency amendment, the changes will be incorporated when the previously amended regulation becomes effective. Randy Poe made a motion to approve the proposed agency amendment; seconded by Steve Trimble. There were no questions or comments.

Chair Robinson asked if there were any further comments or questions. There were none.

The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

IV. Adoption of Resolution Honoring Commissioner Jason E. Glass, Ed.D. (Action/Discussion)

Chair Robinson read the resolution to the members of the board.

HONORING AND COMMENDING Commissioner Jason E. Glass, Ed.D. for his service to public education in the Commonwealth.

WHEREAS, Dr. Jason Glass has served as Kentucky's Commissioner of Education since August 2020 with an unwavering commitment to ensuring that equity and high-quality professional practice are at the forefront of all considerations; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Glass has provided exemplary leadership and fostered a culture of trust within the Kentucky Department of Education inspiring others to be the best version of themselves; and

WHEREAS Commissioner Glass responded to the crisis of COVID-19 and two natural disasters with a depth of wisdom and compassion while providing critical communications and decisive policy action; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Glass has maintained a steadfast dedication to deeper learning experiences, opportunity, and authentic assessment for every student in the commonwealth; and

WHEREAS Commissioner Glass facilitated the development of United We Learn, Kentucky's bold vision for the future of teaching and learning, through his willingness to listen and collaborate with diverse stakeholders to ensure that this effort is collectively owned and fully supported by many; and

WHEREAS Commissioner Glass produced rich and substantive responses to address the Kentucky Board of Education's charge to transform assessment and accountability and advance toward a more equitable educational experience.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kentucky Board of Education does hereby adopt this resolution September 14, 2023, expressing its sincerest gratitude and appreciation for the dedication and efforts of Commissioner Glass and wishes him all the very best in his next role as he continues his life-long career in education leadership.

Chair Robinson stated that the proposed adoption will be effective on September 14, 2023, as a resolution honoring and commending Commissioner Glass for his service to public education in the Commonwealth.

Chair Robinson asked the board to entertain a motion to adopt this resolution. The motion was made by Jamie Bowling; seconded by Lu Young.

The resolution was shared with KBE members in advance of the meeting and asked if there were any additional comments. There were none.

The resolution was adopted unanimously by a roll call vote.

V. Closed Session Pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(f) for Discussion of Individual Candidates Which Might Lead to the Appointment of an Interim Commissioner of Education

Chair Robinson indicated the KBE would go into closed session under the Open Meetings Act, KRS 61.810(1)(f) as allowed by and under the requirements of KRS 61.815 to conduct discussions which may lead to the appointment of an individual employee, specifically an Interim Commissioner of Education.

Chair Robinson requested a motion to go into closed session for this purpose. The motion was made by Patrice McCrary; seconded by Jamie Bowling. There were no questions or comments related to moving to a closed session. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

The KDE media broadcast closed with a statement to the viewing public that the board was in closed session at 1:14 pm ET.

Chair Robinson asked for a motion to return to open session. The motion was made by Steve Trimble; seconded by Holly Bloodworth. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Chair Robinson reconvened the open session meeting at 1:42 p.m. ET and stated the board members have concluded their confidential, closed session discussion related to an appointment of an individual employee, specifically an Interim Commissioner of Education. The Open Meetings Act prohibits a public body from taking any action in the closed session of a public meeting. The KBE did not take any action during its closed session discussion.

VI. Discussion and Possible Action to Appoint an Interim Commissioner of Education

Chair Robinson stated it is necessary for the KBE to appoint an interim commissioner of education to serve until a permanent commissioner of education is appointed. Informed by the discussion in closed session, Chair Robinson requested the board to entertain a motion to appoint Robin Kinney as the interim commissioner to begin on September 30, 2023, with a salary of \$260,000. The interim commissioner of education shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the position beginning September 30, 2023, until such time as a permanent commissioner of education is appointed and assumes the role, or the board takes further action. The interim commissioner shall not be eligible for the position of permanent commissioner of education.

The motion was made by Patrice McCrary; seconded by Jamie Bowling. Chair Robinson asked if further discussion is needed. There was no further discussion requested. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

VII. Adjournment

Chair Robinson thanked everyone for the participation, engagement, patience and consultation and shared congratulations to Robin Kinney. Chair Robinson 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 roll call vote.