

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) held its regular meeting on February 7, 2024. 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 Sharon Robinson welcomed all board members and guests to the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. ET.

II. Roll Call

Chair Robinson asked for a roll call of members. The following members were present: JoAnn Adams, Holly Bloodworth, Patrice McCrary, Julie Pile, Randy Poe, Sharon Robinson, Lee Todd, Steve Trimble, Diane Woods, Lu Young, Alissa Riley, and RJ Osborne.

III. Public Comment Section

Chair Robinson stated that the Public Comment Segment is limited to 10 speakers at a maximum of 3 minutes each. No one submitted items via the KBE email inbox, however, there was 1 person in attendance for public comment, therefore the board allowed Melissa Parrish from Nelson County a platform to speak. Parrish spoke regarding the behavior of board members in her county and asked the board and Interim Commissioner Kinney to take action on this subject. The interim commissioner took a few moments to respond.

IV. Internal Board Business

A. Summary minutes for the December 6, 2023 KBE Regular Meeting Day 1, December 7, 2023 KBE Regular Meeting Day 2, December 6, 2023 United We Learn Committee Meeting, December 6, 2023 State Schools Committee Meeting, December 14, 2023 KBE Special Meeting and February 1, 2024 KBE Awards Committee Meeting (Action/Discussion)

The minutes of these meetings were distributed to members in advance. Chair Robinson asked for any corrections to any of the minutes. There were no corrections. Chair Robinson asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was made by Patrice McCrary and seconded by Holly Bloodworth. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

B. Recipient of the 2024 Robinson Award for Diversity and Equity in Public Education (Action/Discussion)

Chair Robinson called on the Awards Committee Chair, Patrice McCrary, to give the report. Chair McCrary gave background information on the award, such as that Dr. Samuel Robinson was a former member of the KBE (1991-2004) who made diversity and equity in public education his life's work. Chair McCrary then mentioned the criteria for receiving the award, which includes: successful efforts in closing socioeconomic and/or racial achievement gaps, and significantly improving student learning, achievement, or other measure outcomes among students of color or economically disadvantaged students. She then shared that the committee met on February 1 and determined that candidate 10 best met the criteria of the award. Chair McCrary moved to approve candidate 10 as the recipient of the 2024 Robinson Award for Diversity and Equity in Public Education and asked Chair Robinson for the board's approval to recognize candidate 10 at the board's upcoming April regular meeting. Chair Robinson stated that since the motion came from the committee, the motion did not require a second. Chair Robinson called for a vote to approve the committee's recommendation, which passed unanimously with a voice vote.

C. Commissioner Search Update

Chair Robinson gave the update to the board. She began by saying that the application process will close on February 16th, and that the majority of qualified applications appear in the days preceding the closing. Then, she shared that as of Wednesday, February 7th, there were 5 completed applications. She also mentioned that K-12 Insight continues to collect stakeholder feedback and will do so until February 16th. They have currently gathered 15 responses from the General Assembly, 198 responses from educators/administrators, and 172 responses from stakeholders.

D. Board Member Sharing

Chair Robinson announced that the next item on the agenda is board sharing. It is an opportunity for board members to raise issues, pose questions, share concerns, and suggest topics to include on future board meeting agendas.

Lu Young began by sharing that she traveled to the White House in Washington D.C. to serve on the National Educational Technology Plan. She mentioned that many ideas from Portrait of a Learner are infused in the plan. Vice Chair Young also said that she was appointed to chair the PEP (public education policy) committee of the National Association of State Boards of Education.

Patrice McCrary shared that she attended the WSCC (whole school, whole community, whole child) subcommittee. She pointed out a few items from the meeting, such as there being over 2 million visits to nurse's offices across Kentucky, while 93% of students were able to return to class and continue instruction after a visit. McCrary stressed the importance of the work school nurses do.

Holly Bloodworth shared that the day after the board meeting, they would be celebrating 103 newly certified NBCTs and 253 renewals.

Julie Pile shared that she was the judge for a chili cooking competition at Jones Middle School in Florence, KY.

Diane Woods shared that she visited Robert B. Turner Elementary School in Lawrenceburg, KY.

Alissa Riley shared that this week (2/5-2/9) is National School Counselors Week. She thanked guidance counselors working across the Commonwealth for their dedication and hard work.

Randy Poe brought up some concerns regarding SEEK funding.

V. Good News

- A. 19 School Districts have received funding to transform a bus into an early learning classroom** (Diane Woods)
- B. 2023 Radon Poster and Video Contest Winners** (Julie Pile)
- C. Kentucky students chosen for 2024 U.S. Senate Youth Program** (Randy Poe)
- D. Saddle Up: Midway Northside Elementary School Students Partner with their Community** (Lu Young)
- E. KY Students Spreading Kindness Featured in People Magazine** (Patrice McCrary)

VI. Report from the President of the Council on Postsecondary Education

Dr. Thompson attended the meeting virtually to give his report. He began by saying that Kentucky was number one in college enrollment gains across the country. He also said that the latest data shows a 55% attainment rate, which means 55% of Kentuckians have a postsecondary credential. On the other hand, he said that there's a need to get more eastern Kentuckians to obtain accreditation. Dr. Thompson then said that they've received several grants around some of their student success efforts, and he also mentioned he was able to be a national speaker on mental health.

VII. Report from the Interim Commissioner of Education

Interim Commissioner Robin Kinney attended in-person to give her report. Kinney began by sharing with the board regarding her trip to Johnson County. She was joined by KDE Chief Information Officer and Associate Commissioner for the Office of Education Technology David Couch, as well as board member Steve Trimble. She continued, saying that at the schools the students were the tour guides, and were very accomplished. Kinney then talked a bit about Kentucky United We Learn (KUWL) and how it's been progressing. The council approved their moonshot statement, which the commissioner said was "simple and powerful." They also approved a definition of "vibrant learning experiences." Finally, the Interim Commissioner went on to share some news regarding the KY School for the Deaf. She said that they are still in the process of looking for the next principal for the school. After meeting with some students, staff, and alumni, Kinney said they decided to change the job posting to require deaf education and an advanced sign language rating.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- A.** 2024 Local District Tax Rates Levied- KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross
- B.** Waiver Request from the Bellevue Independent Schools Board of Education related to Part 2.a.15. of the Facility Programming and Construction Criteria Planning Guide incorporated by reference in 702 KAR 4:170, Facility programming and construction criteria- KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter
- C.** Waiver Request from the Johnson County Board of Education Related to Section 4 (4) (b) of 702 KAR 4:050 Building sites; inspection, approval- KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter
- D.** Waiver Request from the Barren County Board of Education Related to Section 1 (3) of 702 KAR 4:090, Property disposal- KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter
- E.** Waiver Request from the Newport Independent Schools Board of Education Related to Part 2.a.15. of the Facility Programming and construction criteria- KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter
- F.** Waiver Request from the Franklin County Board of Education related to section 4 (5) and section 5 (1) of 702 KAR 4:050, Building sites, inspection, approval- KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter
- G.** Perkins V State Plan- KDE Associate Commissioner Beth Hargis, Ed.D. and KDE Branch Manager Karla Tipton
- H.** Statewide Reading Research Center- KDE Chief Academic Officer Micki Ray
- I.** Hearing Officer's Report- KDE General Counsel Todd G. Allen
- J.** Litigation Report- KDE General Counsel Todd G. Allen

Chair Robinson remarked that the consent agenda items were distributed to members in advance of the meeting 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. None of the items were moved and Chair Robinson asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was made by Lee Todd and seconded by Lu Young. The motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

IX. Action Items

A. Request from the Madison County Board of Education Related to Section 4 (5) and Section 5 (1) of 702 KAR 4:050, Building sites, inspection, approval

KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross and KDE Division Director Chay Ritter presented the request along with superintendent of Madison County, David Gilliam, who attended the meeting virtually. The superintendent remarked that the waiver request exceeded a 10% budgetary threshold which triggered it to be brought to the board. There were also some geological issues that the superintendent said the construction team may face during this project. Chair Robinson called for a motion to approve the waiver request. The motion was made by Steve Trimble and seconded by Lu Young. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

X. Review Items

A. AdvanceKY Annual Update

AdvanceKY Executive Director Anthony Mires, KDE Chief Academic Officer Micki Ray, and KDE Deputy Commissioner Dr. Thomas Woods-Tucker presented the annual report. AdvanceKY serves as the Code.org Regional Partner for Kentucky and has since grown its services to include professional development for the Kentucky CS Expansion Initiative. This initiative, created by a collaboration between the College Board, Code.org, KDE and AdvanceKY, dramatically increased the number of computer science classes offered in Kentucky's middle and high schools. In coordination with the KDE, efforts continue to expand access to CS courses and opportunities in grades K-12. AdvanceKY has received funding contributions through federal, state or foundation funds since 2008. The 2022-2024 fiscal biennium allocates \$1,900,000 of General Funds to AdvanceKY in each fiscal year.

B. Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) Annual Report on Title IX Deficiencies

KHSAA Commissioner Julian Tackett, KHSAA General Counsel Chad Collins and KDE Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel Todd G. Allen presented the

Title IX deficiencies report. The KHSAA is in the twentieth year of Title IX Field Audits. At the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year, the KHSAA began its fourth revisit cycle for all member schools, which were suspended during 2020-21 and 2021-22.

C. Update from the 2024 Kentucky Teacher of the Year

2024 KTOY Kevin Dailey and KDE Awards and Recognition Coordinator GlyptusAnn Grider Jones, Ph.D. provided the update. Dailey explained that he has been developing a project as KTOY and has been asking the question “what makes the perfect classroom?”. He went on to say that the difference between the art of teaching and the science of teaching is something that he is looking at.

D. Presentation of the 2023 Kevin C. Brown Strategic Priority Award

Interim Commissioner Robin Kinney facilitated the awards presentation. Commissioner Kinney expressed that she was honored to present the award. She then gave background on Kevin C. Brown and outlined the criteria for the award: Kevin C. Brown served at the KDE in various roles from 2004-2018. Most recently, Brown served as the Interim Commissioner of Education from December 2019-September 2020. The priority area for this award changes from year to year, but the 2023 awards seek to recognize a district or school who through policy and practice, makes it a priority to support the successful adoption and implementation of a Portrait of a Learner. Kinney then announced the Hopkins County Public Schools as the winners of the award. Superintendent Amy Smith gave a few remarks about the work of the district, and Kevin C. Brown spoke to the success of the district as well.

E. 2024-2026 Biennial Budget and Legislative Update

KDE Associate Commissioner Matt Ross, KDE Division Director Karen Wirth, and KDE Director of Government Relations Brian Perry presented an update on the 2024 session of the Kentucky General Assembly. Karen Wirth began by presenting the governor’s budget (HB114) which included the following: \$4368 each year for SEEK per pupil, \$545m for school district employee salary increases, fully funded pupil transportation, \$9m for KETS, \$2m for Read to Succeed, \$172m for preschool for all 4-year-olds, \$12.4m for professional learning, and \$17m for instructional resources. Additionally, the Bureau of Support Services received updates to its budget. Wirth then outlined a timeline to the board for the rest of the 2024 regular session schedule. Matt Ross brought up that there had been a reduction of AP funding in the budget.

Next, Brian Perry gave the Legislative Update. He began with a list of senate bills that were of interest, including: SB8, SB11, SB18, SB38, SB40, SB52, SB66, and

SB93. He also highlighted some house bills of interest, such as: HB2, HB22, HB36, HB41, HB51, HB96, HB108, and HB119.

XI. The State of Career and Technical Education in Kentucky

KDE Associate Commissioner Beth Hargis, Ed.D. and KDE Executive Advisor Regan Satterwhite presented the overview of CTE efforts in Kentucky. Kentucky has more than 135 state-approved career pathways in 13 CTE program areas. KDE also collaborates with local districts to develop region-specific, locally approved pathways. In addition, KDE operates 50 area technology centers (ATCs) that serve 115 local school districts. Hargis said the CTE pathways allow students to pursue postsecondary opportunities, including dual credit options and industry certifications, all while working in conjunction with the traditional academic work a student would do in the public school system. Regan Satterwhite, executive advisor in the Office of Career and Technical Education, introduced the board to three new pathways that will be added to Kentucky's CTE offerings in the next school year: supply chain management, additive manufacturing, and data science. Satterwhite also presented some data showing the growth of CTE in Kentucky. During the 2022-2023 school year:

- Kentucky experienced an 11% increase in CTE enrollment compared to 2021-2022;
- 8 out of every 10 Kentucky students were engaged in at least one CTE class in high school;
- More than 4,500 students participated in a CTE cooperative internship or registered apprenticeship;
- More than 25,000 Kentucky students graduated with at least one postsecondary credential; and
- 63,425 Kentucky students participated in a CTE student organization.

XII. Adjournment

Chair Robinson congratulated the award winners and invited them to join the board for a short lunch following adjournment, as well as invited the rest of the board to attend the CTE Showcase which was held on the first floor. Chair Robinson then called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Holly Bloodworth and seconded by Lee Todd. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote.

XIII. Career and Technical Education Showcase in Recognition of CTE Month (No Business Conducted)