

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: 2025-2026 Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) Non-Voting Student and Teacher Members

Date: June 2025

Action Requested: Review Action/Consent Action/Discussion

Held In: Full Board State Schools United We Learn

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To take action on the selection of the 2025-2026 KBE non-voting student and teacher members.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Based on identified finalists, Commissioner Robbie Fletcher recommends the selection of student candidate #1 and teacher candidate #2.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 156.029
701 KAR 5:160

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

KRS 156.029(1) outlines the Kentucky Board of Education membership composition which includes "...an active public elementary or secondary school teacher and a public high school student appointed by the board...serving as nonvoting members."

Per KRS 156.029(4), "The nonvoting teacher and student members shall be selected by the board from the state's six (6) congressional districts on a rotating basis from different districts. The public high school student shall be classified as a junior at the time of appointment."

701 KAR 5:160 establishes the process for the selection of the non-voting student and teacher members.

Summary of Issue:

701 KAR 5:160(2)(5) requires that "No later than its last regular meeting of the fiscal year, the board shall consider the recommendation pursuant to subsection (4) of this section and, by majority vote, select one (1) candidate to serve as the non-voting teacher member of the board for a one (1) year term, which shall begin on July 1 immediately following the board's selection, and expire on the following June 30."

701 KAR 5:160(3)(5) requires that "No later than its last regular meeting of the fiscal year, the board shall consider the recommendation pursuant to subsection (4) of this section and, by majority vote, select one (1) candidate to serve as the non-voting student member of the board

for a one (1) year term, which shall begin on July 1 immediately following the board's selection, and expire on the following June 30.”

Budget Impact:


Non-voting members are eligible to receive the standard KBE member stipend and reimbursement for travel expenses. For meetings occurring during the teacher’s contract period, the non-voting teacher does not receive a stipend. Instead, the non-voting teacher member’s school is reimbursed for costs associated with the hire of a substitute teacher.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

Special committees of the Commissioner’s Student Advisory Council and the Commissioner’s Teacher Advisory Council were invited to review the applicants and identify finalists. The Student Advisory Council special committee identified three non-voting student position finalists, with candidate #1 as their recommended top candidate. The Teacher Advisory Council identified three non-voting teacher position finalists, with candidate #2 as their recommended top candidate.

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Commissioner of Education

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