



KENTUCKY

Education Professional Standards Board

MISSION STATEMENT

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB), in full collaboration and cooperation with its education partners, promotes high levels of student achievement by establishing and enforcing rigorous professional standards for preparation, certification, and responsible and ethical behavior of all professional educators in Kentucky.

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Ensuring Ethical Educators

The EPSB supports efforts to promote ethical behavior among all educators to ensure student safety and well-being. The EPSB encourages efforts aimed at stopping student-teacher boundary violations including clear prohibitions of grooming behaviors and non-disclosure agreements.

Mentoring & Induction

The EPSB supports funding for mentoring and induction to ensure that all new teachers and principals participate in high-quality induction into the profession. Early support and mentoring of new teachers have been shown as key elements in teacher retention, which is imperative to combat the current teacher shortage. State level funding would ensure all districts are able to implement high-quality induction programs for new teachers and principals.

Financial Incentives

The EPSB supports financial incentives that promote entry to and growth within the profession including competitive teacher salaries, expanded scholarship opportunities for new teachers and educators adding an area of certification, continued funding for paid student teaching experiences, and funding for assessment reimbursement and mentoring.

Elevating the Profession

The EPSB supports efforts to elevate the profession and provide the supports, incentives, and respect of other workforce areas. Elevating the profession is crucial to supporting the educator workforce through recruitment and retention efforts.

Statutory Cleanup

The EPSB supports revisions to KRS 160.145 to avoid the unintended consequences and target true private communications. The EPSB also supports amendments to KRS 161.102 to alleviate the burden to districts created by the use restrictions on emergency substitute teachers. The EPSB also supports revisions to the strict timelines and burdens placed on the educator case process in KRS 161.120 by House Bill 300 from the 2024 Legislative Session.