



NKCES Monthly Board of Directors Meeting
May 13, 2026
8:30 AM
NKCES, Synergy Room
5516 East Alexandria Pike
Cold Spring, KY 41076

Member Districts

Beechwood Independent • Bellevue Independent • Boone County • Bracken County • Campbell County
Carroll County • Covington Independent • Dayton Independent • Erlanger-Elsmere Independent • Fleming County
Fort Thomas Independent • Grant County • Greenup County • Kenton County • Lewis County • Ludlow Independent
Mason County • Newport Independent • Northern Kentucky University • Owen County • Pendleton County
Southgate Independent • Walton-Verona Independent • Williamstown Independent

Attendance Taken at 1:01 PM:

Present Board Members:

Mr. Matt Atkins

Dr. Matt Baker

Mr. Joe Buerkley

Mr. Greg Duty

Dr. Ginni Fair

Mr. Alvin Garrison

Mr. Casey Jaynes

Mr. Justin Kaiser

Ms. Misty Middleton

Mr. Chad Molley

Mr. Todd Moody

Mr. Brian Robinson

Mr. John Slone

Dr. Jason Steffen

Dr. Henry Webb

Dr. Shelli Wilson

Mr. Rick Wolf

Absent Board Members:

Dr. Brian Creasman

Dr. Jeff Hauswald

Mr. Clay King

Mr. Jeff Aulick

Mr. Reggie Taylor

Mr. Rick Ross

Mr. Steve Hall

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Acknowledgment of Guests

IV. Consent Agenda*

Motion Passed: Approve and accept the items on the Consent Agenda passed with a motion by Mr. Casey Jaynes and a second by Mr. Chad Molley.

IV.A. Approval of April 2026 Minutes

IV.B. Approval of Treasurer's Report

IV.C. Personnel Report

V. PL Update & April Movie: Dr. Robb Smith, CAO

VI. SERTAC Update: Brittney Howell

VII. Instructional Spotlight

VII.A. National Council on Mental Wellness Conference (NatCon) Highlights: Dr. Kim Weber, Assistant Director of Learning and Empowerment

VIII. Communication Items and Discussion

VIII.A. Recognition of President Dr. Matt Baker for his service and dedication to the NKCES Board of Directors

Rationale:

Dr. Matt Baker has been an incredible asset to the Executive Board through his steady leadership, thoughtful insight, and genuine commitment to the work of NKCES. His dedication of time and energy has made a lasting impact, and his ability to lead with professionalism, integrity, and collaboration has been greatly appreciated by everyone he has served alongside. We are truly grateful for his service and the positive difference he has made.

VIII.B. NKU Update, Dean Ginni Fair

IX. New Business

IX.A. Accept the Election Results of Incoming NKCES Board President, Superintendent Justin Kaiser*

Rationale:

Superintendent Brian Robinson led the Incoming President nomination process, during which one superintendent was nominated. Superintendent Robinson requested that NKCES provide a method for the board to vote on the nomination. NKCES created a Google Form to capture the responses. As of Wednesday, May 6, a majority of the board supports the nomination of Superintendent Justin Kaiser as Incoming President for the 2026-2027 term.

Motion Passed: The Executive Committee requests the board's approval to accept the majority vote of the Incoming NKCES Board President, Superintendent Justin Kaiser. passed with a motion by Mr. Chad Molley and a second by Mr. Alvin Garrison.

IX.B. Property and Casualty Insurance Policy for 2026-2027 Year*

Rationale:

Liberty Mutual declined to provide a competitive quote for NKCES for the upcoming year. In the 2026-27 policy year, we will be moving NKCES property/casualty coverage to Obsidian Specialty Insurance. Obsidian Insurance is an A- (Excellent) AM Best Rated carrier whose structure allows for enhanced limits, broader terms, and more favorable deductibles compared to Liberty Mutual.

Pricing

Yes the property/casualty increase remains in the single digits overall. When you figure in the workers' compensation premium reduction, this year's total increase is less than 1%!

1. Major Risk Improvements at Modest Cost

Flood limit increases from \$1M to \$10M

Earthquake limit increases from \$5M to \$10M

Wind deductible improves from \$100,000 down to \$2,500

Hail deductible improves from \$100,000 down to \$25,000. These are meaningful risk protections added without a double-digit increase.

2. Stronger Liability Protection

Auto liability limit increases from \$1M to \$2M

All prior retroactive dates are preserved no loss of historical coverage protection.

3. Added Coverage with No or Minimal Cost

Wind/hail deductible buydown and mine subsidence are now included

TRIA (terrorism coverage) is automatically included

4. Workers' Compensation Improvement

Workers' comp experience mod improves from 2.02 to 1.21, resulting in a significant premium reduction!

This reflects improved claims performance and is a strong operational positive for NKCES.

5. Market Stability

Despite continued hard market conditions for schools in Kentucky and nationwide (especially auto, school board legal, cyber, and liability), NKCES avoided carrier disruption and maintains stable coverage with no joint & several liability, or shared limits with other school systems.

Motion Passed: The Executive Committee requests the board's approval to accept the Property and Casualty Policy for 2026-2027. passed with a motion by Mr. Chad Molley and a second by Mr. Alvin Garrison.

IX.C. Change June Board Meeting Date, from Wednesday June 10th to Friday June 12th*

Rationale:

With the retirement dinner on Wednesday, we are requesting to hold the board meeting on Friday. We have held the meeting on this day of the retreat in the past.

Motion Passed: The executive committee requests the board's approval to accept the request to move the June 10th board meeting to June 12th. passed with a motion by Mr. Chad Molley and a second by Mr. Brian Robinson.

X. Acknowledgment of Written Reports from NKCES

X.A. Executive Director's Report: Dr. Amy Razor

XI. Report Outs from External Agencies

XI.A. KDE: Dr. Kelly Foster, Associate Commissioner

XI.B. KASA: Mike Ford, Director of Affiliates & Member Support

XI.C. KASS: Dr. Jim Flynn

XI.D. KSBA: Josh Shoulta, Associate Executive Director

XI.E. KETS: Mary Ann Rankin, Field Staff

XII. Reports from Community/Business

XII.A. NKYEC: Dr. Randy Poe, Executive Director

XIII. MOTION TO ENTER CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PER KRS61.810(1)(f) PERSONNEL*

Motion Passed: The executive committee requests the board's approval to enter into executive session to discuss personnel. passed with a motion by Mr. Chad Molley and a second by Mr. Casey Jaynes.

XIV. MOTION TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION*

Motion Passed: The executive committee requests the boards approval to reconvene in open session. passed with a motion by Mr. Alvin Garrison and a second by Mr. Greg Duty.

XV. MOTION TO ACCEPT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S 2026 EVALUATION*

Motion Passed: The executive committee requests the board's approval to accept the Executive Director's 2026 evaluation. passed with a motion by Mr. Casey Jaynes and a second by Mr. Alvin Garrison.

XVI. Motion or Adjournment*

Motion Passed: passed with a motion by Dr. Henry Webb and a second by Mr. Justin Kaiser.