

The actions delineated below were taken in open session of the EPSB at the June 22, 2026, meeting. This information is provided in summary form; an official record of the meeting is available in the permanent records of the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB), 300 Sower Boulevard, 5th Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601.

**Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB)
Minutes
Kentucky Department of Education
300 Sower Boulevard, 5th Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601**

Call to Order

Vice Chair C.J. Fryer called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. ET. Vice Chair Fryer read the EPSB Mission Statement.

Roll Call

The following Board members were present during the June 22, 2026, EPSB meeting: Scottie Collier, Dr. Elizabeth Dinkins, Cathy Gunn, Dr. Corinne Murphy, Dr. Nicholas Pace, Merideth Pittman, Lisa Rudzinski, and Vice Chair Fryer.

CPE: Dr. Amanda Ellis

Report from Commissioner

Commissioner Robbie Fletcher gave a KDE update.

Report from the Kentucky Board of Education and KBE/EPSB Research Practice Collaborative Recommendations

Dr. Sharon Robinson gave an update from the Kentucky Board of Education. Dr. Robinson and Vice Chair Fryer also gave an update on the KBE/EPSB Research Practice Collaborative Recommendations.

Report from Educator Licensure and Effectiveness

Dr. Meredith Brewer introduced ICF representatives, Dr. Samantha Spinney and Ms. Kristen Usher, who gave an update on the Read to Succeed Act Implementation.

Report from the Chair

Vice Chair Fryer introduced the EPP spotlight guests, including Dr. Kathy Stovall, Ms. Harriet James, and Ms. Denise Williams from William J. Simmons University, formerly known as Simmons College of Kentucky. They shared an update on the programs their institution offers and detailed other exciting work that is happening.

Consent Items

Approval of EPSB Meeting Minutes and EPSB Waiver Committee Minutes:

May 26, 2026, EPSB Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2026, EPSB Waiver Committee Minutes

Hearing Officer's Report

Spalding University: Teacher Leadership Continuing Education Option (CEO) Plan II Proposal
Option 9 Application, Oldham County Schools and Campbellsville University

Option 9 Application, Dayton Independent Public Schools and the University of the Cumberland

Option 9 Application, Meade County Public Schools and University of the Cumberland

Campbellsville University: Approval of the School Social Work Masters Program and Graduate
Certificate Program

Kentucky Wesleyan College: Approval of the Learning and Behavior Disorders Initial
Undergraduate, Traditional Route Program

Simmons College: Approval of the Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education Initial
Undergraduate, Traditional Route Program

Simmons College: Approval of the Proficiency Evaluation Plan for Elementary Education
Program

Waivers:

16 KAR 2:120. Request to Waive Emergency Certificate Requirements for Bardstown
Independent Schools (Ms. Salsman)

16 KAR 2:120. Request to Waive Emergency Certificate Requirements for Bath County
Schools

16 KAR 2:010. Request to Waive Certification Grade Range for Ashley Wilkerson

16 KAR 2:010. Request to Waive Certification Grade Range for Chelsae Hennion

16 KAR 2:010. Request to Waive Certification Grade Range for Estella Hafford

16 KAR 2:010. Request to Waive Certification Grade Range for Keeley Pierce

16 KAR 2:010. Request to Waive Certification Grade Range for Susan Davis

16 KAR 5:020. Request to Waive GPA Admission Requirement for a Candidate

16 KAR 2:020. Request to Waive Issuance Requirements for Provisional Occupation-
Based Career and Technical Education Certificate for Holly Riddle

16 KAR 2:020. Request to Waive Issuance Requirements for Provisional Occupation-
Based Career and Technical Education Certificate for Kimberly Pharris

16 KAR 2:020. Request to Waive Renewal Requirements for Provisional Occupation-
Based Career and Technical Education Certificate for Jacob Rambo

2026-045

Motion made by Dr. Corinne Murphy, seconded by Dr. Nicholas Pace to approve items.

Vote: Unanimous

Information Items

Mr. Todd Davis gave an update on the amendments to 16 KAR 5:020 and 16 KAR 2:010. Dr. Melissa Diebel gave an update on amendments to 16 KAR 5:040 and 16 KAR 5:010 as well as presented a new regulation, 16 KAR 5:015.

Action Item

16 KAR 5:020. Regulatory Waiver to Allow Use of the SAT as an Assessment of Basic Knowledge

2026-046

Motion made by Ms. Lisa Rudzinski, seconded by Dr. Elizabeth Dinkins to approve item.

Vote: Unanimous

16 KAR 5:040. Extension of Student Teacher Waivers

2026-047

Motion made by Dr. Corinne Murphy, seconded by Dr. Nicholas Pace to approve item.

Vote: Unanimous

Simmons College: Approval of Initial Programs

2026-048

Motion made by Ms. Lisa Rudzinski, seconded by Dr. Elizabeth Dinkins to approve item.

Vote: Unanimous

Morehead State University: Approval of Initial and Advanced Programs

2026-049

Motion made by Dr. Elizabeth Dinkins, seconded by Dr. Amanda Ellis to approve item.

Vote: Unanimous

Brescia University: Accreditation Decision on the Educator Preparation Provider and Approval of Programs

2026-050

Motion made by Dr. Corinne Murphy, seconded by Ms. Merideth Pittman to approve item. Amanda Ellis recused.

Vote: Unanimous

Midway University: Removal of Current AFIs and Stipulations

2026-051

Motion made by Dr. Elizabeth Dinkins, seconded by Dr. Amanda Ellis to approve item.

Vote: Unanimous

Morehead State University: Approval of Proficiency Evaluation Plan for Initial Undergraduate

Business and Marketing Education, Health and Physical Education, Agriculture Education, Career and Technical Education, and Advanced Masters Gifted Education

2026-052

Motion made by Ms. Lisa Rudzinski, seconded by Dr. Amanda Ellis to approve item.

Vote: Unanimous

Waivers

16 KAR 2:010. Request to Waive Certification Grade Range for Carmen Sallee

2026-053

Motion made by Dr. Amanda Ellis, seconded by Dr. Corrine Murphy to approve item. Ms. Lisa Rudzinski recused.

Vote: Unanimous

16 KAR 2:120. Request to Waive Emergency Certificate Requirements for Nelson County Schools

2026-054

Motion made by Ms. Lisa Rudzinski, seconded by Dr. Corinne Murphy to deny item.

Vote: Unanimous

16 KAR 2:020. Request to Waive Issuance Requirements for Provisional Occupation-Based Career and Technical Education Certificate for Dakota Eldridge

2026-055

Motion made by Dr. Corinne Murphy, seconded by Dr. Amanda Ellis to deny item.

Vote: Unanimous

16 KAR 2:020. Request to Waive Issuance Requirements for Provisional Occupation-Based Career and Technical Education Certificate for Stephanie Sheets

2026-056

Motion made by Ms. Lisa Rudzinski, seconded by Dr. Nicholas Pace to deny item.

Vote: Unanimous

Alternative Route to Certification Applications

Brian Calnon, Business and Marketing, Grades 5 Through 12

2026-057

Motion made by Ms. Lisa Rudzinski, seconded by Ms. Cathy Gunn to defer item for more information. Dr. Elizabeth Dinkins recused.

Vote: Unanimous

Joseph Tingle, Agriculture, Grades 5 Through 12

2026-058

Motion made by Ms. Lisa Rudzinski, seconded by Dr. Amanda Ellis to approve item.

Vote: Unanimous

Joshua Werkman, Biology, Grades 8-12, and Middle Grades Science, Grades 5-9

2026-059

Motion made by Dr. Corrine Murphy, seconded by Dr. Amanda Ellis to approve item.

Vote: Unanimous

Angelia Williams, Music, All Grades

2026-060

Motion made by Dr. Elizabeth Dinkins, seconded by Dr. Corinne Murphy to approve item.

Vote: Unanimous

**DISCIPLINARY MATTERS:
MINUTES OF CASE REVIEW
June 22, 2026**

Motion made by Dr. Amanda Ellis seconded by Dr. Corinne Murphy, to go into closed session in accordance with KRS 61.810(1) (c) & (j) to conduct a character and fitness review, review potential actions relating to complaints and reports, and review pending litigation.

Vote: *Unanimous*

Motion made by Dr. Amanda Ellis, seconded by Dr. Nicholas Pace, to return to open session.

Vote: *Unanimous*

The following board members concurred with the actions as listed below with the noted exceptions:

Scottie Collier, Elizabeth Dinkins, Amanda Ellis, CJ Fryer, Cathy Gunn, Corinne Murphy, Nicholas Pace, Merideth Pittman, and Lisa Rudzinski.

Attorneys present were Whitney Crowe, Cody Hollan, Madison Snelling, Norah Softic, Thomas Miller-Wall, and Phillip West.

Initial Case Review

Case Number

2657468 Michele Robertson

Decision

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate number 201109133 is retroactively suspended beginning

June 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026. Robertson shall not be actively employed in a certified position during the suspension period. Pursuant to KRS 161.020(1)(a): No person shall be eligible to hold the position of superintendent, principal, teacher, supervisor, director of pupil personnel, or other public-school position for which certificates may be issued, or receive salary for services rendered in the position, unless he or she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board. Robertson acknowledges it is her responsibility to consult with her employer to determine any consequences to salary or employment benefits as a result of this agreement.

Prior to September 1, 2026, Robertson shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed the following trainings or courses on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):

1. A course under the “Classroom Management” heading; and
2. A course under the “Educator Ethics” heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Robertson. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to September 1, 2026 will result in Certificate Number 201109133 being administratively suspended until such time as Robertson provides the written proof.

Upon reinstatement, Certificate Number 201109133, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for two (2) years:

1. During the probationary period, Robertson shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. “Disciplinary action” is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the

Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Robertson fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201109133 shall be automatically suspended for a period of thirty (30) days and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Robertson is aware that should she violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

2657488 Heather Curd
2657424 Dale Dragomir

Further Investigation
Further Investigation

2657503 Angela West

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201198107 is suspended beginning June 1, 2026, to July 30, 2026, a period of sixty (60) days. West shall not be actively employed in a certified position during the suspension period. Pursuant to KRS 161.020(1)(a): No person shall be eligible to hold the position of superintendent, principal, teacher, supervisor, director of pupil personnel, or other public-school position for which certificates may be issued, or receive salary for services rendered in the position, unless he or she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board. West acknowledges it is her responsibility to consult with her employer to determine any consequences to salary or employment benefits as a result of this Agreed Order.

West has provided proof to the Board that she has completed a total of seven (7) hours of training on Communication with Students, Colleagues, and the Public; How to Manage Student Behavior; Ethical Conduct in the Work Place; and School Mental Health Response.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201198107, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for two (2) years:

During the probationary period, West shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. "Disciplinary action" is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should West fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201198107 shall be automatically suspended for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

West is aware that should she violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

2657482 and
2657483 Freda Rigsby

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating Rigsby is hereby reprimanded for neglect of duty. An educator has a duty to take reasonable measures to protect the health, safety, and emotional well-being of students. When an educator fails to maintain order in her classroom, students are at risk for both emotional and physical harm. The Board will not tolerate further incidents of misconduct.

On or before December 1, 2026, Rigsby shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed the following Board-approved professional development trainings or courses:

1. Any training under the heading of "Educator Ethics" on the attached

pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A).

2. Any training under the heading of “Classroom Management” on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A).

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Rigsby. Failure to submit written proof of completion on or before the deadline will result in Certificate Number 61256 being administratively suspended until such time as the Board receives the written proof of completion.

Rigsby is aware that should she violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

2657426 Jeffrey Erwin

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200300419 is retroactively suspended from October 27, 2025, to November 7, 2025, a period of ten (10) days. Erwin shall not be actively employed in a certified position during the suspension period. Pursuant to KRS 161.020(1)(a): No person shall be eligible to hold the position of superintendent, principal, teacher, supervisor, director of pupil personnel, or other public-school position for which certificates may be issued, or receive salary for services rendered in the position, unless he or she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board. Erwin acknowledges it is his responsibility to consult with his employer to determine any consequences to salary or employment benefits as a result of this Agreed Order.

Erwin has provided proof to the Board that he has completed six (6) hours of training on Classroom and Behavior Management; PBIS Structures and Awareness; PBIS Six Classroom Practices; Behavior Boosters: Student Non-Compliance; Behavior Boosters: Classroom Disruptions; and Behavior Boosters: Addressing Disrespect.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200300419, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for two (2) years:

During the probationary period, Erwin shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. "Disciplinary action" is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Erwin fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200300419 shall be automatically suspended for a period of thirty (30) days and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Erwin is aware that should he violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

2657487 Jonathan Cook
2657464 Heather McGlone
2657451 Jacob Ballard
2657465 Timothy Moore
2657509 Tiffanie Underwood

Further Investigation
Further Investigation
Further Investigation
Dismiss w/Prejudice
Further Investigation

2657470 Melinda Wells

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating Wells is reprimanded for conduct unbecoming of a teacher. The Board reminds Wells that, as a teacher, she has a duty to uphold the dignity and integrity of the teaching profession. Public intoxication sets a horrible example for students. The Board will not tolerate any further incidents of misconduct by Wells.

Wells has submitted written proof to the Board from her psychiatric medical provider that she has not been diagnosed with a substance use disorder.

Wells is aware that should she violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

2657485 Jessica Berry

Further Investigation

2657497 Kaleb Ridgeway

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating Ridgeway is reprimanded for failing to pay a speeding ticket which led to his arrest during the school day. Ridgeway is reminded that as a certified educator it is his responsibility to maintain the dignity and integrity of the profession. Ridgeway agrees to use better judgement going forward.

On or before December 1, 2026, Ridgeway shall submit written proof to the Board that he has completed any training under the heading of "Educator Ethics" on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A). Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Ridgeway. Failure to submit written proof of completion on or before the deadline will result in Certificate Number 201322995 being administratively suspended until such time as the Board receives the written proof of completion.

Ridgeway is aware that should he violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

2657450 Valorie Atcher

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating:

- a. Atcher is hereby reprimanded for receiving a misdemeanor criminal conviction. The Board reminds Atcher that as a certified educator, she is a pillar of the community to whom students look as an example of how to live their lives, and she is required to meet the high ethical standards defined by the Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel.
- b. On or before August 31st, 2026, Atcher shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed the following training course on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):

- 1) Any one (1) course under the “Educator Ethics” heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Atcher. Failure to submit written proof of completion by the deadline will result in Certificate Number 200407036 being administratively suspended until such time as Atcher provides the written proof.

- c. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200407036, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for two (2) years:

- 1) During the probationary period, Atcher shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. “Disciplinary action” is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Atcher fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200407036 shall be automatically suspended for a period of thirty (30) days and be subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

- d. Atcher is aware that should she violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

2657462 Abby McCormick
2657498 John Robinson
2657499 John Robinson
2657500 John Robinson
2657496 Brandi Mills
2657495 Colby Wilson
2657494 Cynthia Moore
2657493 Lewis Ladd
2657490 Cara Jones

Dismiss w/Prejudice
Further Investigation
Further Investigation
Further Investigation
Further Investigation
Further Investigation
Further Investigation
Further Investigation

2657489 Sondra Johnson

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating Johnson is reprimanded for using social media during the instructional day and disparaging parents. As a certified educator, Johnson has the duty to maintain the dignity and integrity of the profession. The Board will not tolerate any further misconduct from Johnson.

On or before December 1, 2026, Johnson shall submit written proof to the board that she has completed any training under the heading of "Educator Ethics" on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A). Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Johnson. Failure to submit written proof of completion on or before the deadline will result in Certificate Number 201122916 being administratively suspended until such time as the Board receives written proof of completion.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201122916, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for two (2) years:

During the probationary period, Johnson shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. "Disciplinary action" is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal

therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Johnson fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201122916 shall be automatically suspended for a period of thirty (30) days and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Johnson is aware that should she violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

2657469 Tena Switzer

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating:

a. Switzer is hereby reprimanded for her poor professional judgement regarding school property and visitor procedures. The Board reminds Switzer that as a certified educator, she is required to meet the high ethical standards defined by the Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel.

b. On or before August 31st, 2026, Switzer shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed the following training course on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):

1) Any one (1) course under the “Educator Ethics” heading.

Any cost for said training shall be paid for by Switzer. Failure to submit written proof of completion by the deadline will result in Certificate Number 200134241 being administratively suspended until such time as Switzer provides the written proof.

c. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200134241, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for two (2) years:

- 1) During the probationary period, Switzer shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. “Disciplinary action” is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Switzer fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200134241 shall be automatically suspended for a period of sixty (60) days and be subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

- d. Switzer is aware that should she violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

2657466 Jonathan Myatt
2657467 Jonathan Myatt
2657463 William McCoy
2657461 Emily Matthews

DWOP
DWOP
Defer for Training
DWOP

2657460 Kelsey Lund

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating Lund is hereby reprimanded for her lack of professional judgment regarding her use of social media. Lund is reminded that as a certified educator she is required to meet high ethical standards as defined by the Professional Code of Ethics for Certified Educators.

Prior to August 1, 2026, Lund shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed the

following trainings or courses on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):

1. A course under the “Educator Ethics” heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Lund. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to August 1, 2026 will result in Certificate Number 201202152 being administratively suspended until such time as Lund provides the written proof.

2657458 Timothy Hill, Jr.

Further Investigation

2657456 Johnathan Drake

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200103271 is retroactively suspended beginning November 7, 2023, and November 8, 2023, a period of two (2) days. Drake shall not be actively employed in a certified employment during the suspension period. Pursuant to KRS 161.020(1)(a): No person shall be eligible to hold the position of superintendent, principal, teacher, supervisor, director of pupil personnel, or other public-school position for which certificates may be issued, or receive salary for services rendered in the position, unless he or she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board. Drake acknowledges it is his responsibility to consult with his employer to determine any consequences to salary or employment benefits as a result of this Agreed Order.

On or before August 1, 2026, Drake shall submit written proof to the Board that he has completed any training under the heading of “Classroom Management” on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A). Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Drake. Failure to submit written proof of completion on or before the deadline will result in Certificate Number 200103271 being administratively suspended until such time as the Board receives the written proof of completion.

Drake is aware that should he violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

2657454 Lisa Dock	Further Investigation
2657455 Lisa Dock	Further Investigation
2657392 Matthew Irgang	Further Investigation
2657471 Jeffrey Wright	Further Investigation
2657472 Jeffrey Wright	Further Investigation
2657486 Phillip Collett	Further Investigation
2657492 Stephanie Kirk	Further Investigation
2657502 Quadarius Wallace	Further Investigation
2657452 Lukas Burchett	Further Investigation
2657501 Robert Vance	Admonish
2657459 Teresa Lee	Admonish
2556982 Kevin Hook	Further Investigation
2556981 Austin Hall	Further Investigation
2557176 Melissa Ward	Dismiss w/Prejudice
2557305 Emily Slone	Dismiss w/Prejudice
2556761 Larry Coldiron	Initiate Hearing
2456068	Further Investigation
2456045	Initiate Hearing
2455727	Initiate Hearing

Character/Fitness Review

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Decision</u>
2657580	Approve
2657626	Approve
2657657	Approve
2657663	Approve
2657661	Approve
2657664	Approve
2657665	Approve
2657667	Approve
2657698	Approve
2657701	Approve
2657702	Deny
2657703	Approve
2657581	Approve
2657659	Approve
2657697	Approve
2657699	Approve

Agreed Orders

Case Number

2355508 Cameron Clark

Decision

Accept Agreed Order stating Clark voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently surrenders Certificate Number 201192613 and agrees not to apply for, nor be issued, a teaching, administrative, or emergency certificate in the Commonwealth of Kentucky any time in the future. Clark shall immediately surrender the original and all copies of his certificate by personal delivery or by first-class mail, to the Education Professional Standards Board, 300 Sower Blvd. 5th Floor, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2557078 Keith Goodin

Accept Agreed Order stating Certificate Number 201308071 shall be suspended for one (1) year from September 1, 2025, to September 1, 2026. Goodin shall not be actively employed in a certified position during the suspension period. Pursuant to KRS 161.020(1)(a): No person shall be eligible to hold the position of superintendent, principal, teacher, supervisor, director of pupil personnel, or other public-school position for which certificates may be issued, or receive salary for services rendered in the position, unless he or she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board. Goodin acknowledges it is his responsibility to consult with his employer to determine any consequences to salary or employment benefits as a result of this agreement.

Prior to reinstatement, Goodin shall submit written proof to the Board that he has completed the following trainings or courses on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):

- 1. Two (2) courses under the “Classroom Management” heading;**
- 2. Two (2) courses under the “Educator Ethics” heading; and**
- 3. “Anger Management: What it is and how to address it.”**

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Goodin. If Goodin fails to satisfy any portion of this condition, Certificate Number 201308071 shall not be reinstated until such condition is satisfied.

Upon reinstatement, Certificate Number 201308071, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary condition for five (5) years:

1. During the probationary period, Goodin shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. "Disciplinary action" is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Goodin fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201308071 shall be automatically suspended for a period of two (2) years and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Goodin is aware that should he violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2657368 Timothy Gripshover

Accept Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201297509 is permanently revoked. Gripshover shall neither apply for, nor be issued, a teaching, administrative and/or emergency certificate in the Commonwealth of Kentucky at any time in the future.

Vote: *Unanimous* (Mr. Fryer Recused)

2557258 Kathleen Bryant

Accept Agreed Order stating the Board reprimands Bryant for violating state and federal law by failing to follow the procedural safeguards regarding ARC meetings. Bryant had a duty to be knowledgeable about all notice requirements for ARC meetings. Bryant is reminded that as a certified educator she is required to meet high ethical standards as defined by the Professional Code of Ethics for Certified Educators.

Prior to November 1, 2026, Bryant shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed the following trainings or courses on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):

- 1. A course under the “Educator Ethics” heading; and**
- 2. “State and Federal Special Education Training.”**

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Bryant. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to November 1, 2026, will result in Certificate Number 19219 being administratively suspended until such time as Bryant provides the written proof.

Bryant is aware that should she violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2556692 Patricia Lightfoot

Accept Agreed Order stating the Board reprimands Lightfoot for making inappropriate physical contact while addressing student behavior. The Board reminds Lightfoot that she has a duty to take reasonable measures to protect the health, safety, and emotional well-being of students. In the future, Lightfoot should be more cognizant of appropriate physical boundaries when

redirecting a student. The Board will not tolerate any further incidents of misconduct from Lightfoot.

Prior to January 15, 2027, Lightfoot shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed the following trainings or courses on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):

- 1. Three (3) courses under the “Educator Ethics” heading.**

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Lightfoot. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to January 15, 2027 will result in Certificate Number 199803001 being administratively suspended until such time as Lightfoot provides the written proof. Any certificate that is administratively suspended for over 180 days for noncompliance shall be automatically permanently revoked.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 199803001, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary condition for five (5) years:

- 1. During the probationary period, Lightfoot shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. “Disciplinary action” is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Lightfoot fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 199803001 shall be automatically suspended for a period of sixty (60) days**

and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Lightfoot is aware that should she violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2557088 Ronald Olson

Accept Agreed Order stating Certificate Number 201223223 shall be retroactively suspended for one hundred and twenty (120) days from June 1, 2025, through September 28, 2025. Olson shall not be actively employed in a certified position during the suspension period. Pursuant to KRS 161.020(1)(a): No person shall be eligible to hold the position of superintendent, principal, teacher, supervisor, director of pupil personnel, or other public-school position for which certificates may be issued, or receive salary for services rendered in the position, unless he or she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board. Olson acknowledges it is his responsibility to consult with his employer to determine any consequences to salary or employment benefits as a result of this agreement.

Prior to December 1, 2026, Olson shall submit written proof to the Board that he has completed the following trainings or courses on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):

1. Three (3) courses under the “Classroom Management” heading;
2. A course under the “Educator Ethics” heading; and
3. “Confidentiality Training for Kentucky School Certified Personnel.”

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Olson. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to December 1, 2026, will result in Certificate Number 201223223 being

administratively suspended until such time as Olson provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201223223, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary condition for a period of five (5) years:

1. During the probationary period, Olson shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. "Disciplinary action" is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Olson fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201223223 shall be automatically revoked for a period of three (3) years and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Olson is aware that should he violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2557219 Brian Houck

Accept Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201209340 is permanently revoked. Houck shall neither apply for, nor be issued, a teaching, administrative, and / or emergency certificate in the Commonwealth of Kentucky at any time in the future.

Vote: *Unanimous*

Accept Agreed Order stating:

- a. Certificate Number 201212061 shall be suspended for sixty (60) days from June 1st, 2026 to July 29th, 2026. Boggs shall not be actively employed in a certified position during the suspension period. Pursuant to KRS 161.020(1)(a): No person shall be eligible to hold the position of superintendent, principal, teacher, supervisor, director of pupil personnel, or other public-school position for which certificates may be issued, or receive salary for services rendered in the position, unless he or she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board. Boggs acknowledges it is her responsibility to consult with her employer to determine any consequences to salary or employment benefits as a result of this agreement.**
- b. Boggs is hereby reprimanded for her lack of professional judgement regarding her use of social media. Boggs is reminded that as a certified educator she is required to meet the high ethical standards defined by the Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel.**
- c. On or before the date of reinstatement, Boggs shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed the following training courses on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):**

 - 1) Any one (1) course under the “Educator Ethics” heading;
and**
 - 2) Any one (1) course under the “Appropriate Boundaries” heading.**

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Boggs.

If Boggs fails to satisfy any portion of this condition, Certificate Number 201212061 shall not be reinstated until such condition is satisfied.

- d. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201212061, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for five (5) years:**

- 1) During the probationary period, Boggs shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. "Disciplinary action" is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Boggs fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201212061 shall be automatically suspended for a period of sixty (60) days and be subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.**

- e. Boggs is aware that should she violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.**

Vote: *Unanimous*

2657327 Jamarvin Durham

Accept Agreed Order stating:

- a. **Durham is hereby reprimanded for his lack of professional judgement regarding his time management and classroom management. Durham is reminded that as a certified educator he is required to meet the high ethical standards defined by the Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel.**
- b. **On or before November 30th, 2026, Durham shall submit written proof to the Board that he has completed the following training courses on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):**
 - 1) **Any one (1) course under the “Classroom Management” heading;**
 - 2) **Any one (1) course under the “Educator Ethics” heading;**
and
 - 3) **The specific NEA Micro-credential on “TLI Personal Effectiveness.”**

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Durham. Failure to submit written proof of completion by the deadline will result in Certificate Number 201126341 being administratively suspended until such time as Durham provides the written proof.

- c. **Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201126341, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for five (5) years:**
 - 1) **During the probationary period, Durham shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. “Disciplinary action” is defined as any suspension,**

termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Durham fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201126341 shall be automatically suspended for a period of ninety (90) days and be subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

- d. Durham is aware that should he violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2557230 Deanna Barton

Accept Agreed Order stating:

- a. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200103371 is retroactively suspended from December 1st, 2025 to May 30th, 2026. Barton shall not have been actively employed in a certified position during the suspension period. Pursuant to KRS 161.020(1)(a): No person shall be eligible to hold the position of superintendent, principal, teacher, supervisor, director of pupil personnel, or other public-school position for which certificates may be issued, or receive salary for services rendered in the position, unless he or she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board. Barton acknowledges it is her responsibility to consult with her employer to determine any consequences to salary or employment benefits as a result of this agreement.

- b. Barton is hereby reprimanded to familiarize herself with the mandates of 704 KAR 7:160 before returning to a classroom. Barton is reminded that as a certified educator she is required to meet the high ethical standards defined by the Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel.**
- c. On or before August 1st, 2026, Barton shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed the following training courses on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):**

 - 1) Any one (1) course under the “Classroom Management” heading;
and**
 - 2) Any one (1) course under the “Educator Ethics” heading.**

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Barton. Failure to submit written proof of completion by the deadline will result in Certificate Number 200103371 being administratively suspended until such time as Barton provides the written proof.

- d. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200103371, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for five (5) years:**

 - 1) During the probationary period, Barton shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. “Disciplinary action” is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and**

upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Barton fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200103371 shall be automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year and be subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

- e. Barton is aware that should she violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2456531 William Sullivan

Accept Agreed Order stating Certificate Number 201121632 is hereby retroactively suspended for a period of seven (7) days, from December 23, 2024 to December 30, 2024. Sullivan shall not be actively employed in a certified position during the suspension period. Pursuant to KRS 161.020(1)(a): No person shall be eligible to hold the position of superintendent, principal, teacher, supervisor, director of pupil personnel, or other public-school position for which certificates may be issued, or receive salary for services rendered in the position, unless he or she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board. Sullivan acknowledges it is his responsibility to consult with his employer to determine any consequences to salary or employment benefits as a result of this Agreed Order.

On or before December 1, 2026, Sullivan shall submit written proof to the Board that he has completed the following Board approved professional development trainings or courses:

1. Five (5) hours with a focus on educator ethics;

If Sullivan fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201121632 will be administratively suspended until the condition is fulfilled.

Sullivan is aware that should he violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2556670 Jon Wolfe

Accept Agreed Order stating Wolfe is hereby reprimanded for exercising poor professional judgment and for failing to uphold the dignity and integrity of the teaching profession. As a professional educator, Wolfe has a duty to protect the health, safety, and welfare of his students. He must continually strive to maintain a positive learning environment at all times.

Prior to September 1, 2026, Wolfe shall submit written proof to the Board that he has completed the following trainings or courses on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):

1. A course under the "Classroom Management" heading; and
2. A course under the "Educator Ethics" heading;

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Wolfe. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to September 1, 2026 will result in Certificate Number 29045 being administratively suspended until such time as Wolfe provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 29045, and any future endorsements

or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for three (3) years:

1. During the probationary period, Wolfe shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. "Disciplinary action" is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Wolfe fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 29045 shall be automatically suspended for a period of thirty (30) days and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Wolfe is aware that should he violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2556629 James Morris

Accept Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 202206202 is retroactively suspended beginning June 1, 2025 to July 30, 2025. Morris shall not be actively employed in a certified position during the suspension period. Pursuant to KRS 161.020(1)(a): No person shall be eligible to hold the position of superintendent, principal, teacher, supervisor, director of pupil personnel, or other public-school position for which certificates may be issued, or receive salary for services rendered in the position, unless he or she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board. Morris acknowledges it is his responsibility to consult with his employer to determine any consequences to salary or employment benefits as a result of this agreement.

Prior to September 1, 2026, Morris shall submit written proof to the Board that he has completed the following trainings or courses on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A):

- 1. Two (2) courses under the “Classroom Management” heading; and**
- 2. A course under the “Educator Ethics” heading.**

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Morris. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to September 1, 2026 will result in Certificate Number 200206202 being administratively suspended until such time as Morris provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200206202, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for two (2) years:

- 1. During the probationary period, Morris shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. “Disciplinary action” is defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition. Should Morris fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200206202 shall be automatically suspended for a period of sixty (60) days and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.**

Morris is aware that should he violate KRS 161.120 in the future, the Board shall initiate a new disciplinary action and seek additional sanctions.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2657322 and

2657323 Matthew Albertson

Accept Agreed Order stating upon his retirement on July 1, 2026, Albertson shall not seek or accept any position of employment in Kentucky that requires the use of Certificate Number 199700906. Upon the natural expiration of Certificate Number 199700906, Albertson shall neither apply for, nor be issued, a teaching, administrative or emergency certificate in the Commonwealth of Kentucky at any time in the future. If Albertson violates this agreement, Certificate Number 199700906 shall be automatically permanently revoked, and/or any application for certification shall be denied.

Vote: *Unanimous*

Recommended Order

Case Name

1. 2003725 Kimberly Johnson

Modify the Findings of Fact, modify the Conclusions of Law and modify the Recommended Order to state as follows: Respondent's School Counselor, All Grades, and Professional Certificate for Instructional Leadership – Principal All Grades, Level 2, be permanently revoked; Respondent be ineligible to apply for or hold any Advanced Educational Leader certificate now existing or created in the future, including but not limited to any certificate listed in 16 KAR Chapter 003; all remaining educator certifications held by Respondent be suspended for a period of ninety (90) days; that, prior to reinstatement of such certificates, Respondent shall provide written proof to the EPSB that she has undergone a comprehensive fitness for duty evaluation with a Board-approved physician licensed by the Kentucky Medical Board of Licensure (KMBL), who has deemed her fit to return to the classroom, capable of performing her duties as an educator, not a danger to herself or others, and compliant to date with all treatment recommendations; that,

prior to reinstatement of such certificates, Respondent shall complete twelve (12) hours of Board-approved training in the areas of educator ethics and school safety; and that, upon reinstatement of such certificates, Respondent shall be subject to a probationary period of five (5) years, during which time:

1. (1) Respondent shall continue to submit, by July 1 of each year of the probation, annual written progress reports from the KMBL licensed physician, indicating she is compliant with all treatment recommendations, until she is released from treatment. Failure to comply with this provision shall result in Respondent's remaining certificates being administratively suspended until this condition is satisfied; and,
2. (2) Respondent shall have no further disciplinary action(s), including any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process, or violation(s) of KRS 161.120 or 16 KAR 1:020. Any violation of this provision shall result in Respondent's remaining certificates being automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2. 2557209 Thomas Russo

Accept the Findings of Fact, accept the Conclusions of Law, and accept the Recommended Order stating as follows: Certificate Number 200004108 is permanently revoked. Respondent shall neither apply for, nor be issued, a teaching, administrative and/or emergency certificate in the Commonwealth of Kentucky at any time in the future.

Vote: *Unanimous* (Ms. Gunn Recused)

3. 2456027 Adam Weger

Modify the Findings of Fact, modify the Conclusions of Law, and modify the Recommended Order to state as follows: Respondent's professional certificates be suspended for a period of one (1) year, he be required to

complete twenty (20) hours of relevant, Board-approved training prior to reinstatement of such certificates, and he be placed on probation for five (5) years after reinstatement of such certificates, during which time any further disciplinary action or violation of KRS 161.120 or 16 KAR 1:020 shall result in Respondent's professional certificates being automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120. For these purposes, "disciplinary action" shall be defined as any suspension, termination, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either the tribunal and/or arbitration process.

Vote: *Unanimous*

Motion made by Dr. Corinne Murphy, seconded by Dr. Amanda Ellis, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.