

The actions delineated below were taken in open session of the EPSB at the January 21, 2026, meeting.

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

Call to Order

Chair Amber Snell called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. ET. Chair, Snell read the EPSB Mission Statement.

Roll Call

The following Board members were present during the January 21, 2026, EPSB meeting/work session: Elizabeth Dinkins, Elijah Edwards, Cathy Gunn, Jacqueline Mayfield, Lori McKeehan, Justin Mitchell, Vice Chair Fryer, and Chair Snell.

CPE: Amanda Ellis

Information/Discussion Items

- A. Review of the EPSB Authority and Responsibility
Cassie Trueblood gave an overview of the EPSB's authority and responsibility.
- B. Division of Educator Recruitment and Development
Division Director Veda Stewart and staff from the Division of Educator Recruitment and Development gave a presentation on the work of their division in teacher recruitment and retention.
- C. Educator Preparation Branch
Melissa Diebel gave an overview of the Educator Preparation Branch and the work taking place in accreditation and program review.
- D. Certification Branch
Todd Davis, Division Director, and Sharon Salsman, Assistant Director, gave an overview of the Certification Branch and an update from the Certification Structure Workgroup.
- E. Educator Ethics
Norah Softic gave an update from the Office of Legal Services and provided an overview of the educator case process.
- F. Legislative Update.
Cassie Trueblood gave an update from the 2026 Legislative Session.

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

Vote: *Unanimous*

Motion made by Mr. Eli Edwards seconded by Ms. Lori McKeehan, to return to open session.

Vote: *Unanimous*

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

Elizabeth Dinkins, Eli Edwards, Amanda Ellis, Christopher Fryer, Cathy Gunn, Priscilla Keller, Jacqueline Mayfield, Lori McKeehan, Justin Mitchell, and Amber Snell.

Attorneys present were Cody Hollan, Madison Snelling, Norah Softic, Cassie Trueblood, and Thomas Miller-Wall.

Initial Case Review

Case Number

Decision

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| 1. 2557167 Cassandra Keables | Further Investigation |
| 2. 2557112 Tyren Edwards | Further Investigation |
| 3. 2557111 James Davison IV | Further Investigation |
| 4. 2557194 Erin Purdy | Further Investigation |
| 5. 2557202 Kaleb Crowe | Approve PRC Agreed Order stating Crowe voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently surrenders Certificate Number 201137291, and agrees to not apply for, nor be issued, a teaching, administrative, or emergency certificate in the Commonwealth of Kentucky at any time in the future. |
| 6. 2557212 Samantha Walker | Further Investigation |
| 7. 2557170 Robert Love | Further Investigation |
| 8. 2557174 Krystal Sims | Further Investigation |
| 9. 2557181 Charles Hamilton | Further Investigation (<i>Ms. Snell recused</i>) |
| 10. 2557207 Miranda Lewis | Further Investigation |
| 11. 2557215 Jamie Woosley | Further Investigation |
| 12. 2557165 Mackenzie Doss | Approve PRC Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201218161 is retroactively suspended beginning June 1, 2025, to July 30, 2025, a period of sixty (60) days. Doss shall not be actively employed in a certified position during the suspension period. Pursuant to KRS 161.120(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. Doss 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 July 1, 2026, Doss 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. Two (2) courses under the “Educator Ethics” heading; and
2. Two (2) courses under the “Classroom Management” heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Doss. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to July 1, 2026, will result in Certificate Number 201218161 being administratively suspended until such time as Doss provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201218161, 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, Doss 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 Doss fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201218161 shall be automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

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

13. 2557121 Ashley Lee

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Lee is reprimanded for failing to adequately supervise a student in her classroom. As a professional educator, Lee has a duty to protect the health, safety and welfare of her students. She must continually strive to maintain a positive learning environment at all times.

Prior to June 1, 2026, Lee shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed a training under the heading of “Educator Ethics” on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A). Lee shall pay any expense incurred. If Lee fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201169100 shall be administratively suspended until such condition is satisfied.

Finally, Certificate Number 201169100 shall be subject to the following condition for a period of two (2) years:

1. Lee shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in which she is employed. If Lee fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201169100 shall be automatically suspended for thirty (30) days and subject to additional sanctions pursuant to KRS 161.120.

“Disciplinary action” is defined as any termination, suspension, or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if

requested, by either a tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination shall also be a violation of this condition.

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

- 14. 2557196 Justin Buck
- 15. 2557090 Riley Taylor

Further Investigation
Further Investigation

- 16. 2557213 Susan Watkins

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Watkins is reprimanded for failing to adequately supervise a student in her classroom. As a professional educator, Watkins has a duty to protect the health, safety and welfare of her students. She must continually strive to maintain a positive learning environment at all times.

Prior to July 1, 2026, Watkins shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed a training under the heading of “Educator Ethics” on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A). Watkins shall pay any expense incurred. If Watkins fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201127011 shall be administratively suspended until such condition is satisfied.

Finally, Certificate Number 201127011 shall be subject to the following condition for a period of two (2) years:

1. Watkins shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in which she is employed. If Watkins fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201127011 shall be automatically suspended for thirty (30) days and subject to additional sanctions pursuant to KRS 161.120.

“Disciplinary action” is defined as any termination, suspension, or public reprimand

issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, if requested, by either a tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom. Resigning in lieu of termination will also be considered a violation of this condition.

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

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| 17. 2557214 Kevin Woods | Further Investigation |
| 18. 2557199 David Caudill | Further Investigation |
| 19. 2557175 Amanda VonNelson | Admonish |
| 20. 2557211 Uriah Tolbert | Further Investigation (<i>Ms. Mayfield recused</i>) |
| 21. 2557206 Brandy Hedrick-Van Briggle | Admonish |
| 22. 2557209 Thomas Russo | Further Investigation (<i>Ms. Gunn recused</i>) |
| 23. 2557190 Aaron Akers | Further Investigation |
| 24. 2557191 Aaron Akers | Further Investigation |
| 25. 2557182 Ida Craft | Further Investigation |
| 26. 2557180 Stacy Wilson | Further Investigation |
| 27. 2557179 Thomas Willis | Further Investigation |
| 28. 2557171 James Massey | Further Investigation |

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| 29. 2557169 Jason Loreaux | Approve PRC Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201120845's Professional Certificate for Instructional Leadership – Principal, All Grades, Level 2, is suspended for a period of two (2) years, from January 22, 2026, through January 21, 2028. Loreaux agrees to not apply for, nor be issued any Advanced Educational Leader Certificate now existing or created in the future during the suspension period. This includes but is not limited to any certificate listed in 16 KAR 3 or any future regulation creating certificates for leaders in the education profession. Any applications for any Advanced Educational Leader certificates made during the suspension period on his behalf shall be denied. |
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On or before June 1, 2026, Loreaux shall submit written proof to the Board that he has completed two (2) trainings 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 Loreaux. Failure to submit written proof of completion on or before the deadline will result in Certificate Number 201120845 being administratively suspended until such time as the Board receives the written proof of completion.

Finally, Certificate Number 201120845 shall be subject to the following probationary condition for five (5) years:

1. Loreaux shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district he is employed. "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. If Loreaux fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201120845 shall be automatically suspended for six (6) months and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

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

- 30. 2557166 Rachel Hillard
- 31. 2557161 Codey Baskett
- 32. 2557059 Kipp Martines
- 33. 2557176 Melissa Ward
- 34. 2557162 Susan Brooks

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

- 35. 2557136 Lee Anne Thompson-Frizzell

Approve PRC Agreed Order stating Thompson-Frizzell is reprimanded for making inappropriate communication with a student. Thompson-Frizzell is aware that she should not be contacting students through any non-traceable communication system. Any further incidents of misconduct will not be tolerated.

On or before June 1, 2026, Thompson-Frizzell 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 Thompson-Frizzell. Failure to submit written proof of completion on or before the deadline will result in Certificate Number 200234355 being administratively suspended until such time as the Board receives the written proof of completion.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200234355, 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, Thompson-Frizzell shall not receive any disciplinary action involving inappropriate communication with a student 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 Thompson-Frizzell fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200234355 shall be automatically suspended for a period of thirty (30) days and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

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

- 36. 2557195 Charles Chester Baker
- 37. 2557093 Jason Wells
- 38. 2557204 Alexander Fangman

- Further Investigation
- Further Investigation
- Further Investigation (*Mr. Fryer recused*)

39. 2557173 Daniel Schuster	Admonish
40. 2557089 Emilee Sigler	Further Investigation
41. 2557201 Heather Cooper	Admonish
42. 2557177 Don Neal	Further Investigation
43. 2557178 Jarrad Parmley	Dismiss w/Prejudice
44. 2557193 Addisson Grimm	Further Investigation
45. 2557197 Christopher Bullock	Further Investigation
46. 2557198 Juan Byars	Dismiss w/Prejudice
47. 2556806 Andrew Brock	DWOP
48. 2557087 Christopher Nettleton	DWOP
49. 2556782 Gennie Beard	Dismiss w/Prejudice
50. 2557026 Cheyenne Kennedy	Initiate Hearing
51. 2456513 Rebecka Chafins-Beasley	Initiate Hearing

Character/Fitness Review

Case Number

Decision

1. 2557288	Approve
2. 2557280	Deny
3. 2657314	Approve
4. 2657320	Approve
5. 2657321	Approve
1. 2657313	Approve
2. 2657315	Approve
3. 2657316	Deny
4. 2657318	Approve
5. 2557282	Deny
6. 2557283	Approve
7. 2657350	Approve

Agreed Orders

Case Number

Decision

1. 2456455 Laura McDavid	Accept Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201290837 is retroactively suspended beginning January 1, 2025 to March 1, 2025. McDavid 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. McDavid acknowledges it is her responsibility to consult with her
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employer to determine any consequences to salary or employment benefits as a result of this agreement.

On or before March 1, 2026, McDavid shall undergo a comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment by a Kentucky licensed or certified chemical dependency counselor, as approved by the Board and submit written proof to the Board. The assessment shall occur within the thirty (30) days prior to Respondent's submission of the assessment to the Board. Any expense required for said assessment and follow-up shall be paid for by McDavid. Failure to do so will result in an administrative suspension of her certificate until such condition is satisfied.

Prior to March 1, 2026 McDavid 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 McDavid. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to March 1, 2026 will result in Certificate Number 201290837 being administratively suspended until such time as McDavid provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201290837, 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, McDavid 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 McDavid fail to satisfy this condition,

Certificate Number 201290837 shall be automatically suspended for a period of sixty (60) days and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

2. If McDavid's comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment recommends any treatment, McDavid shall submit written progress reports from a consistent licensed counselor on July 1st of each year of her probation, certifying that she is compliant with all treatment recommendations, until such time as the counselor releases her from treatment. If McDavid chooses to change licensed counselors prior to completing the counselor's recommendations, she shall undergo a new comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment to ensure she is compliant with all recommendations of the new counselor to ensure fulfillment of her probation requirements. Failure to do so shall result in an administrative suspension until such condition is satisfied.

McDavid 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*

2. 2556913
2557057 Malik Johnson

Accept Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate number 201286637 is retroactively suspended beginning June 1, 2025 to July 31, 2025. Johnson 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. Johnson 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.

Johnson has submitted certificates of completion for courses titled Health Emergencies: Overview: Full Course and Seizure Training for School Personnel by Epilepsy Foundation of America: Full Course. Prior to May 1, 2026, Johnson 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 “Educator Ethics” heading; and
2. Three (3) courses under the “Classroom Management” heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Johnson. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to May 1, 2026 will result in Certificate Number 201286637 being administratively suspended until such time as Johnson provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201286637, 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, 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 201286637 shall be automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Johnson 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*

3. 2557020 John Adams

Accept Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200400791 is retroactively suspended beginning November 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. Adams 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. Adams 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.

On or before March 1, 2026, Adams shall undergo a comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment by a Kentucky licensed or certified chemical dependency counselor, as approved by the Board and submit written proof to the Board. The assessment shall occur within the thirty (30) days prior to Respondent's submission of the assessment to the Board. Any expense required for said assessment and follow-up shall be paid for by Adams. Failure to do so will result in an administrative suspension of his certificate until such condition is satisfied.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200400791, 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, Adams 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 Adams fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200400791 shall be automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

2. If Adams' comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment recommends any treatment, Adams shall submit written progress reports from a consistent licensed counselor on July 1st of each year of his probation, certifying that he is compliant with all treatment recommendations, until such time as the counselor releases him from treatment. If Adams chooses to change licensed counselors prior to completing the counselor's recommendations, he shall undergo a new comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment to ensure he is compliant with all recommendations of the new counselor to ensure fulfillment of his probation requirements. Failure to do so shall result in an administrative suspension until such condition is satisfied.

Adams 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*

4. 2456286 Tiffany Depriest

Accept Agreed Order stating DePriest is reprimanded for conduct unbecoming a teacher and insensitive use of technology. As a professional educator, DePriest has a duty to protect the health, safety and welfare of her students. The Board will not tolerate any further incidents of misconduct by DePriest.

Prior to May 1, 2026, DePriest 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;
2. A course under the “Educator Ethics” heading; and
3. A course course under the “Appropriate Boundaries” heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by DePriest. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to May 1, 2026 will result in Certificate Number 201123398 being administratively suspended until such time as DePriest provides the written proof.

DePriest 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*

5. 2456374 Miranda Anderson

Accept Agreed Order stating Certificate Number 201135895 shall be suspended for seventy-eight (78) days from May 18, 2026 to August 2, 2026. Anderson 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. Anderson 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 reinstatement, Anderson 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;
2. Two (2) courses under the “Educator Ethics” heading; and
3. Two (2) courses under the “Appropriate Boundaries” heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Anderson. If Anderson fails to satisfy any portion of this condition, Certificate Number 201135895 shall not be reinstated until such condition is satisfied.

Upon reinstatement, Certificate Number 201135895, 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, Anderson 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 Anderson fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201135895 shall be automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Anderson 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*

6. 2456443 William Barclay

Accept Agreed Order stating Barclay shall be issued a Kentucky teaching certificate upon providing proof that he has met the academic and testing requirements necessary for issuance of a certificate, and has completed the following:

1. Barclay 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):

- a. A course under the “Educator Ethics” heading;
- b. A course under the “Communication” heading; and
- c. A course under the “Harassment” heading.

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

Any and all certificates issued to Barclay shall be subject to a five (5) year probationary period with the following conditions:

1. For a period of five (5) years, Barclay 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 Barclay fail to satisfy this condition, then any and all certificates issued to Barclay shall be automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.
2. As a permanent probationary condition of any and all certificates issued to Barclay by the Board, if a school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky reports to the Board that the district substantiated that Barclay engaged in sexual harassment or made inappropriate comments to students or staff, then any and all certificates issued to Barclay shall be automatically permanently revoked.

Vote: *Unanimous*

7. 2556854 Sarah Rankin

Accept Agreed Order stating Certificate Number 201170637 shall be suspended for sixty (60) days from June 1, 2026 through July 30, 2026. Rankin 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. Rankin 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.

Rankin provided written proof to the Board that she has completed the following trainings:

1. Teaching Students with Autism;
2. Classroom Management: Meeting the Needs of All Students;
3. Ethics for Educators; and
4. Trauma-Informed Classroom Management.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201170637, 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, Rankin 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 Rankin fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201170637 shall be automatically suspended for a period of ninety (90) days and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Rankin 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*

8. 2556880 Jovonna Smiley

Accept Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201170637 shall be retroactively suspended from June 6, 2025, through July 27, 2025. Smiley 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. Smiley 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.

On or before June 1, 2026, Smiley 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. Two (2) courses under the “Educator Ethics” heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Smiley. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to June 1, 2026, will result in Certificate Number 201170637 being administratively suspended until such time as Smiley provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201170637, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary condition:

1. For a period of three (3) years, Smiley 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 Smiley fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201170637 shall be automatically suspended for a period of ninety (90) days and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Smiley 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*

9. 2557058 Diana Knapke

Accept Agreed Order stating the Board reprimands McDonald for failing to adequately supervise students in her classroom. As a professional educator, McDonald has a duty to protect the health, safety and welfare of her students. She must continually strive to always maintain supervision of her students. The Board will not tolerate any further incidents of misconduct from McDonald.

Prior to June 1, 2026, McDonald shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed a course under the “Classroom Management” heading on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A). Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by McDonald. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to June 1, 2026, will result in Certificate Number 24641 being administratively suspended until such time as McDonald provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 24641, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary condition for two (2) years:

1. During the probationary period, McDonald 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 McDonald fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 24641 shall be automatically suspended for a period of ten (10) days and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

McDonald 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*

10. 2455826 Kellee Edlin

Accept Agreed Order stating:

- a. Certificate Number 200233852 shall be retroactively suspended for three hundred five (305) days from October 6th, 2023 to August 5th, 2024. Edlin 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. Edlin 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. On or before April 6th, 2026, Edlin shall undergo a comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment by a Kentucky licensed or certified chemical dependency counselor, as approved by the Board,

and submit written proof to the Board. The assessment shall occur within the thirty (30) days prior to Edlin's submission of the assessment to the Board. Any expense required for said assessment and follow-up shall be paid for by Edlin. Failure to do so will result in an administrative suspension of her certificate until such condition is satisfied.

- c. On or before April 6th, 2026, Edlin 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 Edlin. If Edlin fails to satisfy any portion of this condition, Certificate Number 200233852 shall be administratively suspended until such condition is satisfied.

- d. In accordance with KRS 161.175, Edlin shall submit to random drug testing to be administered by a provider approved by the Board and shall receive no drug test that is positive for any illegal substance or that is in excess of therapeutic levels generally accepted in the medical community, for a period of one (1) year. The drug test shall comply with the requirements in 16 KAR 1:030 § 6(2). Edlin shall pay any expense incurred. If Edlin fails to satisfy any portion of this condition, any and all certificates issued to her shall be automatically permanently revoked.
- e. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200233852, 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, Edlin 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 Edlin fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200233852 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.

- 2) If Edlin’s comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment recommends any treatment, Edlin shall submit written progress reports from a consistent licensed counselor on July 1st of each year of her probation, certifying that she is compliant with all treatment recommendations, until such time as the counselor releases her from treatment. If Edlin chooses to change licensed counselors prior to completing the counselor’s recommendations, she shall undergo a new comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment to ensure she is compliant with all recommendations of the new counselor to ensure fulfillment of Edlin’s probation requirements. If Edlin fails to satisfy any of these conditions, Certificate Number 200233852 shall be administratively suspended until such conditions are satisfied.

- f. Edlin 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*

11. 2556849 Terrence Miles

Reject Agreed Order stating:

- a. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201189968 is revoked for a period of four (4) years, from May 3rd, 2025 to May 2nd, 2029. Miles 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. Miles 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.
- b. Miles is hereby reprimanded to refrain from making inappropriate physical contact with a student. Miles 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.
- c. On or before May 2nd, 2029, Miles 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 “Educator Ethics” heading;
 - 2) Any one (1) course under the “Communication” heading;
 - 3) Any three (3) courses under the “Classroom Management” heading; and

- 4) The specific training “Child Abuse Prevention.”

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Miles. Failure to submit written proof of completion by the deadline will result in Certificate Number 201189968 not being reissued until such time as Miles provides the written proof.

- d. Upon reissuance of any certificate to Miles, 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, Miles 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 Miles fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201189968 shall be automatically suspended for a period of one hundred eight (180) days and be subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

- e. Miles 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*

Recommended Order

Case Name

1. 2110765 William Bennett

Decision

Reject the Findings of Fact, reject the Conclusions of Law and Reject Recommended Order, issue an order permanently revoking Respondent’s certificate.

Vote: *Unanimous*

2. 2556919 Brett Gaynor

Enter an order accepting the applicant's withdrawal of his appeal and dismissing the case.

Vote: *Unanimous (Ms. McKeehan recused)*

Motion made by Vice-Chair C.J. Fryer seconded by Ms. Cathy Gunn, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: *Unanimous*

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.