

*The Kentucky Board of Education invites  
applications and nominations for*

# COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

*for the Commonwealth of Kentucky*



Kentucky Board of  
**EDUCATION** 

# KENTUCKY COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

The Commissioner of Education is the chief state school officer and oversees the daily operations of the Kentucky Department of Education and acts as superintendent of the Kentucky School for the Blind, the Kentucky School for the Deaf and the 50 area technology centers. As the chief executive officer for both the Board of Education and the Department of Education, the Commissioner recommends and implements policies and directs the department in the management of the state's 171 public school districts.

Together, the 15-member board, the Commissioner and the department are responsible for setting state standards for student, program and operational performance while respecting the autonomy of each school district. The Commissioner also serves as the executive secretary to the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB). EPSB is responsible for recommending and carrying out regulations related to standards and requirements for obtaining and maintaining a teaching certificate.

The next Commissioner of Education will sustain and build on Kentucky's commitment to excellence in education, partnering with education stakeholders to deliver on this promise.

## EXPERIENCE

- Knowledge of Kentucky's public school system and the broader educational landscape within the Commonwealth.
- Successful experience as a student-focused educator and educational leader with an understanding of the challenges and opportunities our state presents.
- A deep understanding of learning theory, curriculum and instructional practice. Accomplished professional with a proven track record in managerial roles, demonstrating exceptional leadership skills, strategic vision, and the ability to inspire and guide teams towards achieving organizational excellence.

## SKILLS

- Strong communication and relationship-building skills with the ability to engage diverse statewide stakeholders in the planning and implementation of programs designed to improve opportunities and outcomes for ALL Kentucky children. This will include listening to the voices of students, teachers, families and communities.
- The ability to work collaboratively and inclusively with the Board of Education, state educational partners, the Kentucky General Assembly, and school district leadership in developing and implementing the strategic goals for the state.

## SUPPORTING DISPOSITIONS

- A commitment to and passion for inspiring each student for a successful life and improving learning opportunities for historically underserved children.
- A dedication to maintaining a visible and approachable presence while exemplifying dignified leadership.

# KENTUCKY BOARD OF EDUCATION



## KBE VISION STATEMENT

Each and every Kentucky learner will become an engaged citizen and empowered learner prepared to lead a life filled with purpose.

The Kentucky Board of Education develops and adopts the regulations that govern Kentucky's public schools and provides guidance and resources as they implement the state's education requirements. The Board has 15 members. The governor appoints 11 voting members, seven representing the Supreme Court districts and four representing the state at large. The additional members – the president of the Council on Postsecondary Education, the Secretary of the Education and Labor Cabinet, a high school student and an active elementary or secondary school teacher – serve as non-voting members.

The KBE supports the promotion of access, opportunity and advancement for all individuals in an effort to identify and eliminate conditions that prevent the ability of all students to reach their full potential, especially those in historically underserved communities.

# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



The Kentucky Department of Education, provides leadership and support by engaging with districts and schools, industry and business, and students, families and communities.

The department also serves as the state's liaison for federal education requirements and funding opportunities.

Its staff includes more than 1,000 employees that serve the state's public elementary, middle and high schools; approximately 400 Frankfort-based staff, 500 who administer the state's career and technical education system, and 164 who serve at the Kentucky schools for the Deaf and Blind. KDE's mission is to create broad partnerships to provide leadership and support so that every student is equipped for the future.



# KENTUCKY PUBLIC SCHOOLS: *BY THE NUMBERS*



**171** SCHOOL DISTRICTS

**50** AREA TECHNOLOGY CENTERS

**2** STATE SCHOOLS

**634,424** STUDENTS

**43,169** TEACHERS

Source: Kentucky School Report Card ([kyschoolreportcard.com](http://kyschoolreportcard.com))



## THE BLUEGRASS STATE

A mix of urban and rural communities, Kentucky is a great place to live and work. Known for its horses and bourbon, Kentucky also has nationally recognized culinary and sports scenes, a thriving arts culture and a growing advanced manufacturing economy. As author Jesse Stuart wrote, Kentucky is in “the very heart of America.”



The state capital of Frankfort lies in the heart of Kentucky’s Bluegrass country, surrounded by rolling pastures where thoroughbred horses run and canopies of forest bring beauty in every season. Frankfort recently has seen a downtown revitalization, and its historic business district is an active center of commerce.



# UNITED WE LEARN

*United We Learn* is our vision for the future of public education in Kentucky. This vision builds around three big ideas: creating a more **vibrant experience for every student, encouraging innovation in our schools** – especially when it comes to assessment, and creating a bold new future for Kentucky's schools through **collaboration with our communities**.



These three big ideas – students, innovation and community – form the vision for the future of public education in Kentucky.

Building on the strength and success of KDE initiatives to date, education stakeholders are working on ways to enrich student experiences in our schools and improve learning outcomes for all students. These ideas will be bold and forward-thinking, motivated by our desire to give all children the equitable and engaging learning opportunities they need for success.

*United We Learn* means everyone in our Commonwealth – educators, families, students, community members, business leaders, and policymakers – working together to support our public schools in bringing about deep and authentic learning experiences for all students.

In creating a vibrant learning environment, we strive to make learning a joyous, inspiring experience that honors students' cultural wealth, gifts and interests, while sparking curiosity beyond the classroom and motivating students to continually seek knowledge.



# UNITED WE LEARN



# NOMINATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS

The Kentucky Board of Education is seeking an individual who shares its commitment to putting the interests of students first and ensuring each and every child in the Commonwealth is prepared for the opportunities of the 21st-century economy.

## SALARY

Salary will be competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

## APPLICANT REVIEW

Confidential applications and nominations will be accepted until the position is filled.

## HOW TO APPLY

McPherson & Jacobson, LLC is assisting the Kentucky Board of Education in the search. Initial screening of applications will begin immediately and will continue until an appointment is made. For best consideration, please submit your materials by **February 16, 2024**. Individuals who wish to nominate a candidate should submit a letter of nomination, including contact information for the nominee.

Application materials should include a letter addressing how the candidate's experiences match the position requirements, a curriculum vitae or resume and five references. Submission of materials as PDF attachments is strongly encouraged.



**Confidential inquiries, nominations, and application materials should be directed to:**



**MCPHERSON & JACOBSON, LLC**

EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT & DEVELOPMENT

Amy Coleman, *Administrative Assistant/Search Coordinator*  
[mjassistant@macnjake.com](mailto:mjassistant@macnjake.com)

For more information visit:

<https://macnjake.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>

Candidates are asked to not contact board members directly. Any effort to do so may eliminate them from consideration. Names of applicants will be held in strict confidence whenever possible; however, McPherson & Jacobson complies with individual states' Freedom of Information laws.

The Kentucky Department of Education and the Kentucky Board of Education do not discriminate on the basis or race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, gender identify, veteran's status, genetic information or disability in employment or the provision of services.