

**EPSB Mission Statement**

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

**EPSB Meeting Agenda**  
**Kentucky Department of Education**  
**300 Sower Boulevard, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601**

**Tuesday, February 18, 2025**

**EPSB Waiver Committee**

**8:30 AM ET – Conference Room 517**

**EPSB Regular Meeting Agenda**

**9:00 AM ET – State Board Room**

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

**Report of the Commissioner**

- A. Report from the Education and Labor Cabinet
- B. Report from the Council on Postsecondary Education
- C. Report from the Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness
- D. Legislative Update
- E. Other Updates

**Open Speak**

**Report of the Chair**

- A. Nomination and Election of Chair
- B. Nomination and Election of Vice-Chair
- C. Other Updates

**Approval of Consent Items**

- A. Approval of January 27, 2025, EPSB Meeting Minutes
- B. Option 9 Application, Mercer County Schools and Campbellsville University (Dr. Melissa Diebel)

- C. Option 9 Application, Campbellsville Independent Schools and University of the Cumberland (Dr. Diebel)
- D. Option 9 Application, Estill County Schools and University of the Cumberland (Dr. Diebel)
- E. Option 9 Application, Marion County Schools and University of the Cumberland (Dr. Diebel)
- F. Option 9 Application, Marshall County Schools and University of the Cumberland (Dr. Diebel)
- G. Option 9 Application, Mayfield Independent Schools and University of the Cumberland (Dr. Diebel)
- H. Option 9 Application, Morgan County Schools and University of the Cumberland (Dr. Diebel)
- I. Eastern Kentucky University Program Approval: School Librarian (Ms. Kimberly Arington)
- J. Eastern Kentucky University Program Approval: Learning and Behavior Disorders and Moderate to Severe Disabilities (Ms. Arington)
- K. Kentucky Rank Advancement Academy Continuing Education Option (CEO) Plan II Leadership Pathway Proposal (Ms. Sharon Salsman)

#### **Information/Discussion Items**

- A. Praxis Bridge (Mr. Todd Davis)
- B. Development of Strategies for EPSB Goals (Dr. Meredith Brewer)
- C. 16 KAR 4:090. Reissuance, Amendment (Ms. Cassie Trueblood)
- D. 16 KAR 4:080. Out-of-State Recency, Repeal (Ms. Trueblood)

#### **Waivers**

- A. 16 KAR 4:080. Request to Waive Out-of-State Recency Requirements for Howard Sims (Ms. Salsman)

#### **Alternative Route to Certification Applications**

- A. Jefferson Davis, Physics and Engineering, Grades 8-12 (Ms. Salsman)
- B. April Griffie, Business and Marketing Education, Grades 8-12 (Ms. Salsman)
- C. Megan Mackintosh, Chemistry, Grades 8-12 (Ms. Salsman)

#### **Board Comments**

#### **Closed Session Review**

*Following a motion in open session pursuant to KRS 61.810 (1)(c) and (1)(j), it is anticipated that the Board will move into closed session to conduct a character and*

*fitness review and to review potential actions relating to complaints and reports. The Board will also review pending litigation.*

**Case Decisions**

*Following the closed session review, the Board shall move into open session. All decisions will be made in open session.*

**Adjournment**

**Next Meeting:**

March 10, 2025

*The actions delineated below were taken in open session of the EPSB at the January 27th, 2025, virtual 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, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601**

**Call to Order**

Chair Justin Mitchell called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. ET. Chair Mitchell read the EPSB Mission Statement.

**Roll Call**

The following Board members were present during the December 2, 2024, EPSB meeting: Scottie Collier, Elijah Edwards, CJ Fryer, Cathy Gunn, Priscilla Keller, Jacqueline Mayfield, Corinne Murphy, Meridith Pittman, Lisa Rudzinski, Vice-Chair Amber Snell, and Chair Justin Mitchell.

CPE: Amanda Ellis

**Consent Item**

Approval of December 17, 2024, EPSB Meeting Minutes  
**2025-001**

*Motion made by Vice-Chair Snell seconded by Dr. Corinne Murphy to approve the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes.*

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Information Item**

Overview of the Additional Budget Requests from the Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness

Cassie Trueblood presented the additional budget requests from the Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness to the EPSB.

*Motion made by Capt. Lisa Rudzinski seconded by Ms. Cathy Gunn, 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 Ms. Jacqueline Mayfield seconded by Vice-Chair Snell, to return to open session.*

**Vote:** *Unanimous*

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

Scottie Collier, Eli Edwards, Amanda Ellis, Christopher Fryer, Pricilla Keller, Jacqueline Mayfield, Justin Mitchell, Corinne Murphy, Meredith Pittman, Lisa Rudzinski and Amber Snell.

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

**Initial Case Review**

**Case Number**

**Decision**

1. 2456421 Jessica Cox	Further Investigation
2. 2456458 Laura Rogers	Further Investigation
3. 2456459 Ariel Waters	Further Investigation
4. 2456466 Meada Hall	Further Investigation
5. 2456509 Cristy Elrod	Dismiss w/Prejudice
6. 2456370 Jonathan Fairbanks	No Further Action
7. 2456374 Miranda Anderson	Further Investigation
8. 2456410 Edwin Cook	Further Investigation
9. 2456455 Laura McDavid	Further Investigation
10. 2456456 Christine Meyer	Further Investigation
11. 2456457 Boblett Rex	Further Investigation
12. 2456460 James Wyatt	Further Investigation
13. 2456464 Janna Brown	Further Investigation
14. 2456465 Trevor Dennis	Further Investigation
15. 2456467 Allyson Hurtt	Further Investigation
16. 2456407 Elisa Cothron	No Further Action
17. 2456382 Jackie Lambert	No Further Action
18. 2456461 Steven Evans	Dismiss w/Prejudice
19. 2456462 Kelly Wilson	Dismiss w/Prejudice
20. 2456505 Michael Rowe	Dismiss w/Prejudice
21. 2456424	Further Investigation
22. 2456427	Admonish
23. 2456371	Dismiss w/Prejudice
24. 2456181	Dismiss w/Prejudice
25. 2456089	Dismiss w/Prejudice
26. 2456345	Dismiss w/Prejudice
27. 2456002	Dismiss w/Prejudice
28. 2455837	Dismiss w/Prejudice
29. 2355630	Dismiss w/Prejudice
30. 2455843	Dismiss w/Prejudice
31. 2455846	Dismiss w/Prejudice
32. 2355671	Dismiss w/Prejudice
33. 2455789	DWOP

- |             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| 34. 2456346 | Dismiss w/Prejudice |
| 35. 2455809 | Initiate Hearing    |
| 36. 2355539 | Initiate Hearing    |
| 37. 2456008 | Initiate Hearing    |

**Character/Fitness Review**

**Case Number**

**Decision**

- |             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| 1. 2456566  | Approve |
| 2. 2456569  | Approve |
| 3. 2456571  | Approve |
| 4. 2456547  | Deny    |
| 5. 2556574  | Approve |
| 6. 2556575  | Approve |
| 7. 2556594  | Approve |
| 8. 2556609  | Approve |
| 1. 2456530  | Approve |
| 2. 2456545  | Approve |
| 3. 2456522  | Approve |
| 4. 2456443  | Deny    |
| 5. 2456568  | Approve |
| 6. 2456546  | Deny    |
| 7. 2556572  | Approve |
| 8. 2556573  | Approve |
| 9. 2556577  | Approve |
| 10. 2556596 | Deny    |
| 11. 2556599 | Approve |
| 12. 2456570 | Deny    |
| 13. 2556600 | Approve |
| 14. 2556595 | Approve |
| 15. 2556603 | Approve |
| 16. 2556605 | Approve |
| 17. 2556606 | Approve |
| 18. 2556607 | Approve |

**Agreed Orders**

**Case Number**

**Decision**

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. 2456225 Justin McHargue | Accept Agreed Order stating McHargue voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently surrenders Certificate Number 201191599, 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. |
|----------------------------|---|

***Vote: Unanimous***

2. 2355289 Damien Smith

Accept Agreed Order stating Certificate Number 201229417 shall be revoked for five (5) years beginning on July 1, 2023 and ending on July 1, 2028.

In addition to any educational and assessment requirements necessary for certification at the time, Smith shall comply with the following conditions prior to reissuance of Certificate Number 201229417:

Prior to reissuance, Smith 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. “Educator Ethics & the Law”;
2. “Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel”;
3. “Anger Management: What It Is and How to Address It”;
4. “Child Abuse Prevention”;
5. “Addressing Challenging Behaviors”; and
6. “Trauma-Informed Pedagogy.”

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Smith. If Smith fails to satisfy any portion of this condition, Certificate Number 201229417 shall not be reissued until such condition is satisfied.

Prior to reissuance, Smith shall provide written proof to the Board from a Kentucky licensed/certified psychologist or psychiatrist, that he has complied with a comprehensive anger management assessment and is compliant with all treatment recommendations. The anger management comprehensive evaluation shall be dated within sixty (60) days of Smith’s application for certification. Smith shall pay any expense incurred. If Smith fails to provide written proof of a completed comprehensive evaluation, Certificate Number 201229417 shall not be reissued.

Upon reissuance, Certificate Number 201229417, including any and all endorsements, is hereby subject to the following probationary conditions for a period of five (5) years:

1. Beginning June 1st of each year Smith holds a valid certification, Smith shall provide written proof to the Board that he is

compliant with any assessment recommendations from his psychologist or psychiatrist from above. Smith shall maintain consistent care until released, if Smith changes his psychologist, or psychiatrist prior to release, he shall submit a new comprehensive anger management assessment and shall comply with any new recommendations. Any expense incurred shall be the responsibility of Smith. If Smith fails to satisfy any part of this condition, Certificate Number 201229417 shall be administratively suspended pending review and disposition by the Board.

2. During the probationary period, Smith 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. Should Smith fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201229417 shall be automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.
3. Smith shall submit a copy of his Kentucky State Police or Administrative Office of the Courts background check by July 1st of each year. Any expense required to satisfy this condition shall be paid by Smith. Failure to comply with this condition will result in Certificate Number 201229417 being automatically suspended until such condition is satisfied.

Upon reissuance, Certificate Number 201229417, including any and all endorsements, is hereby subject to the following permanent probationary conditions:

1. If a school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky substantiates that Smith used inappropriate physical force on a student, upon the district's report to EPSB, Certificate



Number 201229417 shall be automatically administratively suspended pending (a) review and disposition by the Board or, should it apply, (b) action consistent with paragraph 2 below.

2. If a school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky issues any disciplinary action to Smith for inappropriate physical force on a student, Certificate Number 201229417 shall be automatically permanently revoked. "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.
3. Smith shall not be convicted of nor enter a guilty plea, "Alford" plea, no contest plea, or plea of nolo contendere to any crime involving a student or minor. Failure to comply with this condition will result in Certificate Number 201229417 being automatically permanently revoked.
4. Smith shall not be convicted of nor enter a guilty plea, "Alford" plea, no contest plea, or plea of nolo contendere to any felony or a misdemeanor under KRS Chapter 218A, 508, 509, 510, 522, 525, 529, 530, or 531. Failure to comply with this condition will result in Certificate Number 201229417 shall be automatically administratively suspended pending review and disposition by the Board.

Smith 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. 2455992 Shelby Pauley

Accept Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Pauley shall not seek or accept any position of employment in Kentucky that requires the use of Certificate Number 21016. Upon the natural expiration of Certificate Number 21016, Pauley 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 Pauley violates this agreement, Certificate Number 21016 shall be automatically permanently revoked, and/or any application for certification shall be denied.

**Vote:** *Unanimous*

4. 2456176 Molly Imes

Accept Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate number 200404287 is retroactively suspended beginning May 20, 2024 to July 19, 2024. Imes 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. Imes 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 May 1, 2025, Imes 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. “Appropriate Student Teacher Boundaries”;  
and
2. “Setting and Maintaining Ethical Boundaries.”

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Imes. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to May 1, 2025 will result in Certificate Number 200404287 being administratively suspended until such time as Imes provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200404287, 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, Imes 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 Imes fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200404287 shall be automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Imes 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. 2455797 Chadwick Davidson

Accept Agreed Order stating Certificate Number 200130567 shall be suspended retroactively for seven (7) days from July 1, 2024, through July 8, 2024. Davidson 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. Davidson 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 May 1, 2025, Davidson 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 “Educator Ethics” heading; and
2. Two courses under the “Harassment” heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Davidson. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to May 1, 2025 will result in Certificate Number 200130567 being administratively suspended until such time as Davidson provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200130567, 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, Davidson 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. Failure to uphold this condition will result in Certificate 200130567 being administratively suspended pending further Board review and disposition.

Davidson 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*

6. 2355351 Elysa Elkins

Accept Agreed Order stating:

- a. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201223433 is suspended from June 15th, 2025 to June 24th, 2025. Elkins 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. Elkins 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.

- b. On or before March 30th, 2025, Elkins shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed the following Board-approved professional development trainings or courses:
  - 1) Any one (1) training under the heading of “Educator Ethics” on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A).
  - 2) Any one (1) training under the heading of “Diversity / Cultural Sensitivity” on the attached pre-approved Board training list (Attachment A).

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Elkins. Failure to submit written proof of completion on or before the deadline will result in Certificate Number 201223433 being administratively suspended until such time as the Board receives the written proof of completion.

- c. Elkins has already submitted proof of completion of a 6-hour course on “Responsibility Centered Discipline” to the Board.
- d. Certificate Number 201223433 shall be subject to the following conditions for a period of two (2) years:
  - 1) Elkins shall have no further disciplinary action from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

“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.

If Elkins fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201223433 shall be automatically suspended for an additional 60 days and be subject to

additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

- e. Elkins 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*

7. 2455822 Martin Johnstone

Accept Agreed Order stating:

- a. Certificate Number 200102947 shall be suspended for sixty (60) days from June 1st, 2025 to July 30th, 2025. Johnstone 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. Johnstone 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. The Board reprimands Johnstone for his misconduct. Not only was his misconduct criminal, but a B.A.C. of 0.171 represents a significant impairment of motor skills, inhibitions, and appropriate judgement that put at risk his own personal safety and the welfare of anyone he encountered at school. Significant impairment in the school is not only a serious instance of Conduct Unbecoming a Teacher, but it also amounts to Neglect of Duty because a person impaired to that extent cannot properly perform his job functions. The Board will not tolerate any further incidents of misconduct from Johnstone.
- c. On or before April 1st, 2025, Johnstone 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 sixty (60) 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 Johnstone. Failure to do so will result in an administrative suspension of his certificate until such condition is satisfied.

- d. On or before April 1st, 2025, Johnstone shall provide written proof to the Board from a physician licensed by the Kentucky Medical Board of Licensure (KMBL) and approved by the Board, that he has undergone a comprehensive fit for duty evaluation and is fit to return to the classroom, presents as capable of performing his duties as an educator, is not a danger to himself or others, and is compliant with all treatment recommendations. The fit for duty evaluation shall occur within the sixty (60) days prior to Johnstone's submission of the evaluation to the Board. Johnstone shall pay any expense incurred. If Johnstone fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200102947 shall be administratively suspended until such condition is satisfied.
- e. On or before April 1st, 2025, Johnstone 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 "Educator Ethics" heading;
  - 2) A course under the "Appropriate Boundaries" heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Johnstone. Failure to submit written proof of completion by the deadline will result in Certificate Number 200102947 being administratively suspended until such time as Johnstone provides the written proof.

- f. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200102947, 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, Johnstone 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 Johnstone fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200102947 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.
- 2) If the fit for duty evaluation recommends ongoing treatment, Johnstone shall submit written progress reports from the KMBL-licensed physician on July 1st of every year of the probation, indicating that he is compliant with all treatment recommendations, until he is released from treatment. If Johnstone fails to satisfy any of these conditions, Certificate Number 200102947 shall be administratively suspended until such conditions are satisfied.
- 3) If Johnstone’s comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment recommends any treatment, Johnstone 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 Johnstone 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 Johnstone's probation requirements. If Johnstone fails to satisfy any of these conditions, Certificate Number 200102947 shall be administratively suspended until such conditions are satisfied.

4) Johnstone shall neither be convicted of nor enter a guilty or no contest plea to any criminal charge(s) other than minor traffic violations. A violation is not considered a minor traffic violation if it is a violation for which jail time may be imposed. If Johnstone is convicted of, or enters a guilty or no contest plea, to any criminal charge other than minor traffic violations, he shall submit this information to the Board, in writing, within thirty (30) days. Should Johnstone fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200102947 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.

g. Johnstone 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*

8. 2455911&

2456327 William Goodson

Accept Agreed Order stating Certificate Number 201238380 is permanently revoked. Goodson 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*

9. 2456179 Shannon Napier

Accept Agreed Order stating:

- a. Certificate Number 201182234 shall be retroactively suspended from March 4th, 2024 through March 22nd, 2024. Napier 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. Napier 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. Napier is hereby reprimanded for his lack of professional judgment regarding his communication with colleagues. Napier is reminded that as a certified educator he is required to meet high ethical standards as defined by the Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel. The Board will tolerate no further misconduct by Napier.
- c. Prior to April 1st, 2025, Napier 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 “Educator Ethics” heading;

- 2) “Anger Management: What it is and how to address it.”

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Napier. Failure to submit written proof of completion by the deadline will result in Certificate Number 201182234 being administratively suspended until such time as Napier provides the written proof.

- d. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201182234, 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, Napier 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 Napier fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201182234 shall be automatically suspended for a period of ten (10) days and be subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

- e. Napier 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*

10. 2456148 Patricia Stone

Accept Agreed Order stating Certificate Number 201126505 shall be revoked for seven (7) years beginning on June 30, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2031.

In addition to any educational and assessment requirements necessary for certification at the time, Stone shall comply with the following conditions prior to reissuance of Certificate Number 201126505:

1. Stone 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):
  - a. Four (4) courses under the “Educator Ethics” heading;
  - b. “Anger Management: What It Is and How to Address It”.
  - c. “Child Abuse Prevention”; and
  - d. “Addressing Challenging Behaviors”

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Stone. If Stone fails to satisfy any portion of this condition, Certificate Number 201126505 shall not be reissued until such condition is satisfied.

2. Prior to reissuance, Stone shall submit a background check to the Board dated within thirty (30) days of her application. Stone shall not be convicted of nor enter a guilty or no contest plea to any criminal charge(s) other than minor traffic violations. A violation is not considered a minor traffic violation if it is a violation for which jail time may be imposed. If Stone is convicted of, or enters a guilty plea or no contest plea, to any criminal charge other than minor traffic violations during the revocation period, then Certificate Number 201126505 shall be automatically permanently revoked.

Upon reissuance, Certificate Number 201126505, including any and all endorsements, is hereby subject to the following permanent probationary conditions:

1. During the probationary period, Stone 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. If Stone fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201126505 shall be administratively suspended pending further review and disposition by the Board.
2. Stone shall not be convicted of nor enter a guilty or no contest plea to any criminal charge(s) other than minor traffic violations. A violation is not considered a minor traffic violation if it is a violation for which jail time may be imposed. If Stone is convicted of, or enters a guilty or no contest plea, to any criminal charge other than minor traffic violations, she shall submit this information to the Board, in writing, within thirty (30) days. Failure to comply with this condition will result in Stone's certificate being automatically permanently revoked.
3. Stone shall submit a copy of her Kentucky State Police or Administrative Office of the Courts background check by July 1st of each year. Any expense required to satisfy this condition shall be paid by Stone. Failure to comply with this condition will result in Stone's certificate being automatically suspended until such condition is satisfied.

Stone 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. 2455988 Amy Winstel

Accept Agreed Order stating Certificate number 200119872 is retroactively suspended for sixty (60) days beginning June 1, 2024 through July 30, 2024. Winstel 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. Winstel 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.

Winstel provided proof that she is fit for duty from a licensed psychologist.

Prior to April 1, 2025, Winstel 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. “Trauma Informed Classroom Management”;
2. Two (2) courses under the “Educator Ethics” heading; and
3. “Time Management.”

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Winstel. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to April 1, 2025, will result in Certificate Number 200119872 being administratively suspended until such time as Winstel provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 200119872, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary condition for three (3) years:

1. During the probationary period, Winstel 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 Winstel fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate 200119872 shall be automatically suspended for a period of one (1) year and subject to additional sanctions by the Board pursuant to KRS 161.120.

Winstel 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*

12. 2455824 Nicole Lee

Accept Agreed Order stating Certificate Number 201290046 shall be suspended retroactively for thirty (30) days from June 15, 2024 through July 15, 2024. Lee 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 she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board. Lee 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 August 1, 2025, Lee 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. A course under the “Classroom Management” heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Lee. Failure to submit written proof of completion prior to August 1, 2025 will result in Certificate Number 201290046 being administratively suspended until such time as Lee provides the written proof.

Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201290046, 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, Lee 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. Failure to uphold this condition will result in Certificate 201290046 being administratively suspended pending further Board review and disposition.

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.

**Vote:** *Unanimous*

13. 2455979 Katherine Walls

Accept Agreed Order stating Walls is no longer working in certified employment. Prior to submitting an application for renewal of Certificate Number 200160790 or any applications for additional areas of certification or endorsements, Walls agrees to complete the following conditions:

1. Walls shall submit written proof to the Board from a physician licensed by the Kentucky Medical Board of Licensure (KMBL) and approved by the Board, that she has undergone a comprehensive fit for duty evaluation and is fit to return to the classroom, presents as capable of performing her duties as an educator, is not a danger to herself or others, and is compliant with all treatment recommendations. The fit for duty evaluation shall occur within the sixty (60) days prior to Walls's submission of the evaluation to the Board. Walls shall pay any expense incurred. If Walls fails to satisfy this condition, any applications for renewal of



Certificate Number 200160790 or any applications for additional areas of certification or endorsements shall not be processed until such condition is satisfied.

2. Walls shall submit written proof to the Board from a psychologist or psychiatrist, licensed by the Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors (KBLPC), that she has complied with a comprehensive mental health evaluation and is mentally fit to return to the classroom, presents as capable of performing her duties as an educator, is not a danger to herself or others, and is compliant with all treatment recommendations. Walls shall pay any expense incurred. If Walls fails to satisfy any portion of this condition, any applications for renewal of Certificate Number 200160790 or any applications for additional areas of certification or endorsements shall not be processed until such condition is satisfied.
3. Walls 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. “Recognizing Early-onset Mental Health Disorders”;
  - and
  2. A course under the “Educator Ethics” heading.

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Walls. If Walls fails to satisfy any portion of this condition, any applications for renewal of certificate 200160790 or any applications for additional areas of certification or endorsements shall not be processed until such condition is satisfied.

Upon renewal or issuance of any new areas of certification or endorsements, Certificate Number 200160790, and any future endorsements or new areas of certification, shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for a period of two (2) years

1. During the probationary period, Walls 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. Should Walls fail to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200160790 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 either of the fit for duty evaluations results in recommendations, Walls shall submit written progress reports from the KBLPC licensed psychologist or psychiatrist and/or the KMBL licensed physician on July 1st of every year of the probation, indicating she is compliant with all treatment recommendations, until she is released from treatment. If Walls fails to satisfy any of these conditions, Certificate Number 200160790 shall be administratively suspended until such conditions are satisfied.

Walls 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*

14. 2354965 Lucienne Ricketts

Accept Agreed Order stating:

- a. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201194245 is hereby retroactively suspended from September 23rd, 2023 to November 6th, 2023. Ricketts shall not have been actively employed in 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. Ricketts 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.

- b. On or before February 1st, 2025, Ricketts shall submit written proof to the Board that she has completed the following Board-approved professional development trainings:
  - 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 Ricketts. Failure to submit written proof of completion on or before the deadline will result in Certificate Number 201194245 being administratively suspended until such time as the Board receives the written proof of completion.

- c. Certificate Number 201194245 shall be subject to the following conditions for a period of two (2) years:
  - 1) Ricketts shall have no further disciplinary action related to supervision of students from any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

“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.

If Ricketts fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201194245 shall be administratively suspended pending Board review and disposition.

- d. Ricketts 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*

15. 2110761&  
2456516 Timothy Moons

Reject Agreed Order stating:

- a. Upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201104435 is hereby suspended from November 1st, 2024 to June 30th, 2025. During the suspension period, Moons shall not be actively employed in a certified position. 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. Moons 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. Prior to reinstatement, Moons shall provide written proof to the Board, from a psychologist or psychiatrist licensed by the Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, as approved by the Board, that he has complied with a comprehensive health evaluation and is mentally fit to return to the classroom, presents as capable of performing his duties as an educator, and is not a danger to himself or others. The assessment shall occur within the sixty (60) days prior to Respondent's submission of the assessment to the Board. Any expense required for this condition shall

be paid for by Moons. At the Board's request, Moons shall sign a release of information with the evaluating provider referred to herein, allowing the Board to review his evaluation and treatment records. Any expense required for said assessment and follow-up shall be paid for by Moons. If Moons fails to satisfy any portion of this condition, Certificate Number 201104435 shall not be reinstated until such condition is satisfied.

- c. Prior to reinstatement, Moons shall undergo a comprehensive anger management assessment from a counselor licensed by the Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors, as approved by the Board, and submit written proof to the Board. The assessment shall occur within the sixty (60) days prior to Moons' submission of the assessment to the Board. Any expense required for said assessment and follow-up shall be paid for by Moons. If Moons fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201104435 shall not be reinstated until such condition is satisfied.
- d. Prior to reinstatement, Moons 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) "Educator Ethics & the Law";
  - 2) "Anger Management: What it is and how to address it"; and
  - 3) A Batterer Intervention Prevention (BIP) course by a provider certified by ZeroV. (not on pre-approved list)

Any cost for said trainings shall be paid for by Moons. If Moons fails to satisfy any portion of this condition, Certificate Number 201104435 shall not be reinstated until such condition is satisfied.

- e. Upon reinstatement, any certificate issued to Moons shall be subject to the following probationary conditions for a period of fourteen (14) years:
  - 1) Moons shall have no criminal convictions involving domestic violence, harassment, or assault. In

addition, Moons shall have no further domestic violence protective orders entered against him. If Moons is convicted of, or enters a guilty or no contest plea, to any criminal charge involving domestic violence, harassment, or assault, or a court enters a finding of domestic violence against him, then he shall submit this information to the Board, in writing, within thirty (30) days. Failure to comply with these conditions will result in Certificate 201104435 being automatically permanently revoked.

- 2) During the period of probation, Moons shall submit a copy of a background check issued by the Administrative Office of the Courts by July 1st of each year. Any expense required to satisfy this condition shall be paid by Moons. If Moons fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201104435 shall be administratively suspended until such condition is satisfied.
- 3) If Moons' anger management assessment recommends any ongoing treatment, Moons shall submit written progress reports from the Kentucky Board of Licensed Professional Counselors-licensed counselor on July 1st of every year of the probation, certifying that he is compliant with all treatment recommendations, until such time as the counselor releases him from treatment. If Moons fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201104435 shall be administratively suspended until such condition is satisfied.
- 4) During the probationary period, Moons 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.

Failure to comply with this condition will result in Certificate 201104435 being automatically permanently revoked.

- f. Moons 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*

16. 2456407 Elisa Cothron

Accept Agreed Order stating Cothron is reprimanded for failing to ensure that all materials in her classroom are compliant with applicable state school law. As a certified educator, it is Cothron’s responsibility to make sure that all materials in her room are school appropriate. The Board reminds Cothron that she has a statutory duty to follow all state statutes and regulations relating to schools.

On or before July 1, 2025, Cothron 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). Cothron shall pay any expenses incurred. If Cothron fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 200703788 shall be administratively suspended until such condition is satisfied.

Finally, Certificate Number 200703788 shall be subject to the following probationary condition for a period of two (2) years from the date of this Order:

- 1. Cothron shall not receive any disciplinary action from any school district in which she is employed. If Cothron fails to satisfy this condition, any and all certificates issued to her will be administratively suspended pending Board review and disposition.

“Disciplinary action” is defined as any termination, suspension or public reprimand issued by any school district in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and upheld, by either a tribunal and/or arbitration process, including any appeal therefrom.

Cothron 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*

17. 2456370 Jonathan Fairbanks

Accept Agreed Order stating upon acceptance of this agreement by the Board, Certificate Number 201121450 is retroactively suspended beginning July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, a period of one (1) year. Fairbanks 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. Fairbanks 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.

Prior to May 1, 2025, Fairbanks shall provide written proof to the Board that he has completed a comprehensive substance abuse assessment by a Kentucky licensed and/or certified chemical dependency counselor, as approved by the Board, and is compliant with any treatment recommendations. The assessment shall occur within the sixty (60) days prior to Fairbanks’ submission of the assessment to the Board. Fairbanks shall pay any expense incurred. If Fairbanks fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201121450 shall be administratively suspended until such condition is fulfilled.

Prior to May 1, 2025, Fairbanks shall provide written proof to the Board that he has successfully completed a training under the heading of “Educator Ethics” on the attached pre-



approved Board training list (Attachment A). Fairbanks shall pay any expense incurred. If Fairbanks fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201121450, shall be administratively suspended until such condition is fulfilled.

Certificate Number 201121450 shall be subject to the following permanent probationary conditions:

1. If the comprehensive alcohol/substance abuse assessment recommends ongoing treatment, Fairbanks shall provide biannual written progress reports from a consistent counselor, before or on each April 1st and October 1st, from her counselor, until he is released from treatment. Fairbanks shall pay any expense incurred. If Fairbanks fails to satisfy this condition, Certificate Number 201121450 shall be administratively suspended until such condition is satisfied.
2. Fairbanks shall have no further criminal convictions involving the use and/or possession of alcohol or any controlled substance. If Fairbanks is convicted of, or enters a guilty or no contest plea, to any criminal charge involving the use and/or possession of alcohol or any controlled substance, he shall submit this information to the Board, in writing, within thirty (30) days. If Fairbanks is convicted of, or enters a guilty or no contest plea, to any criminal charge involving the use and/or possession of alcohol or any controlled substance, his certificate will be automatically permanently revoked.

Fairbanks 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*

18. 2456382 &  
2456475 Jackie Lambert

Accept Agreed Order stating Lambert voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently surrenders Certificate Number 201132432, 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.

**Vote:** *Unanimous*

*Motion made by Dr. Amanda Ellis seconded by Mr. Eli Edwards, to adjourn the meeting.*

**Vote:** *Unanimous*

Meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**STAFF NOTE**

**Consent Item:**

Option 9 Application, Mercer County Schools and Campbellsville University

**Staff Recommendation:**

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve the application.

**Rationale:**

Mercer County Schools and Campbellsville University have submitted an Option 9 application that meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. Campbellsville University holds accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and their educator preparation programs have been approved by the EPSB.

**Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.048, 16 KAR 9:110

**History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 161.048(10) establishes the Option 9 alternative route to certification. This route provides for the expedited certification of a person to teach at any grade level through a cooperative program between a college or university and a school district. The expedited certification program will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification within three school years. The candidate is not certified while completing the route but shall complete a residency/paraprofessional component and receive coaching and mentoring from experienced teachers. 16 KAR 9:110 establishes the standards and procedures for Option 9 and contains sections covering providers, residency, field experience, student teaching, application review, continuance of program approval, revocation for cause, reconsideration, data reports, and professional certificates.

***Summary:*** Mercer County Schools has partnered with Campbellsville University to develop a proposed Option 9 program. In accordance with Section 5 of the regulation, staff has reviewed the application and found that it meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. A copy of the application is included in the Board Meeting Materials tab for EPSB review. As part of the proposal, each party has agreed to take on the following:

- Offer the Option 9 programs exclusively to classified employees who work in the district.
- Ensure candidates complete the same 200 field experience hours that traditional candidates complete within the first two years of residency.
- Maintain electronic records of field experiences that confirm that all residents have fulfilled the field experience requirements and share these records with the Campbellsville University School of Education.
- Require admitted candidates to sign the Professional Code of Ethics and act in an ethical manner.

- Provide training on the Professional Code of Ethics.
- Employ candidates either part time or full time for three years in a classified position.
- Employ the candidate full time in the area of certification sought during the third year of residency.
- Ensure a Mercer County Schools cooperative teacher and Campbellsville University supervisor will follow the EPSB approved Campbellsville University protocols for observing and evaluating student teachers including a minimum of four observations.
- Maintain electronic records that confirm that all third-year residents meet the student teaching requirements and share them with the Campbellsville University School of Education.
- Continue the partnership until the candidates currently in the program complete the program or are no longer employed by Mercer County Schools.

Campbellsville University will:

- Ensure that candidates complete the EPSB approved LBD, IECE, or P-5 Elementary Education Program for Campbellsville University. Candidates who successfully complete the program and pass the licensure exams will earn a bachelor's degree and certification.
- Offer all 120 credit hours of coursework online.
- Require candidates to complete the same 200 field experience hours that traditional candidates complete within the first two years of residency.
- Require Admitted candidates to sign the Professional Code of Ethics
- Provide candidates training on the Professional Code of Ethics.
- Ensure that during the year-long residency, a Mercer County Schools cooperative teacher and Campbellsville University supervisor will follow the EPSB approved Campbellsville University protocols for observing and evaluating student teachers including a minimum of four observations.
- Ensure that the program does not negatively impact the accreditation of the Campbellsville University School of Education.

In accordance with 16 KAR 9:110, Section 5, initial program approval will be for a period of three years. After that time, the providers may apply for continuing program approval and provide evidence of program quality.

***Budget Impact:*** There will be costs associated with the oversight of this route.

**Contact Person:**

Dr. Melissa Diebel, Academic Program Manager  
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 Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness  
 (502) 564-4606  
 Email: [melissa.diebel@education.ky.gov](mailto:melissa.diebel@education.ky.gov)

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**STAFF NOTE**

**Consent Item:**

Option 9 Application, Campbellsville Independent Schools and University of the Cumberland

**Staff Recommendation:**

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve the application.

**Rationale:**

Campbellsville and University of the Cumberland have submitted an Option 9 application that meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. University of the Cumberland holds accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and their educator preparation programs have been approved by the EPSB.

**Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.048, 16 KAR 9:110

**History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 161.048(10) establishes the Option 9 alternative route to certification. This route provides for the expedited certification of a person to teach at any grade level through a cooperative program between a college or university and a school district. The expedited certification program will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification within three school years. The candidate is not certified while completing the route but shall complete a residency/paraprofessional component and receive coaching and mentoring from experienced teachers. 16 KAR 9:110 establishes the standards and procedures for Option 9 and contains sections covering providers, residency, field experience, student teaching, application review, continuance of program approval, revocation for cause, reconsideration, data reports, and professional certificates.

***Summary:*** Campbellsville Independent Schools has partnered with the University of the Cumberland to develop a proposed Option 9 program. In accordance with Section 5 of the regulation, staff has reviewed the application and found that it meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. A copy of the application is included in the Board Meeting Materials tab for EPSB review. As part of the proposal, each party has agreed to take on the following:

Campbellsville Independent Schools will:

- Employ the participant in a residency or paraprofessional program within the school district for the duration of the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Utilize experienced teachers employed by the district to provide coaching and mentoring to the participant.
- Ensure at least one mentor is certified in the area in which certification is being sought.

- Require mentor teachers to submit evaluations to the university for each candidate each semester.
- Ensure the availability of funding for each participant for the duration of the candidate's participation in the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Ensure candidates have a variety of experiences.
- Ensure at least one-year of employment provides hands-on experience in the area in which certification is being sought.
- Continue this partnership until the district's employed participants for Option 9 certification complete the program or are no longer employed by the district.
- No longer accept new candidates to the program if the district decides to end the partnership.

University of the Cumberlands will:

- Ensure that the completion of coursework and field experience will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification.
- Ensure that courses are sequenced and offered to allow for a three-year program completion.
- Ensure that candidates document 200 hours of field experience and the eight categories of field experiences through electronic records.
- Ensure that all educator program admissions regulations are followed and documented.
- Accept work experience in place of student teaching; and
- Assign a university supervisor to work with the participant during the third year of the program.

In accordance with 16 KAR 9:110, Section 5, initial program approval will be for a period of three years. After that time, the providers may apply for continuing program approval and provide evidence of program quality.

***Budget Impact:*** There will be costs associated with the oversight of this route.

**Contact Person:**

Dr. Melissa Diebel, Academic Program Manager  
 Division of Educator Preparation and Certification  
 Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness  
 (502) 564-4606  
 Email: [melissa.diebel@education.ky.gov](mailto:melissa.diebel@education.ky.gov)

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**STAFF NOTE**

**Consent Item:**

Option 9 Application, Estill County Schools and University of the Cumberland

**Staff Recommendation:**

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve the application.

**Rationale:**

Estill County Schools and University of the Cumberland have submitted an Option 9 application that meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. University of the Cumberland holds accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and their educator preparation programs have been approved by the EPSB.

**Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.048, 16 KAR 9:110

**History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 161.048(10) establishes the Option 9 alternative route to certification. This route provides for the expedited certification of a person to teach at any grade level through a cooperative program between a college or university and a school district. The expedited certification program will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification within three school years. The candidate is not certified while completing the route but shall complete a residency/paraprofessional component and receive coaching and mentoring from experienced teachers. 16 KAR 9:110 establishes the standards and procedures for Option 9 and contains sections covering providers, residency, field experience, student teaching, application review, continuance of program approval, revocation for cause, reconsideration, data reports, and professional certificates.

***Summary:*** Estill County Schools has partnered with the University of the Cumberland to develop a proposed Option 9 program. In accordance with Section 5 of the regulation, staff has reviewed the application and found that it meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. A copy of the application is included in the Board Meeting Materials tab for EPSB review. As part of the proposal, each party has agreed to take on the following:

Estill County Schools will:

- Employ the participant in a residency or paraprofessional program within the school district for the duration of the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Utilize experienced teachers employed by the district to provide coaching and mentoring to the participant.
- Ensure at least one mentor is certified in the area in which certification is being sought.

- Require mentor teachers to submit evaluations to the university for each candidate each semester.
- Ensure the availability of funding for each participant for the duration of the candidate's participation in the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Ensure candidates have a variety of experiences.
- Ensure at least one-year of employment provides hands-on experience in the area in which certification is being sought.
- Continue this partnership until the district's employed participants for Option 9 certification complete the program or are no longer employed by the district.
- No longer accept new candidates to the program if the district decides to end the partnership.

University of the Cumberlands will:

- Ensure that the completion of coursework and field experience will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification.
- Ensure that courses are sequenced and offered to allow for a three-year program completion.
- Ensure that candidates document 200 hours of field experience and the eight categories of field experiences through electronic records.
- Ensure that all educator program admissions regulations are followed and documented.
- Accept work experience in place of student teaching; and
- Assign a university supervisor to work with the participant during the third year of the program.

In accordance with 16 KAR 9:110, Section 5, initial program approval will be for a period of three years. After that time, the providers may apply for continuing program approval and provide evidence of program quality.

***Budget Impact:*** There will be costs associated with the oversight of this route.

**Contact Person:**

Dr. Melissa Diebel, Academic Program Manager  
 Division of Educator Preparation and Certification  
 Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness  
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**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**STAFF NOTE**

**Consent Item:**

Option 9 Application, Marion County Schools and University of the Cumberlands

**Staff Recommendation:**

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve the application.

**Rationale:**

Marion County Schools and University of the Cumberlands have submitted an Option 9 application that meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. University of the Cumberlands holds accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and their educator preparation programs have been approved by the EPSB.

**Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.048, 16 KAR 9:110

**History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 161.048(10) establishes the Option 9 alternative route to certification. This route provides for the expedited certification of a person to teach at any grade level through a cooperative program between a college or university and a school district. The expedited certification program will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification within three school years. The candidate is not certified while completing the route but shall complete a residency/paraprofessional component and receive coaching and mentoring from experienced teachers. 16 KAR 9:110 establishes the standards and procedures for Option 9 and contains sections covering providers, residency, field experience, student teaching, application review, continuance of program approval, revocation for cause, reconsideration, data reports, and professional certificates.

***Summary:*** Marion County Schools has partnered with the University of the Cumberlands to develop a proposed Option 9 program. In accordance with Section 5 of the regulation, staff has reviewed the application and found that it meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. A copy of the application is included in the Board Meeting Materials tab for EPSB review. As part of the proposal, each party has agreed to take on the following:

Marion County Schools will:

- Employ the participant in a residency or paraprofessional program within the school district for the duration of the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Utilize experienced teachers employed by the district to provide coaching and mentoring to the participant.
- Ensure at least one mentor is certified in the area in which certification is being sought.

- Require mentor teachers to submit evaluations to the university for each candidate each semester.
- Ensure the availability of funding for each participant for the duration of the candidate's participation in the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Ensure candidates have a variety of experiences.
- Ensure at least one-year of employment provides hands-on experience in the area in which certification is being sought.
- Continue this partnership until the district's employed participants for Option 9 certification complete the program or are no longer employed by the district.
- No longer accept new candidates to the program if the district decides to end the partnership.

University of the Cumberlands will:

- Ensure that the completion of coursework and field experience will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification.
- Ensure that courses are sequenced and offered to allow for a three-year program completion.
- Ensure that candidates document 200 hours of field experience and the eight categories of field experiences through electronic records.
- Ensure that all educator program admissions regulations are followed and documented.
- Accept work experience in place of student teaching; and
- Assign a university supervisor to work with the participant during the third year of the program.

In accordance with 16 KAR 9:110, Section 5, initial program approval will be for a period of three years. After that time, the providers may apply for continuing program approval and provide evidence of program quality.

***Budget Impact:*** There will be costs associated with the oversight of this route.

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**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**STAFF NOTE**

**Consent Item:**

Option 9 Application, Marshall County Schools and University of the Cumberlands

**Staff Recommendation:**

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve the application.

**Rationale:**

Marshall County Schools and University of the Cumberlands have submitted an Option 9 application that meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. University of the Cumberlands holds accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and their educator preparation programs have been approved by the EPSB.

**Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.048, 16 KAR 9:110

**History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 161.048(10) establishes the Option 9 alternative route to certification. This route provides for the expedited certification of a person to teach at any grade level through a cooperative program between a college or university and a school district. The expedited certification program will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification within three school years. The candidate is not certified while completing the route but shall complete a residency/paraprofessional component and receive coaching and mentoring from experienced teachers. 16 KAR 9:110 establishes the standards and procedures for Option 9 and contains sections covering providers, residency, field experience, student teaching, application review, continuance of program approval, revocation for cause, reconsideration, data reports, and professional certificates.

***Summary:*** Marshall County Schools has partnered with the University of the Cumberlands to develop a proposed Option 9 program. In accordance with Section 5 of the regulation, staff has reviewed the application and found that it meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. A copy of the application is included in the Board Meeting Materials tab for EPSB review. As part of the proposal, each party has agreed to take on the following:

Marshall County Schools will:

- Employ the participant in a residency or paraprofessional program within the school district for the duration of the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Utilize experienced teachers employed by the district to provide coaching and mentoring to the participant.
- Ensure at least one mentor is certified in the area in which certification is being sought.

- Require mentor teachers to submit evaluations to the university for each candidate each semester.
- Ensure the availability of funding for each participant for the duration of the candidate's participation in the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Ensure candidates have a variety of experiences.
- Ensure at least one-year of employment provides hands-on experience in the area in which certification is being sought.
- Continue this partnership until the district's employed participants for Option 9 certification complete the program or are no longer employed by the district.
- No longer accept new candidates to the program if the district decides to end the partnership.

University of the Cumberlands will:

- Ensure that the completion of coursework and field experience will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification.
- Ensure that courses are sequenced and offered to allow for a three-year program completion.
- Ensure that candidates document 200 hours of field experience and the eight categories of field experiences through electronic records.
- Ensure that all educator program admissions regulations are followed and documented.
- Accept work experience in place of student teaching; and
- Assign a university supervisor to work with the participant during the third year of the program.

In accordance with 16 KAR 9:110, Section 5, initial program approval will be for a period of three years. After that time, the providers may apply for continuing program approval and provide evidence of program quality.

***Budget Impact:*** There will be costs associated with the oversight of this route.

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**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**STAFF NOTE**

**Consent Item:**

Option 9 Application, Mayfield Independent Schools and University of the Cumberland

**Staff Recommendation:**

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve the application.

**Rationale:**

Mayfield Independent Schools and University of the Cumberland have submitted an Option 9 application that meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. University of the Cumberland holds accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and their educator preparation programs have been approved by the EPSB.

**Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.048, 16 KAR 9:110

**History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 161.048(10) establishes the Option 9 alternative route to certification. This route provides for the expedited certification of a person to teach at any grade level through a cooperative program between a college or university and a school district. The expedited certification program will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification within three school years. The candidate is not certified while completing the route but shall complete a residency/paraprofessional component and receive coaching and mentoring from experienced teachers. 16 KAR 9:110 establishes the standards and procedures for Option 9 and contains sections covering providers, residency, field experience, student teaching, application review, continuance of program approval, revocation for cause, reconsideration, data reports, and professional certificates.

***Summary:*** Mayfield Independent Schools has partnered with the University of the Cumberland to develop a proposed Option 9 program. In accordance with Section 5 of the regulation, staff has reviewed the application and found that it meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. A copy of the application is included in the Board Meeting Materials tab for EPSB review. As part of the proposal, each party has agreed to take on the following:

Mayfield Independent Schools will:

- Employ the participant in a residency or paraprofessional program within the school district for the duration of the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Utilize experienced teachers employed by the district to provide coaching and mentoring to the participant.
- Ensure at least one mentor is certified in the area in which certification is being sought.

- Require mentor teachers to submit evaluations to the university for each candidate each semester.
- Ensure the availability of funding for each participant for the duration of the candidate's participation in the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Ensure candidates have a variety of experiences.
- Ensure at least one-year of employment provides hands-on experience in the area in which certification is being sought.
- Continue this partnership until the district's employed participants for Option 9 certification complete the program or are no longer employed by the district.
- No longer accept new candidates to the program if the district decides to end the partnership.

University of the Cumberlands will:

- Ensure that the completion of coursework and field experience will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification.
- Ensure that courses are sequenced and offered to allow for a three-year program completion.
- Ensure that candidates document 200 hours of field experience and the eight categories of field experiences through electronic records.
- Ensure that all educator program admissions regulations are followed and documented.
- Accept work experience in place of student teaching; and
- Assign a university supervisor to work with the participant during the third year of the program.

In accordance with 16 KAR 9:110, Section 5, initial program approval will be for a period of three years. After that time, the providers may apply for continuing program approval and provide evidence of program quality.

***Budget Impact:*** There will be costs associated with the oversight of this route.

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**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**STAFF NOTE**

**Consent Item:**

Option 9 Application, Morgan County Schools and University of the Cumberlands

**Staff Recommendation:**

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve the application.

**Rationale:**

Morgan County Schools and University of the Cumberlands have submitted an Option 9 application that meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. University of the Cumberlands holds accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and their educator preparation programs have been approved by the EPSB.

**Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.048, 16 KAR 9:110

**History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 161.048(10) establishes the Option 9 alternative route to certification. This route provides for the expedited certification of a person to teach at any grade level through a cooperative program between a college or university and a school district. The expedited certification program will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification within three school years. The candidate is not certified while completing the route but shall complete a residency/paraprofessional component and receive coaching and mentoring from experienced teachers. 16 KAR 9:110 establishes the standards and procedures for Option 9 and contains sections covering providers, residency, field experience, student teaching, application review, continuance of program approval, revocation for cause, reconsideration, data reports, and professional certificates.

***Summary:*** Morgan County Schools has partnered with the University of the Cumberlands to develop a proposed Option 9 program. In accordance with Section 5 of the regulation, staff has reviewed the application and found that it meets the requirements of KRS 161.048 and 16 KAR 9:110. A copy of the application is included in the Board Meeting Materials tab for EPSB review. As part of the proposal, each party has agreed to take on the following:

Morgan County Schools will:

- Employ the participant in a residency or paraprofessional program within the school district for the duration of the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Utilize experienced teachers employed by the district to provide coaching and mentoring to the participant.
- Ensure at least one mentor is certified in the area in which certification is being sought.

- Require mentor teachers to submit evaluations to the university for each candidate each semester.
- Ensure the availability of funding for each participant for the duration of the candidate's participation in the program as long as the participant is making successful progress in the Option 9 program.
- Ensure candidates have a variety of experiences.
- Ensure at least one-year of employment provides hands-on experience in the area in which certification is being sought.
- Continue this partnership until the district's employed participants for Option 9 certification complete the program or are no longer employed by the district.
- No longer accept new candidates to the program if the district decides to end the partnership.

University of the Cumberlands will:

- Ensure that the completion of coursework and field experience will result in a bachelor's degree and initial certification.
- Ensure that courses are sequenced and offered to allow for a three-year program completion.
- Ensure that candidates document 200 hours of field experience and the eight categories of field experiences through electronic records.
- Ensure that all educator program admissions regulations are followed and documented.
- Accept work experience in place of student teaching; and
- Assign a university supervisor to work with the participant during the third year of the program.

In accordance with 16 KAR 9:110, Section 5, initial program approval will be for a period of three years. After that time, the providers may apply for continuing program approval and provide evidence of program quality.

***Budget Impact:*** There will be costs associated with the oversight of this route.

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# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

### **Consent Item:**

Eastern Kentucky University Program Approval: School Librarian

### **Staff Recommendation:**

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve Eastern Kentucky University's School Librarian program as recommended by the Program Review Committee.

### **Rationale:**

The submitted programs have demonstrated compliance with the EPSB regulations for admission and standards alignment requirements established in 16 KAR 2:010. The proposed educator preparation programs follow the appropriate regulations (16 KAR 5:010; 16 KAR 2:010) outlining program requirements for program approval as established by the EPSB. The programs have completed the review process and received a recommendation for approval from the Program Review Committee.

### **Applicable Statutes and Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.030, 16 KAR 5:010, 16 KAR 5:020, 16 KAR 2:010

### **Action Question:**

Should the EPSB approve the School Librarian programs submitted by Eastern Kentucky University?

### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 161.028 and KRS 161.030 require the EPSB to establish curricula for educator preparation programs in Kentucky and approve such programs for Educator Preparation Providers. The Educator Preparation Branch and the Program Review Committee evaluated the program review documents submitted for approval against performance-based program certification guidelines established by the EPSB. The program proposal meets all the requirements set forth by the EPSB.

***Summary:*** Eastern Kentucky University has an approved Traditional, Advanced Master's Rank I and Rank II programs and is requesting to add the Master of Arts in Teaching, School Librarian Initial Graduate, Master's Rank I and Rank 2 Traditional Route and Option 6 Alternative Route programs. The Master of Arts in Teaching School Librarian program prepares candidates for service and leadership as school librarians serving P-12 students. The program curriculum focuses on preparing School Librarians to develop digital and print resources in support of the diverse learning styles and multiple literacies of their students and communities.

***Budget Impact:*** There is no budgetary impact.

**Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:**

OELE staff and the Program Review Committee have reviewed this program proposal and determined that the program meets the requirements for approval. The program has completed the review process and received a recommendation for approval from the Program Review Committee per 16 KAR 5:010 Section 22.

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## **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

### **STAFF NOTE**

#### **Consent Item:**

Eastern Kentucky University Program Approval: Learning and Behavior Disorders and Moderate to Severe Disabilities

#### **Staff Recommendation:**

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve Eastern Kentucky University's Learning and Behavior Disorders and Moderate to Severe Disabilities program as recommended by the Program Review Committee.

#### **Rationale:**

The submitted programs have demonstrated compliance with the EPSB regulations for admission and standards alignment requirements established in 16 KAR 2:010. The proposed educator preparation programs follow the appropriate regulations (16 KAR 5:010; 16 KAR 2:010) outlining program requirements for program approval as established by the EPSB. The programs have completed the review process and received a recommendation for approval from the Program Review Committee.

#### **Applicable Statutes and Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.030, 16 KAR 5:010, 16 KAR 5:020, 16 KAR 2:010

#### **Action Question:**

Should the EPSB approve the Learning and Behavior Disorders and Moderate to Severe Disabilities Certification programs submitted by Eastern Kentucky University?

#### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 161.028 and KRS 161.030 require the EPSB to establish curricula for educator preparation programs in Kentucky and approve such programs for Educator Preparation Providers. The Educator Preparation Branch and the Program Review Committee evaluated the program review documents submitted for approval against performance-based program certification guidelines established by the EPSB. The program proposal meets all the requirements set forth by the EPSB.

***Summary:*** Eastern Kentucky University has an approved Learning and Behavior Disorders Initial Graduate, Master of Arts in Teaching program and an approved Moderate to Severe Disabilities Initial Graduate, Master of Arts in Teaching program. The university is requesting to add Option 6 Alternative Certification Route programs for these areas to address the shortage of teachers for students with Learning and Behavior Disorders and Moderate to Severe Disabilities in Kentucky. Eastern Kentucky University notes it is important to have additional options for individuals to obtain master's degrees that will lead to advanced preparation and rank changes as well as those that will provide initial certifications in special education at the graduate level. The approval of the new Option 6 Alternative Route Master of Arts in Teaching program for Learning and Behavior Disorders and Moderate to Severe Disabilities programs will increase the university's ability to

serve the needs of individuals seeking a special education master's and initial teacher certification and increase the number of certified teachers available for employment in the schools.

***Budget Impact:*** There is no budgetary impact.

**Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:**

OELE staff and the Program Review Committee have reviewed this program proposal and determined that the program meets the requirements for approval. The program has completed the review process and received a recommendation for approval from the Program Review Committee per 16 KAR 5:010 Section 22.

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## **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

### **STAFF NOTE**

#### **Consent Item:**

Kentucky Rank Advancement Academy: Continuing Education Option (CEO) Plan II Leadership Pathway Proposal

#### **Staff Recommendation:**

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve the Kentucky Rank Advancement Academy CEO Plan II Leadership Pathway for Rank I or II.

#### **Rationale:**

The CEO Plan II reviewers consisting of representatives from districts, educational cooperatives and education preparation providers (EPPs), and staff from the Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness (OELE) reviewed the CEO Plan II proposal in accordance with 16 KAR 8:030 and the CEO Plan II Guidelines approved by the EPSB. The reviewers found that the proposal meets the applicable requirements and recommends that the EPSB approve the CEO Plan II program.

#### **Action Question:**

Should the EPSB approve Kentucky Rank Advancement Academy's CEO Plan II Leadership Pathway proposal?

#### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.020, 161.028, 161.030, 161.095, 161.1211, and 16 KAR 8:030

#### **History/Background:**

*Existing Policy:* KRS 161.1211 establishes the classifications of teachers. According to the statute, an educator may obtain Rank II by obtaining a master's degree, acquiring National Board Certification or successfully completing equivalent continuing education. Rank I is obtained by meeting the requirements of Rank II and having an additional thirty hours of approved graduate credit, a master's degree, National Board Certification or equivalent continuing education. KRS 161.095 provides that the EPSB shall develop standards for continuing education including college/university courses, an advanced degree or a combination of field-based experiences, individual research, and approved professional development. 16 KAR 8:030 sets forth the continuing education requirements for CEO Plan I and Plan II for rank change. CEO Plan II allows districts, groups of districts (such as educational cooperatives), and Kentucky institutions of higher education with EPSB-approved educator preparation programs to submit a continuing education option plan with a combination of field-based experiences, individual research and approved professional development to the EPSB for approval. The EPSB also approved the CEO Plan II Guidelines that provide information for districts, groups of districts and institutions of higher education to design and submit a continuing education option plan that aligns with the requirements of 16 KAR 8:030 and KRS 161.095.

**Summary:** Western Kentucky University (WKU), Kentucky Education Association (KEA) and the National Education Association (NEA) have partnered to submit the Kentucky Rank Advancement Academy CEO Plan II Leadership Pathway proposal. With this CEO Plan II program, educators will complete a leadership focused opportunity through WKU that is enhanced with the support of micro-credentials. Each micro-credential will correspond to the leadership topics that are being taught, and candidates will use the micro-credentials to advance their knowledge and understanding of their school, students, and leadership role. They will use micro-credentials to research and focus on skills and attributes around teacher leadership. This CEO Plan II program would allow educators to pursue and achieve Rank I or II, depending on their current rank and grow in their profession through field-based experience, research and approved professional development. Kentucky Rank Advancement Academy's CEO Plan II Leadership Pathway meets the guidelines that include an introduction, capstone project, job-embedded professional development experiences, assessment of candidates and program evaluation. Kentucky Rank Advancement Academy's CEO Plan II Leadership Pathway requires approval by the EPSB before it may be offered for rank change.

The CEO Plan II proposal is included in the Board Meeting Materials tab and requires approval by the EPSB before it may be offered for rank change.

**Budget Impact:** There is no budgetary impact.

**Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:**

OELE Staff, District representatives, Educational Cooperative staff, EPP Leaders

The CEO Plan II reviewers reviewed the proposal individually and then came together virtually to reach consensus. The results were sent to the provider. The reviewers found that the proposal meets the applicable requirements and recommends that the EPSB approve the CEO Plan II program.

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# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## STAFF NOTE

### **Information Item:**

Praxis Bridge

### **Rationale:**

To keep the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) apprised of developments in certification assessments and facilitate conversations about potential future action.

### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.030, 16 KAR 6:010

### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 161.028(1)(a) authorizes the EPSB to establish standards and requirements for obtaining and maintaining a teaching certificate. In KRS 161.030(3) the Kentucky General Assembly requires an assessment for all new teachers and teachers seeking additional certification. Specifically, the statute provides:

(a) Certification of all new teachers and teachers seeking additional certification shall require the successful completion of appropriate assessments prior to certification. The assessments shall be selected by the Education Professional Standards Board and shall measure knowledge in the specific teaching field of the applicant, including content of the field and teaching of that content. The Education Professional Standards Board shall determine the minimum acceptable level of achievement on each assessment. The assessments shall measure those concepts, ideas, and facts which are being taught in teacher education programs in Kentucky.

The statute gives the authority to select the assessments and passing scores to the EPSB but requires that the assessments measure knowledge in the specific teaching field of the applicant, including content and teaching of that content, and measure those concepts, ideas, and facts which are being taught in teacher education programs in Kentucky. 16 KAR 6:010 establishes the current examination prerequisites for teacher certification as set by the EPSB. The EPSB has also approved the -1 Standard Error of Measure to meet the required assessment scores.

***Summary:*** At the December meeting, the EPSB heard updates from the Educational Testing Service (ETS). Included in those updates was an introduction of the Praxis Bridge. This program encourages eligible candidates, who have attempted the Praxis test at least once and scored within a certain threshold, to complete a professional-learning module instead of retaking the entire assessment. EPSB members had questions regarding this program and ETS staff will be at the February meeting to provide the EPSB with additional information on the Praxis Bridge including its use by other states and how it could be utilized in Kentucky.

***Budget Impact:*** There is no budgetary impact at this time.

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# Praxis Bridge - charting new pathways for aspiring educators

Praxis Bridge has been designed to provide flexibility when placing additional qualified teacher candidates into the classroom. It bolsters the teacher pipeline without compromising the vital content-knowledge skills needed for effective instruction.

## HOW PRAXIS BRIDGE CAN HELP YOUR TEACHER CANDIDATES:

This alternative encourages eligible candidates, who have attempted the Praxis test at least once and scored within a certain threshold, to complete a professional-learning module instead of retaking the entire test.



The initial launch will include subtests in the Praxis Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects 5001 series - English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science - and affords test takers these benefits:

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**Greater flexibility:** a module can be completed at the test taker's convenience within a six-month window. Each module lasts just forty-five minutes.

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**Dynamic engagement:** interactive materials target specific content at the subcategory level rather than mandating a one-size-fits-all solution.

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**Low cost:** a module is \$50 (less than a full test retake).



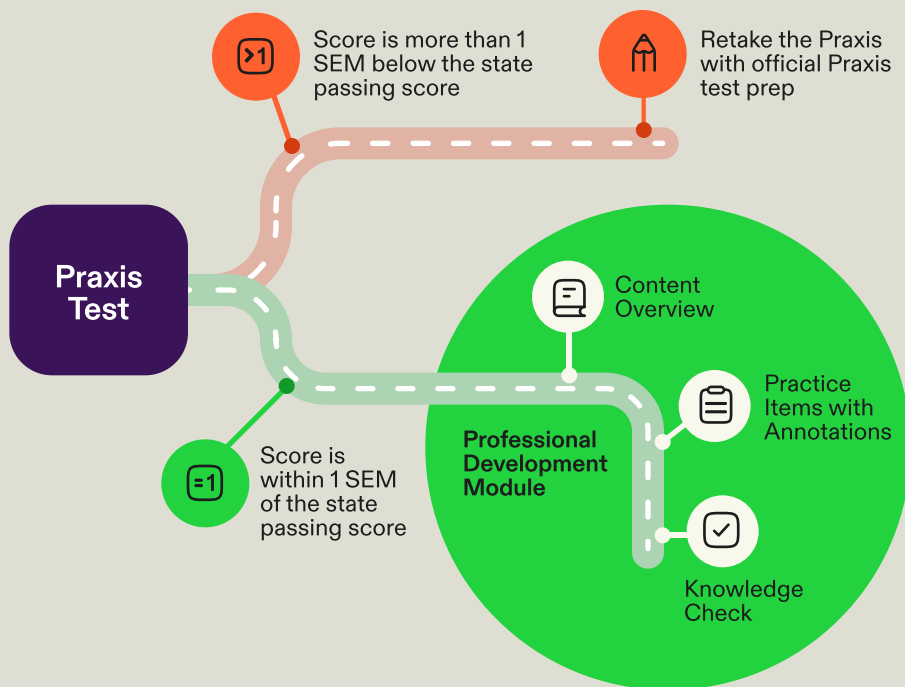
ETS is excited to offer this option to state partners, which is fully aligned with the Praxis assessments they've adopted. We look forward to continued engagement as we roll out these modules for numerous test titles over the coming year.

- Vince Dean, Executive Director, Praxis



## HOW PRAXIS BRIDGE WORKS:

Depending on the candidate's Praxis test performance, ETS identifies a professional development module that represents the greatest area of growth. The module provides content overviews and practice items with annotations, all of which help test takers define key concepts and affirm their understanding of the material. Candidates will have to pass a knowledge check and will have unlimited opportunities to answer items correctly.



**The ultimate goal:** candidates get support on the Praxis-test concepts that challenged them the most. Successful completion results in a Certificate of Completion. The licensing agency can then view this Certificate, in combination with the official Praxis test score, as equivalent to passing the test.

## WHAT PRAXIS BRIDGE OFFERS:

A dynamic, low-cost opportunity to meet licensing requirements that helps states more quickly move qualified candidates into the classroom.

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Easy access and asynchronous remote learning.

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Engaging content linked directly to the Praxis blueprint and based on national standards for the academic discipline.

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Scaffolded learning with practice items that provide feedback and analysis.

## HOW TO GET STARTED:

Praxis Bridge for Elementary Education launches in February 2025. **Contact your Director of Educational Partnerships** to discuss how the Praxis Bridge can support teacher candidates in your state.



## KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### STAFF NOTE

#### **Information Item:**

Development of Strategies for EPSB Goals

#### **Rationale:**

When approving the goals, the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) discussed the development of action-based strategies under each of the four goals.

#### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028

#### **History/Background:**

*Existing Policy:* At the December 2024 meeting, the EPSB approved goals to help drive the agenda items for future EPSB meetings as well as the work of staff between meetings. The goals covered the areas of educator ethics, educator certification, educator preparation, and communication. The EPSB also expressed a desire to develop action-based strategies under each of the four goals.

*Summary:* A copy of the goals and proposed actions are included for EPSB review and to facilitate discussion regarding additional actions the EPSB would like to see for each goal. Staff will also share with the EPSB updates regarding actions that are currently underway.

*Budget Impact:* There is no budgetary impact at this time.

#### **Contact Person:**

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# Education Professional Standards Board



## MISSION STATEMENT

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

## GOALS

**Every certified educator exemplifies behaviors that maintain the dignity and integrity of the profession by adhering to established law including the Code of Ethics.**

*The EPSB promotes awareness of the standards for ethical behavior for educators. All cases are presented to the EPSB for review in a timely manner and accurate and reliable data is provided to support decision making.*

**Every certified position in a Kentucky public school is staffed by a properly credentialed educator.**

*The EPSB will undertake a continuous review of the certification structure to ensure that it aligns with the Kentucky academic standards and the workforce needs to best serve the students of the Commonwealth. The EPSB shall also monitor the validity and reliability of certification assessments and maintain a focus on continuous improvement for all certification procedures and processes.*

**Every approved educator preparation program meets or exceeds all accreditation standards and prepares knowledgeable, capable teachers and administrators who demonstrate effectiveness in helping all students reach educational achievement.**

*The EPSB promotes professionalizing the preparation of future educators through emphasizing vibrant, hands-on clinical experiences, paid student teaching, innovation and collaboration with P-12 partners. The EPSB maintains a focus on continuous improvement of all preparation programs through regular and rigorous review of program quality.*

**Communication with stakeholders, education partners and the public is clear and promotes entry to and growth within the profession.**

*The EPSB strives to provide clear and consistent communication on the options for obtaining initial certification, adding an area of certification, and pursuing rank change. The EPSB will maintain a clear, public-facing website to promote communication of the work of the EPSB.*

**Every certified educator exemplifies behaviors that maintain the dignity and integrity of the profession by adhering to established law including the Code of Ethics.**

- 1. Promote awareness of the standards for ethical behavior for educators.*
- 2. Legal staff will present all cases to the EPSB for review in a timely manner.*
- 3. Legal staff will provide accurate and reliable data to support decision making.*

**Every certified position in a Kentucky public school is staffed by a properly credentialed educator.**

- 1. Undertake a continuous review of the certification structure to ensure that it aligns with the Kentucky academic standards and the workforce needs to best serve the students of the Commonwealth.*
- 2. Monitor the validity and reliability of certification assessments.*
- 3. Maintain a focus on continuous improvement for all certification procedures and processes.*

**Every approved educator preparation program meets or exceeds all accreditation standards and prepares knowledgeable, capable teachers and administrators who demonstrate effectiveness in helping all students reach educational achievement.**

- 1. Emphasize vibrant, hands-on clinical experiences, paid student teaching, innovation and collaboration with P-12 partners.*
- 2. Maintain a focus on continuous improvement of all preparation programs through regular and rigorous review of program quality.*

**Communication with stakeholders, education partners and the public is clear and promotes entry to and growth within the profession.**

- 1. Maintain a clear, public-facing website to communicate the work of the EPSB.*
- 2. Provide clear and consistent guidance on the options for obtaining initial certification, adding an area of certification, and pursuing rank change.*

## KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### STAFF NOTE

#### **Information Item:**

16 KAR 4:090. Reissuance, Amendment

#### **Rationale:**

The proposed amendment is necessary to ensure that 16 KAR 4:090 remains in effect. The amendment also updates the regulation to align with current certification practices.

#### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 13A, KRS 161.028, 16 KAR 4:090

#### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 13A.3102(1) provides that “an ordinary administrative regulation with a last effective date on or after March 1, 2013, shall expire seven (7) years after its last effective date, except as provided by the certification process in KRS 13A.3104.” KRS 13A.3104 sets forth the certification process that an agency must follow to avoid the expiration of an administrative regulation. This process requires the agency to review the administrative regulation in its entirety for compliance with current law governing the subject matter of the administrative regulation and file a letter with the regulations compiler prior to the expiration date, stating whether the administrative regulation shall be amended or remain in effect without amendment. If the certification letter states that the administrative regulation will be amended, the EPSB must file an amendment to the administrative regulation within eighteen months of the date the certification letter was filed.

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) certified 16 KAR 4:090 with the intent to amend on May 5, 2024, and must file an amendment to the regulation on or before November 3, 2025. This administrative regulation establishes the reissuance requirements for a Kentucky certification that lapsed.

***Summary:*** The amendment to 16 KAR 4:090 removes outdated language regarding candidates who have not yet received a Rank II, as it is no longer a requirement for Kentucky educators to receive their Rank II. The amendment also incorporates language allowing a district to request a one-time exception to the requirement of six graduate hours. The EPSB has approved this action for the past two school years and has received positive reviews from districts. This action is similar to the one-time exception certificate in KRS 161.030(6)(b); however, it applies to candidates who held Rank III certification at the time the certificate expired and/or had less than three years of experience. Candidates would still be required to submit an application, complete the Character and Fitness review, and pay the certification fee. A copy of the draft amendment is included for EPSB review.

***Budget Impact:*** There is no budgetary impact.

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1 EDUCATION AND LABOR CABINET

2 Education Professional Standards Board

3 (Emergency Amendment)

4 16 KAR 4:090. Reissuance.

5 RELATES TO: KRS 161.020, [~~161.027,~~] 161.028, 161.030, 161.046, 161.048, 161.053

6 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 161.020, 161.028, 161.030

7 NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 161.020, 161.028, and 161.030 require  
8 the Education Professional Standards Board (**EPSB**) to promulgate administrative regulations  
9 establishing requirements and standards for obtaining and maintaining certification [~~and for~~  
10 ~~approval of an education preparation provider~~]. This administrative regulation establishes the  
11 reissuance requirements for a Kentucky **teaching certificate** [~~certification~~] that has lapsed.

12 Section 1.

13 (1) [

14 ~~(a) If a certificate has lapsed as a result of the applicant's failure to meet the renewal~~  
15 ~~requirements, the certificate shall be reissued at a later date for a one (1) year period if the~~  
16 ~~applicant completes at least six (6) semester hours of graduate credit applicable toward the~~  
17 ~~planned fifth year program.~~

18 ~~(b) The applicant shall complete an additional nine (9) semester hours of credit applicable~~  
19 ~~toward the planned fifth year program by September 1 of the year of expiration to qualify for~~  
20 ~~extending the certificate for the remaining four (4) years of the first five (5) year renewal period.~~



1 (c) ~~At the end of the renewal period established in paragraph (b) of this subsection, the applicant~~  
2 ~~shall have completed a planned fifth year program that meets the requirements of 16 KAR~~  
3 ~~8:020 to qualify for the next five (5) year renewal. After the renewal period established in this~~  
4 ~~paragraph, the regular renewal schedule of three (3) years of successful teaching experience~~  
5 ~~with evidence of continuing growth documented in a portfolio as required by 16 KAR 4:060 or~~  
6 ~~six (6) semester hours of additional graduate credit each five (5) year period shall apply.~~

7 (2) ~~An applicant who has already completed the planned fifth year program and]~~ **An applicant**  
8 whose certificate lapses shall have the certificate reissued **for a subsequent five (5) year period**  
9 **upon application to the EPSB, compliance with 16 KAR 2:010, Section 3(1), and proof of**  
10 **the completion of**~~[after completing]~~ another six (6) semester hours of graduate credit.

11 **(2) An applicant whose certificate has lapsed may qualify for a one-time exception of the**  
12 **six (6) semester hours of graduate credit if the applicant submits a recommendation from**  
13 **a superintendent of a Kentucky school district.**

14 **(3)The** ~~[the]~~ certificate shall be issued for a five (5) year period and subject to the renewal  
15 **requirements in 16 KAR 4:060.**~~[schedule of three (3) years of successful teaching experience~~  
16 ~~or completion by September 1 of the year of expiration of at least six (6) semester hours of~~  
17 ~~additional credit for each five (5) year period.~~

18 (3) ~~Successful teaching experience shall be in a position directly corresponding to the type of~~  
19 ~~certificate for which the application is being made, and employment shall be at least on a half-~~  
20 ~~time basis.~~

21 (a) ~~A full year of experience shall include at least 140 days of employment performed within~~  
22 ~~the academic year.~~

- 1 (b) A half year of experience shall include at least seventy (70) days of employment performed
- 2 within an academic semester.]

DRAFT

## **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

### **STAFF NOTE**

#### **Information Item:**

Repeal of 16 KAR 4:080

#### **Rationale:**

The Education Professional Standards Board has consistently approved waivers of 16 KAR 4:080 for individual applicants. The requirements contained in this regulation are out of date and do not align with the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact.

#### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 13A.310, KRS 161.028, 16 KAR 4:080

#### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy:*** KRS 13A.310 provides a promulgating body with the authority to repeal an administrative regulation if it is desired that the regulation no longer be effective. 16 KAR 4:080 sets the requirements for the recency of preparation for out-of-state applicants.

***Summary:*** 16 KAR 4:080 was promulgated when all Kentucky certified educators were required to obtain Rank II within the first ten years of their education career. The regulation requires that “out-of-state applicants for initial Kentucky certification shall have prepared as a teacher or completed six (6) semester hours of graduate credit within the five (5) years preceding their application.” The regulation does create an exemption for out-of-state applicants who qualify for Rank II and completed two years of successful teaching experience in the last ten years. In 2023, Kentucky adopted the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact which allows candidates with an eligible certificate from one member state to qualify for an equivalent certificate in another member state without having to complete additional preparation or testing requirements.

The EPSB has seen a number of requests to waive 16 KAR 4:080 and has approved these requests for individual applicants. Districts, especially our border districts, have indicated that this regulation is a burden when trying to hire out-of-state certified teachers.

A draft repealer of 16 KAR 4:080 is included for EPSB review. If the EPSB wishes to proceed with repealing the regulation, staff will request a repealer number from the Regulations Compiler and bring the repealer back before the EPSB for action at the April Meeting.

***Budget Impact:*** There is no budgetary impact.

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1 EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CABINET

2 Education Professional Standards Board

3 (Repealer)

4 16 KAR 4: \_\_. Repeal of 16 KAR 4:080

5 RELATES TO: KRS 161.020, KRS 161.028, KRS 161.030

6 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 13A.310

7 NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 161.020 requires a certificate of legal  
8 credentials for any public-school position for which a certificate is issued, and KRS 161.028(1)(a)  
9 authorizes the Education Professional Standards Board to establish standards and requirements for  
10 obtaining and maintaining a teaching certificate. KRS 13A.310 allows repeal of administrative  
11 regulations if the promulgating body desires. This administrative regulation repeals the  
12 administrative regulation establishing the standards for the recency of preparation for an out-of-  
13 state applicant for initial Kentucky certification

14 Section 1. 16 KAR 4:080, Out-of-State Recency, is hereby repealed.

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**STAFF NOTE**

**Waiver:**

16 KAR 4:080. Request to Waive Out-of-State Recency Requirements for Howard Sims

**Action Question:**

Should the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approve the request to waive the out-of-state recency requirement and issue a Kentucky professional certificate for Howard Sims?

**Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, 16 KAR 4:080

**History/Background:**

*Existing Policy:* 16 KAR 4:080 requires that an out-of-state prepared educator have completed six semester hours of graduate credit within the five years preceding application for certification in Kentucky if their educator preparation program was completed more than five years prior to the application date.

*Summary:* Howard Sims is requesting a waiver of the out-of-state recency requirement for issuance of a professional certificate for teaching physical education. Mr. Sims has been a licensed and employed teacher for three years in Arkansas. He states that trying to teach full-time and take master's level courses is very stressful for himself and his family. Mr. Sims has logged sixty plus hours each year in professional development. He does have some graduate level credits and will continue to seek out other opportunities through professional development to further his knowledge. Mr. Sims requests that the EPSB consider his previous experience from out-of-state to waive the out-of-state recency requirement of six graduate hours and issue him the full five-year Kentucky certificate.

**Budget Impact:** There is no budgetary impact.

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# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## STAFF NOTE

### Action Item

Option 1 Alternative Route to Certification Application for Jefferson Davis

### Action Question:

Should the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approve the alternative route to certification application?

### Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.030, KRS 161.048, 16 KAR 9:010

### History/Background:

*Existing Policy:* The applicant must meet a minimum grade point average (GPA) requirement and must have either a major in the academic area or a passing score on the academic content assessment. Under recent updates to KRS 161.048, applicants are no longer required to have a job offer but must have one year of successful teaching experience and recommendation from the employing district before issuance of the professional certificate.

*Summary:* Jefferson Davis has submitted the application and portfolio seeking certification through the Option 1, Exceptional Work Experience Alternative Route to Teacher Certification. Mr. Davis is requesting that the EPSB approve his application for certification in the area of **Physics and Engineering Grades, 8-12**. The application and portfolio are included under separate cover for EPSB review.

*Budget Impact:* There is no budgetary impact.

### Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

Todd Davis, Division Director  
Melinda Penny, Consultant

The applicant meets the minimum GPA requirement in the academic area and the required assessment. The EPSB will need to determine if the applicant's work experience constitutes exceptional work experience.

### Contact Person:

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# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

### **Action Item:**

Option 1 Alternative Route to Certification Application for April Griffie

### **Action Question:**

Should the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approve the alternative route to certification application?

### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.030, KRS 161.048, 16 KAR 9:010

### **History/Background:**

**Existing Policy:** The applicant must meet a minimum grade point average (GPA) requirement and must have either a major in the academic area or a passing score on the academic content assessment. Under recent updates to KRS 161.048, applicants are no longer required to have a job offer but must have one year of successful teaching experience and recommendation from the employing district before issuance of the professional certificate.

**Summary:** April Griffie has submitted the application and portfolio seeking certification through the Option 1, Exceptional Work Experience Alternative Route to Teacher Certification. Ms. Griffie is requesting that the EPSB approve her application for certification in the area of **Business and Marketing Education, Grades 8-12**. The application and portfolio are included under separate cover for EPSB review

**Budget Impact:** There is no budgetary impact.

### **Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:**

Todd Davis, Division Director

Melinda Penny, Consultant

The applicant meets the minimum GPA requirement in the academic area. The EPSB will need to determine if the applicant's work experience constitutes exceptional work experience.

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# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

### **Action Item:**

Option 1 Alternative Route to Certification Application for Megan Mackintosh

### **Action Question:**

Should the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approve the alternative route to certification application?

### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, KRS 161.030, KRS 161.048, 16 KAR 9:010

### **History/Background:**

**Existing Policy:** The applicant must meet a minimum grade point average (GPA) requirement and must have either a major in the academic area or a passing score on the academic content assessment. Under recent updates to KRS 161.048, applicants are no longer required to have a job offer but must have one year of successful teaching experience and recommendation from the employing district before issuance of the professional certificate.

**Summary:** Megan Mackintosh has submitted the application and portfolio seeking certification through the Option 1, Exceptional Work Experience Alternative Route to Teacher Certification. Ms. Mackintosh is requesting that the EPSB approve her application for certification in the area of **Chemistry Grades, 8-12**. The application and portfolio are included under separate cover for EPSB review.

**Budget Impact:** There is no budgetary impact.

### **Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:**

Todd Davis, Division Director

Melinda Penny, Consultant

The applicant meets the minimum GPA requirement in the academic area. The EPSB will need to determine if the applicant's work experience constitutes exceptional work experience.

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