



# Education Professional Standards Board

August 2016  
Update Memo

## **EPSB Mission**

*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.*

The EPSB Goals, Strategies, Policies, Procedures, Strategic Plan and Annual Report may be found at <http://www.epsb.ky.gov/boardinfo/mission.asp>.

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## **New Board Members**

It is my pleasure to welcome nine (9) new members of the EPSB Board. Each one brings a unique perspective on education in our state that will benefit not only students, but also educators in our state from all levels, primary through post-secondary.

- Mr. Rob Akers, Woodford County Schools
- Mrs. Sarah Burnett, Pulaski County Schools
- Ms. Rachel Colyer, Scott County Schools
- Ms. Ashley Fishback, Shelby County Schools
- Mrs. Casey Gesenheus, Ft. Thomas Independent Schools
- Mr. David Graham, Warren County Schools
- Mr. William Owens, Lee County School Board Chairman
- Dr. Sherry Powers, Eastern Kentucky University
- Ms. Sandra Ramsey, Middlesboro Independent Schools



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## **Admission and Exit**

All admissions and exits for 2015-16 AY must be entered into the Admission and Exit system by September 15, 2016. This includes all initial, advanced, and other school professional candidates. It is important that candidates are accurately admitted and exited from the system as this data is used for a variety of reports including reports to EPSB, Title II, CAEP, and KCEWS.

If you need any assistance or find errors with previous entries, please contact [Lauren.Graves@ky.gov](mailto:Lauren.Graves@ky.gov). Please do not exit candidates if the entry is incorrect; contact Lauren Graves to determine the next step to rectify the error.

Once all data has been entered, please email [Ben.boggs@ky.gov](mailto:Ben.boggs@ky.gov) by September 15, 2016, confirming accurate data has been reported to EPSB.

## **KTIP Training**

Resource teachers and principals who were not KTIP trained last year will need to attend face-to-face training before they can serve on a 2016-17 KTIP committee. Principals who were trained last year but did not work with a 2015-16 intern will also need to attend face-to-face training. Training registration/dates are listed on the EPSB website:

<http://www.kyepsb.net/epsb.webapps/ims/imstraining/IMSTrainingInfo.aspx>

## **KTIP Confirmations of Employment**

Please verify that all committee members have the **2016-17 KTIP Handbook and documents**. Old bookmarks will link to outdated documents, so bookmarks will need to be reset. New KTIP resources can be located on the EPSB website: [http://www.kyepsb.net/internships/KTIP\\_2016-2017\\_Forms.asp](http://www.kyepsb.net/internships/KTIP_2016-2017_Forms.asp)

Districts may begin entering COEs for the 2016-17 school year beginning August 1, 2016, for the full-year and second semester fall internships. Those interns who were denied due to budget for 2015-16 will receive first priority for approval during the 2016-17 school year.

## **The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) as it Relates to Teachers and "Highly Qualified" Requirements**

Effective July 1, 2016, Kentucky School districts will no longer be required to identify, document, and report "highly qualified teacher" (HQT) status for teachers hired after December 10, 2015. The LEAD report is still a requirement and KDE will use it for federal reporting purposes.



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When the NCLB was written in 2001, “highly qualified” requirements were inserted into the Act in an effort to ensure that every child would be instructed by an effective teacher. Implementing the “highly qualified” requirements of NCLB proved difficult. “Highly qualified” was ambiguous and hard to define. ESSA has attempted to address this issue by eliminating the “highly qualified teacher” requirements and mandating that states require that teachers meet the applicable state certification and licensure requirements.

The ESSA also amended the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) by removing the definition of “highly qualified” in section 602(10) and the requirement in section 612(a)(14)(C) that special education teachers be “highly qualified” by the deadline established in section 1119(a)(2) of the ESEA, as amended by NCLB. Accordingly, a state is not required to ensure that special education teachers are “highly qualified” as defined in the ESEA beginning with the 2016-17 school year, but must ensure that a person employed as a special education teacher in elementary school, middle school, or secondary school must:

1. have obtained full certification as a special education teacher (including certification obtained through alternative routes to certification), or passed the state’s special education teacher licensing examination and hold a license to teach in the state as a special education teacher, except that a special education teacher teaching in a public charter school must meet the requirements set forth in the state’s public charter school law;
2. not have had special education certification or licensure requirements waived on an emergency, temporary, or provisional basis; and
3. hold at least a Bachelor’s degree.

See attached Transitioning to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA): Frequently Asked Questions (Updated May 4, 2016), p. 20.

### **Criminal Background Records Checks**

Effective immediately, applications for teacher certification previously held while national and state criminal background checks were completed will now be processed even if those background checks are still pending. The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) at its June 13, 2016, Board meeting waived this regulatory requirement for all certifications until the regulatory requirements can be changed or the background check process can be expedited.

Please keep in mind, however, pursuant to KRS 161.120(2)(a) superintendents (or the superintendent’s designee) will still be required to report to EPSB any criminal convictions noted on the national and state criminal background checks school districts conduct for new certified hires in the school district and



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student teachers assigned within the district pursuant to KRS 160.380(5)(a) regardless of whether the criminal conviction predates the date of the application for certification.

## **Discipline Regulation**

The second readings of 16 KAR 1:030, *Procedures for Certificate Revocation, Suspension, Reinstatement and Reissuance, and Application Denial, Amendment, Final Action* (commonly referred to as the Discipline Regulation) and the *Policy and Procedures relating to Board Action Against a Certificate Holder's Certificate* are scheduled to occur at the August 15, 2016, meeting of the Board. The development of this regulation and related policy and procedures is the culmination of the Board's work and requested changes over the past few years. Suggestions from various constituency groups were considered and incorporated where applicable. This regulation brings transparency and efficiency to the process. Following the second reading of the regulation, it will be submitted to the Legislative Research Committee (LRC) for processing.

## **Customer Satisfaction Survey**

Please take a few moments to complete our survey regarding your experience when contacting the staff of the KY Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB). Your feedback is important to us. Your responses will help us to address any issues that you may have as well as to better target our services to meet your needs. Your responses will remain anonymous, will be kept confidential, and will not be used for any purpose other than research conducted by EPSB. You will be asked to respond to similar questions relating to the various divisions of the EPSB staff, and you will need only to respond with regard to those divisions with which you have had direct contact within the past one year. This survey should take fewer than 10 minutes to complete. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7Z66JKV>

## **Meetings Across the State**

8/3/2016	KBE	Board Retreat
8/4/2016	KBE	Board Meeting
8/10/2016	NKCES	Board Meeting
8/11/2016	SESC	Board Meeting
8/14/2016	EPSB	Board Learning and Work Session
8/15/2016	EPSB	Board Meeting
8/17/2016	CKEC	Board Meeting
8/22/2016	KDE	Commissioner's Accountability Steering Committee
8/24/2016	WKEC	Board Meeting
8/24/2016	KVEC	Board Meeting
8/31/2016	OVEC	Board Meeting



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The next scheduled meeting of the EPSB is Monday, August 15, 2016, at 9:00 AM (EDT) in Conference Room A, 100 Airport Road, 3rd Floor, and Frankfort, Kentucky. This is a different time than originally set and, therefore, will be considered a Special Called Meeting. There will be a Sunday afternoon learning and work session at 2:00 PM (EDT) on August 14, 2016 (no action will be taken).

EPSB meeting agendas may be found one week prior to the meeting at <http://www.epsb.ky.gov/boardinfo/meetingagendas.asp>.