



**The Kentucky Board of Education**  
invites applications and nominations for the position of:

# Commissioner of Education for the Commonwealth of Kentucky

The Kentucky Board of Education has an exciting and challenging leadership opportunity to make a difference for more than 648,000 public school students in our state. The board is seeking an individual who shares its commitment to putting the interests of students first and ensuring each child is prepared for the opportunities of the 21st-century economy.

The Commissioner of Education serves as chief state school officer and oversees the daily operations of the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and acts as superintendent of the Kentucky School for the Blind, the Kentucky School for the Deaf and 53 area technology centers. The commissioner also serves as the executive secretary to the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB), recommending and carrying out regulations related to standards and requirements for obtaining and maintaining a teaching certificate, and preparation of teachers and other professional school personnel in Kentucky.

The next Commissioner of Education will sustain and build on Kentucky's commitment to excellence in education, partnering with educators to deliver on this promise by applying innovative approaches to close the achievement gap and ensure success for all.

**Experience** - Kentucky's next Commissioner of Education will have:

- An education background with classroom experience;
- A deep understanding of learning theory, curriculum and instructional practice;
- Knowledge of today's best practices in schools;
- A strong financial background with the ability to manage hundreds of millions of dollars in state and federal funding, audit processes and budgets;
- Experience with policymaking and the executive and legislative branches of government, including working with members of Congress and the U.S. Department of Education; and
- Leadership experience in large, diverse organizations and experience working with a diverse staff.

**Skills** - The successful candidate will have the ability to:

- Work with multiple partners and respect opinions, regardless of background, within and outside of education;
- Translate knowledge into action to benefit all students;
- Create a compelling and shared vision with diverse partners, communicate that vision and bring it to reality;
- Build an inspired and effective team, engage members and maximize strengths;
- Inspire partners and constituents around a vision, and lead boldly to bring that vision to reality;
- Build strong relationships with the private sector, community members and policymakers; and
- Effectively deploy technology as a communication and teaching tool.

**Supporting Dispositions** - The successful candidate should have:

- A commitment to and passion for inspiring and equipping each student for a successful life, and improving learning opportunities for historically underserved children;
- The ability to empower teachers, leaders and staff who carry out the vision;
- The desire to work through partnerships and interpersonal relationships with diverse people in a multitude of circumstances;
- A focus on the development of the whole child, including skills and attributes necessary for success;
- A commitment to public education and the structure of public education in Kentucky;
- The disposition to share with and listen to education partners;
- A commitment to be visible and approachable, and lead with dignity; and
- The desire to work with the Kentucky Board of Education to build public understanding and support for the state's educational goals.

Greenwood/Asher & Associates, Inc. is assisting the Kentucky Board of Education in the search. Initial screening of applications will begin immediately and will continue until an appointment is made. For best consideration, please submit your materials by **May 31, 2020**. Individuals who wish to nominate a candidate should submit a letter of nomination including contact information for the nominee. Application materials should include a letter addressing how the candidate's experiences match the position requirements, a curriculum vitae or resume and five references. Submission of materials as PDF attachments is strongly encouraged.

**For more information regarding the Kentucky Board of Education please visit: <https://education.ky.gov>**  
**Confidential inquiries, nominations and application materials should be directed to:**

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