



2019 Election: What's at stake for Kentucky's Students?

The Governor Sets the State's Agenda for Education

No one individual in Kentucky has more power to impact students, educators and retired educators than our governor. Using his bully pulpit, he calls attention to the needs of children and our schools and the power of his office to address those needs. If you care about children, public schools and educators, you should care about who is elected Kentucky's next governor.

The Governor Proposes the State Budget

Kentucky's budget – proposed by the governor and adopted by the General Assembly – largely determines the quality of education in Kentucky. The state budget can either *increase or decrease* funding for:

- The basic needs of schools and districts through the Support Educational Excellence in Kentucky (SEEK) formula.
- Learning materials, technology, professional development, school safety, and Family Resource and Youth Services Centers (FYRSCs).
- Teachers' retirement. Classified employees' insurance is funded by school districts, largely through SEEK funds.
- Active and retired educators' health insurance.
- Raises and National Board stipends for educators.
- Preschool.

The Governor Appoints Key Decision Makers

The governor appoints the Kentucky Board of Education. **KBE** decides:

- State assessment and accountability requirements.
- Personnel policies, like the requirements for teacher, principal and superintendent evaluation.
- School calendar requirements.
- School financial standards.
- Who the commissioner of education is.

The governor also appoints the Education Professional Standards Board. The **EPSB**:

- Establishes requirements for obtaining and maintaining a teaching certificate in Kentucky.
- Adopts procedures for revoking or suspending a teaching certificate for alleged misconduct.
- Partners with KEA and other groups to recruit and support National Board candidates.
- Creates requirements for the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program (KTIP).