

## MEETING MINUTES

*Draft for Approval by the Council on November 22, 2024*

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Who: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education  
Meeting Type: Business Meeting  
Date: September 16, 2024  
Time: 8:00 a.m. ET  
Location: Hyatt Regency, 401 West High Street, Lexington – Kentucky room

### WELCOME REMARKS

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The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education held a business meeting on Monday, September 16, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. ET. The meeting occurred at the Hyatt Regency in Lexington, Kentucky. Vice Chair Elaine Walker presided.

### ATTENDANCE

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The following Council members attended the meeting in person: CB Akins, Jacob Brown, Lindsey Case, Jennifer Collins, Kellie Ellis, Meredith Figg, Karyn Hoover, Faith Kemper, and Elaine Walker. Council members who attended virtually were Muhammad Babar, Chloe Marstiller, and LaDonna Rogers.

Council members who did not attend were Madison Silvert, Kevin Weaver, and Commissioner Robbie Fletcher.

CPE President Aaron Thompson served as secretary of the board, per the CPE Bylaws. Ms. Heather Faesy, CPE's board liaison, served as recorder of the meeting minutes.

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

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The minutes of the June 20-21, 2024, meetings were approved as presented.

### CPE PRESIDENT REPORT

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President Aaron Thompson's written report was included in the board materials. He provided additional comments on upcoming CPE events that are engaging not only institutional faculty and staff but also workforce and policy leaders. He also discussed recent testimony to the Interim Joint Committee on Economic Development and Workforce Investment about the State Workforce and Talent Team, a cross-agency effort to improve Kentucky's efforts to increase workforce participation and success.

## **KY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE) COMMISSIONER REPORT**

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KDE Deputy Commissioner Thomas Tucker provided the report on behalf of Commissioner Fletcher who was unable to attend the meeting. His report focused on new members of the Kentucky Board of Education, an update on the Kentucky United We Learn Council, a new campaign that focuses on chronic absenteeism, and the known teacher shortage and how KDE is evaluating how to best address this statewide issue.

### **UPDATE FROM THE STUDENT COUNCIL MEMBER**

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Ms. Marstiller provided an update on the newly elected student body presidents at the Kentucky institutions. They are in the early planning stages of identifying the priorities they want to focus on in the next year, Ms. Marstiller stated that mental health and student engagement continue to be topics of discussion.

### **ACADEMIC AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES COMMITTEE – REPORT & ACTION ITEMS**

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Committee Chair Karyn Hoover presented the report and recommendations made by the Academic and Strategic Initiatives (ASI) Committee, which met on September 9, 2024. Committee members:

- Learned about a new initiative called Heroes to Healers, which aims to help veterans with military occupational specialty healthcare skills transition into accelerated pathways for healthcare certifications that result in civilian positions.
- Received an update on the Healthcare Workforce Investment Fund, which is in its implementation stage. The steering committee recently reviewed 35 proposals submitted in response for healthcare training scholarship partnerships, and staff are preparing contracts with award recipients. Awardees will be announced at the Collaboratory on October 30.
- Received an update on the mid-term review of the statewide strategic agenda. Preliminary changes to the key performance indicators are in progress, and drafted changes to the statewide strategies were also shared.
- Reviewed and endorsed for Council approval a proposed new academic program at Morehead State University – Master of Social Work (CIP 44.0701).
- Reviewed and endorsed for Council approval the Academic Readiness Indicators for 2025-2027, which had no changes from the current indicators.

**MOTION:** The ASI Committee's recommendation of approval of the endorsed action items served as the motion. A second was not needed.

**VOTE:** The motion passed.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE – REPORT AND ACTION ITEMS**

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Committee Chair Jacob Brown presented the report and recommendations made by the Finance Committee, which met on September 9, 2024. Committee members:

- Received an update on the distribution of funds in relation to the 2022-24 Endowment Match Program.
- Received an update on early discussions of the Performance Funding Working Group, which was convened for the sole purpose of redefining the term “underrepresented students” in the funding model.
- Received an update that the University of Louisville submitted 2024-25 tuition and fee rates that complied with the Council's approved ceilings. Those rates were approved by President Thompson on behalf of the Council, per the delegation that was approved at the June Council meeting.
- Reviewed and endorsed for Council approval a Memorandum of Understanding between Northern Kentucky University and CPE that modifies a current MOU by eliminating the EDGE scholarship program and launching a new undergraduate tuition program called the NKU Tri-state program. The revised MOU goes into effect in the fall 2025.
- Reviewed and endorsed for Council approval an Asset Preservation Pool project to raze the Somerset Community College Laurel South Campus building and replace it with a new building at the Laurel North Campus.

MOTION: The Finance Committee's recommendation of approval of the endorsed action items served as the motion. A second was not needed.

VOTE: The motion passed.

At the September 9 meeting, the Finance Committee also reviewed a raze and replace asset preservation pool project at Southeast KY Community and Technical College but deferred discussion until the Council meeting. The project request is to use funds from the 2024-26 Asset Preservation Pool to demolish and reconstruct a pedestrian bridge at the Southeast KY Community and Technical College, Whitesburg Campus. The total scope of the proposed project is \$1,395,000.

While the Committee agreed this was an immediate need for the campus, the lack of an up-to-date cost estimate for the project was needed before approval could be granted. The last study was completed on January 9, 2020, and it estimated the cost to raze and replace at \$609,453. The project scope of \$1,395,000 was estimated based on standard cost increases, and staff advised that Board that KCTCS had agreed to conduct an updated study should the project not be approved.

MOTION: Committee Chair Brown moved that due to the age and deteriorating condition of the bridge, impact of historic flooding in Eastern Kentucky on the bridge, and immediate

safety concerns for faculty, students, and staff who are currently using an alternate bridge that supports primarily vehicular traffic, the Council approve the request contingent upon KCTCS officials bringing updated and policy-compliant cost estimates to the Council at its next available meeting date. Rev. Akins seconded the motion.

President Thompson stated that Council staff will review the policy for necessary revisions to reflect this requirement on future project requests.

VOTE: The motion passed.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – REPORT**

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Chair Silvert presented the report and recommendations of the Executive Committee, which met the morning of September 15, 2024. Committee members:

- Reviewed the agenda for the upcoming 2024 Postsecondary Education Trusteeship Conference.
- Received a status update on the studies directed by Senate Joint Resolutions 132, 170, and 179 and section 79 of Senate Bill 91.
- Received an implementation update of the KSU Management Improvement Plan.

There were no action items proposed for approval.

## **STATEWIDE STRATEGIC AGENDA DISCUSSION – UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE**

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Mr. Travis Muncie, Executive Director of Data and Advanced Analytics, reminded the Council about the key performance indicators and status of the target-setting process for 2027.

President Kim Schatzel provided the Council with an update on the University of Louisville (UL). The update focused on UL's key strategies for each of the strategic priorities of the statewide agenda, as well as the baseline data and 2023-24 targets for key performance indicators. President Schatzel answered questions from the Council on UL's efforts around intrusive advising, a centralized advising process, and summer bridge programming and its impact on students. She also discussed the impact of dual credit on student completion.

## **CAMPUS GOOD NEWS REPORTS**

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Reports from the institutions were provided in the agenda materials. Vice Chair Walker provided highlights from the University of Kentucky, Western Kentucky University and Northern Kentucky University.

## ADJOURNMENT

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The Council adjourned the business meeting at 9:05 a.m. ET.

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