



# **NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**KEA responds to EPSB actions**

In response to today's unprecedented acts by the EPSB, KEA President Stephanie Winkler issued the following statement:

“Kentucky is among a minority of states that require teachers to have advanced degrees. Although obtaining a Master’s degree during the first five years of teaching is a significant investment, Kentucky teachers have always felt a sense of pride because all students in the Commonwealth are taught by highly qualified professionals. During a time when we are supposed to be encouraging students to think of themselves as college and career ready, even beginning in kindergarten, it seems counterintuitive that our certifying authority would publicly state that it sees no value in having teachers earn an advanced degree. It certainly is undisputed that teachers are one of the more influential role models for students. Part of that modeling is respecting education for its own sake. Teachers across the state are spending countless hours encouraging a “growth mindset” in students, supporting their interest in lifelong learning. Today’s action by the EPSB, based on the recommendation of a political appointee, proves what we all know: elections have consequences. Educators across the state will remember in November.”