

2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

DIGITAL DAY OF LEARNING TOOLKIT



CONTACTING YOUR LEGISLATOR

<https://www.kea.org/legislative-session>

Legislative Message Line	1-800-372-7181
Bill Status Line	1-866-840-2835
Calendar (Meetings) Line	1-800-633-9650
TTY Message Line	1-800-896-0305
En Español	1-866-840-6574

HOUSE LEADERSHIP



David Osborne
Speaker



David Meade
Speaker Pro Tempore



Steven Rudy
Majority Floor Leader



Suzanne Miles
Majority Caucus Chair



Chad McCoy
Majority Whip



JONI JENKINS
Minority Floor Leader



DERRICK GRAHAM
Minority Caucus Chair



ANGIE HATTON
Minority Whip



REGINA HUFF
Education Chair



Jason Petrie
A&R Chair

[House Education
Committee](#)

[House A&R](#)

SENATE LEADERSHIP



Robert Stivers
President



David Givens
President Pro-Tempore



Damon Thayer
Majority Floor Leader



Julie Raque Adams
Majority Caucus Chair



Mike Wilson
Majority Whip



Morgan McGarvey
Minority Floor Leader



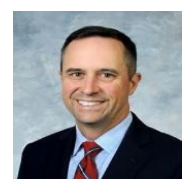
Reggie Thomas
Minority Caucus Chair



Dennis Parrett
Minority Whip



Max Wise
Education Chair



Chris McDaniel
A&R Chair

[Senate Education
Committee](#)

[Senate A&R](#)

I AM AN
EMPOWERED
EDUCATOR


Virtual Day of Learning **KEA KYGA2021**



Fill Out Activist Data Sheet Using QR Code On Your Tablet Or Phone, Or Fill Out Online By Clicking [here](#).

If Prefer, Fill Out Printed Form And Email To mwilson@kea.org

Contacts:

Eddie Campbell, KEA President
606-454-4583

Joel Wolford, KEA Vice-President
270-566-2870

Share any pictures of your virtual meetings on social media:

#ILOVEMYKYPUBLICSCHOOL & #EMPOWEREDEDUCATOR

UPDATED Kentucky General Assembly 2021 Accessibility UPDATED January 5, 2021

Below is a summary of how we expect the session to operate in light of COVID-19 restrictions.

GENERAL ACCESS: General Public access to the Capitol Annex and to the Capitol Building will not be allowed. We understand that you will be allowed to enter either building if you have an appointment with an official/policy-maker, but access will be limited to the appointment time and you will be expected to leave the building after the appointment. Your name will have to be given to security at the front door of either building to gain access. We assume that this will have to be done by the official/policy-maker with whom you have the appointment, or by their staff person.

SCHEDULED ANNEX MEETINGS: Meetings will be limited to 3 persons and will take place in Annex offices. When you arrive at the main visitor entrance of the Annex, contact the legislative assistant or LRC staff who will verify your appointment time and may meet you there to escort you to the meeting. If you do not have a mask or face covering, one will be provided to you.

ANNEX EVENTS: There will be no scheduled group events allowed in the cafeteria or elsewhere.

ROTUNDA EVENTS: If you have a date/time reserved for use of the Rotunda during the session, you will probably receive an email from Historic Properties stating that you may use the Rotunda on your reserved date/time, but with a limit of 10 persons in the Rotunda.

HOUSE/SENATE CHAMBERS & GALLERIES: We understand that House members will be able to vote on legislation from their Annex office or in the chamber. We have not heard how discussion or debate typically done on the House floor will take place. Senators will meet in person in the Senate chamber and will conduct their business there, as usual. Both House and Senate galleries will be closed to the public.

MASKS: You will be required to wear a mask covering your nose and mouth the entire time you are in the Capitol Annex or in the Capitol Building. There may be exceptions for young children and for persons with disabilities. If you have a condition that prevents you from wearing a mask, check with the official/policy-maker to arrange accommodations.

SESSION CALENDAR: The [session calendar](#) has been approved by the Legislative Research Commission. It reflects the "typical" short-session calendar of session dates. However, we have heard that significant legislation may be acted on during Part I of the session, which would necessitate their meeting on Saturday, January 9th (as it requires five days to pass a bill through both chambers and on to the Governor's desk) or they may extend Part I into the following week of January (11th – 15th).

COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR: The [committee meeting calendar](#) looks similar to the schedule in previous legislative sessions. Meeting rooms may be changed, as the House will have all of its committee meetings in Rooms 149, 154, 169 and 171, while the Senate will have all of its committee meetings in Rooms 125, 129 and 131.

We had heard from several Committee Chairs **and have now confirmed** that committee meetings will be limited to **one hour** each, in order to accommodate cleaning of the rooms between meetings.

COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDAS: We understand that the committee agenda will be available 48 hours prior to the committee meeting. **A rule change made by both the Senate and the House will**

allow bills to be placed on the agenda with only 24 hours' notice. Use [Bill Watch](#) to track bills and get updates.

REMOTE ACCESS TO COMMITTEE MEETINGS: We understand that all committee meeting rooms will be equipped to broadcast committee meetings, testimony, etc. Committee meeting coverage will be provided by both [KET](#) and [LRC](#) livestreams.

PARTICIPATION IN COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- House members may participate in – and vote in – committee meetings either in person or remotely from their Annex offices. Senators will participate in committee meetings in person.
- If you have been **invited to testify** during a committee hearing, your name will be given to leadership and you will receive an email with permission for access to the building. We assume there will be an option to testify remotely, as was done during the Interim session.
- **Requests to testify** during a committee meeting should be made as follows:
 - Email a request to testify to the Committee Staff Administrator, Bill Sponsor(s), and Committee Chair as soon as you see the bill posted to committee. (Use [Bill Watch](#) to track the status of bills and receive updates.)
 - Use a clear subject line: ""Request to Testify at *COMMITTEE* on *DATE*" ○ Request confirmation that your request was received.
- **Submit written or recorded testimony** if you prefer not to testify live during a committee meeting or if your request to testify is not granted. With short committee meeting times, this will likely be more often necessary.
 - Email a request to testify to the Committee Staff Administrator, Bill Sponsor(s), and Committee Chair as soon as you see the bill posted to committee. (Use [Bill Watch](#) to track and receive updates.)
 - Use a clear subject line: "Written/Recorded Testimony for *COMMITTEE* on *DATE*"
 - Request confirmation that your testimony was received and has been added to the public record.

PUBLIC BILL ROOM: A decision has not yet been made about access to the Public Bill Room, if you are used to going there to pick up copies of bills or of the *Legislative Record*. If you have a regular subscription of materials in the Public Bill Room, you are asked to email James Baggett (james.baggett@LRC.KY.GOV) to discuss with him what you want done with your subscription.

ACCESS TO LEGISLATORS: Communications with legislators will largely be done remotely.

- You are encouraged to use legislators' LRC email addresses and to leave messages for them by calling the MESSAGE LINE: 1-800-372-7181. (See the [LRC memo](#) for details)
- You can also call their legislative office at 502-564-8100 and speak with their receptionist to leave a message or try to catch your legislator by phone.
- If you are reaching out to your Representative or to your Senator for the first time, we suggest that you send them an email with this Subject: I am Your Constituent! Be sure to include your home address and a phone number so they can get in touch with you.
- Newly-elected legislators (there are 28 of them – 22 in the House and 6 in the Senate) should now have LRC email addresses. You can find your legislators [here](#).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: We will continue to update you with further information or clarification as it becomes available. If you have other information to share, please contact us!

Sheila Schuster
kyadvocacy@gmail.com

Emily Beauregard
emily@kyvoicesforhealth.org

KEA'S 2021 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

KEA VISION

KEA Is The Preeminent Voice for Quality Public Education.

KEA MISSION

We Unite, Organize, and Empower Members to Advocate For Themselves and To Ensure A Quality Public Education for Every Kentucky Student.



I AM AN
EMPOWERED
EDUCATOR
KEA

KEA'S HIGHEST LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- Ensure A Free & Appropriate Public Education for ALL of Kentucky's Students
- Increase State Revenue Through Non-Regressive Tax Reform and Other Appropriate Means
- Fully Fund Public Pension Plans
- Maintain A Defined Benefit in All Public Pension Plans

KEA'S LEGISLATIVE GOALS

- A. Advocate for Equitable & Adequate Funding for P-12 Education
- B. Advocate for A High-Quality Education for Every Public-School Student in the Commonwealth
- C. Advocate for Strong Professions
- D. Advocate for Adequate School Employee Compensation, Sufficient Retirement Benefits & Affordable Health Insurance for Public School Employees & Their Dependents



KEA'S Legislative Program Is Approved Annually by The Delegate Assembly.



TIPS FOR MEETING VIRTUALLY WITH LEGISLATORS

REASONS TO MEET WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS

- Legislators are sincerely interested in getting their constituents' views on legislation. They want to hear from you!
- The legislator may have a number of ideas and suggestions to help you focus your efforts.
- Meeting with your legislators can help you gauge their support or opposition to the issues that matter most to you about education.
- Meeting with a legislator virtually and providing information allows you to become a resource to him or her. As a result, the legislator's staff may call on you for input in the crafting of legislation or for input on helping to shape their positions on legislation in the future.

SCHEDULING THE VIRTUAL MEETING

- It is always better to call and schedule a virtual meeting with you and your group. Keep in mind that legislators are busy so you may need to be flexible.
- Use the virtual platform that you and other participants are comfortable with. There are several great options available like Zoom, Google Meets, Skype and others. If you need help setting up your meeting please reach out to your local KEA Office.
- It is better to call than to write asking for a virtual appointment, since calling makes it easier to find an acceptable date, keep in mind the legislative calendar has already changed once.
- It is always more effective if you, as a constituent, ask for an appointment, rather than having your organization's staff make the request.

DURING THE VIRTUAL MEETING

- Be prepared. Bring any simple and easy to understand materials with you. Prepare your remarks ahead of time.
- If you visit in a group, have one person take the lead. She/he can introduce the group, make a brief statement about why you're there, and then call on various people in the group to talk about their particular concerns.
- Be certain that members of your group agree on the objectives for the meeting and on the points to be addressed. Everyone can join the meeting 10-20 minutes early to discuss the issues.
- Start the conversation off with a couple minutes of small talk to build some rapport, but make sure you get to the point rather quickly. Most visits last twenty minutes or less.

PRESENTING YOUR POSITION

- Present your view with conviction, but don't put the legislator on the defensive.
- It helps to cover your issue from the legislator's perspective, tying it in with his or her past votes or interests.
- Listen attentively.
- The legislator's opening discussion with you will often give you clues about how to connect your issue with his/her concerns.
- If you don't have the answer to a legislator's question, say so. Tell the legislator you will provide the information, and then be certain that you do.
- Be prepared to address concerns raised by legislators about your issue, but make sure you do not become defensive if you disagree with them. Respond to their concerns with facts in a calm manner and ask them to consider the points you've raised.
- Provide easy-to-follow information, both when speaking and in a fact sheet that you can send to the legislator.
- Include a brief description of your issue in the fact sheet, why it is important to your organization, and the action that you want the legislator to take.

AFTER THE VISIT

- After the visit, write a letter of thanks to the legislator. Be sure to remind him/her of any agreements reached, and provide any information that you promised. Be sure to fill out the online KEA Day of Learning Reporting Form. Online version or scan printed version and send to mwilson@kea.org

2021 Kentucky General Assembly

Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

KEA Member(s) Present (First & Last Names)

KEA Local(s) Represented

Email(s) (Non-School)

Legislators Present or Legislative Representative (House and/or Senate)

**Please include name(s) of Legislators, even if you DID NOT meet with them.*

Does the Legislator Support Fully Funding Public Education?

Does the Legislator Support Increasing The SEEK Formula?

**Does the Legislator Support Or Oppose "Education Opportunity Accounts"
and Vouchers?**

**Does the Legislator Support/Oppose The Proposed Pay Raise For
Educators?**

Does the Legislator Support or Oppose Fully Funding All Day Kindergarten?

Does the Legislator Support Fully Funding Pensions Including the Employer (State) Contribution As Determined By the Actuarial Analysis?

Other Issues Discussed /Legislator Views

Follow Up Needed (If Any)?
