2019 Election for Governor: What’s at stake for Kentucky’s Students and Educators?

The Governor Sets Kentucky’s Agenda for Education
No one individual has more power to impact students, educators and retired educators than the governor. The governor calls attention to the needs of children and our schools through the power of his office. If you care about children, public schools and educators, you should care deeply about who is elected as our next governor.

The Governor Proposes Kentucky’s Budget and School Funding
Kentucky’s budget is proposed by the governor and adopted by the General Assembly. That budget determines the investment the Commonwealth makes in providing a quality public education for every one of our students.

The 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).
- The Teachers’ Retirement System (TRS).
- Classified employees’ insurance, funded by school districts.
- Health insurance for active and retired educators.
- Salary raises and national board stipends for educators.
- Preschool.

The Governor Appoints Key Educational Decision Makers
The governor appoints the Kentucky Board of Education, which determines:
- State assessment and accountability requirements for educators.
- Personnel policies, including requirements for teacher, principal and superintendent evaluation.
- School calendar requirements.
- School financial standards.
- Who is appointed commissioner of education.

The governor appoints the Education Professional Standards Board, which:
- Establishes teaching certificate requirements.
- Adopts teacher certificate procedures for revocation or suspension for alleged misconduct.
- Partners with KEA to recruit and support National Board candidates.
- Creates Kentucky Teacher Internship Program (KTIP) requirements.

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