

MEETING MINUTES

Approved by the Committee on September 21, 2026

Who: Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education
Meeting Type: Committee on Educational Opportunities
Date: June 22, 2026
Time: 1:00 p.m. ET (12:00 p.m. CT)
Location: ZOOM Teleconference

CALL TO ORDER

The Committee on Educational Opportunities (CEO) met Monday, June 22, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., ET. The meeting occurred by ZOOM teleconference. Chair Elaine Walker presided.

ROLL CALL

There were 4 voting members in attendance.

- Rev. CB Akins – did not attend
- Whitney Allen – attended
- Dr. Rochelle Brown – attended
- David Carpenter – did not attend
- Robert Croft – did not attend
- Dr. Kellie Ellis – attended
- Elaine Walker - attended

Ms. Alexia Juarez, Associate for Student Success, served as recorder of the meeting minutes.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the April 28, 2026, meeting were approved as presented.

WELCOME/CPE UPDATES

Mr. Travis Powell, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, provided updates on several key items, including the implementation of Senate Bill 185, which restructured Kentucky State University into a polytechnic university. He also noted that the Postsecondary Education Working Group on Performance Funding has begun its review and will submit recommendations ahead of the December 1, 2026, deadline. Finally, Mr. Powell highlighted CPE's latest Progress Report and announced that the Council will present an update on its current work to the Interim Joint Committee on Education next month.

ADULT STOPPED-OUT LEARNERS

Dr. Christopher Ledford, Director of Data and Advanced Analytics, shared an update on the unit's research concerning stopped-out adult learners—specifically adults aged 25 and older who left college without a degree between Fall 2018 and Fall 2024. Senior Associate Daniel Nyambati detailed the study's demographic breakdown, while interns Natalie Gross and Katie Black presented supporting data and proposed strategies to bridge gaps and reengage former students. Building on these findings, Tracy Teater, Associate Director for the Kentucky Student Success Collaborative, emphasized the need for more targeted advising tailored specifically to adult learners and veterans.

HOUSE BILL 307

Dr. Dawn Offutt, Executive Director for Student Access, presented an update on the Council's role in implementing House Bill 307—the My Future Kentucky Act—which provides proactive college admissions to eligible high school students alongside web-based application guidance. Dr. Offutt highlighted how the Council collaborates with Kentucky's public postsecondary institutions to foster a student-centered system that improves accessibility, offers institutional flexibility, enables statewide data integration, and ensures long-term sustainability. She concluded by outlining next steps for the initiative, which will be discussed at the upcoming meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 1:55 p.m. ET.