

Pre-K for All
ADVISORY COMMITTEE



TEAM KENTUCKY PRE-K FOR ALL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 24, 2025, MEETING

- I. The first regular meeting of the Team Kentucky Pre-K for All Advisory Committee was called to order by Jamie Link, Secretary of the Kentucky Education and Labor Cabinet, on June 24, 2025, at approximately 4:01 PM. The members met virtually via Zoom.

Committee Members Present:

Jamie Link
Robbie Fletcher
Alvin Garrison
Pamela Morehead-Johnson
Leslie Sizemore, Proxy for Aaron Thompson
Jeff Noel
Mary Elizabeth Bailey
Lesa Dennis, Proxy for Steven Stack
Sarah Davasher-Wisdom
Jason Slone
Ron Bunch
Brent Cooper
Sharon Price
Laura White-Brown
Carrie Ballinger
Maddie Shepard
Joel Wolford
Jeni Ward
Rudy Spencer
Jamie Rodgers

Committee Members not Present:

Felicia Cumings Smith
Scott Davis
Colby Hall
Alice Forgy Kerr

Ruth Ann Palumbo
Derrick Graham
R. Travis Brenda
Greg Terry

Additional Attendees

Michael Yoder, Commissioner, Department of Workforce Development, Education and Labor Cabinet
Lynn Baker, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Early Childhood, Education and Labor Cabinet
Andrea Day, Director, Division of Childcare, Department of Community Based Services, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Kelsey Turley, Director, Head Start Collaboration, Education and Labor Cabinet
Sam Flynn, Executive Director, Pre-K for All Program
Malaya Rivers, Executive Administrator, Pre-K for All Program
Oran S. McFarlan III, Special Advisor, Pre-K for All Program
Georgiana K. Ledford, Executive Advisor, Pre-K for All Program
Ben Weathers, Outreach Coordinator, Pre-K for All Program
Cali Mills Arnold, Legislative Liaison, Education and Labor Cabinet
Sarah Hail, Deputy Executive Director, Governor's Office of Legislative Affairs
Gretta Hylton, Associate Commissioner, Kentucky Department of Education
Members of the Public

II. Old Business

None.

III. New Business

a. Introductions

Secretary Link provided a statement on the Team Kentucky Pre-K for All Advisory Committee, which was established on June 4, 2025, by Governor Andy Beshear through Executive Order 2025-351. The Committee consists of 28 appointed business, workforce development, and education leaders who will conduct public meetings, culminating in a written report to the Governor with findings and recommendations regarding the Pre-K for All program.

Secretary Link took roll, and the Committee members introduced themselves and spoke of their respective backgrounds and professional experience.

b. Discussion of Goals and Purpose of the Committee

Mr. Flynn discussed Executive Order 2025-351 and provided an overview of the mission and benefits of the Pre-K for All Program. The Kentucky Pre-K for All Program is to ensure every single Kentucky 4-year-old has access to preschool. The Program will

help get kids ready for kindergarten, help families participate in the workforce, and help Kentucky communities attract new families and businesses to the Commonwealth.

Mr. Flynn also discussed the purpose of the Committee and provided a proposed timeline for the Program. The Committee will study existing models of successful state-funded Pre-K programs, host town hall meetings open to the public to receive and consider feedback and issue a report and recommendations to the Governor by October 15, 2025.

c. Committee responsibilities

Mr. Flynn discussed the responsibilities of the Committee, which include virtually attending and participating in all Committee Meetings, attending Town Hall events, reviewing and considering the current state and landscape of early childhood education and Pre-K in Kentucky; benchmarking research on state-funded voluntary Pre-K programs; and constituent feedback from Town Halls on Pre-K for All. The Committee is also responsible for providing a final report to the Governor with findings and recommendations related to Kentucky Pre-K for All.

Mr. Flynn also provided an overview of the Pre-K for All Program staff who will support and assist the Committee.

d. Discussion – Open Meetings Act and Open Records Act

Mr. McFarlan provided the Committee members with information regarding the requirements of Kentucky’s Open Meetings Act and Open Records Act and the applicability of those laws to Advisory Committee meetings and written communications.

e. Consideration and Adoption of the By-Laws

Prior to the meeting, Committee members received a draft of Bylaws for consideration. Mr. McFarlan provided an overview of the substance of that document. Following a request for any comments and questions, Mr. Cooper moved to adopt the Bylaws as drafted, and Ms. Shepard seconded. The motion carried 20-0.

f. Adoption of Regular Meeting Schedule

Prior to the meeting, Committee members received a list of dates for consideration. In compliance with the Open Meetings Act, the Committee discussed establishing a schedule of regular meetings. Ms. Price moved to adopt the schedule of regular meetings, and Secretary Bailey seconded. The motion carried 20-0.

IV. Other Business

Secretary Link discussed the upcoming Town Hall schedule. The Advisory Committee will be hosting town hall events throughout Kentucky, which are open to the

public for discussion from families, local leaders, teachers, child care providers, and many other key members of each community. Secretary Link also provided information on how to register for the events. Members of the public can register for the town hall events by visiting the “Get Involved” on the prek4all.ky.gov website.

V. Comments and Announcements

Secretary Link opened the meeting to Committee members to ask questions and make comments.

Ms. Shepherd asked if the town hall data would be compiled, coded, and shared with the Committee. Secretary Link stated that this information would be shared with the Committee via email.

Secretary Link announced that the first Town Hall event will be June 25, 2025, in Frankfort, KY and the next regular meeting of the Advisory Committee will be July 2, 2025.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Slone moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Morehead Johnson seconded, and the motion carried 20-0 (approximately 4:39 PM).



Secretary Jamie Link
Committee Chair