2022 Legislative Session
Day of Learning Toolkit

Contacting your Legislator:

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
WE’D LOVE YOUR FEEDBACK

Scan the QR Code shown here to be taken to a form where you can tell us about your meeting(s) with the Legislators.

If you’d prefer, please answer the questions in the included Day of Learning Report, and send it to mwilson@kea.org

If you have any questions, please contact KEA President Eddie Campbell - 606-454-4583 or KEA Vice President Joel Wolford - 502-229-2508

Don’t forget to tag us in any photos of your meetings on Social Media! Use the hashtags #ILOVEMYKYPUBLICSCHOOL and #EMPOWEREDEDUCATOR
ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR VISITING THE LEGISLATURE

- All visitors may continue to attend legislative committee meetings in person. For more information, visit legislature.ky.gov.
- Fully vaccinated guests are not required to wear a mask in areas controlled by the legislative branch, which includes committee rooms in the Capitol Annex along with the House and Senate galleries and in the third floor of the Capitol Building.
- Vaccinated guests may still wear a mask if they choose, but unvaccinated guests should wear a mask at all times.
- All guests will be required to wear a mask to enter the Capitol and in all other areas of the building, including the basement, first, and second floors. All guests will be required to wear a mask in areas of the Capitol Annex under the control of the executive branch, such as the lobbies, the cafeteria, and offices of the Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet.
- Visitors attending legislative committee meetings should enter the Capitol Annex through the visitor’s entrance, located at the central doors on the front of the building.
- The Legislative Research Commission (LRC) will continue to spread out audience seats in committee rooms for social distancing purposes. If a meeting is expected to attract significant interest, an overflow room will be available so that anyone who cannot find a seat in the primary meeting room may still view the meeting in real time.
- All committee meetings are livestreamed so that people who cannot attend meetings may view them online at www.ket.org/legislature or on the LRC YouTube channel.
- The first floor and the basement of the Capitol Annex are open to visitors, but citizens must have a scheduled appointment to access the second, third, and fourth floors of the Annex where lawmakers’ offices are located. Individual legislators may require guests to wear a mask in their personal offices. Please ask before your scheduled appointment about their personal mask policy.
- Access to the tunnel from the parking structure to the Annex and from the Annex to the Capitol now require an active security badge.
KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2022
GENERAL TIPS

- Free guided tours of the Kentucky State Capitol are available Monday through Friday, beginning at the tour guide desk in the Rotunda. Call 502-564-3449 if you would like to schedule a tour.

- Legislative committee meetings year-round are open to the public, and no special passes are needed.

- If you’re visiting during a legislative session (roughly January through April 15th, depending on the year,) you may also want to contact your legislators to see if they can arrange for gallery passes that allow you to watch the House or Senate proceedings.

- Always check the Legislative Calendar at legislature.ky.gov before making a trip to Frankfort to see if there has been any last-minute changes.

VISITOR PARKING & INFORMATION

- During legislative sessions of the General Assembly and on other committee meeting days, often there are large crowds arriving at the Capitol and Capitol Annex to watch proceedings.

- The Capitol Parking Garage can be accessed via Old Lawrenceburg Rd., or from Capitol Ave. There are some public parking and handicap accessible parking on the surface lot on the east side of the Annex. There is also a ramp leading to floors 4-6 of the garage for additional public parking. Floor 2 and half of Floor 3 are reserved for parking by permit only.

- Planning ahead and knowing where to park and the location of public entrances will help make your visit more successful.

- There is a handicap accessible entrance in both the Capitol and the Capitol Annex.
KEA’S 2022 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

The Kentucky Education Association is the Preeminent Voice for Quality Public Education.

Our Mission is to **Unite, Organize, and Empower** members to Advocate for Themselves, and to Ensure A **Quality Public Education** for Every Kentucky Student.

**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**

- Advocate for equitable & adequate funding for P-12 education.
- Advocate for a high-quality education for every public school student in the Commonwealth.
- Advocate for strong professions.
- Advocate for adequate school employee compensation, sufficient retirement benefits, and affordable health insurance for public school employees, and their dependants.
MEETING WITH YOUR LEGISLATOR

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 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 MEETING

- It is always better to call and schedule a virtual or in person meeting with you and your group. Keep in mind that legislators are busy so you may need to be flexible.
- If the meeting is virtual, choose a 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 an appointment, since calling makes it easier to find an acceptable date, keep in mind the legislative calendar can be adjusted with short notice.
- 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 MEETING

- Be prepared. Bring any simple and easy to understand materials with you. Prepare your remarks ahead of time, and 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.
- 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. Plan to meet ahead of time.
MEETING WITH YOUR LEGISLATOR

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 KEA Day of Learning Reporting Form. Send the online version or scanned printed version to mwilson@kea.org
Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

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KEA Member(s) Present
(First & last names, and non-school Email addresses)

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KEA Local(s) Represented

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Legislators Present or Legislative Representative (House and/or Senate)
Please include name(s) of Legislators, even if you did not meet with them.

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Legislator Name / Representative
Please indicate if they are from the House or Senate.

Does the Legislator support fully funding public education by funding district transportation cost, increasing FRYSC’s, textbooks and technology?

☐ Support  ☐ Oppose

Does the Legislator support increasing the SEEK Formula? Currently it is underfunded by 16% when calculating for inflation over the past 25 years.

☐ Support  ☐ Oppose

Does the Legislator support fully funding all day Kindergarten?

☐ Support  ☐ Oppose

Does the Legislator support maintaining SBDM Current authority with Principal Selection, Personnel Hiring, and Deciding Curriculum?

☐ Support  ☐ Oppose
LEGISLATOR INFO

Please complete all pages and send to mwilson@kea.org

Does the Legislator support an updated pay schedule for all certified staff and increased minimum for classified?

☐ Support  ☐ Oppose

Does the Legislator support “Education Opportunity Accounts” and Voucher Programs for Private Schools?

☐ Support  ☐ Oppose

Other issues discussed / Legislator Views

Follow Up Needed (If Any?)
