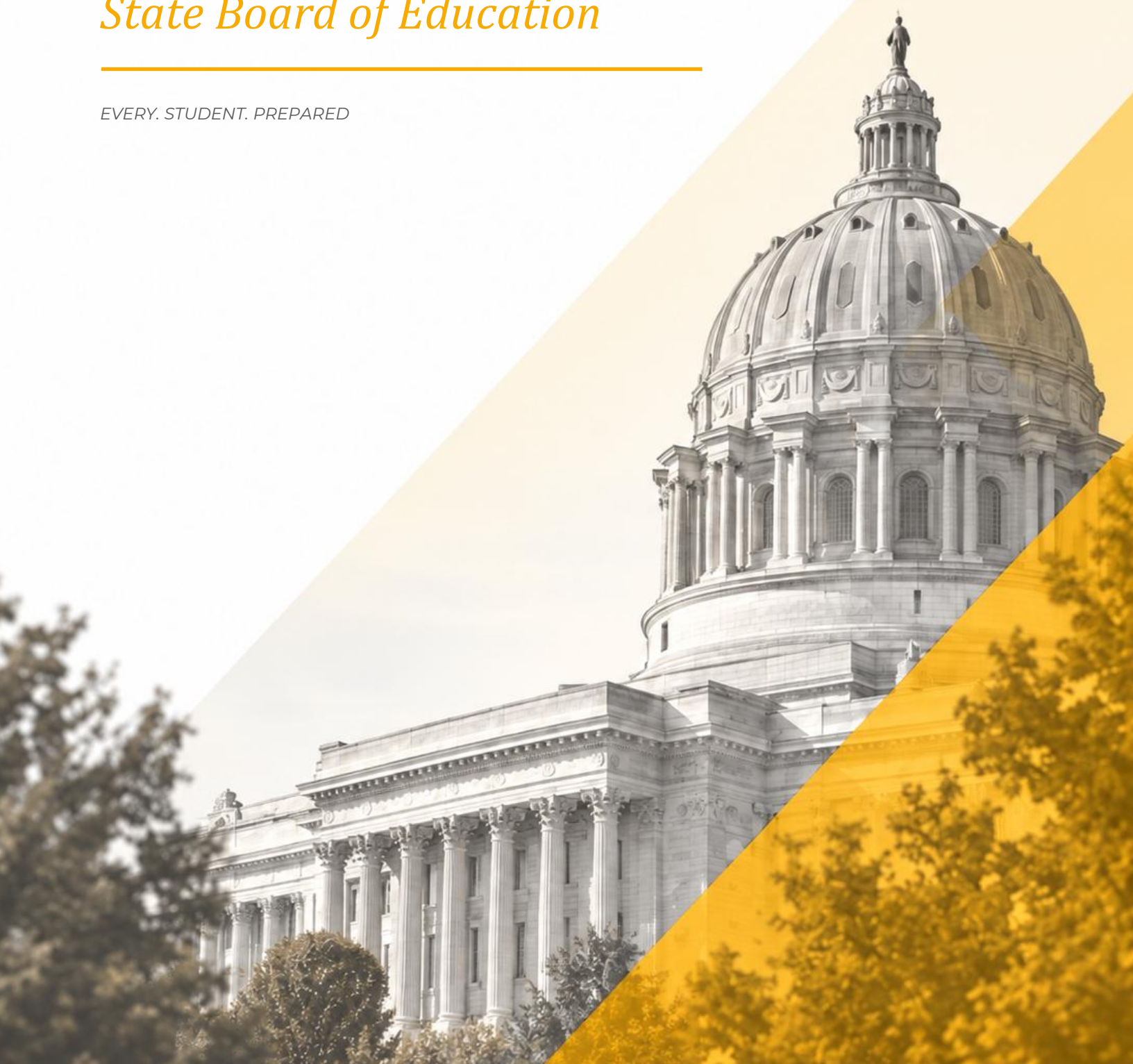




October 2026

Guide to the Missouri *State Board of Education*

EVERY. STUDENT. PREPARED



1 What is the Missouri State Board of Education?

The Missouri Constitution vests supervision of instruction in the public schools in a State Board of Education (Article IX, Sections 2(a) and 2(b); RSMo 161.022). The Board has general authority over public education within limits set by the General Assembly for preschool through adult education.

The Board does not run colleges and universities, and it has no authority to regulate or accredit private, parochial, or home schools. It does set standards for teacher and administrator preparation programs at public and private higher education institutions, and it is the state governing body for career and technical education under federal law.

2 How are the Board members appointed?

- ▶ **Nine appointed seats:** eight voting lay members plus one non-voting active classroom teacher (Section 161.026, RSMo). The teacher seat was first filled in July 2026.
- ▶ **Eight-year staggered terms** so one voting seat expires each year. Members continue until replaced or reappointed. The Board elects its own officers annually.
- ▶ **Governor appoints, Senate confirms.** No more than four members from the same political party. No more than one from the same county or congressional district. Members must have lived in Missouri five years immediately before appointment.
- ▶ **Per diem is not more than \$25 for each day** devoted to Board affairs, plus expenses. Official listing estimates about 10 meetings a year, one day each, 25 hours of prep, and 40 hours total commitment.

3 What are the duties of the Board?

- ▶ **Appoints the Commissioner of Education** and sets policy for DESE.
- ▶ **Defines academic performance standards** and statewide assessment requirements.
- ▶ **Accredits public school districts** through the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP), including graduation, curriculum, testing, and support-service standards.
- ▶ **Sets education, testing, certification, and recertification rules** for public school teachers and administrators.

- ▶ **Operates the Missouri School for the Blind** (St. Louis), Missouri School for the Deaf (Fulton), and Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled.
- ▶ **Oversees federal education programs** and the flow of federal funds to districts.
- ▶ **Sets school bus safety rules** and fiscal-management rules for local districts.
- ▶ **Submits annual education budget recommendations** to the Legislature.
- ▶ **Administers Vocational Rehabilitation and the Sheltered Workshop** program for adults with disabilities.

4 What functions are not the duties of the Board?

- ▶ Does not hire local teachers or set local district calendars and curricula beyond statewide standards.
- ▶ Does not regulate private, parochial, or home schools.
- ▶ Does not govern public universities as institutions (it does approve educator-prep programs those institutions offer).
- ▶ Individual members have no authority to bind the Board. Action requires the Board as a body, with a quorum.

5 Who is currently on the Board?

Four Republicans, two Democrats, and two Independents hold the eight voting seats. There are no vacancies. Names and dates follow the official Boards and Commissions listing; background is from DESE biographies.

Kenneth "Brooks" Miller Jr.

President · Republican · 3rd Congressional District

Miller lives in Sunrise Beach. He was appointed April 24, 2025. His term ends July 1, 2029. He previously served as president and CEO of Jordan Valley Community Health Center, vice president of the Springfield Board of Public Utilities, and as a member of the Truman State University Board of Governors. He holds a master's degree in education administration and a bachelor's degree in business administration from Northeast Missouri State University.

Jon Otto

Vice President · Independent · 5th Congressional District

Otto lives in Kansas City. He was appointed April 17, 2025. His term ends July 1, 2030. He serves as corporate counsel for Evergy. Earlier he practiced at Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner and Polsinelli. He has served on boards for Academie Lafayette Public Charter Schools, University Health KC, the Missouri Charter Public School Association, Child Protection Center, Minddrive, and the UMKC Law Alumni Association. He holds a J.D. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and a B.S. in mathematics from Clark Atlanta University.

Vincent C. Schoemehl

Member · Democrat · 1st Congressional District

*Not Yet Confirmed

Schoemehl lives in St. Louis. His term began July 30, 2026, and ends July 1, 2034. He is a former three-term mayor of St. Louis and later led Grand Center, Inc. He has served on the St. Louis Public Schools Board and on the board of St. Louis Language Immersion Charter School. He holds a B.A. in history from the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Kerry A. Casey

Member · Republican · 2nd Congressional District

Casey lives in Chesterfield. She was appointed November 1, 2021. Her term ends July 1, 2027, the next voting seat to expire. She is a retired vice president of Exegy and a founding board member of KIPP Charter School in St. Louis. She has also served Lift for Life Gym, Patriot Training Foundation, and Junior Achievement of Greater St. Louis. Earlier executive roles include Thomson Reuters, MCI WorldCom, Skytel, and TWA.

Jordan Michael Bradberry

Member · Democrat · 4th Congressional District

*Not Yet Confirmed

Bradberry lives in Kansas City. His term began June 28, 2026, and ends July 1, 2033. He is co-owner of a real estate development company focused on residential acquisitions and renovations. He previously worked as a senior product manager for U.S. marketing at Medtronic. He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and mass communications from Lincoln University.

Michael Matousek

Member · Republican · 6th Congressional District

Matousek lives in Kansas City. He was appointed April 17, 2025. His term ends July 1, 2028. He is director of the Government Freight Conference at the American Trucking Association. He previously handled state legislative affairs for the Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association and served as legislative director for Congressman Sam Graves. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Florida.

Dr. Gretchen Shull

Member · Independent · 7th Congressional District

Shull lives in Webb City and practices in Joplin. She was appointed October 3, 2025. Her term ends July 1, 2031. She is a board-certified endocrinologist with Mercy and has served as physician lead for Mercy's Endocrinology Specialty Council and medical director of diabetes care. She completed residency and fellowship at the University of Kansas School of Medicine and earned her medical degree from the University of Missouri, Columbia.

Robert "Robbie" Leo Myers

Member · Republican · 8th Congressional District

*Not Yet Confirmed

Myers lives in Poplar Bluff. His term began June 3, 2026, and ends July 1, 2032. He is emergency management director for Butler County. He previously served as vice president of administration and government affairs at Three Rivers Community College and as a Butler County commissioner. He holds a B.S. in organizational business management from Hannibal-LaGrange University and an M.B.A. from William Woods University.

Michael Brent McDonald

Teacher representative · non-voting · Kansas City

McDonald's term began July 30, 2026, and ends July 1, 2029. He is a math teacher in the Park Hill School District with more than 20 years in the classroom and is a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. He holds degrees from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, the University of Missouri-Columbia, MidAmerica Nazarene University, and Arkansas State University. This is the first time the 2018 teacher seat has been filled. He advises the Board. He does not vote.

6 When does the Board meet, and how can I watch?

- ▶ Official listing: about 10 meetings a year, typically one day, in Jefferson City and sometimes St. Louis or Kansas City.
- ▶ Agendas, minutes, and recordings: dese.mo.gov/state-board-education/agendas-minutes-recordings
- ▶ Meeting schedule: dese.mo.gov/state-board-education/board-meeting-schedule
- ▶ Committees: dese.mo.gov/state-board-education-committees
- ▶ Governance policies (effective May 12, 2026) include standing items such as teacher workforce data in January and budget adoption in September.

7 How can the Board be reached?

State Board of Education

PO Box 480

Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

Phone: (573) 751-3563

Email: SBE@dese.mo.gov

Web: dese.mo.gov/state-board-education/about-state-board

Official roster: boards.mo.gov/userpages/Board.aspx?49