

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Consent Item:

Kentucky Writing Program Advisory Committee Appointment

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 158.770, KRS 158.775

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education approve the recommendations for the 2014 appointments to the Kentucky Writing Program Advisory Committee?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. According to KRS 158.770, the Kentucky Board of Education shall appoint the members of an advisory committee on writing to make recommendations to the board on methods of integrating writing into the curriculum, on teacher training programs and workshops designed to facilitate the effective teaching of writing, and on use of funds allotted for teacher professional learning and Kentucky Writing Project grants through the Kentucky Writing Program. The majority of the membership shall be educators currently employed by local school districts or public universities.

The Kentucky Writing Project State Network members nominate committee members. Because the Kentucky Writing Program incorporates various platforms for the delivery of professional learning, it is important that all platforms be represented on the Writing Program Advisory Committee. It is also essential that committee members understand the necessity of writing professional learning and the components of research-based professional learning in the field of writing.

Since the passage of Senate Bill 1 (2009), the work of the writing advisory committee has been directed toward the implementation of the Kentucky Core Academic Standards and program reviews in writing.

The following individual is recommended for appointment:

Wesley Cooper

Mr. Cooper holds a BA and MA in History from the University of Maryland; has been teaching high school World History for sixteen years – twelve years in Maryland, four years in Kentucky, including World History and AP European History at Fleming County High School; serves as the Literacy Design Collaborative coordinator and member of the School Leadership Team and Curriculum Design Team for the district.

Below is a chart reflecting the existing membership of the committee with an asterisk beside the proposed appointment.

Name	Role	Year Appointed
Amanda Burns Klare	Teacher-Beechwood Elementary (Kenton County)	2011
Nan Ternes	English teacher-North Middle School (Henderson County)	2011
Claire Batt	Literacy coach & teacher – Athens-Chilesburg Elementary (Fayette County)	2011
Natalie Croney	Teacher – Bowling Green High School – (Warren County)	2011
LeRonda Morton	Teacher—Bryan Station High (Fayette County)	2012
Jennifer Fowler	Teacher—Paintsville School—8 th grade (Paintsville Independent)	2012
Emilee Morgan	Teacher—Camden Station Elem. (Oldham County)	2013
*Wesley Cooper	Teacher-Fleming Co. High School (Fleming County)	2014
Jean Wolph Lisa Maggard	University Writing Project Network Coordinators	- - - -

All serving four-year terms; WPN Coordinator is elected annually.

Staff Recommendation(s) and Rationale(s):

Staff recommends appointment of Wesley Cooper to the committee. Advisory groups and instructional partners offered nominations for the vacancy. The proposed members have expertise in the areas of writing instruction and/or professional learning. With the approval of this new member, the composition of the Writing Program Advisory Committee will continue to represent all areas of the state and all levels of education (elementary, middle, secondary, and post-secondary) in addition to representing gender and racial diversity.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

Staff has consulted the current university writing project directors. The nominee is supported by the directors.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

It is important to have advice from those trained in the field of writing so that decisions can be made that will help to increase the college and career readiness of students.

Contact Person:

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray Holliday". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "H".

Commissioner of Education

Date:

June 2014