

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Discussion Item:

Kentucky High School Athletics Association (KHSAA) Board of Control Appointment

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

702 KAR 7:065

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education approve the appointment of an at-large member to the KHSAA Board of Control?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. In July 1993, the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) appointed a Commission on Interscholastic Athletics to study the optimum methods and best practices to deliver quality high school interscholastic athletic programs. At the January, 1994 KBE meeting, the Commission presented a report outlining recommendations for improvement of the governance of interscholastic athletics. One of the recommendations of the Commission adopted by the KBE was the amendment of the KHSAA Constitution to require the appointment of four outside, at-large members recommended by the Commissioner of Education to the Board of Control. The addition of outside members with possible financial expertise was felt to be a way of broadening the expertise of the Board of Control relative to governance issues.

The Constitution of the Kentucky High School Athletics Association, Article IV, Section 2 was amended to read as follows:

“Four (4) at-large members of the Board of Control are to be appointed by the Kentucky Board of Education. These members are to be at-large appointments recommended by the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education. These appointees shall not be an employee of any member school or its central administration, or the administration of the Kentucky Department of Education. At least one of these appointees shall be an African-American and one shall be a female. Terms of the at-large members shall be staggered so that one is appointed each year.”

It further notes that:

“Members of the Board of Control shall serve a four-year term of office unless filling an unexpired term created by the death or resignation of a member, in which case the

balance of the remaining term is the term in office. The term year for the Board of Control is July 1 through June 30.”

Current at-large members serving on the KHSAA Board of Control are:

- Mr. Gene Norris (Georgetown) 2009 - 2013 Expires: June 30, 2013
 - *Ms. Lea Wise Prewitt (Mt. Sterling) 2006 – 2014 Expires: June 30, 2014
 - Ms. Dana Guyer (Louisville) 2011 – 2015 Expires: June 30, 2015
 - *Mr. William Beasley (Paducah/Henderson) 2009 – 2016 Expires: June 30, 2016
- * Currently serving their second term.

The term of Mr. Gene Norris ends June 30, 2013 and he has not applied to be reappointed for a second term. The board is required to select a candidate to serve the upcoming term of the position he is currently holding. This seat is one that has traditionally been held by an African-American pursuant to the requirements of the KHSAA Constitution.

Staff Recommendation and Rationale:

The process for soliciting candidates for the KHSAA Board of Control at-large position yielded six (6) applications. As specified in the KBE-approved process, the KDE Liaison to KHSAA reviewed all applications to determine if the minimum criteria were met and only two (2) were eligible for further review. The KHSAA Liaison formed an Application Review Team and each member reviewed the materials for each qualified candidate. The Team assessed each candidate based on the information presented in his or her letter of intent, resume and letters of recommendation. The criteria included: community involvement, business, involvement in education and civic/parent activities, and length of time between employment in a district and current employment. Based on the results, the candidate(s) were submitted to the Commissioner of Education for final review and recommendation to the KBE.

Pursuant to requirements of the KHSAA constitution, the Commissioner of Education has recommended an individual for appointment to the Board. Information on the recommendation will be provided under separate cover along with resumes of all applicants. Following a board vote, the appointee will be announced at the June 5, 2013 KBE meeting.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

Strong extracurricular programs, such as athletic programs, are often critical ways to keep some students in school. Appointments such as these are necessary to maintain the effective governance of such programs.

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Commissioner of Education

Date:

June 2013