

# JENKINS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL

269 Hwy. 3086—P.O. Box 74
Jenkins, Kentucky 41537
Tel: (606) 832-2182—Fax: (606) 832-2181
jenkins.independent@jenkins.kyschools.us

#### Damian Johnson

Superintendent of Schools

#### **Board of Education**

Chris Bentley—Board Chair Eileen Sanders—Vice Chair Sarah Brown—Board Member Paulette Sexton—Board Member Charlotte Mullins—Board Member

May 16, 2022

Commissioner Julian Tackett KHSAA 2280 Executive Drive Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Commissioner Tackett,

MAY 1 8 2022

Jenkins Independent School was established in 1912 and has been in the 14<sup>th</sup> Region since regions were established. We have a long, rich history of both 53<sup>rd</sup> District and 14<sup>th</sup> Region championships in postseason play. As you know, Jenkins was moved into the 15<sup>th</sup> Region and 59<sup>th</sup> District four years ago by the former administration in preparation for a so-called "super region" to be established.

Previous administrators, with no ties to Letcher County, the City of Jenkins, or the school agreed to this move against the wishes of the entire school community. The resulting frustration and controversy over this change was detrimental to the school culture, enrollment, and athletic programs overall. New administrators at both the district and school level are committed to both short-term and long-term improvement of the school's academic offerings, physical facilities, and the athletic programs. A move back to the 14<sup>th</sup> Region and 53<sup>rd</sup> District would substantially help us achieve these goals.

Our students and families deserve to play in our home county and greatly desire to return to the 14<sup>th</sup> Region/53<sup>rd</sup> District where our student athletes can compete against the same teams we have rivaled against for years. The heritage of the school, and the small town which fully supports it, is apparent within the city limits of Jenkins. Our trophy cases are overflowing from district and regional tournament wins. We implore you to advocate for this move to help our thriving district as we strive to excel in our offerings to our students and families.

As such, we respectfully request that you propose a move for Jenkins Independent back to the 14<sup>th</sup> Region and 53<sup>rd</sup> District, to the Board of Control for consideration. Both Superintendent Johnson and I are available to meet

Changing our Community...One student at a time!

The mission of Jenkins Independent School is to ENCOURAGE our students to do their best and ENGAGE them in the educational process so they can EXCEL to their fullest potential.



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at your convenience to answer questions or provide further information. We look forward to hearing from you and greatly appreciate your consideration of our request.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Rutherford

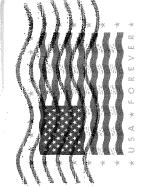
Principal

Damian Johnson Superintendent

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Jenkins Independent School PO BOX 74 JENKINS KY 41537-0074

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