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June 1, 2011

Dear superintendent:

KSBA is once again asking your school board to nominate a legislative contact from its membership to serve a two-year term. The legislative contact role is critical to assisting KSBA governmental relations staff in mobilizing local constituents to contact their legislators. KSBA needs a strong advocacy effort at this time because the 2012 legislature will be acting on a biennial state budget.

If local leaders lead, state leaders will follow; without your local support we cannot be successful in our efforts to get more education funding and fewer unfunded mandates. This upcoming session, we need all school board members and education advocates involved.

Legislative contacts are responsible for the following:

- Report to board members the legislative information provided by KSBA or through other legislative contacts.
- Develop relationships with their state legislators to increase the board's influence on legislation being considered by the General Assembly.
- Stay in touch with their legislators and meet with them regularly on legislative issues.
- Invite legislators to board meetings to interact with their local school board.
- Develop relationships with member of Kentucky's Congressional delegation and their staff..

A legislative contact should be someone who enjoys the legislative process, and:

- Has a keen interest in working to improve education;
- believes strongly in the role of the local school board as representing the community's voice for the education system;
- and can effectively communicate through multiple modes, including e-mail.

KSBA will assist the legislative contact by providing:

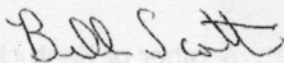
- Frequent electronic updates on legislative issues being discussed in Frankfort.
- Weekly legislative newsletters to all board members when the legislature is in session and monthly newsletters during the interim.
- Assistance with setting up meetings with local legislators.
- A Legislative Issues Group meeting on the eve of Summer Leadership Institute and our KIDS First Advocacy Conference, both excellent training opportunities.
- A copy of the KSBA Legislative Guide to the legislative process.
- A calendar of suggested activities throughout the year to stay engaged in advocacy all year long.
- Important information on federal issues.
- Regular conference calls to discuss legislative issues.

You are the most important advocate for public education in your community -- legislators will listen to you. We need the General Assembly to understand your local education needs.

KSBA is asking each board to formally nominate a legislative contact and complete the enclosed form and return it to KSBA. Superintendents will receive the same information as the legislative contact, so please nominate a school board member to serve in this role, not the superintendent.

In 2012, we want Kentucky's children to be the priority and we need to be the voice to put kids first!

Sincerely,



Bill Scott
Executive Director