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CHRISTIAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER EARNS NEW CERTIFICATION IN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

March 20, 2014 – Going beyond what is required by Kentucky law, a member of the Christian County Board of Education has earned advanced certification for professional development focused on improving their schools.

Linda Keller has achieved Level Two Certification in the Kentucky School Boards Association (KSBA) Academy of Studies.

The Academy of Studies is designed to work within Kentucky statutes that mandate more hours in a board member's early years of service, then fewer hours the longer he or she serves. Courses in the lower Academy of Studies level include the basics on the board's role, school finance, superintendent evaluations and facilities planning. As a board member advances in the certification process, the courses become less general and more specific to issues such as evaluating the board's own effectiveness, advanced budget planning, becoming better advocates for children and grasping their board's responsibilities in Kentucky's new school and student accountability system.

"The longer a board member serves, the more he or she should be introduced to new concepts that meet new challenges," said KSBA President Durward Narramore, a 20-year member of the Jenkins Independent Board of Education.

"As a group, school board members who make it to a new level of accreditation in the Academy of Studies haven't just put in more time; they've delved into deeper considerations of the long-term issues of helping improve teaching and learning in the classroom," Narramore said. "No law requires this kind of effort. This comes from a desire to be a local leader with as much knowledge as can be obtained to put to work for the children and their communities."

Established in 1936, KSBA is Kentucky's largest voluntary association of local elected officials.

