

# **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

## **STAFF NOTE**

### **Action/Discussion Item:**

Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) Board of Control At-Large Appointment (Commissioner's recommendation under separate cover)

### **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 Board of Control members recommended by the Commissioner of Education. The addition of outside members with possible financial expertise was felt to be a way of broadening the expertise of the board relative to governance issues.

The Constitution of the Kentucky High School Athletic 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:

- 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
- Ms. Kimberly Parker-Brown (Lexington) 2013 – 2017 Expires: June 30, 2017

*\*Currently serving their second term*

The term of Ms. Lea Wise Prewitt ends June 30, 2014 and she is not eligible to be reappointed since this is her second term. The board is required to select a candidate to serve in the position she is currently holding due to a vacancy existing upon her departure.

**Staff Recommendation and Rationale:**

The process for soliciting candidates for the KHSAA Board of Control at-large position yielded four (4) applications. As specified in the KBE-approved process, the KDE Liaison to KHSAA reviewed all applications to determine if the minimum criteria were met. 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 under separate cover from this staff note. Following a board vote, the appointee will be announced at the April 9, 2014 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:**

April 2014