

Steven L. Beshear Governor

Terry Holliday, Ph.D. Commissioner of Education

## EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CABINET DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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June 18, 2014

Mr. Roger L. Marcum, Chair Kentucky Board of Education 500 Mero Street, First Floor Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Re: Recommendation regarding the equality of the Scott County School District

divisions

Dear Chair Marcum:

Pursuant to KRS 160.210(4), a petition with more than one hundred (100) residents' signatures was provided to the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) stating that the Scott County School District divisions are not divided as nearly equal in population as can reasonably be expected. As required by this statute, I have conducted an investigation into the validity of the petition and can report that the petition is valid under the statute. My gratitude goes to the local county clerk, Rebecca M. Johnson, for her assistance in this investigation.

The investigation of the equality of the school district divisions relied upon the enclosed evidence provided by Ms. Johnson and prepared by the Georgetown-Scott County Planning Commission. Ms. Johnson relayed that the enclosed maps "show the **CURRENT** school board districts with a chart indicating the population of each district; one map is a full county view, while the other is a magnified view of the city." As demonstrated by these maps, the population of the Scott County School District divisions is as follows:

School District 1: 12,706 School District 2: 11,742 School District 3: 11,114 School District 4: 6,931 School District 5: 4,671

Total population for the entire Scott County School District: 47,164



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Based on this evidence, it is my conclusion that the school district divisions of the Scott County School District are unequally divided at this time. Accordingly, it is my recommendation, as chief state school officer, that the KBE at its August 2014 meeting "order the local board of education to make changes in school district divisions as are necessary to equalize the population within the five (5) school divisions." The local board of education is not prevented from proceeding to address this issue prior to action by the KBE in August.

Sincerely,

Terry Holliday, Ph.D.

**Enclosure** 

cc: KBE Members

Karen Timmel, Acting Executive Director, Office of Education Accountability

Kevin C. Brown, Associate Commissioner and General Counsel, KDE

Hiren Desai, Associate Commissioner, KDE

Roger Ward, Chair, Scott County Board of Education

Rebecca Sams, Scott County Board of Education

Jennifer Holbert, Scott County Board of Education

Jo Anna Fryman, Scott County Board of Education

Haley Conway, Scott County Board of Education

Patty Putty, Superintendent, Scott County School District

Robert Chenoweth, Attorney, Scott County Board of Education

Brad Sr. and Carole Landry, Petitioners

Rebecca M. Johnson, Scott County Clerk



