

## **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

### **STAFF NOTE**

#### **Action/Consent Item:**

Kentucky Writing Program Advisory Committee Appointments

#### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 158.770, KRS 158.775

#### **Action Question:**

Should the Kentucky Board of Education approve the recommendations for the 2015 appointments to the Kentucky Writing Program Advisory Committee?

#### **History/Background:**

***Existing Policy.*** According to KRS 158.770, the Kentucky Board of Education shall appoint the members of an advisory committee on writing to make recommendations to the board on methods of integrating writing into the curriculum, teacher training programs and workshops designed to facilitate the effective teaching of writing, and use of funds allotted for teacher professional learning and Kentucky Writing Project grants through the Kentucky Writing Program. The majority of the membership shall be educators currently employed by local school districts or public universities.

The Kentucky Writing Project State Network members nominate committee members. Because the Kentucky Writing Program incorporates various platforms for the delivery of professional learning, it is important that all platforms be represented on the Writing Program Advisory Committee. It also is essential that committee members understand the necessity of writing professional learning and the components of research-based professional learning in the field of writing.

Since the passage of Senate Bill 1 (2009), the work of the writing advisory committee has been directed toward the implementation of the Kentucky Core Academic Standards and program reviews in writing.

The following individuals are recommended for appointment:

#### ***1. Kimberly Barrett – Calloway County Middle School***

*Kimberly Barrett, NBCT, has a Bachelor of Arts of English, Murray State University, 1996, and a Masters Degree in English, MSU, 2004.*

*If you could sum up my professional experiences, they would have one theme: life-long learner. I'm always honing my craft and take part in several professional learning groups, including CTEPS (part of ECET2 Kentucky), and #PALA Murray.*

## **2. Joseph Harris- Lawrence County High School**

*Joseph Harris currently teaches English III and AP Language at Lawrence County High School in Louisa, Kentucky. He also serves as the English Professional Learning Communities Team Lead for grades 9-12 and as a Teacher Leader on both the School Instructional Leadership Team and District Instructional Leadership Team/Improvement Planning Committee. He served as a Hope Street Group Kentucky Teacher Fellow and was selected by The Fund for the Kentucky Innovative Teacher Leader Cohort.*

*During the 2011 and 2012 school years, Joseph was a participant in the ELA Teacher Leader Network through Kentucky Educational Development Cooperative where he received training in topics including Characteristics of Highly Effective Teaching and Learning (CHETL), Common Core Standards, literacy strategies, and formative assessment.*

*Joseph earned a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary English Education from Morehead State University, a Master of Arts in Learning and Behavior Disorders Education from Georgetown College, and an Educational Specialist in Instructional Leadership from Morehead State University.*

## **3. Heather Harris**

*I am a second grade teacher at Greysbranch Elementary in Greenup County, Kentucky. I am a graduate of Greenup County High School. I hold a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education from Ohio University and a Masters in Reading and Literacy. I am currently on the Greenup County School's District Writing Committee and my school's ELA committee and currently in my twelfth year of teaching.*

## **4. Michele McCloughan- Bowling Green Independent Schools**

*Michele McCloughan obtained her undergraduate, as well as two Masters Degrees from Western Kentucky University. She has always considered teaching her passion and not a job.*

*Michele has held a number of roles as an educator in her twenty-four-year career. She has worked as a special education teacher (EBD self-contained grades 4-8, resource K-3, and full inclusion K-3), a primary teacher, and for the past eight years has taught ELA to fourth and fifth grade students at T.C. Cherry Elementary in the Bowling Green Independent School District.*

*This summer she will begin her sixth year as the Elementary Co-Director of the Western Kentucky University Writing Project where she helps mentor teachers wanting to learn new strategies to teach writing and to grow as a writer herself. Through the project, she does many trainings for new teachers, trainings for her district, and trainings for the state and participates in research projects in writing. She is an active member of the Kentucky Reading Association and KCTE/LA where she currently holds the position of secretary on the board. In 2014, she was recognized as KCTE/LA's Elementary Teacher of the Year.*

Below is a chart reflecting the existing membership of the committee with an asterisk beside the proposed appointments.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Year Appointed</b>
LeRonda Morton	Teacher - Bryan Station High (Fayette County)	2012
Jennifer Fowler	Teacher - Paintsville School—8 <sup>th</sup> grade (Paintsville Independent)	2012
Emilee Morgan	Teacher - Camden Station Elem. (Oldham County)	2013
Wesley Cooper	Teacher - Fleming Co. High School (Fleming County)	2014
*Kimberly Barrett	Teacher - Calloway Middle School (Calloway County)	2015
*Joseph P. Harris	Teacher - Lawrence Co. High School (Lawrence County)	2015
*Heather Harris	Teacher - Wurtland Elementary (Greenup County)	2015
*Michele McCloughan	Teacher – TC Cherry Elementary (Bowling Green Independent)	2015
Jean Wolph	University Writing Project	- - - -
Lisa Maggard	Network Coordinator	

*All serving four-year terms; WPN Coordinator is elected annually.*

**Staff Recommendation(s) and Rationale(s):**

Staff recommends appointment of Kimberly Barrett, Joseph Harris, Heather Harris and Michele McCloughan to the committee. Advisory groups and instructional partners offered nominations for the vacancies. The proposed members have expertise in the areas of writing instruction and/or professional learning. With the approval of these new members, the composition of the Writing Program Advisory Committee will continue to represent all areas of the state and all levels of education (elementary, middle, secondary, and postsecondary) in addition to representing gender and racial diversity.

**Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:**

Staff has consulted the current university writing project directors, advisory groups and instructional partners. The nominees are supported by the directors and others.

**Impact on Getting to Proficiency:**

It is important to have advice from those trained in the field of writing so that decisions can be made that will help to increase both the continued professional learning of teachers to impact and expand the college and career readiness of all students.

**Contact Person:**

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray Holliday". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ray" and last name "Holliday" clearly distinguishable.

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**Commissioner of Education**

**Date:**

June 2015