

Palmer, Susan - Office of the Commissioner of Education

Subject: FW: Follow up from discussion with superintendents

From: Roger L. Marcum [<mailto:rlmarcum22@gmail.com>]

Sent: Sunday, May 03, 2015 7:54 AM

To: Parrent, Jonathan - KDE Board Member; Privett, Nawanna - KDE Board Member; Kareem, David - KDE Board Member; Cook, Debra - KDE Board Member; Boyd, Grayson; Twyman, William - KDE Board Member; Wheeler, Mary Gwen - KDE Board Member; Calderon, Leo - KDE Board Member; Hinkle, Samuel - KDE Board Member

Cc: Miller, Mary Ann - Office of the Commissioner of Education

Subject: Fwd: Follow up from discussion with superintendents

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tom Shelton <tom.shelton@kysupts.org>

Date: May 3, 2015 at 6:42:11 AM EDT

To: Roger Marcum <rlmarcum22@gmail.com>

Subject: FW: Follow up from discussion with superintendents

Hi Roger! Thanks again for meeting with GRREC and CKEC! We appreciate your time and willingness to talk with superintendents at this crucial time. Please see below the message I sent earlier to Gene Wilhoit and that you requested as well based on the discussions taking place across our state about the selection of our next Commissioner of Education. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments. We appreciate the opportunity to have input in this process and will follow up more completely after our June superintendent summit at the KASS conference as we discussed. Best wishes to you and the rest of KBE in this most important process! Thanks again for all that you do for Kentucky's schools, staff, and most importantly, students!

Tom Shelton, PhD
Executive Director
Kentucky Association of School Superintendents

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From: Tom Shelton <tom.shelton@kysupts.org>

Date: Sunday, May 3, 2015 at 12:35 PM

To: Gene Wilhoit <gene.wilhoit@uky.edu>, Gene Wilhoit <gene.wilhoit@gmail.com>

Subject: Follow up from discussion with superintendents

Gene,

As I indicated, I am following up to provide you the responses I have received from superintendents so far related to characteristics that should be considered by KBE in selection of a new Commissioner of Education. I have met with six educational coops so far about this issue and have meetings with the other two coops in May. I will provide further input as it is received. These coops represent membership of more than 135 school district superintendents and the input has been extremely consistent. I have no reason to believe that the remaining 35 or so superintendents will have any significant variance in input since I have met with them prior to the announcement of Dr. Holliday's retirement and discussed issues that were prevalent at that time. We are excited that you are facilitating KBE through this discussion as we have great respect and appreciation for your leadership over these past years. Please see the list below and let me know if you have any questions or comments:

A Kentucky Commissioner of Education should:

- (1) be a current or former Kentucky school superintendent as we realize our state is leading the nation in many areas of education reform and we need a leader that has experienced and led this reform first hand; no need for a new agenda or initiatives from another state;
- (2) treat district superintendents as respected partners in the implementation of the current educational vision for our state;
- (3) be collaborative with educational associations and partner agencies to assist in vision implementation;
- (4) be fully supportive of the Common Core State Standards as higher and deeper standards of knowledge and skills for Kentucky's children;
- (5) NOT support privatization of Kentucky's education system or schools;
- (6) fully support adequate and equitable funding for Kentucky P-12 education such as that outlined by the Adequacy and Equity for Excellent Education report prepared by Picus Odden & Associates;
- (7) work to develop the capacity of staff at KDE to serve as a resource and support for school districts in implementation of the state's educational vision;
- (8) work to align the operational goals and practices of KDE to the visionary goals of KBE;
- (9) be innovative in leading and assisting school districts to reach college and career readiness and beyond for all students, recognizing the uniqueness of the schools and their needs and available resources; and
- (10) support local control of district school boards and superintendents in making the best decisions for their schools and students.

I hope this list is self explanatory and that it is helpful in the discussion but as I indicated above, do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments. As the CEO's of Kentucky school districts that work to support and lead implementation of our state's educational vision at the local level, we appreciate the opportunity to provide input in this process; the most important decision that will be made by KBE. I am also providing this information to Roger Marcum, KBE Board Chair, at his request. Thanks again for your leadership and support!

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