

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Consent Item:

Kentucky Writing Program Advisory Committee Appointment

Commissioner's Recommendation:

The Commissioner recommends that Susan Norton be appointed to the Kentucky Writing Program Advisory Committee.

Rationale:

To fill the seat on the Writing Program Advisory Committee, an appointment is necessary. The proposed member has expertise in the areas of writing instruction and/or professional learning. With the approval of this new member, 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.

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education approve the recommendation for the appointment of Susan Norton to the Kentucky Writing Program Advisory Committee?

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 158.770, KRS 158.775

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 Academic Standards and Program Reviews in writing.

Summary: The following individual is recommended for appointment:

1. Susan Norton – Rockcastle County Public Schools

Susan Norton has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English (1994) from Eastern Kentucky University, a Master of Arts in English (1997) from Eastern Kentucky University, a Rank I Instructional Leadership Certificate (2004) from Eastern Kentucky University and she has just started the Library Media Specialist Certification Program at Eastern Kentucky University. She has been an educator for nine years in Kentucky and has taught English/language arts in Boyle County Public Schools and Rockcastle County Public Schools. Ms. Norton is currently the Chair of the English Department at Rockcastle County High School.

Projects with which Ms. Norton has involvement include: the Kentucky Writing Advisory Committee, a reader for the AP English Literature and Composition Exam, a member of the Standard Setting in On-Demand Writing for the Kentucky Performance Rating for Educational Progress (K-PREP) Team, a member of the SREB Informatics Career Pathways Curriculum Development Team and a member of the ACT Transitional Course Development Team.

Below is a chart reflecting the existing membership of the committee with the proposed appointment highlighted.

Name	Role	Year Appointed
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
Kimberly Mucker Johnson	Instructional Coach -- Waggener High School (Jefferson County)	2016
Susan Norton	Teacher – Rockcastle County High School (Rockcastle County)	2016
Jean Wolph Lisa Maggard	University Writing Project Network Coordinators	- - - -

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

Budget Impact: Pursuant to KRS 158.770, members shall be reimbursed for actual expenses for attendance at committee meetings and for other actual expenses incurred in carrying out their official duties.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

Staff has consulted the current university writing project directors. The nominee is supported by the directors.

Contact Person:

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Commissioner of Education

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