KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) Advisory Board Appointment Date: April 10, 2019
Action Requested: Review Action/Consent Action/Discussion Assigned To: Full Board Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Finance Operations Management

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To fill a vacancy on the Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) Advisory Board.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends that Jeff Kassinger be appointed to the KSD Advisory Board. The candidate meets the necessary criteria for appointment.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 167.037

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy: KRS 167.037 requires the KSD to have an advisory board. The advisory board has nine members who are appointed by the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE), upon recommendation of the chief state school officer. Members are appointed for regular terms of four years. The purpose of the board is to act in an advisory capacity, assist school leadership and make recommendations to the chief state school officer relating to the effective operation of the school.

Advisory board members for the KSD must be selected from nominations submitted by the Kentucky Association of the Deaf Inc., Parent-Teacher-Cottage Parent Association, Kentucky School for the Deaf Alumni Association Inc., Kentucky Association of School Administrators and the chief state school officer. Membership on the board must be representative of the state and consists of: two parents of deaf children; one professional in education of the deaf, one former student of the Kentucky School for the Deaf, one member of the Kentucky Association for the Deaf, two (2) members who shall represent school districts and two members at large. A majority of the board's membership must be persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Summary of Issue: At this time, there is a vacancy on the KSD Advisory Board and a replacement needs to be approved. To meet the composition requirements required by statute, the member must be a former student of the KSD. Requests for nominations were sent to the KSD Alumni Association, Inc.

The following individual is recommended for appointment:

Jeff Kassinger – former student of the KSD

After graduating the KSD, Mr. Kassinger attended the Rochester Institute of Technology and the University of Phoenix. Mr. Kassinger has several certifications in networking, software and operating systems. He currently owns his own company located in Bardstown, Kentucky where he provides numerous business services including: marketing, sales, e-commerce, website development and mobile application development. As a former KSD student, he is an active alumnus at the school and in the deaf and hard of hearing community.

Budget Impact: Pursuant to KRS 167.037, members of the board serve without compensation, but are reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

Staff consulted the KSD Alumni Association, Inc. The nominee is supported by the members of the association.

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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Commissioner of Education

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