

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) Advisory Board Appointment
Date: October 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 vacancies on the Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) Advisory Board.

KRS 156.070 details the general powers and duties of the state board, including management of the two state schools: “The Kentucky Board of Education shall have the management and control of the common schools and all programs operated in these schools, including interscholastic athletics, the Kentucky School for the Deaf, the Kentucky School for the Blind, and community education programs and services.” KRS 167.015 also provides that: “The Kentucky School for the Blind at Louisville, Kentucky, and the Kentucky School for the Deaf at Danville, Kentucky, shall be managed and controlled by the Kentucky Board of Education.”

COMMISSIONER’S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends that the individuals listed be appointed to the KSD Advisory Board. The candidates meet 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 (KASA) 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 KSD, one member of the Kentucky Association for the Deaf, two

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 (DHH).

Summary of Issue:

At this time, replacements for the KSD Advisory Board need to be approved. The following four individuals are recommended for appointment:

Scott Haun – Professional in Education of the Deaf

Mr. Haun has 32 years of experience as a teacher and administrator in the deaf community. He is a Teacher of the Year for the Louisiana School for the Deaf and a former teacher at the KSD.

Susan Dorn – Parent of a Deaf Student

Ms. Dorn is a parent of two children who are DHH; one child is enrolled at the KSD. She currently serves as an administrative assistant in the chemical industry. She also has nine years of early childhood education experience, including serving as a family child care manager/teacher.

Debbie Martin – Member at Large

Ms. Martin is a former KSD teacher. She currently is a substitute teacher and active volunteer at the KSD. She also has served as an American Sign Language (ASL) tutor for KSD students.

Nancy Perry – Member at Large

Ms. Perry worked as an ASL teacher and tutor. She served as an ASL lab manager and assistant at both Western Kentucky University and Eastern Kentucky University. Additionally, Ms. Perry has provided tutoring services at the KSD.

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 with KSD staff; the Kentucky Association of the Deaf; Eastern Kentucky University; and KSD Alumni. All groups are in support of these nominations.

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