

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE**

**Topic:** Kentucky School for the Blind (KSB) Advisory Board Appointment  
**Date:** December 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 Blind (KSB) 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 (KBE) 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 individual listed be appointed to the KSB Advisory Board. The candidate meets the necessary criteria for appointment.

**APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:**

KRS 167.035

**BACKGROUND:**

*Existing Policy:*

KRS 167.035 states that a KSB Advisory Board may be established. If created, the advisory board is composed of five members appointed by the KBE upon recommendation by the chief state school officer for terms of four years and until their successors are appointed. The advisory board elects from its membership a chair. 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.

*Summary of Issue:*

At this time, there is a vacancy on the KSB Advisory Board and a replacement needs to be approved. The following individual is recommended for appointment:

**Janell Turner – Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation**

Ms. Turner is a graduate of the University of Dayton with a bachelor of science in Psychology. Ms. Turner earned her masters of education degree in Counseling Psychology from the University of Kentucky and began her career as a vocational rehabilitation counselor in the Kentucky Office for the Blind before becoming a vocational rehabilitation administrator in the same office. Ms. Turner now serves as a vocational rehabilitation administrator in the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation where she assists in overseeing the agency’s efforts related to transition services for youth and young adults, including pre-employment transition services, for individuals who are blind, visually impaired or deafblind. Ms. Turner also oversees Project CASE (Creating Access to Successful Employment), a federal demonstration grant with a goal of increasing participation for individuals with disabilities in career pathways.

*Budget Impact:*

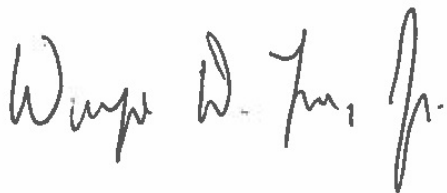
Pursuant to KRS 167.035, members of the board serve without compensation, but are reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

**GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:**

Staff consulted with KSB staff; the KSB Advisory Council; and KSB Alumni. All groups are in support of the nominations.

**CONTACT PERSON(S):**

Gretta Hylton, Associate Commissioner  
Office of Special Education and Early Learning  
Gretta.Hylton@education.ky.gov  
(502) 564-4970 ext. 4109



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**Commissioner of Education**

Category: <input type="checkbox"/> District Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/> Strengthening Educators	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family/Community Involvement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student/Family Supports	<input type="checkbox"/> Student Interventions	<input type="checkbox"/> Coursework Completion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accountability Reporting