



KSBA

KENTUCKY SCHOOL BOARDS
ASSOCIATION

Ronnie Holmes,
President

Kerri Schelling,
Executive Director

July 9, 2020

Mr. Tim Schlosser, Superintendent
Simpson County Schools
430 South College Street
Franklin, KY 42134

Dear Superintendent Schlosser:

On behalf of the board of directors and staff of your Kentucky School Boards Association, I am writing to thank you for your district's membership this past year. Your participation in KSBA programming has helped to raise the bar for public education in Kentucky. We now invite you to renew your membership for the 2020-21 year.

As you know, KSBA is a leading advocate for public education in our Commonwealth, and *the only* state organization focused on critical needs of school boards. We support all 171 board member/superintendent teams and their districts through the delivery of legislative and regulatory advocacy, legal, policy and procedural guidance, member communications and professional development services, and conferences, just to name a few.

This past year, the value of membership was particularly evident in the wake of a crisis. When COVID-19 brought Kentucky to a halt, KSBA was one of the first state education groups to offer districts coronavirus guidance and resources. KSBA's efforts have been frequently referenced in superintendent webcasts, by state education officials and in meetings of educational cooperatives. These included, but were not limited to:

- Legal, legislative and policy analyses pertaining to emergency actions taken by the federal government, state legislature, Office of the Governor, Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Education.
- Webinars and training videos addressing board considerations for pandemic response.
- A cumulative online COVID-19 resource library and ongoing coverage in KSBA publications.
- Collaboration with state agencies, including KSBA's seat on the Education Continuation Task Force.
- 2020 election filing guidance during county and state agency closures.

These are in addition to a myriad of year-round services KSBA provides members. I invite you to review the enclosed "Value of Membership" listing some of the ways KSBA has empowered board teams this past year.

Our constitutionally mandated system of common schools now faces an unprecedented year ahead, and KSBA stands ready to lift up school boards and the districts they represent. *Across the board: Service, support and success.*

Our board of directors recently approved a 2020-21 dues schedule that will keep dues frozen at the previous year's rates. Your district's dues for the upcoming year are \$ 5,063.96 and an invoice is enclosed. We are grateful for your membership and your contributions to our collective success. Please contact us with any questions regarding KSBA services and ways we may enhance your membership in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Kerri Schelling, Executive Director
Kentucky School Boards Association

Cc: Finance Director (original invoice) and Board Chairperson (copy of invoice)



THE ADVANTAGE OF STRONG ADVOCACY

KSBA works year round with state agencies, legislators and education stakeholders on behalf of school boards. During the 2020 legislative session, KSBA testified before committees eight times, while playing principal roles in drafting numerous pieces of board-friendly legislation including successful bills on [students in foster care](#), [COVID-19 emergency relief](#) and [the elimination of annual charter authorizer training for school boards](#), among others. We ensure that board members' voices (and those of the communities that elected them) are heard in Frankfort.



TAKING YOUR TRAINING TO THE NEXT LEVEL

In 2019, KSBA offered 98.25 hours of board training opportunities, from state-mandated topics to new and relevant elective curricula. Our members took advantage, with 95 percent going on to exceed the minimum requirement for training hours. In total, KSBA members earned a whopping 14,713 hours of training in 2019. With a [growing number of webinars and self-study courses](#) to go along with expanded session options at conferences, there is no shortage of ways for board members to 'learn and earn.'



GUIDANCE YOU NEED FROM EXPERTS YOU TRUST

The complexities of board service often require legislative, legal, policy and procedural guidance. KSBA's experienced staff equip boards with topical knowledge and special resources they need to practice effective governance. Whether it's understanding the implications of a newly filed bill, [seeking model policy language](#) or tightening one's grip on open meetings law, KSBA is your one-stop shop for answers.



WHEN YOU READ ALL ABOUT IT YOU GET EXTRA, EXTRA

Your association compiles and disseminates important – and often late-breaking – information pertinent to board teams, from ongoing legislative coverage to innovations at the district level. This starts with KSBA's flagship publication, [The Kentucky School Advocate](#) magazine, which members receive 10 times a year. KSBA's semi-monthly e-newsletter, [KSBA Aware](#), is a widely read source of immediate information with an open rate of more than 50 percent, twice the industry average. Content on KSBA's social media over the past year has been viewed more than 2.1 million times. Every word of it designed to keep school boards informed and inspired.



SAVING DISTRICTS TIME AND MONEY

KSBA membership also provides access to additional critical services that save districts significant time, money and manpower. Our [Medicaid Billing](#) service helped districts recover \$12.8 million during the 2019-20 fiscal year while KSBA's [Unemployment Program](#) processed 724 unemployment claims for 170 districts and three educational cooperatives. Our [Superintendent Search](#) service successfully facilitated a dozen district searches this year alone.

