



Thoughts from 4 Superintendents (Cumberland Co., Metcalfe Co., Todd Co., & Bowling Green) concerning Region 4 realignment

1 message

Fields, Gary <gary.fields@bgreen.kyschools.us>

Tue, Nov 16, 2021 at 10:47 AM

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Cc: "Biggerstaff, Dr. Kirk-Superintendent-Cumberland Co." <kirk.biggerstaff@cumberland.kyschools.us>, "Hurt, Josh - Metcalfe (BOE)" <josh.hurt@metcalfe.kyschools.us>, Mark Thomas <mark.thomas@todd.kyschools.us>

November 16, 2021

To: KHSAA Board of Control
Re: 4th Region Realignment

We are writing on behalf of our school districts and our high schools that are members of the KHSAA. As the governing body of the KHSAA, you are being asked to determine how the four districts within the 4th Region (Districts 13, 14, 15, & 16) are aligned based on the addition of Foundation Christian Academy as a KHSAA school as well as a request from Monroe County to switch from the 15th to the 16th District.

After attending a work session with Commissioner Tackett and other school representatives from the 4th Region on November 11, we would ask that you take the following action with supporting reasons.

1. Assign Foundation Christian Academy to the 13th District which would result in a five team district consisting of FCA, Logan County, Russellville, Todd County Central, & Franklin-Simpson.
 - o FCA is attempting to expand it's school enrollment & athletic offerings. But as of today, they will only graduate 4 students in the class of 2022 and have fewer than 60 students in the 9th-12th grades.
 - o From a competitive standpoint, FCA will be fielding teams that will find it very difficult to compete in a competitive manner at the KHSAA varsity level which could result in a reduction in enrollment/participation once that becomes evident to student-athletes and parents. The long term viability of FCA as a KHSAA member school is questionable at best.
 - o Finally, there is always the option for this board in 5 or 10 years from now to realign districts if FCA becomes a viable, thriving member of the KHSAA.
2. Maintain the current five team 14th District that includes Bowling Green, Greenwood, South Warren, Warren Central, and Warren East.
 - o It has been suggested that Warren East could be moved to the 15th District and thus tear apart one of the special, tradition rich districts in all of Kentucky. The traditional rivalries, high quality of play, and proximity of schools makes this five team district very special.
 - o The generational rivalries that occur between these 5 schools are extremely important to the Bowling Green/Warren County community.

3. Deny the request from Monroe County to move from the 15th to 16th District.
 - o Based on our belief in how to proceed with points 1 and 2 above, the movement of Monroe County would create a three team 15th District and a five team 16th District.
 - o Also, the addition of Monroe County creates one way travel of at least one hour by bus to two of the current 16th District schools that would be an unnecessary burden on school districts, students, and their families.
 - o The request from Monroe County also leans heavily on the idea that their teams can compete more effectively in the 16th District. Although that may be true, alignment of competitive KHSAA districts in Kentucky should not be based on the idea of “we can win more in this district than that district.” Monroe County should remain in the 15th District

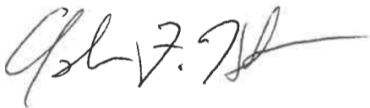
We appreciate your continued work on behalf of all student athletes in Kentucky and your willingness to make difficult decisions based on the best interests of those athletes.

Sincerely,



Gary Fields
Superintendent, Bowling Green

Kirk Biggerstaff
Kirk Biggerstaff
Superintendent, Cumberland County



Josh Hurt
Superintendent, Metcalfe County

Mark Thomas
Mark Thomas
Superintendent, Todd County