



Kentucky High School Athletic Association

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MEMO

TO: Julian Tackett, Commissioner

FROM: Sarah Bridenbaugh, Assistant Commissioner

DATE: September 8, 2022

RE: Financial Aid Report

At your direction, I have completed the annual financial aid reports from the member schools for the 2020-21 academic year. We have 100% compliance from our member schools in submitting the survey.

For the 2020-21 school year, I have compiled a report with the findings from the Financial Aid Survey. You will find attached to this memo the findings of the survey and the 17 red flags found from the original reports. All 17 schools were contacted about their survey in order to ensure compliance and to address the red flags. The following schools corrected any clerical errors and no further action is necessary:

- Ashland Blazer
 - Noted that F-1 (foreign exchange) students did not pay any tuition. Followed up with James Conway, Athletic Director and he confirmed that their survey was submitted incorrectly and that Ashland Blazer did not have any F-1 students during the 2020-21 school year.
- Ballard Memorial
 - Noted that F-1 (foreign exchange) students did not pay any tuition. Followed up with Ronald Mays, Athletic Director and he confirmed that their survey was submitted incorrectly and that Ballard Memorial did not have any F-1 students during the 2020-21 school year.
- Bath County
 - Noted that F-1 (foreign exchange) students did not pay any tuition. Followed up with Michael Melton, the new Athletic Director at Bath County. He is working with the local administration on policies and procedures for handling out-of-district and foreign exchange students.
- Bethlehem
 - Noted that there was a funding source not under the control of the school. After the school submitted the survey, Steve Heil, the school's director of finance, emailed me and noted that their survey did have an error for that question. He stated the answer should have been no. They have no funding source that isn't under the control of the school.
- Boyd County
 - Noted that F-1 (foreign exchange) students did not pay any tuition. Followed up with Pete Fraley, Athletic Director and he confirmed that their survey was submitted incorrectly and that Boyd County did not have any F-1 students during the 2020-21 school year.
- Central
 - Multiple red flags were noted in this survey. Followed up with Ryan Bringhurst, Athletic Director and he confirmed that their survey was submitted incorrectly by new administration. I sent the link to Ryan to resubmit the survey for Central for the 2020-21 school year. Upon resubmission, their survey was reviewed and no red flags were detected.
- Covington Catholic
 - Noted 69 athletes couldn't meet financial obligations for 2020-21 school year. Followed up with Tony Bacigalupo, Athletic Director and he confirmed that their survey was submitted incorrectly and that 69 athletes actually received aid. He submitted updated data that stated his school only had 1 athlete that didn't meet the financial obligations for the 2020-21 school year and that athlete did not participate in Varsity athletics.
- Fort Knox

- Noted that F-1 (foreign exchange) students did not pay any tuition. Followed up with Jackie Prather, Athletic Director and she confirmed that their survey was submitted incorrectly and that Fort Knox did not have any F-1 students during the 2020-21 school year.
- Foundation Christian
 - Did not list a 3rd party agency that is analyzing the financial need of students. Followed up with Matt Bastin, Athletic Director. They are a new member school that successfully transitioned to using FACTs for the 2022-23 school year (their first year eligible for the postseason).
- Frankfort Christian
 - Noted there is a funding source not under the control of the school. Followed up with Staci Jones, Athletic Director about this funding source called Capital City. The Principal, Carrie Beth Tigges followed up with me on the process of this scholarship. The school does check to ensure no student-athlete receives more than FACTs indicate they are eligible for and the funding is under the control of the school.
- Holy Cross (Covington)
 - Noted there is a funding source not under the control of the school. Followed up with Anne Julian, Athletic Director about this funding source. The Principal, Mike Holtz followed up with me via email and phone call to explain their entire process. Mr. Holtz confirmed that no student-athlete receives more aid than noted by FACTs (3rd party) or more than 25% merit aid. He also confirmed that all funds are through and under the control of the school.
- Somerset Christian
 - Did not list a 3rd party agency that is analyzing the financial need of students. This new member school did not need a follow-up as in the survey notes, the Athletic Director mentioned that for the 2022-2023 school year, they will use FACTs for all award determinations. I did meet with the Athletic Director at the 2022 Fall Regional Meeting and discussed Bylaw 11 further in detail to assist in understanding the Bylaw.

After initial contact with schools, it was determined that the following six (6) schools needed additional follow-up and my recommendations for the 2022-23 school year. Below is a summary of my findings:

- Danville Christian
 - Issue with Survey: Any F-1 student who is enrolled at DCA, and their family makes less than 10K per year, is given a reduced tuition rate of \$1,500. I have contacted Pep Francis, Athletic Director and he is gathering the following information for this survey: Did Danville Christian have any F-1 students during the 2020-21 school year? If so, how does DCA handle an F-1 student's financial aid needs? Your survey indicates you use FACTs, does DCA require F-1 students to file through FACTs as well? If so, did any F-1 students play varsity athletics during the 2020-21 school year?
 - Corrective Action: Ensure Athletic Director responds to additional questions and that Danville Christian's financial aid policies are in line with Bylaw 11 prior to the 2022-23 postseason.
 - Recommended Further Action for 2022-23 School Year: Danville Christian would only need further action if the responses to these questions are in conflict with Bylaw 11.
- Evangel Christian
 - Issue with Survey: Multiple red flags in 2020-21 survey. This school was also visited in 2016 with directives to correct financial aid policies and procedures. The school administration from 2016 is no longer connected with the school. Former Athletic Director Joe Washington has returned to the school and is working to ensure the school gets back to compliance with all KHSAA bylaws. To date, I have had 3 meetings/calls with the school administration in the fall of 2022 about their current status.
 - Corrective Action: Notified administration that they were not in compliance with Bylaw 11 during the 2020-21 school year and that they needed to make immediate changes in order to participate in any KHSAA sports or sport-activities in 2022-23.
 - Updates: Principal Mandy Black did follow-up that the school has made progress in making immediate corrections to their policies. Some of the progress includes: 1) School administration has met with a FACTs representative on Tuesday, August 23, 2022 via phone to establish the process to share with parents. 2) Notified all parents that if they seek a scholarship or financial aid, they will need to address their request through the financial aid section of FACTs. 3) Sent reminders to all parents prior to the Open House which will be held tonight, August 29, 2022 at

5:30 pm. 4) We will assist parents setting up FACTS tonight. 5) Of all the students enrolled, 100% of athletes and non-athletes have paid their registration fee and book fee. 6) I checked discounts awarded to students for this year and found that athletes received a 8% discount which non-athletes received anywhere from 15 to 20% discount. Superintendent did confirm they are currently only offering boys basketball.

- Recommended Further Action for 2022-23 School Year: Recommended probation and not eligible for any postseason events until they have reported on all student-athletes and their financial aid status. Require GE39 (detailed report of each individual student's need) form to be filled out for the entire basketball roster and any other sports or sport-activities that they decide to participate in.
- Heritage Christian
 - Issue with Survey: Did not list a 3rd party agency that is analyzing the financial need of students. Followed up with Matt McGowan, Athletic Director. They are a new member school and will not be eligible for the postseason until 2023-24. I advised the Athletic Director about the process of getting a 3rd party to analyze the financial need of students/families. I sent him a list of approved agencies to get the process started and made it clear that it needed to be finalized by the time they are eligible for the postseason next year.
 - Corrective Action: Monitor throughout the 2022-23 school year. Athletic Director and Headmaster are working on contacting 3rd party agency to have in place by 23-24 school year.
 - Recommended Further Action for 2022-23 School Year: Continued guidance from KHSAA Staff as a new member school.
- Highlands Latin
 - Issue with Survey: Did not list a 3rd party agency that is analyzing the financial need of students. Followed up with Brandon Davis, new Athletic Director about the process. This member school is eligible for the postseason this year.
 - Corrective Action: Monitor weekly before the 2022-23 postseason, have confirmed they are compliant with their golf student-athletes.
 - Recommended Further Action for 2022-23 School Year: Highlands Latin did submit a GE39 (detailed report of each individual student's need) form for golf student-athletes. This form showed that no student-athletes received any financial aid or reduced tuition for the 2022-23 school year. Continue to monitor their financial aid policies and assist this school in finalizing its relationship with FACTS.
- Pendleton County
 - Issue with Survey: Noted that F-1 (foreign exchange) students did not pay any tuition. Followed up with John Wirth, Athletic Director. Assistant Principal Matt Compton followed up via email and confirmed that their survey was submitted incorrectly. He sent me their updated local policy that F-1 students during the 2020-21 school year had paperwork granting educational and medical power of attorney to the host families, who do reside in the district. He stated no tuition or fees were charged to these F-1 students.
 - Corrective Action: Follow up with school administration on federal regulations of F-1 students. Pendleton County will be asked to submit verification on the F-1 students from 2020-21 year verifying the status of each from the Department of Homeland Security and placing agency.
 - Recommended Further Action for 2022-23 School Year: School administration will be asked to submit detailed information on F-1 students for the upcoming year (if any) prior to the postseason.
- Newport
 - Issue with Survey: Noted that F-1 (foreign exchange) students did not pay any tuition. Followed up with Mike Hunter, Athletic Director and he confirmed that there were three (3) F-1 students during the 2020-21 school year. He mentioned 2 of the 3 were residents of the district and the 3rd did not pay any fees or tuition.
 - Corrective Action: Follow up with school administration on federal regulations of F-1 students. Newport will be asked to submit verification on the F-1 students from 2020-21 year and any fees or tuition (full unsubsidized cost) paid by those students.
 - Recommended Further Action for 2022-23 School Year: School administration will be asked to submit detailed information on F-1 students for the upcoming year (if any) prior to the postseason.

