



# Kentucky High School Athletic Association

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MEMO

TO: Julian Tackett, Commissioner

FROM: Sarah Bridenbaugh, Assistant Commissioner

DATE: November 10, 2022

RE: Financial Aid Report

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Following up from the September meeting on the six (6) schools that needed additional follow-up

- Danville Christian
  - November 2022 Update: Athletic Director Pep Francis did confirm that they had five (5) F-1 students during the 2020-21 school year, of which only 3 played varsity athletics. He also confirmed that all students are required to file through FACTs.
  - 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?
- Evangel Christian
  - November 2022 Update: Evangel Christian has setup with FACTs for their students and notified all parents of the changes for the 2021-22 school year. They continue to only offer boys basketball and GE39 will be sent to school to be filled out once the first game has been played.
  - 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.
- Heritage Christian
  - November 2022 Update: Heritage Christian continues to make progress to ensure in compliance by 2023-24 school year (the first year they are eligible for the postseason).
  - Issue with Survey: Did not list a 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.
- Highlands Latin
  - November 2022 Update: School has secured and setup an account with FACTs. Confirmed that they had – athletes in the fall or winter who receive any aid. I will continued to monitor and have school submit GE39 for any sports they are participating in the postseason.
  - Issue with Survey: Did not list a 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

□ Newport

- November 2022 Update: Upon further review of the 3 students, two were J2 students and one was an exchange student through EF Exchange and was placed by an agency. With regard to Bylaw 11, there was found to be no violations of the Bylaw. The discovered issues with the former Bylaw 7-8 forms will be referred to Assistant Commissioner Bilberry to follow-up with the Athletic Director. Final notification was sent to the Athletic Director informing them that further follow-up will be needed. The school was also sent an informational link on how to handle Foreign Students according to federal law in public schools.
- 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 3<sup>rd</sup> did not pay any fees or tuition.

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□ Pendleton County

- November 2022 Update: After some investigation, none of the athletes in question from the survey were actually F-1 students. The one girl who played Varsity Volleyball, the bylaw 7 form submitted to the KHSAA office did indicate (and assistant principal confirmed) that she was indeed a J-1 student. No additional follow-up is needed.
- 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.