

HARLAN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

DR. MATT NUNEZ, CHAIRMAN WILL MILLER, VICE-CHAIRMAN CINDY ALLISON
VIRGIL EVERSELE DEBBY HOWARD CHARLES MORTON, SUPERINTENDENT

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

Dear Juliann Tackett & KHSAA Board of Control:

On behalf of the Harlan Independent School District and Harlan High School I would like to respectfully request the Board of Control consider the below as an alternative to the current Class 1A District 7 High School Football realignment proposal.

As published, the current proposal for District 7 would potentially consist of Lynn Camp, Middlesboro, Pineville, and Williamsburg while District 8 would consist of Harlan, Hazard, Paintsville, and Pikeville.

As an alternative to that proposal, Harlan High (with the support of all other proposed District 7 schools - Lynn Camp, Middlesboro, Pineville, and Williamsburg) would ask that you consider allowing District 7 to be a five-team district. Consequently, this would create a three-team district in District 8.

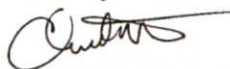
With regard to the playoffs and the potential for any adverse effect, we would also concede that the 5th place team from District 7 move to the vacant 4th place spot within District 8. This would allow for the balance that is needed across districts with regard to playoff games and potential revenue from playoff contests.

The current proposal as written has a dramatic impact on Harlan High School's terrain they would have to travel in order to compete with the other proposed District 8 schools. When looking at a map, *it is impossible* to fully appreciate the impact that crossing both Pine Mountain and Whitesburg Mountain has on travel for our students. Competing in District 7 would prevent Harlan from having to travel across either mountain reducing travel time in half in most cases. More importantly, it would keep our buses from traveling some of the most dangerous stretches of mountain top in Kentucky.

Furthermore, we believe there has been precedent for this configuration in the past and would appreciate your consideration for this request at this time.

We recognize the magnitude of this body of work and fully appreciate the time and energy it has taken to develop these realignment proposals. I have attached letters of support from all potential District 7 Superintendents for your review. We believe this alternative option is a better fit for our students and schools within our region.

Sincerely,



C.D. Morton, Superintendent

420 E. Central St. Harlan, KY 40831
606-573-8700 Phone 606-5673-8700 Fax
www.harlan-ind.kyschools.us



/HarlanIndSchools



harlanindependentschools



@HISDSuperDragon



YouTube
bit.ly/HarlanYouTube

MIDDLESBORO INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

220 North 20th Street • Middlesboro, KY 40965
(606) 242-8800 • FAX (606) 242-8805

Waylon Allen
Superintendent

Charla Costanzo
Chairperson

Teresa Brown
Vice Chairperson



Joyce Hoskins
Board Member

Bill Johnson
Board Member

Sheila Smith
Board Member

January 17, 2023

Commissioner Juliann Tackett and KHSAA Board of Control:

This letter is in response to the recently proposed Class 1A district realignment proposal. Under the proposal, District 7 now would consist of Lynn Camp, Middlesboro, Pineville, and Williamsburg while District 8 would consist of Harlan Hazard, Paintsville, and Pikeville.

On behalf of the Middlesboro Independent School District and Middlesboro High School, we would have no opposition to include Harlan as part of District 7, creating a 5-team district.

We fully recognize the terrain to travel as part of the proposed District 8 would be less than ideal. While geographically the distance between some of the competing schools may appear close, the conditions of the mountains would extend the travel to nearly double the time it would take to compete within District 7.

Harlan High has my full support for their request to be a part of District 7 as opposed to District 8.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Waylon Allen".

Waylon Allen
Superintendent



KNOX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

— 200 Daniel Boone Drive • Barbourville, Kentucky 40906 —

Jeremy Ledford, Superintendent

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

Commissioner Juliann Tackett and KHSAA Board of Control,

This letter is in response to the recently proposed Class 1A district realignment proposal. Under the proposal, District 7 now would consist of Lynn Camp, Middlesboro, Pineville, and Williamsburg while District 8 would consist of Harlan, Hazard, Paintsville, and Pikeville.

On behalf of the Knox County Public School District and Lynn Camp High School, we would have no opposition to include Harlan as part of District 7, creating a 5 team district.

We fully recognize the terrain to travel as part of the proposed District 8 would be less than ideal. While geographically the distance between some of the competing schools may appear close, the conditions of the mountains would extend the travel to nearly double the time it would take to compete within District 7.

Harlan High has my full support for their request to be a part of District 7 as opposed to District 8.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Ledford
Knox County Public Schools (Lynn Camp High School)
Superintendent

BELIEVE • ACHIEVE • SUCCEED



WILLIAMSBURG INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

1000 Main Street, Williamsburg, KY 40769

606-549-6044 • Fax 606-549-6015

Web Page Address - <http://www.wburg.kyschools.us>

Tim Melton, Superintendent

Marc Taylor, Principal

Jerry Herron, Athletic Director

January 17, 2023

Commissioner Juliann Tackett and KHSAA Board of Control,

This letter is in response to the recently proposed Class 1A district realignment proposal. Under the proposal, District 7 now would consist of Lynn Camp, Middlesboro, Pineville, and Williamsburg while District 8 would consist of Harlan Hazard, Paintsville, and Pikeville.

On behalf of the Williamsburg Independent School District and Williamsburg High School, we would have no opposition to include Harlan as part of District 7, creating a five-team district.

We fully recognize the terrain to travel as part of the proposed District 8 would be less than ideal. While geographically the distance between some of the competing schools may appear close, the conditions of the mountains would extend the travel to nearly double the time it would take to compete within District 7.

Harlan High has my full support for their request to be a part of District 7 as opposed to District 8.

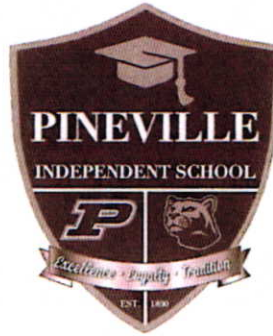
Sincerely,

Tim Melton, Superintendent
Williamsburg Independent School District

Pineville Independent School



RUSSELL THOMPSON, SUPERINTENDENT
401 Virginia Avenue
Pineville, Kentucky 40977
Phone (606) 337-5701



BOARD OF EDUCATION

JAMES GOLDEN
CHRIS ARNETT
BRITTANY LYNCH
ANN "KAKI" SMITH
CHASSIDY GAMBREL

DATE: January 17, 2023
TO: Commissioner Juliann Tackett and KHSAA Board of Control
FROM: Russell Thompson, Superintendent
RE: *Support Letter*

This letter is in response to the recently proposed Class 1A district realignment proposal. Under the proposal, District 7 now would consist of Lynn Camp, Middlesboro, Pineville, and Williamsburg while District 8 would consist of Harlan Hazard, Paintsville, and Pikeville.

On behalf of the Pineville Independent School District and Pineville High School, we would have no opposition to include Harlan as part of District 7, creating a 5 team district.

We fully recognize the terrain to travel as part of the proposed District 8 would be less than ideal. While geographically the distance between some of the competing schools may appear close, the conditions of the mountains would extend the travel to nearly double the time it would take to compete within District 7.

Harlan High has my full support for their request to be a part of District 7 as opposed to District 8.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Russell Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pineville Independent School District
Superintendent