## Jefferson County Public Schools Fairdale High School

1001 Fairdale Road Fairdale, Kentucky 40118 (502) 485-8248



October 12, 2022

Dear Chief Moore,

I am writing to you today regarding a recommendation to name our gym floor after Lloyd Gardner. It is my understanding that the Board of Education voted in favor of a revised naming policy for JCPS facilities. Fairdale High School would like to apply this new policy to the naming of our gym floor in honor of Coach Lloyd "Pink" Gardner.

Coach Gardner has dedicated his life and career to JCPS. In fact, the land our school is built on is the land that was once the Gardner Family Farm. Coach Gardner began his career at Fairdale High School in 1958, and has been a prominent figure in this community and proponent for our school and JCPS since that year. Coach Gardner is also a founder of the King of the Bluegrass Holiday Classic, a nationally recognized basketball tournament that began in 1981, but continues to thrive with expanding tournaments in football, soccer, and cross country.

I believe that naming our gym floor for Coach Gardner is an important step in recognizing the lasting impact that Lloyd and the entire Gardner family have on the Fairdale community. I am including letters from Fairdale organizations and community leaders who feel the same way. We all agree that Coach Gardner deserves this honor and that he represents all that is good in JCPS and the Fairdale community.

Board Member Linda Duncan suggested I send our requests to you. It was her understanding that you would share with Dr. Polio as you see appropriate.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brandy Bidwell Corbin, Principal

Fairdale High School

## Jefferson County Public Schools Fairdale High School

1001 Fairdale Road Fairdale, Kentucky 40118 (502) 485-8248



August 31, 2022

Jefferson County Board of Education VanHoose Education Center 3332 Newburg Road Louisville, Kentucky 40218

Dear JCPS Board Members,

It is with great support that the Fairdale High School SBDM Council recommends that the gymnasium floor at Fairdale High School, in the Stanley Hardin Gymnasium, be named in honor of Coach Lloyd Gardner.

Coach Lloyd "Pink" Gardner is the epitome of the Fairdale Family. In fact, our school is built on the land that was once the Gardner Family Farm. Born in Fairdale, Gardner was a manager/student trainer at Fairdale High School in 1958 and at Western Kentucky University from 1962-66. He was trainer, travel secretary and equipment manager for the ABA Kentucky Colonels in 1967-68 and 1971-76. He was part of world championships with the Colonels in 1975 and with the Kentucky Bourbons pro softball team in 1981. As a head coach at Fairdale for 14 years, his teams won three regional titles and captured the 1994 Sweet Sixteen championship. Coach Gardner was inducted into the Kentucky Athletic Hall of Fame in 2015.

Coach Gardner is also responsible for growing the King of the Bluegrass Holiday Classic. In December of 1980 Coach Stan Hardin, Assistant Coach Lloyd Gardner and Athletic Director Butch Greschel headed south for an after Christmas basketball tournament in Ocala, Florida. In 1974 Coach Jim Haley, the head coach at Ocala Vanguard, was the brainchild of the first high school tournament in the United States with a national flavor... the Kingdom of the Sun. While enjoying the beautiful Florida sun between games, the basketball guru's decided if this would work in Florida, in the middle of football country, it would certainly become contagious in a state where basketball is king, Kentucky. Even before the troops arrived home the tournament was named the "King of the Bluegrass Holiday Classic". Coach Gardner dreamed-up the logo which has been copyrighted. On December 19, 1981 the first ball was tossed up and as history will show, this 16 team / 26 game prep classic has been recognized as one of the nation's finest high school basketball tournaments.

Coach Gardner, also a retired JCPS teacher, brings distinct honor and national recognition to Jefferson County Public Schools, Fairdale High School, and the Fairdale community. It is only fitting that the gym floor, in a gymnasium he helped to build, be named in his honor. It is our distinct pleasure to recommend this action to the Jefferson County Board of Education.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Fairdale High School SBDM Council

Brandy Corbin, Principal

Allison Poole

Mary Kenzer

Patricia Concepcion

Michael Burkhead

Bobbijo Kingery

Jason McGinty

September 2, 2022

Jefferson County Board of Education VanHoose Education Center 3332 Newburg Road Louisville, Kentucky 40218

Dear JCPS Board Members.

It is with great support that the Fairdale High School Booster Club recommends that the gymnasium floor at Fairdale High School, in the Stanley Hardin Gymnasium, be named in honor of Coach Lloyd Gardner.

Coach Gardner is an important member of the Fairdale community. Many of the Booster members remember being students in Coach Gardner's classroom, and players on the basketball teams at Fairdale High School where Coach Gardner served as Assistant Coach and Head Coach for 14 years. Lloyd Gardner continues to play an important role in the Fairdale athletic community through his dedication and guidance of the King of the Bluegrass Holiday Classic basketball tournament, a nationally recognized high school basketball tournament.

While Coach Gardner was an important part of the ABA through his work with the Kentucky Colonels professional basketball team, and his association with the Western Kentucky basketball team, his heart and soul is, and always will be, with high school athletics and the Fairdale community where he continues to grow the King of the Bluegrass brand through tournaments that now include not only high school basketball, but also middle school basketball, high school football, high school soccer, high school cross country, and high school track and field. Coach Gardner is a true advocate for JCPS, Fairdale High School, and youth athletics. It is only appropriate that the gym floor that he helped to build and where he spends so much of his time be named in his honor.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely.

Jennifer Maupin, President

Fairdale High School Booster Club

September 2, 2022

Jefferson County Board of Education VanHoose Education Center 3332 Newburg Road Louisville, Kentucky 40218

Dear JCPS Board Members,

It is with great support that the Fairdale High School Alumni Association recommends that the gymnasium floor at Fairdale High School, in the Stanley Hardin Gymnasium, be named in honor of Coach Lloyd Gardner.

Coach Gardner is an important member of the Fairdale community. Many of the Alumni Association members remember being students in Coach Gardner's classroom, and players on the basketball teams at Fairdale High School where Coach Gardner served as Assistant Coach and Head Coach for 14 years. Lloyd Gardner continues to play an important role in the Fairdale community through his dedication and guidance of the King of the Bluegrass Holiday Classic basketball tournament, a nationally recognized high school basketball tournament.

While Coach Gardner was an important part of the ABA through his work with the Kentucky Colonels professional basketball team, and his association with the Western Kentucky basketball team, his heart and soul is, and always will be, with high school athletics and the Fairdale community where he continues to grow the King of the Bluegrass brand through tournaments that now include not only high school basketball, but also middle school basketball, high school football, high school soccer, high school cross country, and high school track and field. Coach Gardner is a true advocate for JCPS, Fairdale High School, and youth athletics. It is only appropriate that the gym floor that he helped to build and where he spends so much of his time be named in his honor.

Thank you for your consideration.

1ch low

Rick Johnstone, President

Fairdale High School Alumni Association



August 26, 2022

Dear JCPS Board of Education,

This letter serves as a recommendation for Coach Lloyd Gardner to be honored and recognized at Fairdale High School.

I understand that the Fairdale High School Athletic Department desires to name the gym floor after former Coach Lloyd Gardner. I recommend this proposal.

I have known Coach Gardner for nearly 20 years now. In those 20 years, he has been a wonderful model of commitment to scholastic athletics and this school in particular.

I am not originally from Kentucky. I moved to Fairdale from North Carolina in 2003. Almost right away I got involved with Fairdale High School and the athletics department. From my beginning here, I have observed Coach Gardner give his life to the school. He loves Fairdale. He loves Fairdale basketball. And he loves the Fairdale King of the Bluegrass basketball tournament.

With his sacrificial commitment to the school, I know him to be hospitable and courteous. Lloyd is hard-working, serving, encouraging, and supportive.

All schools would be greatly blessed if they had individuals supporting them like Fairdale has with Lloyd Gardner. There is no doubt about it that Fairdale High School is a better place due to the commitment and contribution of Coach Lloyd Gardner.

I highly recommend him to receive this honor.

Sincerely,

Pastor Josh Greene