

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) Board of Control Appointment

Date: June 2023

Action Requested: Review Action/Consent Action/Discussion

Held In: Full Board Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Operations

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To take action to appoint an at-large member to the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) Board of Control.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner of Education recommends Ms. Mandi Hudson for appointment to the KHSAA Board of Control.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

702 KAR 7:065, Designation of Agent to Manage Middle and High School Interscholastic Athletics.

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

In July 1993, the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) appointed a Commission on Interscholastic Athletics to study the optimum methods and best practices to deliver quality high school interscholastic athletic programs. At the January 1994 KBE meeting, the Commission on Interscholastic Athletics presented a report outlining recommendations for improvement of the governance of interscholastic athletics. One of the recommendations of the Commission adopted by the KBE was the amendment of the KHSAA Constitution to require the appointment to the Board of Control of four outside, at-large members recommended by the Commissioner of Education.

702 KAR 7:065 designates the KHSAA as the KBE's agent to manage middle and high school athletics. "To remain eligible to maintain the designation as the agent to manage interscholastic high school athletics, the KHSAA shall: (1) Accept four (4) at-large members appointed by the Kentucky Board of Education to its high school Board of Control." The KHSAA Constitution, incorporated by reference in 702 KAR 7:065, provides that "[t]hese members are to be at-large appointments recommended by the Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education. These appointees shall not be an employee of any member school or its central administration or the administration of the Kentucky Department of Education. At least one of these appointees shall be an African American and one shall be a female."

The KHSAA Constitution further requires that "[m]embers of the Board of Control shall serve a four-year term of office unless filling an unexpired term created by the death or resignation of a member, in which case the balance of the remaining term is the term in office. The term year for the Board of Control is July 1 through June 30." Furthermore, "[n]o member is eligible to serve more than two (2) consecutive four-year terms with no further limits as to lifetime eligibility."

Summary of Issue:

Current KBE appointed at-large members serving on the KHSAA Board of Control are:

Debbie Beichler (Mt. Washington), Term Expires 6/30/23 (Female)
Darrell Billings (Clay City), Term Expires 6/30/24
Dr. Gavin Washington (Versailles), Term Expires 6/30/25 (African-American)
Randy McCallon (Murray), Term Expires 6/30/26

The KBE must appoint an at-large KHSAA Board of Control member to fill the seat currently held by Ms. Beichler. Having served two consecutive terms on the Board of Control, Ms. Beichler is not eligible for re-appointment.

The Commissioner of Education recommends the appointment of Ms. Mandi Hudson to the KHSAA Board of Control for a four-year term beginning 7/1/23 and ending 6/30/27. Ms. Hudson is currently employed by Toyota and resides in Georgetown, Scott County. She was a high school athlete and coached numerous youth sports teams for her three children. Ms. Hudson served as President of athletic booster clubs, and served on the Scott County Schools Title IX Committee. Scott County Schools Superintendent, Billy Parker, provided a letter recommending Ms. Hudson's appointment. He states: "Ms. Hudson speaks well in her communication with others, is calm under pressure, and treats everyone with dignity and respect. In a world where we consistently see public schools under attack from all sides, these are qualities that are necessary for the cooperation and compromise that is needed when considering the varied needs of our student-athletes across the state." Scott County Schools Athletic Director, Daniel-Taylor Wells, also provided a letter of support for Ms. Hudson. Ms. Hudson serves as a paid coach for Scott County Schools. She confirmed that she will resign from that position to accept appointment to the KHSAA Board of Control. Ms. Hudson's application materials are attached for review.

Budget Impact:

Approval of this appointment to the KHSAA Board of Control has no fiscal impact on the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) or KBE.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

No outside groups were consulted. On February 7th, KDE advertised the Board of Control vacancy and called for applications.

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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