

Pull Down to Select School

Betsy Layne

Name of Administrator (Principal/AD) Submitting this information

Susan Stephens

Position of Administrator

Designated Representative

Withdrawal from district competition

Does this school desire to withdraw from postseason competition for the period of 2025 and 2026?

No

Other General Commentary Including any geographic placement suggestions

Please mention any other desired comments on behalf of your school:

As the Principal of Betsy Layne High School, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed realignment of our football program into Class 2A, District 8. I strongly believe that aligning our football program into Class 2A, District 7. This allows us to join the other two teams in our county, Floyd Central and Prestonsburg High School, which I feel is crucial for the success, growth, and sustainability of our program.

One of the main advantages of aligning the Betsy Layne High School football program in the same playing district as the other two schools in our county is the significant cost savings in transportation. The two other county schools are located less than 15 miles away from us, which allows for shorter travel times and reduced expenses. By staying within our county, we can also take advantage of local policies that enable us to transport more students on buses, requiring fewer buses to transport our football team, cheerleaders, and band - ultimately decreasing transportation costs for our program.

Furthermore, alignment into District 7 will enable our football team to compete at higher levels due to the presence of the intense rivalry atmosphere with our in-county rivals. These rivalries not only enhance the competitive spirit among our players, but also generate increased revenue through ticket sales, concessions, and merchandise. The proximity of our in-county teams attracts larger fan attendance and greater community support, which contributes to the financial success and sustainability of our football program.

Lastly, placing Betsy Layne High School in District 7 sets up a scenario for which competitive sports are intended. This realignment gives us the chance to create and foster the spirit of football that fans strive for; the spirit of competition when playing against our neighboring teams. Geographically, we may be just

a few more miles down the road to the closest district team in District 8, but they are not our community neighbors. We feel it is imperative to be together with our in-county schools in District 7 to enhance the intense rivalry atmosphere, competitive spirit among our players and energize our entire community. The weeks leading up to a rivalry football game are filled with excitement, discussions, and community support that brings friends, families, and neighbors together. This sense of comradery and shared passion for our local teams is a vital part of the high school football experience.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to consider the numerous benefits of the alignment of Betsy Layne High School's football program into District 7. This decision will not only benefit our athletes and coaches, but also enhance the overall success of each of the football programs in Floyd County. We could put three high schools from one community, on the same athletic level and size, into a district together, which is something not seen in our area since the days before consolidation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.