

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: Kentucky School for the Blind (KSB) Advisory Board Appointment

Date: June 2024

Action Requested: Review Action/Consent Action/Discussion

Held In: Full Board State Schools United We Learn

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To act on the proposed candidate to maintain current membership on the Kentucky School for the Blind (KSB) Advisory Board.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends that the individual listed be reappointed to the KSB Advisory Board. The candidate meets the necessary criteria for appointment.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

[KRS 156.070](#); [KRS 167.015](#); [KRS 167.035](#)

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

KRS 156.070 details the general powers and duties of the state board, including management of the two state schools: "The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) shall have the management and control of the common schools and all programs operated in these schools, including interscholastic athletics, the Kentucky School for the Deaf, the Kentucky School for the Blind, and community education programs and services." KRS 167.015 also provides that: "The Kentucky School for the Blind at Louisville, Kentucky, and the Kentucky School for the Deaf at Danville, Kentucky, shall be managed and controlled by the Kentucky Board of Education."

KRS 167.035 states that a KSB Advisory Board may be established. The advisory board is composed of five members appointed by the KBE upon recommendation by the chief state school officer for terms of four years and until their successors are appointed. The advisory board elects from its membership a chair. The purpose of the board is to act in an advisory capacity to assist leadership in conducting the activities of the school.

Summary of Issue:

The four-year term of one member has expired, and she wishes to be reappointed. The KSB advisory board's bylaws allow each member to serve no more than two terms, and the member being recommended for reappointment has only served one term. The following individual is recommended for reappointment:

Janell Turner – Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

Ms. Turner is a graduate of the University of Dayton with a bachelor of science in Psychology.

Ms. Turner earned her masters of education degree in Counseling Psychology from the

University of Kentucky and began her career as a vocational rehabilitation counselor in the Kentucky Office for the Blind before becoming a vocational rehabilitation administrator in the same office. Ms. Turner now serves as a vocational rehabilitation administrator in the Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation where she assists in overseeing the agency's efforts related to transition services for youth and young adults, including pre-employment transition services, for individuals who are blind, visually impaired, deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind. Ms. Turner was first appointed to serve on the KSB advisory board in December 2019.

Budget Impact:

Pursuant to KRS 167.035, members of the board serve without compensation, but are reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

OSEEL sought feedback through multiple outlets.

CONTACT PERSON(S):

Gretta Hylton, Associate Commissioner
Office of Special Education and Early Learning
Email: Gretta.Hylton@education.ky.gov
(502) 564-4970

Robin Fields Kinney
Commissioner of Education

Category: <input type="checkbox"/> Educator Workforce Diversity <input type="checkbox"/> Portrait of a Graduate Partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Racial Equity Commitment <input type="checkbox"/> Student-Centered Accountability System <input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood <input type="checkbox"/> District Support
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