

## KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (KDE)

### STAFF NOTE: REVIEW ITEM

**Topic:** Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) Report on Title IX Deficiencies for Schools Audited During the 2024-2025 School Year

**Date:** February 2026

**Action Requested:** ☒Review   ☐Action/Consent   ☐Action/Discussion

**Held In:** ☒Full Board   ☐State Schools   ☐United We Learn

#### SUMMARY OF PRESENTATION:

To review the report on Title IX Deficiencies as required by 702 KAR 7:065 which mandates that the KHSAA review all member schools for Title IX compliance, in terms of facilities and policies.

The KHSAA is required to visit each member school per 702 KAR 7:065 and uses retired educators to assist with this requirement. The work is coordinated by KHSAA Associate Commissioner Darren Bilberry.

The KHSAA is in the twenty first year of Title IX Field Audits. At the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year, the KHSAA began its fourth revisit cycle for all member schools, which were suspended during 2020-21 and 2021-22. This fourth cycle has been extended due to two years of lack of visits due to the pandemic suspension on schools consistently allowing outside individuals into their buildings. With the schools scheduled to be visited in 2025-26, the fourth cycle of revisits will be completed.

Following were the KHSAA Title IX compliance education activities scheduled during the 2024-2025 school year:

- Conducted 43 on-site audit revisits with a post-visit report prepared and distributed. Deficiencies are noted in Attachment "A."
- Continued the process of the submission of KHSAA Annual Report Forms to the Association each year. This process has been automated for the membership, and all member schools are in compliance with the reporting requirements or in the process of completing any missing information. Each of these reports is published on the association website.
- Conducted regional workshops to educate a constantly changing group of member school administrators on data collection and monitoring Title IX compliance, as well as incorporating key elements of Title IX compliance in the 8 regional meetings held each year.
- KHSAA Audit Staff continues to provide outreach assistance for local school district groups, such as Local Gender Equity Review Committees, Athletic Booster Clubs, local School Boards and Professional Educator's Associations.
- Title IX compliance continues to be a regular agenda item at KHSAA sponsored education seminars, such as the Administrator's Workshops, held throughout the state and offered online this year.
- KHSAA staff continue to be a Title IX information resource, answering questions and clarifying issues via telephone, email and field visits.

- KHSAA Associate Commissioner Darren Bilberry continues to serve as the Association's designated Title IX coordinator and the remainder of the staff labors with diligence to remain current on ever-changing policy and policy interpretations to assist the membership.

With the schools scheduled to be visited in 2025-26, the fourth cycle of revisits will be completed with four notations for emphasis, not including any findings from the 2025-26 field visits.

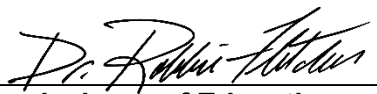
- Christian County and Hopkinsville were due to be visited along with the other remaining 43 schools during the 2025-26 school year. However, with their consolidation impending, it was felt that a more accurate review could be done once the new school building and facilities are open for 2026-27.
- Bellevue High School has continued facility improvements and the audit team will focus during 2026-27 on ensuring the appropriate allocations around the improvements that have been made. In particular, the facility improvements contained in the year-end report of 2025 will be given additional scrutiny for the next cycle.
- Seneca High School was to have its Athletic Director attend the recently conducted Title IX seminars to ensure that the appropriate allocation of funding was understood. The Designated Representative (Athletic Director) did not attend these meetings. The audit team member assigned to that school along with KHSAA Associate Commissioner Bilberry will ensure that the 2025-26 annual report will be appropriately completed, as well as special emphasis on the next site visit to ensure appropriate accounting.

#### **CONTACT PERSON(S):**

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**Commissioner of Education**

#### **GOALS/PRIORITIES: Indicate all applicable options.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster Educational Innovation Through Vibrant Learning Experiences
<input type="checkbox"/>	Advance Educational Excellence Through Continuous Professional Improvement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cultivate Collaborative Partnerships
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Legislation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner's Management