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TO: John Miller
Assistant Executive Director
WIAA

Brian Smith
Assistant Executive Director
WIAA

FROM: Carl Blackstone
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DATE: May 18, 2016

RE: WIAA Response to Bellevue School District Violation Report dated May 11, 2016

On March 22, 2016, Carl Blackstone and Robert Westinghouse submitted an Investigative report to the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (“WIAA”) relating to the Bellevue High School (“BHS”) football program. The WIAA Investigative Report (“Investigative Report”) contained findings that BHS and the Bellevue School District (“BSD”) had violated a number of WIAA rules. WIAA provided the Investigative Report to BSD on April 1, 2016. On May 11, 2016, BSD/BHS presented a WIAA Violation Report (“Violation Report” or “District’s Report”) to the KingCo League during a self-report hearing. On May 13, 2016, George Crowder, KingCo League President, requested that WIAA and its investigators evaluate the information contained in the BSD/BHS Violation Report.

The Violation Report identifies 10 allegations in the Investigative Report. The Violation Report provides substantive responses to only six of the allegations. BSD reports that it is continuing to investigate the remaining four violations and represented that it would respond by May 16, 2016. To our knowledge, BSD did not respond by that date.

In this memorandum the WIAA investigators will respond to the six allegations addressed in the Violation Report. The investigators will submit a supplemental response after BSD provides a substantive response to the four remaining allegations.

use a false address, but that only the student should be sanctioned.³ The conclusions set forth in the District's Report are in most instances contradictory to the evidence and not reasonable. Its conclusion that the District, through its coaches and administrators, is not responsible for any of the players' use of false addresses is likewise contradictory to the facts and not reasonable. We address the findings as to each player seriatim.

a. ██████████

BSD claims that it is still investigating whether ██████████ provided a false address. No further investigation is needed as the WIAA Investigative Report presented compelling evidence that ██████████ used a false address to enroll at BHS. ██████████ attended Auburn High School and played football there for his freshman and sophomore years. After the end of his sophomore year football season, Mr. ██████████ transferred to BHS on February 21, 2014. At the time of his enrollment he provided an address for the Chateau Apartment Complex of 1111 102nd Avenue NE, #225, Bellevue, WA 98004. The WIAA investigation determined that Mr. ██████████ never lived at the address. Apartment 225 was occupied by an elderly gentleman named Ronald Coyle. Mr. Coyle stated that neither Mr. ██████████ or his father ever lived in that apartment. The property manager and Mr. Coyle's daughter also confirmed that Mr. ██████████ did not live in apartment 225. Thus, these undisputed facts lead to only one conclusion: ██████████ provided a false address at the time he enrolled in BHS and he did not live in the Bellevue High School attendance area as required by WIAA rules. (Investigative Report at 27-28, Exhibit 8).

BSD seem to ignore this conclusion and provides confusing information which obfuscates the truth. Although ██████████ refused to talk with the WIAA investigators, BSD was able to talk to Mr. ██████████'s father. The Violation Report does not make it clear as to where ██████████ has been living during the time he has attended BHS. It is unclear from the District's Report whether it ever asked the father if he and his son were actually living in apartment 225; where he and his son lived at the time his son enrolled in BHS; or, why he submitted a false lease to the District to establish eligibility. The Violation Report simply states that the father said that the lease agreement for apartment 225 "was arranged through the daughter of the individual of who was the previous tenant." The WIAA investigators interviewed Mr. Coyle's daughter and she said that she had never seen or met Mr. ██████████ and that he had never lived in her father's apartment.

BSD then report that "the father also shared that he has not lived in apartment #225 1/16/16 and currently lives in apartment 245." This statement is confusing at best, misleading at worst. The reader is left to ponder whether Mr. ██████████ and his father ever lived in apartment 225 or whether they lived there until January 16, 2016. Given the evidence uncovered by the WIAA

³ Because many of these students have graduated, the sanctions as to them would be meaningless.