

NEWS RELEASE  
JULY 31, 2018

## Barnes Receives KASA William Nallia Award

(Frankfort, Ky) The Kentucky Association of School Administrators Board of Directors selected Robert “Beau” Barnes as the 2018 recipient of the William Nallia Award.

Named in honor of the former executive director of KASA who led the tremendous growth of the association in its early years, the award is presented annually to an educational leader who has shown a spirit of innovation and exemplary service to Kentucky’s students.

As the Kentucky General Assembly dealt with one of the most volatile issues in its history - public pension reform - Barnes was a constant presence. He worked tirelessly to share accurate and timely information with legislators when they were being bombarded with rumors and misinformation. He appeared before dozens of groups of legislators, retirees, and TRS members to answer questions and clarify complex issues.

“I have never seen a single individual work harder to help the legislature resolve such a difficult issue of public policy,” said Wayne Young, KASA Executive Director. “Beau’s low-key approach to sharing verifiable, data-based answers in a highly charged, emotional environment, was key to the passage of a much-improved version of pension reform.”

Barnes received the award at KASA’s 50th Annual Leadership Institute, July 25, before an audience of 1400 school administrators.

Barnes currently serves as deputy executive secretary of operations and general counsel of Teachers’ Retirement System (TRS). He also serves as the retirement system’s legislative liaison. He has been with TRS since 1999.

The Kentucky Association of School Administrators is the largest school administrators’ group in Kentucky, representing more than 3,100 education leaders from across the commonwealth. Formed in 1969, KASA connects education leaders to policymakers, legislators, and other interest groups and provides numerous benefits and services to Kentucky’s school administrators.

###

