

Sports Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Currie Outlines Accountability Measures

MANHATTAN, Kan. – Kansas State Athletics Director John Currie announced Friday the department's "K-State Pledge," a series of accountability measures and core values that will serve as the foundation of K-State's vision for a model intercollegiate athletics program.

"A model intercollegiate athletics program can signify many things but we have five core measures that we will use here at K-State to define a model program," Currie said. "And, overall, when people are talking about intercollegiate athletics and the programs in the nation that do it right, Kansas State should and can be one of those model programs."

Currie listed five goals for K-State's vision of a model intercollegiate athletics program:

- A world-class student-athlete experience.
- Value to our University, community and state.
- Integrity and transparency in matters of ethics, NCAA compliance and finance.
- Championship-level athletic performances.
- The best fan experience in the Big 12 Conference.

Currie noted that as the department seeks to achieve this vision and goals, several proactive steps will be implemented immediately in order to continue to gain the trust of donors, season-ticket holders and fans.

In a follow-up to the recent University exit analysis conducted for the Kansas Board of Regents and to meet its mission of being fiscally compliant, K-State Athletics intends to retain Deloitte & Touche LLP, a nationally recognized Big Four accounting firm, to assist in the continued analysis of the department's business policies and practices and financial processes.

In addition, Currie has implemented the following procedures to improve fiscal accountability:

- Both the Athletics Director and the Vice President for Administration and Finance must sign off on all expenditures of \$50,000 or more.
- The Athletics Director will personally review and approve all departmental expenses for the foreseeable future.
- The Athletics Director's personal business expenses will be regularly reviewed by the Vice President for Administration and Finance.
- All contracts -- including personnel, contest agreements, service and purchasing -- must be reviewed and approved by University counsel and/or Vice President for Administration and Finance office.

An integral part of the "K-State Pledge" is transparency regarding how donor contributions and ticket purchases are allocated and utilized by the department.

"Student-athletes and their experience at K-State are at the forefront of our mission," Currie said. "The gifts and ticket purchases of K-State donors and fans will always be used only to benefit Wildcat student-athletes, through scholarships, services, such as academic support and sports medicine, or direct competition needs of our teams. No monies received directly from fans or donors will be used on expenses related to buyouts of previous contracts."

Recently publicized buyout obligations will be funded from K-State's annual Big 12 and NCAA revenue-shared distributions. K-State receives approximately \$9 million annually in Big 12 Conference and NCAA revenue distributions derived largely from television contracts, bowl agreements, NCAA post-season basketball and conference championship events.

Currie also announced that K-State will hold a news conference on Monday, July 13, to announce ticket initiatives and other plans that relate to the K-State fan experience. The news conference is set for 1 p.m., in the Legends Room of Bramlage Coliseum, and will be broadcast live on Cox Cable Channel 8 in Manhattan and Junction City.

"We are committed to having athletic events that are accessible to our broad range of fans," Currie added.

Additionally, Currie has set plans to host a "Town Hall Meeting" teleconference on July 22 during which K-State donors, season-ticket holders and fans will have the opportunity to participate in a conference call to ask Currie questions regarding K-State Athletics. More information about the "Town Hall Meeting" call will be announced at a later date.

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K-State Athletics, Incorporated Imprest Fund Policy

Kansas State University allows K-State Athletics, Incorporated ("KSA") to maintain an Imprest Fund in the amount of \$30,000 to be used for travel advances, purchases that may not be made with a Purchase Order or departmental corporate credit card, and for other instances when expediency is clearly in the best interest of the KSA. The maximum dollar amount of any check written from the Imprest Fund may not exceed \$5,000. The Athletics Business Office will reconcile the Imprest account on a monthly basis and provide the University Controller's office with copies of the monthly bank statements and reconciliations. KSA's Business Office is responsible for the control and management of the Imprest Fund.