



The Newport Board of Education held a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at 5:00 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8th Street, Newport.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ramona Malone asked for a roll call. The following were present: Ramona Malone, Melissa Sheffel, Sylvia Covington, Aaron Sutherland, and Tim Curl.

Ms. Malone asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance and to pause for a Moment of Reflection.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Newport Independent School District will partner with families and the community to nurture, educate, and instill core values in all students to ensure they reach their fullest potential.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

MINUTES OF MAY 24, 2023, JUNE 5, 2023, AND JUNE 20, 2023

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the minutes of May 24, 2023 and June 20, 2023 were approved as presented.

1457 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND the minutes of June 5, 2023 were approved as presented.

1458 – MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Ms. Malone abstained from voting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the financial report was accepted and will be filed for audit and the bills were approved for payment.

1459 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Ms. Hoover also provided the following for the board's review. She also asked if the board had questions regarding 2 new business items she is asking for their approval on this evening. Indirect cost rates and the security pledge of collateral with Heritage Bank. There were no questions.

- Credit card statement
- Administrator expense detail report
- Tuition reimbursement report
- ESSER Budget updates

- Insurance renewals
- Monthly financial report

STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Mr. Watts updated the board on:

- Employee turnover numbers
- Exit survey data
- NWEA

Ms. Malone said we need to watch for repetition in the exit survey and focus on common issues that are being repeated. She wants to know what the plans are to address these. She asked Mr. Watts to add this to his monthly update.

After discussion regarding the number of non-renewals and resignations from the last two school years, an updated report will be provided to the board at the next meeting.

The board asked for an easier way to present the data extracted from the exit survey. Kim Klosterman will work with the technology department to develop a report that is easier to read.

Our reps from NWEA have offered to meet with the board thru a Zoom meeting in July if that is an agreeable choice. Due to busy summer schedules, the team cannot attend in person. Mr. Watts and Ms. Payne are meeting with NWEA reps thru Zoom on Thursday, June 29th and will make recommendations to change the scope of the work and reduce the cost of the current contract. Ms. Malone asked who will be doing the work that NWEA does if we terminate the current contract. Mr. Watts said Ms. Payne will provide the same assistance to building administrators that NWEA is currently contracted to do.

Darla Payne presented the curriculum department report. There were no questions. She also presented the following information on summer school programming:

NPS – 65 students served
 NIS – 62 students served
 NHS – 46 students served
 Theatre Camp – 8 students served

K-8th grade students took pre-tests and began working on KY standards mastery in the areas of math and ELA. High school students completed 33 credits during week one of summer programming. Many extracurricular activities were provided throughout the month. The students were engaged in learning and enjoyed the trips and enrichments provided. The theatre students will perform “Finding Nemo” on Friday, June 30th at 6:30 PM in the high school auditorium. Besides acting, students have also been involved in directing and designing sets for this performance.

Ms. Covington said she really liked seeing the students that attended summer school enjoying themselves so much. Ms. Malone asked for attendance and assessment comparisons from last year to this year.

Ms. Stewart was not in attendance. There were no questions regarding her report.

Mr. Maines presented the facilities, transportation and safe schools update. There were no questions. He also shared an energy consumption report with the board. He said he would be providing the board with a monthly update on energy usage every month moving forward.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Sutherland asked for an explanation of indirect costs. Ms. Hoover explained that indirect costs are general business and administration expenses that aren't directly linked to a grant or project; i.e. utilities, office equipment, computers, cell phones, supplies, etc.

Ms. Malone expressed concern over approving the school counselor position funded thru NKCES. Based on the information provided, it appears the board may have to subsidize the cost of this position based on who is hired and she and other members were not comfortable with the unknown cost to the general fund. Others expressed concern over whether this was our employee or an employee of NKCES. If it is our employee, we would need to be cognizant that it is a year to year position based on grant funding.

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY CURL item 9 was tabled pending further discussions with the DPP.

1460 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

1. Personnel report
2. 2nd reading of 2023 KSBA policy updates
3. Special Education service contracts:
 - Amy Martin – Physical Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Speech Pathologist
 - Pamela Kaising – Speech Language Therapy Services – NPS
 - Marsha Gerton – Orientation & Mobility Specialist
 - Nancy Miller – Speech Language Therapy Services – NPS
 - Lauren Dressman – Speech Language Therapy Services
 - Stephanie Anthrop –Speech Language Therapy Services
 - Martha Kaising – Speech Language Therapy Services - NIS
4. Lease for office space at Brighton Center on Park Avenue for the Newport School of Innovation
5. Owner-Architect Agreement – Welcome Center and NIS boilers
6. Owner-Architect Agreement – ~~NHS stadium renovations~~ NHS CTE Renovations
7. 2024 indirect cost rates
8. Security pledge of collateral with Heritage Bank
9. ~~School Counselor Mental Health position and job description – funded thru NKCES, Institute of Empowerment Federal Grant~~

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND, consent agenda items 1-8 were approved with the correction to #6 – Owner-Architect Agreement – NHS CTE Renovations.

1461 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND the board went into executive session. Possible action will be taken. KRS 61.810 (k) and KRS 156.577 – discussions relating to the evaluation of the superintendent.
Time: 6:08 PM

1462 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON the board returned to open session. Time: 8:00 PM

1463 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION BY CURL AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the meeting adjourned. Time: 8:00 PM

1464– MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Chairman

Secretary