



The Newport Board of Education held a work session on August 8, 2018 at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held in the Board Room located at 30 W. 8th Street, Newport.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Malone called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call. The following were present: Ramona Malone, Dr. Julie Smith-Morrow, Melissa Sheffel, Theresa Miller & Matt Scott.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Kelly Middleton and Mr. Grayson.

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

IRB UPDATE

Mr. Middleton met with Tom Fromme, City Manager, to discuss the resolutions for the IRBs the city is asking the board to take under consideration. The first one is related to the Skywheel project located on the riverfront and the second one is related to the sale of the levee itself. The city will be submitting resolutions for the board to consider at the August regular meeting.

TAX RATE INFORMATION

Tax rate information was received from KDE certifying the assessments as of August 6, 2018. KRS allows 45 days for districts that are not adopting above the 4% rate to establish a final tax rate. Districts who fail to meet the deadline shall be required to use the compensating tax rate for that year's property tax bill. More information will be forthcoming for the board to consider over the next week or two. Tax rates will be adopted in September.

SOUTHGATE AGREEMENT

With the retirement of Southgate's finance director this fall, Supt. Greg Duty, has been discussing the idea of Newport taking over many of Southgate's finance responsibilities. This would include the duties of the finance director, accounts payable, payroll, and several human resource functions, including health insurance. An agreement will be presented to Southgate's board in the next week or so. If approved, the same agreement will be presented to Newport's board for approval.

FACILITY TOUR

With so many construction projects underway this summer, Mr. Middleton invited the board to tour the intermediate school, the primary school and the high school to see the numerous upgrades going on district-wide.

After visiting the intermediate school to see the enhanced security features upon entering the building and the completed flooring projects, everyone boarded one of our busses to tour the other sites.

The primary school also has enhanced security features for guests entering the building, as well as, new restrooms. The hallways have been painted, new flooring has been installed, and upgraded lighting has replaced unsightly bulbs in some areas. There is still work to do but the improvements are remarkable.

Next stop was the high school where the board saw first-hand the newly renovated kitchen and cafeteria. This space is one of Mr. Middleton's most prized projects. When completed, this food court will be one of the nicest ones in the state of KY.

Not as obvious but most important, are the new cameras and security systems installed throughout the district.

All of these projects are thanks to the citizens of Newport for voting in support of the second nickel.

After the tour, the bus took everyone back to the Welcome Center.

The work session ended at 8:15 PM

Chairman

Secretary