



The Newport Board of Education held a meeting on February 27, 2019 at 6:30 P.M. 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, & Sylvia Covington.

Also in attendance: Superintendent Kelly Middleton, other district leaders, and invited guests.

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

PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS

The board recognized Ms. Mirena Combs, NHS student, upon winning the state championship in bowling. Coach Paul Hoeh was in attendance also. He commented on the bowling season and said what an honor it was to be present when Mirena won the title. Just a few short years ago, his daughter, Katlyn, also won the state championship in bowling. Katlyn has been supporting the team this year and was also at the state championship match to share the momentous occasion. Mirena will decide soon where she will attend college; several scholarship offers have been made.

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2018, DECEMBER 13, 2018, JANUARY 23, 2019, & FEBRUARY 13, 2109

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the minutes were approved as written.

960 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

TREASURER'S REPORT

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW, the financial statement was accepted and will be filed for audit.

961 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Before approving the bills, Mr. Turner noted he had talked to all board members regarding the bills. All questions were answered to their satisfaction.

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the bills were approved for payment.

962 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Mr. Turner's report covered:

- Credit card bills and receipts
- Monthly administrator's expenses
- KETS offers of assistance (new business)
- After prom donation (new business)

Casino Night will be held this Saturday, March 2nd, at the American Legion to help raise funds for the after-prom. Doors open at 7:00 PM.

STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Mr. Middleton's report covered:

- Reminder that the boys' basketball team will play Friday at 8:00 at BB&T Arena – regional semi-finals
- Monday's cabinet meeting was held at the Mentoring Plus office at 8th and York Streets. This introduction to their program helped district leaders better understand what they do, who they serve, etc. and how to get more involved.
- A meeting was held with Nicole Braun, Coordinator of the GED program, regarding space for the School of Innovation. It was a very position meeting.
- Dennis Maines is the new intermediate school principal and Jennifer Stewart is the new instructional coach. Both are in Bowling Green at NISL (National Institute for School Leadership) training. They will return Thursday.
- KSBA Conference – sessions seem to be more about charter school training than ways to help students in public education.

Ms. Gilkison's presented her report; there were no questions. Ms. Malone requested a follow-up work session on the outcome of the instructional strategies mentioned in the report; i.e. metacognition training for the sustainability coach, KAGAN coaching, PBL coaching, Scholastic Reading training, Scholastic coaching, DI coaching. We will coordinate a meeting in April or May for this report.

Mr. McCormick presented the report for student services and asked if there were questions.

Ms. Malone asked if there was a separate calendar committee for the Newport Regional School. Kevin reported that the calendar for NRS follows the district's calendar except there are no PLC days and they work an additional 30 half days per requirements starting in July and continuing into June the following year.

Mr. Grayson presented the report for facilities and transportation. Ms. Covington had questions regarding the TANK service for students. All questions were answered satisfactorily.

Ms. Swanson presented the report for special education. Dr. Smith-Morrow had questions regarding the 2019 parent involvement survey. The survey is designed to capture parent satisfaction with special education programming throughout the state. This is the first year that data collected is not considered a sample by KDE. This year all districts are required to participate. The results will be used to help KDE and local school districts improve parent involvement as well as to meet federal reporting requirements.

Ms. Malone asked questions regarding the OVR High School Transition Forum. This is an opportunity available to students, ages 14-21 who are interested in exploring post-secondary opportunities outside of the high school setting. Students are tracked for one year after entering this program.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Before approving the consent agenda, Ms. Miller questioned the need to hire a private investigator and the hourly rate being charged for services. After investigating on her own, she confirmed most private investigators charge anywhere from \$75 to \$80 per hour.

Mr. Voelker explained that personnel in-house are not trained to investigate the current issues the district is facing regarding pending litigation, state testing allegations, etc. Rates may fluctuate depending on the level and quality of investigative work being performed.

Ms. Malone asked if this particular person was experienced in school law. Mr. Voelker explained that Boone County Schools utilizes his services so he does have the experience we need in this case.

Dr. Smith-Morrow asked if we need to cap the amount of money the board is willing to pay for these services. Mr. Middleton said he would be comfortable capping at \$10,000. If more funding is needed, he can approach the board again at that time.

1. Personnel report;
2. After prom donation;
3. 2 KETS Offer of Assistance in the amount of \$12,375 and \$9,625
4. Hire a private investigator for ongoing investigation purposes
5. 2019/20 SY calendar as recommended by the superintendent and the district calendar committee
6. 2019-2020 calendar for the Newport Regional School
7. Contract with KSBA for a policy audit in the amount of \$7,500 to start after the 2019 policy & procedure updates have been completed
8. 19/20 staffing allocations
9. Contract with Nancy Miller, SLP

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the consent agenda was approved with the provision to item #4 which caps the amount to pay a private investigator to \$10,000.

963 – MOTION CARRIED 4-1

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL a motion was made to withdraw the original motion to approve the consent agenda.

964 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL consent agenda items 1-3 and 5-9 were approved as presented.

965 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL consent agenda item #4 was approved with the provision to cap the amount to pay a private investigator to \$10,000.

966 – MOTION CARRIED 4-1

Roll call:

Malone – yes

Smith-Morrow – yes

Sheffel – yes

Miller – no

Covington - yes

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Cherie Thomas, a parent in the district, approached the board regarding an unsolved issue with her child. Mr. Voelker explained the board's position on these matters and asked that she speak directly to the superintendent at the end of the meeting. She was happy to follow protocol as requested.

BOARD COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW the board went into executive session to discuss pending litigation with possible action to follow: KRS 61.810 (c) Time: 7:18 PM

967 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW the board returned to open session.
Time: 7:40 PM

968 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the meeting adjourned. Time: 7:41 PM

969 - MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Chairman

Secretary