



The Newport Board of Education held a work session on May 8, 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.

FACILITY PRIORITIES

Mr. Turner provided the board with a list of projects, in priority order, currently under consideration. Since some of the priority 1 projects involve air conditioning and hot water, it is imperative that the process for these repairs start as soon as possible. Mr. Turner explained how some projects could possibly be included in a bond issue and the cost that from general funds if not bonded. There were 2 large items on the list that would require a new bond issue; a new roof on NIS and air conditioning in the primary kitchen and gym. If general fund picked up the total list of projects (minus the new roof and AC at NPS) the cost would be approx. \$710,000. These were estimates only.

Our current bonding capacity is \$4,000,000.

Dr. Smith-Morrow asked about chiller repairs vs. the cost of replacement. That difference is about \$200,000. Mr. Grayson was told we could potentially get 5-10 more years from the chiller with the needed repairs.

Questions were raised about the air handler controls. Currently the controls are not as efficient as they could be. They are manually controlled, and Mr. Grayson is suggesting we replace the manual controls with system controls that handles the air flow in a more efficient manner.

These items will be on the May agenda for board approval.

ACE THE WASTE! FOOD WASTE CONTEST FOR STUDENTS

Ms. Malone provided the board with information regarding a contest sponsored by the USDA as part of *Winning on Reducing Food Waste Month*. Ace the Waste is a student competition for food waste reduction ideas. Ms. Malone discussed this idea with Lisa Rizzo, Food Service Coordinator, who will address the board at the May meeting with her thoughts.

IMAGINATION LIBRARY PARTICIPATING SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTRACT

JC Morgan, Director of the Campbell County Public Library, attended the March board meeting to gauge the board's interest in the Imagination Library. The Imagination Library is a book-gifting program that mails free, high-quality books to children from birth to age five, no matter their family's income, monthly. The Dolly Parton Foundation pays

for the books and all overhead costs associated with administration of the program. The library pays for shipping which is \$2.50 per child per month or \$25.20 per year per child.

Mr. Morgan is asking the district to help with the cost of shipping the books. Area districts have committed their support for this program. Annual cost per year if the program ran at 100% capacity based on the 2010 census would cost the district approximately \$14,931 annually. However, the first couple of years usually runs at about 40% which translates into approximately \$5,972 per year.

The library is looking for support and will be at Ready Fest in August to sign children up for the program. They are asking for social media support which in turn could potentially lower the costs thru grants and donations.

The board would be committed under the contract until we term 12 months in advance. This contract will be on the consent agenda in May.

TURNAROUND PLANS

The board was provided with copies of the turnaround plans and the school improvement applications for each school. The three school improvement applications, if approved by KDE, will provide up to \$250,000 to each school to address the improvement priorities outlined in their audits. Districts will be notified of awards around July 1, 2019 and funds must be spent by September 20, 2021.

The board approved the turnaround plans submitted by the schools in April. We are currently waiting on feedback from KDE to determine if there are other areas to be addressed. Some of the improvement priorities listed in the audits was work the district had already identified and work was in progress before the team arrived in the district.

The improvement priorities developed are to enhance the capacity of the schools to reach a higher level of performance and reflect the areas identified to have the greatest impact on improving student performance and organizational effectiveness.

Improvement priority #1 was addressed by each principal. This centered around a systematic continuous improvement process that provides clear direction for improving conditions that support learning and includes procedures for assessing practices and using findings to enhance support for student learning.

Each one expressed their feelings of being over-whelmed with data and are working out ways to study the data and use it more effectively. They are deciphering how data is assessed to make sure needs are met; the right programs in place; and they are digging deeper to understand when students do not get the lessons being taught. A second PCL was put in place in January. A new lesson design form was implemented so that expectations between similar subjects are the same. Teachers started planning in late January and last month they started teaching the lessons developed using the new system. With this lesson form, teachers will know where students are academically. They can talk about what is working and adjust the lessons accordingly. The district is trying to create a system that is sustainable. The PLC on May 30 will allow teacher across the district to work vertically and horizontally on content areas. When asked how teachers and staff are handling the changes the answer was pretty much the same across all three schools; teachers want to do what is best for students.

Once the plans are approved by KDE, parents and community will be invited to attend a meeting for a better understanding of the improvement priorities and how they are being addressed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM