



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on December 17, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. The meeting was held in the A.D. Owens Professional Development room at 30 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport. PURPOSE: Capacity interview with River Cities Academy Board of Directors

### **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, and Sylvia Covington.

Also, in attendance: Kelly Middleton, Superintendent, district administrators, and guests.

### **OPENING**

Ms. Malone welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting. She then explained the purpose and protocol for the meeting and ensuing interview with the RCA board:

"The Newport Board of Education, along with all other local boards of education across Kentucky, was automatically made a charter school authorizer with the passage of the Kentucky charter school law in 2017.

River Cities Academy Charter School filed an application on October 30th, 2019 seeking authorization to open by the Newport Board of Education. Information about the proposed school can be found on the district webpage.

This is a public forum convened for the purposes of KRS 160.1594 subsection (2) which requires a capacity interview be conducted for each filed charter school application.

This is the Newport Independent Charter School Applicant Capacity Interview for River Cities Academy Charter School. The Date is December 17, 2019 and it is 6:00 PM.

This meeting is being recorded. Please ensure all cellphones are silenced.

This interview is scheduled from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. The first 45 minutes are allocated to a performance task. The second 45 minutes will be utilized for question and answer. Expect to spend two to three minutes on the initial response to a question, allowing time for follow-up. Feel free to ask for clarification.

The capacity interview is an essential piece of the review process. It allows the Board to probe questions, raise concerns, conduct essential due diligence, corroborate information, and determine the capacity of the governing board.

Please be aware that the interview panel will be thorough. We will not give assistance or recommendations in this process.

The interview panel will ask essential questions, but panel members may ask follow up questions. Because we have a lot to cover, I may interject or otherwise limit your response only so that we are time sensitive. We will have a timekeeper so that we will manage our time wisely.

At this time, please introduce yourselves and give us a brief view of your role in relation to the proposed school. You may also give a brief overview of the proposed school”.

The RCA Board of Directors introduced themselves, gave an overview of their education background and work experience; they also spoke about their personal desires to open up the charter school being discussed this evening.

The board consists of the following seven members: Lynn Schaber, Evelyn Pence, Sabrina Tinkler, Sarah Strauss, Ian Maloney, Jeff Weghorst, and Jillian Stashak.

Ms. Malone then transitioned to the performance task. The RCA board will be given 20 minutes to work with their team to answer the questions. The RCA board will then give a 10-minute presentation of their conclusions. The Board of Education’s role during this time will be to observe deliberation and information to more fully assess the specific competencies that could not be fully ascertained from resumes or written application.

The RCA board was given a copy of all the materials needed for the performance task. The topic was school finance and was based on the materials provided as part of the RCA application. Ms. Malone informed the board they have 20 minutes to complete the task will have 10 minutes to present conclusions.

Ms. Malone proceeded to read the assigned task. Each RCA board member was handed a folder containing the task and the timer was set for 20 minutes.

At the conclusion of 20 minutes the RCA board presented their conclusions.

At the conclusion of the 10-minute presentation Ms. Malone informed the RCA board that they would now transition to the Q & A portion of the interview.

Questions were prioritized and time did not allot for all questions. Follow up questions were asked. The other members of the Board observed and took notes. 45 minutes was allocated for this portion.

### **CLOSING**

After the 45-minute Q & A portion of the interview concluded Ms. Malone thanked the River Cities Academy board for their time. The Board will consider a final recommendation on December 26, 2019 or on December 30, 2019 (if needed). Thank you.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, on MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the meeting adjourned. Time: 7:35 PM

1042 - MOTION CARRIED 5-0

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Chairman

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Secretary