



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on December 18, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. The meeting was held in the auditorium at Newport High School, 900 E. 6th Street, Newport, KY. PURPOSE: Public forum to provide members of the public with an opportunity to voice their opinion on the proposed charter school.

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 and then explained the purpose of the public forum. "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 (3) which requires a public forum be conducted for each filed charter school application. The purpose of the forum is to provide members of the public with an opportunity to voice their opinions on the proposed charter schools and to present information for the Board to consider in deliberations. In accordance with Newport Independent School District Board Policy 01.421, public comment will proceed as follows:

- There will be strict enforcement of a 3-minute time limit for each speaker, to allow as many people as possible to speak. The timer will go off at 2½ minutes, indicating 30 seconds remaining to wrap up, and then again at 3 minutes, indicating the end of the allotted time.
- We have reserved 2 hours of time for this public forum.

The Board encourages the submission of written comments, either in addition to or in lieu of spoken remarks. Written comments can be submitted via a Google Form linked to the district webpage with the deadline being December 20, 2019. You get to say more in a written comment than you do in a 3-minute timeframe. All written comments are provided redacted of personal information but otherwise provided as is for Board members.

Please note that the forum is being recorded. A copy of the recording, and copies of all written comments, will be included in the full body of evidence considered when final decisions are made.

Board members will refrain from asking questions, engaging in debate, or answering questions posed by speakers. The purpose of the forum is to hear from the public, and we want to accommodate as many people as possible. Speakers who wish to receive answers to specific questions will be directed to the Superintendent”.

Public comments were given by 19 attendees. Since the full 2 hours had not been exhausted the board chair asked if anyone had arrived late that wanted to speak. One late arrival did ask permission to voice a comment. The board chair then asked if anyone else who had not signed up to comment wanted to speak. There were no additional comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the meeting adjourned. Time: 6:57 PM

1043 - MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Chairman

Secretary