



The Newport Board of Education held a regular meeting on September 23, 2020 at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held in the A.D. Owens Professional Development 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, and Sylvia Covington.

Also, in attendance: Tony Watts, Superintendent, central office administrators, and special guests.

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

Ms. Miller entered the meeting.

RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Watts introduced Rachel Roberts, State Representative. Ms. Roberts' purpose for attending the meeting was to recognize the district's food service staff and to thank them for their service to students and families. Our food service staff provided meals to students when schools shut down in March and continued serving thru the summer months. When students/parents could not make it to school to pick up meals, our staff set up meal pick-up areas around the city for easier access and in some cases delivered directly to homes. They have gone beyond the call of duty to make sure students and families were provided with nutritious food.

Staff members were presented with framed citations from the House of Representatives thanking them for their dedication and service.

Antronette Black, Director of Newport's Boys and Girls Club, along with Meghan Jadwin, Education Coordinator, and Crystal Allen, VP of Operations in the Greater Cincinnati area were in attendance to talk about their services and to thank the district for their continued support.

Ms. Black started off by thanking the board for the newly formed partnership with our food service department. We are now serving meals to students attending school virtually from their location. Typically, the boys and girls club only offer after school programming from 3:00-6:00. However, they have expanded their program to include full time hours Monday – Friday to help families and students who are attending classes virtually. School hours are from 8:00-3:00 and then they transition to their normal after school programs at 3:00.

The club can offer the tools and hands on assistance to ensure success for our students during this time of virtual learning. They have been corresponding with teachers and they have an academic coach on staff to help with interventions. Their facility is "COVID" prepared; meaning they take all necessary precautions as outlined by the health department.

The club plans to expand the number of students they are serving in the next few weeks which will be a tremendous help to our families who need assistance during this time.

Ms. Malone thanked the ladies for attending this evening and expressed the gratitude of the board for our partnership.

MINUTES OF AUGUST 26, 2020 REGULAR MEETING AND SEPTEMBER 9, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING

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

1139- MOTION CARRIED 5-0

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

1140 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Mr. Turner noted he had talked to all members regarding the bills prior to the meeting. All questions asked were answered satisfactorily.

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

1141 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

The treasurer's report also included:

- Credit card bill and receipts
- Administrator expense report
- Tuition reimbursement update

Due to MUNIS issues the working budget is not ready for the board's approval this evening. A special called meeting will be discussed under the superintendent's report.

STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Mr. Watts updated the board on the following:

- Survey on virtual instruction
- MAP testing
- Tuesday, September 29th – first in-person instructional day
- All Call going out tomorrow reiterating in-person expectations
- Data Dashboard – this is a weekly reporting system thru the health department that tracks the number of COVID cases reported in the county. These number drive decisions on schools remaining open, what precautions might need to be in place, or whether we close until numbers decrease.

Ms. Steidel-Jones presented some of the data results from the parent survey on how the schools are handling virtual learning. While the number of responses were lower than we were hoping for, the results represent every grade level and the school of innovation. Overall, the survey reflects that the implementation of virtual learning has been successful.

Ms. Ball gave the board a quick overview of how we use federal funds.

Title 1 Funds:

- Spending is aligned to school improvement plans. Data is used to determine improvement priorities.
- Improvement plans are analyzed and approved by KDE.

School Improvement Funds (offered to schools who are in CSI status as determined by KDE):

Newport currently has 2 grants – all schools received funding last year and this year. NPS and NIS received funding this year and next. NHS exited CSI status

- Improvement priorities are determined by data collected during the diagnostic audit.
- Resources must be listed in the application to spend the money; however, revisions are acceptable.
- Application must be approved by KDE.

Mr. Watts asked that the board call a special meeting early next week to approve the 2021 working budget. The report must be submitted to KDE by October 1st. After discussion, the board agreed to meet on Monday, September 28th at 5:30 to complete the business of approving the working budget.

Ms. Stewart presented her report. Ms. Sheffel asked about compulsory attendance.

Compulsory school attendance refers to the minimum and maximum age required by each state in which a student must be enrolled in and attending public school, or some equivalent education program defined by the law. The most common withdrawal reasons from school is maturity and parent preference, a student has moved to a neighboring district or another state.

Mr. Grayson presented his report. There were no questions.

Ms. Swanson presented her report to the board. There were no questions.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL item 2, approve the 2021 working budget, will be removed from the consent agenda.

1142 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

1. Personnel report.
2. ~~2021 working budget.~~
3. Surplus technology equipment.
4. Agreement with TANK for transportation services for the 20/21 SY.
5. Resolution authorizing COVID-19 related emergency leave.
6. 2020 local planning committee members: Charla Jones, Tanya Roberts, Taliyah Jefferson, Jennifer Mariani, Kristi Long, Dustin Hinson, Matt Atkins, Heather Orman, Tete Turner, Bob McCray, Sandy Schweitzer, Tom Fromme, Melissa Sheffel, Tim Grayson, and Tony Watts.
7. Emergency certification for an EL teacher.
8. Emergency certification for medial librarian.
9. Emergency certification for elementary teacher.

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW the consent agenda was approved as presented.

1143 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS/UPDATES

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM

1144– MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Chairman

Secretary

.