

&lt;&lt;&lt;

☐ Autopilot

&gt;&gt;&gt;

1. Call to Order
2. Presentations
3. Minutes of October 29, 2008  
Special Meeting
4. Treasurer's report
5. Payment of bills
6. Treasurer's monthly update
7. Communications
8. Student Learning and Support  
Services
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Comments from the audience
12. Board Comments and  
Concerns
13. Executive Session
14. Adjournment

☐ Leading | ☐ Take Action | ☐ Discussion | ☐ Take Attendance | ☐ Attachments (1) | ☐ Notes (0)

## 9. Old Business

Rob Usleaman

### Rationale

In October 2007 the board agreed to create the Newport Education Foundation. The members of the foundation include a member of the board, district administrators, a person from the community and a Newport alumni. Shirley Turner and Melissa Hayden have been nominated to serve on this committee as representatives from the community and alumni.

### Recommended Motion

Accept nomination of Shirley Turner and Melissa Hayden as members of the Newport Education Foundation.

Attachments  
Newport Education  
Foundation member  
recommendations

Notes

&lt;&lt;&lt;

&gt;&gt;&gt;

Andrea M. Janovic  
(859) 391-7218

---

MEMORANDUM

---

November 11, 2008

To: Rob Usleaman, Chairman  
Members, Board of Education  
Michael Brandt, Superintendent

RE: **Community member and Alumni member of the Education Foundation Committee**

The following list is the result of suggestions by members of the community for consideration for the two non-Board and non-Administration positions on the new Education Foundation Committee.

**Community Member**

Shirley Turner (former employee of the Newport Schools)

**Alumni Member**

Melissa Hayden (Class of 2000, Alumni Vice President)

Sincerely,



Andrea M. Janovic

292-3073



*The Newport Board of Education held a regular meeting on November 19, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was held in the board room located at 301 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport.*

### **ROLL CALL**

*Chairman Usleaman asked for a roll call. The following were present: Robert Usleaman, Chairman, Andrea Janovic, Vice Chair, and members Dr. Julie Smith-Morrow, Robert Rummel and Chris Parsons.*

*Also in attendance: Superintendent Michael Brandt, Asst. Superintendent Pam Rye, Asst. Superintendent John Sowinsky, Tete Turner, Treasurer, other Newport Independent administrators, staff, and citizens.*

*Chairman Usleaman asked the audience to join the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance and for a Moment of Reflection.*

### **PRESENTATIONS**

*Mr. Brandt introduced Glenn Gaines from Energy Education. Mr. Gaines gave a brief overview of the energy education program implemented by Newport schools a few years ago. The school district has realized significant savings in utilities thru this program and with the help of Grady Brown, the district energy education manager.*

*Newport Independent Schools was presented the "Energy Pacesetter Award" for outstanding environmental and financial resource stewardship.*

*Gregg Fusaro, Capital Investment Group, Inc. was present to update the board on the South Shore Development project. Phase I of the project is 95% complete and there should be about 30 units of the 65 units available occupied by the end of December. The majority of their current residents are coming from Ohio. The major reasons people are seeking South Shore is location, life style, views, and awareness of what is happening in Newport. South Shore developers have been working with the school district in finding ways to assist the Newport schools; a joint fundraising benefit is in the preliminary stages of planning for spring that will benefit both Newport schools and the Pops Orchestra.*

*Julie Smith-Morrow asked about the price of the condos. Mr. Fusaro said prices range from the upper \$300,000's to over \$3,000,000; depending on the location of the condo. Rob Usleaman asked about Phase II of the project. Mr. Fusaro said it was definitely part of the plan but construction would depend entirely on the sale of the units in Phase I.*

*Jeff Baker, representative of the American Cancer Society and Chairman of the 2008 Relay for Life for Campbell County was in attendance to present the board and Newport High School with a plaque thanking them for the use of the facilities for this annual event which was held June 22<sup>nd</sup> and raised \$45,000 for the cancer society.*

*W.C. Stewart updated the board on the new IRS regulations concerning 403-b plans. A 403-b plan is a retirement plan similar to a 401-K plan or IRA but is set up for school districts, non-profit agencies, or government agencies.*

*Starting January 2009 the board will be responsible for adopting a planned document naming an administrator for this plan. The purpose is to have one central location where vendors can share information thru that source.*

*American Fidelity currently represents 140 schools throughout Kentucky and is volunteering to be the administrator of our 403-b plan with no cost to the district. American Fidelity will bill the vendors \$1 per month for this service.*

*Dr. Steve McCafferty, Principal at Mildred Dean Elementary, gave a presentation on CATS scores. He distributed a handout covering test scores from 1999 – 2008, attendance strategies, and strategies for improvement in the classroom.. Steve said the goals of Mildred Dean are proficiency all year and attendance of 96% or higher all year.*

*Andrea Janovic asked about the MAP test. Steve said that they have only given one round of testing thus far and MAP tests are something you look at over time. He'd have a better idea after the second set of tests was administered. Andrea mentioned the considerable drop in math and science scores and wanted to know what Dr. McCafferty attributed that to. Steve felt some of the scores reflect statistical errors and that the high scores they have achieved thus far will fluctuate because it would be impossible to think they could continue to maintain this level each and every year. While the scores have dropped, Mildred Dean continues to have the highest scores in the district.*

*Scott Draud, Principal at Newport High School, gave a presentation on CATS scores at the high school. He distributed a hand out of the 2007-08 accountability trend and material covering data to improve student achievement. Scott said MAP testing has been an asset because the results give clear and current data. He credits the raise in scores to site base for making a significant change in the schedule from a modified block to a traditional schedule and for adding needed intervention programs to close gaps in learning; i.e. a new reading program, math program and credit recovery program.*

*Andrea Janovic asked if anything in particular was being done in the science department? Scott reported that the science department was about to be audited to determine how to improve scores.*

*Rob Usleaman pointed out the test scores have dropped from 2004 to 2008. He asked Scott if he felt the interventions in place would help the school reach proficiency by 2014? Rob asked what else the school board could do to help turn the high school around. Dr. Julie Smith-Morrow would like the high school to track changes over time. Are more students entering high school on grade level, etc.*

*Before leaving, Scott introduced the ASSIST Team. This team provides support to schools whose accountability index declined over a two-year biennium. The team provides assistance with curriculum and instruction, professional development, leadership, school organization and morale. They will be at the high school through this school year.*

### **MINUTES OF OCTOBER 29, 2008**

*On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY JANOVIC the minutes of the October 29, 2008 meeting were approved as written.*

**3094 MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

*Mr. Turner presented the monthly treasurer's report and asked for questions or concerns.*

*There being no discussion, a MOTION BY JANOVIC AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW was made to accept the financial report and file for audit.*

**3095 MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

*On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY RUMMEL the payment of bills was approved.*

**3096 MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

**TREASURER’S MONTHLY UPDATE**

*Tete’s update covered the following:*

- *403-b Plan*
- *Insurance*
- *Training*

*There were no questions.*

**COMMUNICATIONS**

*Mr. Brandt presented school site-base minutes and fund raising requests to the board.*

*Rob has requested the fund raising form be changed to reflect what activity is being performed (i.e. car wash, etc.) or item that is being sold in order to raise money.*

**STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

*Ms. Rye presented her report on curriculum to the board and asked for comments or questions. This month’s update centered on Goal 1 of the strategic plan; pre-school.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Mr. Brandt asked the board to table the nominations for the positions on the education foundation committee until the new board member has taken her seat in January. Chris Parsons suggested waiting two months and opening up the floor for nominations again. Andrea Janovic objected postponing the nominations indicating they have waited several months already and there are 2 candidates ready to fill the positions.*

*Janovic made a motion seconded by Rummel to move on the nominations for the new committee members of the education foundation committee as presented.*

*Chris Parsons moved to table the nominations for 2 months. There was no second.*

*Motion passed to nominate Shirley Turner as the community member and Melissa Hayden as the alumni representative to fill the positions on the education foundation committee.*

**3097 MOTION CARRIED 3-2**

**Roll Call Vote:** Janovic, yes  
Rummel, yes  
Smith-Morrow, yes  
Parsons, no  
Usleaman, no

**STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES (New business)**

*The following items do not require discussion and are to be approved by a single roll-call:*

- a. Personnel report*
- b. KETS first offer of assistance for FY-2009 in the amount of \$19,497*
- c. 403-b Plan*
- d. Procedure 03.125 AP.22 – Travel Expense Report*
- e. Technology Plan*
- f. Invitation to accept bids on phone service when current contract expires*
- g. Invitation to accept bids on cell phone service when current contract expires*
- h. Organization meeting date – January 14, 2009, 7:00, Central Office*

*On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY JANOVIC the consent agenda was approved.*

**3098 MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

*Mr. Sizemore had concerns about the report given by the high school this evening vs. the report given by the middle school a week ago. Mr. Upchurch indicated the retention rate at the middle school was less than 1% yet Mr. Draud reported that 75% of freshman students are below grade level in math and reading. Ms. Parsons asked if there were guidelines in place for retention vs. promotion. Dr. Julie Smith-Morrow agreed that there was quite a contradiction in the 2 reports. Mr. Brandt suggested having all the principals attend a work session to discuss this issue.*

*Ms. Gorman had concerns about the process of nominating the alumni member to the education foundation discussed earlier. It was Connie’s understanding that the alumni had voted to have her on this committee and she raised the concern of why the board would go against those wishes since the alumni association is such a devoted supporter to the school system. Andrea Janovic said the board never asked the alumni association to offer anyone to be a member. The board also did not say that the member was going to be a member of the alumni association. The board clearly said that they wanted someone who was an alumni. Janean Parsons asked who recommended the nominations and Andrea Janovic said she submitted the names for approval.*

**BOARD COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

**None**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*On MOTION BY RUMMEL AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW the board recessed to executive session.  
Purpose: Personnel - KRS 61.801(f)*

**3099 MOTION CARRIED 5-0**  
**Time: 9:05 P.M.**

**No action will be taken.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*There being no further business, it was MOVED BY USLEAMAN AND SECONDED BY RUMMEL that the meeting be adjourned.*

**3100 MOTION CARRIED 5-0**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:25 P.M.**

---

**Chairman**

---

**Secretary**



