



The Newport Board of Education held a regular meeting on February 24, 2021 at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport, KY.

### **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, Sylvia Covington, and Aaron Sutherland.

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

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

### **MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2021, FEBRUARY 3, 2021, AND FEBRUARY 10, 2021**

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

1182 - MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

1183 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Ms. Hoover answered questions prior to the meeting regarding bills and ask if there were further questions. There were none.

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

1184 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

The treasurer's report also included:

- Bank reconciliation
- Administrator expense report
- Monthly report
- Chart of accounts

Ms. Hoover explained she is in the process of cleaning up old items on the books as well as recoding athletic expenses to the appropriate fund. Fund 7000 is designated for fiduciary funds held by a school district in a trustee capacity. This is currently where athletic funds is housed. This process should be completed in the next few weeks and the unreconciled balance will be eliminated on the financial statement.

### **STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

Mr. Watts updated the board on the following:

- Introduction of Alvin Garrison, Superintendent of Covington Independent Schools. Mr. Garrison is serving as Mr. Watts' mentor for his first year as superintendent.
- As part of new superintendent training, Mr. Watts is required to present his capstone project to the board. After discussing when this should take place, the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will be reserved for this presentation.
- Systems work continues with Linda Rains. Upon completion, there will be an understanding of all processes and procedures.
- Leaders met today to start planning for summer school. There will be curriculum meeting Friday to continue this work.
- The governor has mandated all schools to be open by next week.
- Within the next couple of weeks, all students will be in school all day on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Ms. Malone reminded the board that a date should be set to evaluate the superintendent. The evaluation process can start in the spring with the final evaluation completed in June or the process can start in the fall with the final evaluation completed in December.

Ms. Covington asked about the after-school programs. With school starting, are the after-school programs starting also? Mr. Watts said the programs have started but right now there will no outside guests or visitors. The program will be run by in-house employees.

Ms. Stewart presented her report. She gave an overview on the following:

- Participation numbers
- Enrollment
- Transcript work group – this group has been formed to review all processes, procedures, and systems related to electronic cumulative records and transcript requests. The group consists of the DPP, technology director, and one high school counselor.
- A special thank you to Kristy McNally for organizing a district-wide celebration marking the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school.
- The board was given a copy of the most recent COVID-19 decision tree.

Mr. Grayson presented his report. The next local planning committee meeting will be set up within the next couple of weeks. Waiting on approval from KDE.

Ms. Swanson presented her report to the board. Results of the KY post school outcomes survey results were shared.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND approval of the calendar committee will be added to the consent agenda.

1184 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

1. Personnel report.
2. Staffing allocations 21/22 SY
3. Consulting contract with Linda Rains for systems work with leadership teams.

4. Consulting contract with Linda Rains for strategic planning process.
5. Amend the 20/21 school calendar making March 12, 2021 a student instructional day. This would allow students to end the school year on Friday, May 28, 2021.
6. 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of KSBA policies 03.1321 and 03.2321 – Use of School Property
7. Microsoft Volume Licensing Agreement
8. KETS Offer of Assistance in the amount of \$9,359.00.
9. Proposal for Finance Consultant Services with Sheila Miller, KEDC
10. Football field lease agreement with Kings Soccer
11. 2021-22 district calendar committee

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW consent agenda items 1-11 were approved as presented.

1185 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS/UPDATES**

None

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL, the board moved into executive session.  
KRS 61.810 (c) Litigation – Time: 7:35 PM

1186 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL, the board returned to open session. Time: 7:49 PM

1186 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON, the board agreed to settle the lawsuit with Higbee & Associates regarding copyright infringement in the amount of \$750.00.

1187 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND the meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

1188 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

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Chairman

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Secretary