



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on June 9, 2021, at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8th Street, Newport, KY. The purpose of the special meeting was to discuss a tuition reimbursement agreement, several new business items, and an executive session for the purpose of discussing the superintendent's evaluation.

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, Mr. Watts, and Mr. Grayson.

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A CLASSIFIED TUITION REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

After discussing the proposed tuition reimbursement agreement, the board asked Mr. Watts to make the following revisions:

- Under Terms of Agreement, second paragraph, change the wording from *the Employee must receive approval from the district* to approval from the Superintendent.
- Add language under Terms of Agreement, to participate in the tuition reimbursement program, full-time employment in the district for at least a year is required before an application will be considered.

The board asked what the process might look like for approving someone to enter this agreement. Mr. Watts said we would create an application process to determine how this assistance will improve the job skills for the employee and district before allowing anyone to enter into the agreement.

The board will consider approving this agreement with the language changes at the regular monthly meeting on June 23rd.

PROPOSED SALARY SCHEDULES

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL, the board approved the proposed certified, classified, administrative, district-wide extra service, and athletic extra service salary schedules for the 2021-2022 SY.

1219 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Mr. Sutherland suggested the district re-visit the salary schedule to stay competitive with the surrounding districts. With the generous tuition reimbursement program, we do not want to lose teachers after 5 years because of salary deficits.

Once the district receives this year's reports from KEDC, we will start the process of salary comparisons.

MOA WITH NKCES FOR K-TECH PROGRAM

The Northern KY Cooperative for Educational Services (NKCES) in partnership with employers, schools, and education providers, will implement and expand the K-TECH program (Kentucky Advances Technical College High).

NKCES agrees to reimburse Newport High School/Newport Independent Schools for qualified expenses not to exceed \$7,000 for the period of May 1, 2021, to April 30, 2022. Expenses must be for students enrolled at NHS and engaged in a work-based learning activity, pursuant of career exploration.

The board will approve this under a consent agenda.

BANK DEPOSITORY AND SECURITY PLEDGE WITH HERITAGE BANK

After comparing the only two proposals received in response to a Ms. Hoover's request for bids, she is recommending the district stay with Heritage Bank for the upcoming fiscal year. Her recommendation is based on banking fees, location, and the fact Heritage Bank has been very accommodating and easy to work with.

The board will approve this recommendation under a consent agenda.

INSURANCE RENEWALS

Ms. Hoover provided the board with a 2021 market worksheet on property, workers comp, and cybersecurity renewals. The worksheet also included terrorism coverage for consideration. Mr. Steve Crawford will be present at the meeting on June 23rd to answer any questions the board may have regarding insurance renewals.

The board will not act on this agenda item at this time.

CONTRACT WITH LEVEL UP CONSULTING

Mr. Watts is asking the board to approve the quote from Candice C. Hardin, from Level Up Consulting. If approved, Ms. Hardin will attend the summer administrator's retreat in July to discuss culturally responsive engagement – strategies for diverse learners. Mr. Watts was fortunate to hear Ms. Hardin before becoming the superintendent and would like district administrators to hear her presentation. He also invited the board to attend.

The board will approve this recommendation under a consent agenda.

SUMMER FLOORING/PAINT PROJECTS

Mr. Grayson presented his recommendation for flooring projects for the special education department, Newport Intermediate 3rd floor classrooms, and Newport High School 2nd floor classrooms and science lab. He also included the cost of painting in several areas of the Welcome Center.

The board will approve this recommendation under a consent agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW the board approved the following:

- MOA with the Northern KY Co-op for the K-TECH Program
- Heritage Bank as the district's depository for the 2022 FY
- Contract with Level Up Consulting
- Summer flooring and paint projects

1220 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the board recessed to executive session. KRS 61.810 (k) and KRS 156.577 – discussions relating to the evaluation of the superintendent. Time: 7:32 PM

1221 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY MELISSA the board came out of executive session. Time 8:57 PM.

1222 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION BY COVINGTON AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND the meeting adjourned. Time: 8:58 PM

1223 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Chairman

Secretary