



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on September 13, 2021, at 11:30 AM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport, KY. PURPOSE: SET MOTOR VEHICLE TAX RATE

### **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.

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

### **ADOPT THE MOTOR VEHICLE TAX RATE FOR FY 2022**

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW the board adopted the motor vehicle tax rate of 99.3 for FY 2022. This has been the rate for the last 10+ years.

1259 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

### **COVID OPERATION PLAN DISCUSSION**

Jennifer Stewart shared the latest rough draft of the district COVID 19 guidance document. She reviewed:

- Vaccinations – currently approximately 80% of staff are vaccinated. The district will promote and offer vaccinations to help increase the proportion of students 12 years and older, staff, and family members.
- Testing – contract with Ethos Labs to test students and staff.
- Mask requirement, mask breaks, and how masks should be worn
- Transportation
- Physical and Social Distancing – 3 ft. in classrooms/6 ft. between students and unvaccinated staff. Classrooms utilize assigned seating to help with contact tracing.
- Screening and Illness
- Quarantining
- Contact tracing

In the interest of time, the board was asked to review the draft and contact Ms. Stewart with questions and concerns. Ms. Stewart will be finalizing the document for board approved at the September 22<sup>nd</sup> regular meeting.

Mr. Watts informed the board that KDE will be rewarding all employees who have had the Covid vaccine with a \$100 bonus. He would like to give this out around Christmas.

The board was asked to adopt Mr. Watts's recommendation to continue with the current mask requirement. This comes as a result of legislators leaving the question of whether to wear a mask or not up to local districts.

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

Newport Independent Schools requires masks for all persons while indoors in all classrooms, non-classroom settings, and while moving unless otherwise exempted. The decision to wear masks is made based on guidance from public health, the incidence and positivity rate of community and state, and the population of students not eligible for vaccination. As these factors change school leadership will communicate with the school and community.

1260 -MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND the meeting adjourned at 12:40 PM.

1261 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

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Chairman

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Secretary