



The Newport Board of Education held a regular meeting on September 22, 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.

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

### **PRESENTATIONS/RECOGNITIONS**

James D. Fornash and his brother William P. Fornash were awarded their high school diplomas. Both gentlemen left Newport High School before they graduated and entered military service. This would have been during the Vietnam War. James would have graduated in 1966 and William would have graduated in 1967. It was an honor to recognize these two brothers and thank them for their sacrifice. Congrats upon this recognition.

Ms. Swanson introduced the district's mental health clinicians: Tabettha Marsh, Brandy Mains, Jackie Scruggs, Elizabeth Dalzell, and Morgan Brown. They shared their parent brochure with the board as well as a new program for parents called P.E.P. Talk – Parent Empowerment Program. Their goal is to empower parents to empower children. The clinicians meet with students' families quarterly to provide them with quality resources and effective supports.

The board took at 15-minute recess to visit with tonight's guests.

### **MINUTES OF AUGUST 25, 2021, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021, AND SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**

Before approving the minutes, Mr. Sutherland questioned why there were no specific details of the tax rate hearing vote from the September 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ms. Malone and Dr. Smith-Morrow explained the minutes are an overview of the meeting and the minutes did reflect a tax rate did not pass until the third motion. Ms. Sheffel is listed as present but was not in attendance and there is a typo that requires correction. The minutes will be tabled until changes are made.

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND the minutes of August 25, 2021, and September 13, 2021, were approved as presented.

1262 – MOTION CARREID 5-0

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

1263 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

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

1264 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

The treasurer's report also included:

- Administrator expense report.
- Credit card expenses.
- Tuition Reimbursement
- FY22 Working Budget
- Vaccine Incentive Match
- ESSER Monitoring Visit
- Series 2012 Bond Refinance Sale

Ms. Hoover discussed the results of the ESSER monitoring visit. Strengths included:

1. The district used survey results to help inform its needs assessment. ESSER funds were spent based on the results of the needs assessment.
2. The district has a process for communication to ensure stakeholders throughout the schools and district are informed and understand expectations.
3. The district has worked to ensure the continuity of services such as meal delivery and pick up and has adopted many practices to ensure the safety of students and staff. For example, Newport Independent School District used funds to purchase two vehicles to provide meal delivery services for students without transportation to meal pickup locations.
4. The district provided technology support to students and staff during the pandemic. For example, the district utilized the above-mentioned vehicles to provide in-home technical support to students during emergency NTI and virtual learning environments.
5. The district provided mental health supports to students during school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Newport Independent was able to employ additional mental health counselors to provide support for the growing need within the district.

Working budget:

Discussed interest earnings, miscellaneous revenue, indirect costs portion to contingency.

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

Mr. Watts discussed the current IRB proposal between the city and the school district. The developer intends to develop a mixed-use commercial and residential development and associated garage to be located within the 4<sup>th</sup> Street/Central Avenue development area in the city as part of the "Ovation" site.

This proposal was tabled until the October 6 work session. The board would like more information about the phases that were presented in the exhibit provided. Overall, the project is estimated to cost \$582,000,000 when completed.

Ms. Stewart presented her report to the board. Her report included:

1. Enrollment summary
2. Demographic summary
3. COVID-19 non-invasive testing and test to stay program
4. Quarantine guidance
5. COVID-19 district plan

There were several questions regarding the COVID plan. Dr. Smith-Morrow found some of the language in the plan confusing. Ms. Stewart will create a definition page and send it back to the Department of Public Health. She will then bring it back to the board for approval.

Mr. Grayson presented his report to the board. The report covered:

1. Transportation
2. Facilities
3. Safe Schools
4. Healthy at Work

Ms. Swanson presented her report to the board. This month's focus has been on ensuring provisions of specially designed instruction and related services are provided as detailed in each student's IEP.

She also shared the results of the Kentucky Post School Outcomes – Parent survey 2021 results. Newport is above state average for "positive parent response" for all survey indicators.

Ms. Rizzo presented her report to the board. Due to illness, Ms. Rizzo was not in attendance.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Malone asked each board member to sign the approved by-laws of the education foundation. Scholarship information was also shared in preparation of the first meeting of the education foundation.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

ON MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON item 4 will be removed from the consent agenda until requested changes are added.

1265 – MOTION CARREID 5-0

1. Personnel Report
2. 2022 working budget
3. Second reading of the 2021 KSBA policies with legal and/or recommended changes.
4. ~~COVID-10 Guidance document~~
5. Give the superintendent authority to utilize temporary remote instruction days (TRI) as needed thru December 2021.
6. Surplus the following vehicles: 1986 Chevrolet Dually, 1990 Chevrolet 28500 ¾ ton pickup, 1998 International Bus 7

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

1266 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Two guests signed the public participation form to address the board. They were given a five-minute limit to express their concerns.

Christine Carey and Lakeish Morris both had concerns regarding senior night and a current football player. After listening to their issues, Ms. Malone informed the guests that the board cannot get involved in these types of matters. Their concerns will be handled by the building principal and/or the superintendent.

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

The board was given a list of current and on-going projects just for information purposes.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

1267 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

---

Chairman

---

Secretary