



The Newport Board of Education held a regular meeting on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8th 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, Aaron Sutherland, and Sylvia Covington.

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

PRESENTATIONS

The following were recognized as November's student of the month and teacher/staff member of the month:

Newport Primary School – Student Christopher Dowell, Jr. – Teacher Gabrielle Giglio
Newport Intermediate School – Student Caleb Bush – Staff – Thomas Petty
Newport High School – Student Javier Temai Feldhaus- Teacher Alexa Robinson

The middle school football team was also recognized as champions of their division; led by Head Coach Juan McDay and Asst. Coach Quin McDay. Congrats to this group of gentlemen who represented Newport proudly throughout the season.

The board took a 10-minute break to greet tonight's guests.

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2021

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

1275 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

1276 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

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

1277 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Ms. Hoover's report also included:

- Credit card expenditures
- Administrator expense report
- Monthly report
- KISTA bond payment information
- ESSER funds – additional guidance/clarification on funding

STUDENT SUPPORT AND LEARNING SERVICES

Mr. Watts asked Lisa Swanson to present her report to the board since she has another engagement to attend.

Her report included:

- Transition programming
- KY post-school outcome Youth-One-Year-Out survey results
- Continuing education after graduation

The board thanked Lisa for her thorough report. Newport's response rate on the Youth-One-Year-Out survey and post-secondary education numbers are very good compared to the state averages. Ms. Swanson will expand job opportunities to help satisfy employment choices for students.

Mr. Watt's report covered:

- NCERT conferences - held three times a year; spring, summer, and fall.
- As part of the strategic plan work, we will be creating a portrait of a graduate, portrait of a teacher, and portrait of a student.
- Grow Your Own program – encourage students to become teachers
- Culinary program update
- Get Better Faster – excellent book for leaders to read (also mentioned at recent NCERT conference)
- Based on test results, we will use the data to determine next steps for professional development for staff.
- CTE program update
- Process for exit interviews
- KDE's Impact Survey for teachers is scheduled for January. The district will be doing their own "impact" survey before Christmas break.
- Dad's On Duty – 13 men showed up for the informational meeting

Ms. Payne reviewed the K-PREP data with the board. She pointed out the differences between a "normal" school year and last year's testing:

- No accountability indicator or ratings
- Based on assessed students (not 100-day students)

While we may not be able to use 2021 test scores to compare student achievement, we can use the data as a temperature check to track and address school recovery. Possible impacts on student performance included learning disruptions, test modifications, and participation rates. The report covered reading writing, math, and science scores for grades 3-8 as well as reading and math for grade 10 and writing for grade 11. ACT results were shared as well as graduation rate trends.

The board had the following comments:

- By spring, can we expect a higher temperature check on testing? Ms. Payne said MAP data has more impact to determine growth than the year end state test.
- What does growth look like when you only grow 20%? Scores were low before COVID so while that may have impacted testing this year, the district has consistently been scoring low.
- How can we have an average ACT of 14 and have a graduation rate of 94%?
- Do we have appropriate math and reading intervention programs in place?
- Do we know percentages of kindergarten ready students entering school? Ms. Stewart said only 20-30% of kindergarteners are considered "ready".
- Historical data reflects we are not making big strides toward proficiency. Is teacher turnover impacting student achievement? Why do teachers leave? What do we need to do to keep them? We need data to figure out why retention rates are high.

Each building principal reported fall MAP data.

Mr. Atkins addressed next steps after reviewing data. They continue to address social emotional learning, have designed small group guided math providing targeted instruction, increased the literacy block to 120 minutes to provide enough time for effective writing instruction. They redesigned curriculum with a heavy focus on foundational skills. They have an intentional process of identifying students who are performing below grade level and need additional reading, math, or behavior support. Students are referred to ESS for additional reading instruction after school. The administrative team continuous to support teachers during PLCs, keeping up to date on guided reading, reading intervention (both acceleration and remediation), non-academic data such as behavior and attendance, and walkthroughs and feedback.

Mr. Maines reviewed his MAP analysis with the board. Hispanic and African American students are performing better than the white students when comparing conditional growth.

The plan for intervention and enrichment include:

- Small group intervention
- Tier II and Tier III interventions in-class and through pull-out
- RIT band groups
- F & P in small groups
- Enrichment activities with the district's gifted and talented instructor
- Reteaching

Mr. Hunter reviewed his MAP analysis. Only 48 students were tested in grades 7-10. There are concerns regarding not meeting goals in projected growth. Math across all grades is low. Scores for white students are extremely low with only 7th grade white students meeting goals.

Plans moving forward include teacher ownership of scores and growth, RTI groups reconfigured based on MAP scores. Use of IXL as a Tier 2 intervention. Students IXL platform is linked to MAP score deficit areas. IXL aligns to MAP deficiencies. Continued use of READ 180 as a Tier 3 intervention in grades 7-9.

DPP/Student Services update:

- Enrollment summary
- Family Engagement and Parent Learning
- Non-resident contracts
- Support services reports

The board requested attendance comparisons compared to last year and ethnicity numbers. Enrollment is up 20 students from last month. Comments were made regarding local daycares working with the primary school to help prepare students entering kindergarten.

Facilities/Transportation/Safe Schools/Healthy at Work update:

- Purchase request for two new busses – one is needed but with the increase in pricing this could save the district money to be proactive and get the second one now. Two new busses will keep the district in good shape for the next several years.
- BG-1 for flooring at NIS and NHS– purchase all materials now as the cost of materials will be increasing at the beginning of the year
- Emergency HVAC work continues at NIS and NPS.
- Renovation work at NPS
- Meeting with KEMI
- Safe schools update on budget and additional needs in our buildings.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

After discussion, On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW item 2, the Pixellot Use Agreement will be tabled, along with items 11 and 12, threshold on ESSER expenditures without board approval and threshold on Mildred Dean account expenditures without board approval.

1278 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

1. Personnel report
2. ~~Pixellot Use Agreement~~
3. Affordable Language Services Agreement
4. Finals site agreement - school website provider (previously SchoolPointe)
5. Contract with Dr. Adolph Brown to provide a 90-minute master class for parents
6. KETS 1st Offer of Assistance for FY 2022 in the amount of \$12,584
7. Reimburse superintendent for wi-fi fees while on vacation to give access to district email/text/phone services
8. Hire 2nd instructional coach at Newport Intermediate School – Title 1 funded

9. \$150 stipend to employees/board members who have received full COVID vaccination(s) by December 1st - this is in addition to the \$100 supplement from KDE.
10. Pay application for BG #41-196 re-roof NIS \$242,400.00.
- ~~11. Threshold on ESSER expenditures without board approval~~
- ~~12. Threshold on Mildred Dean account expenditures without board approval~~
13. BG-1 – flooring at Newport Intermediate School and Newport High School
14. Purchase two (2) new busses
15. Non-resident contracts for the 22/23 SY

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the remaining consent agenda items were approved.

1279 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

BOARD COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

None

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION BY COVINGTON AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND the meeting adjourned. Time: 9:12 PM

1280 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Chairman

Secretary