



The Newport Board of Education held a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport.

### **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**

Mr. Watts recognized Melissa Sheffel for successfully completing another level of the KSBA Academy of Studies during the 2021 calendar year. She was presented with a certificate and a pin.

Mr. Daylin Garland, Lauren O'Brien, and Scott Clark were in attendance to talk about the preservation of the Southgate Street School. The Southgate Street School was opened in the fall of 1866 for African Americans and was run by the Freedmen's Bureau. The government ran out of funds within a couple of years and the school closed. In 1870, the city of Newport purchased the property with the intention of continuing education for African Americans. In 1955 the supreme court made the segregation of educational facilities illegal and the students at this school transferred into local elementary and high schools.

Tonight's guests simply asked the board to consider ways that the district and the preservation committee can work together to restore this historic landmark. Plans are very preliminary at this point.

Many questions and comments were made regarding this endeavor:

- How does the message reach the community to ask for help?
- What is the best way to disseminate information?
- Does the Prince Hall Masonic Lodge own the building or does the City of Newport?
- Preservation should center on education and the history of the school
- How do you start making improvements? Is there a plan in place for what steps to take?
- How do we secure community commitment?
- Is there state funding for preserving historical buildings? National grants?
- Is the building still open as a museum?

Brother Engels, President of the local Prince Hall Masonic Lodge, said the lodge has owned the building since 1955. They have been taking care of maintenance and taxes since that time. Everyone agrees that preservation should be centered around education, which also might be helpful in securing grant funding to improve the structure. To date, the Southgate Street School board does not have concrete plans on how to move on this project. This meeting is informational and for soliciting support and ideas.

## **MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2022 AND FEBRUARY 9, 2022**

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

1293 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Questions were answered prior to the meeting pertaining to the bills. There were no further questions.

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW the financial report was accepted and will be filed for audit and the bills were approved for payment.

1294 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Ms. Hoover's report also included:

- Credit card expenditures
- Administrator expense report
- Monthly report
- Tuition Reimbursement
- EFT paid warrant report

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

Mr. Watt's update included:

- JC Morgan, Campbell County Library Director, will be presenting at the KSBA Conference on Friday at 3:15. His session is regarding the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.
- SB 138 details how history is taught in Kentucky public schools, passed the Senate Education Committee last week.
- HB 63 requiring an SRO at each school building – passed by the house and going to the senate.
- SB 151 - permit the administrator of a school that participates in the Federal School Breakfast Program to authorize up to 15 minutes of the student attendance day to provide the opportunity for children to eat breakfast during instructional time. Passed by senate and is now going to the house.
- SB 1 – School Based Decision Councils – waiting on action in the house.

Ms. Payne presented the curriculum department report. Their report covered:

- Assessments
- District interim assessment
- ELL
- ACT
- Summer Learning
- Federal Funding

- Continuous Improvement Monitoring

There were no questions.

DPP/Student Services update:

- Enrollment summary
- Demographics analysis
- Attendance data
- MTSS Attendance
- Service provider reports

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

- Transportation
- Facilities
- Safe Schools update on NISD measures in place
- Healthy at Work

There were no questions.

Special Education update:

- Arts for All Kentucky
- Student Traveling Art Exhibit
- Exceptional children programming rates

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Sutherland asked about the KYDA exhibit file because he was unable to open it. After discussion, he said he would support Mr. Watts' decision to hire this firm. The option being asked for approval includes scope A and B which will cost approximately \$25,000.

1. Personnel report.
2. Staffing allocations 22/23 SY
3. 1<sup>st</sup> reading of KSBA policies 03.125 and 03.225, Expense Reimbursement
4. Rental agreement with US Mobile Kitchens
5. Newport Independent Schools strategic plan - "Quest to Educational Excellence 2025"
6. Mission statement – *Newport Independent School District will partner with families and the community to nurture, educate, and instill core values in all students to ensure they reach their fullest potential*
7. Vision statement – *We envision a day when every student in the Newport Independent School District engages and thrives in educational excellence.*
8. KYDA proposal for media design of the district's strategic plan
9. BG-5 to close fire alarm project at NPS (now added to the kitchen/cafeteria project)
10. Award bid for Newport Primary School's new fire alarm & renovations to the kitchen, cafeteria, and gymnasium and approve revised BG-1

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

1295 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

None

**BOARD COMMENTS AND CONCERNS**

Ms. Malone mentioned to the board that the Covington Education Foundation will be holding an event on June 8, 2022 if anyone is interested in attending.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW the board recessed to executive session. KRS 61.810 (c) – Litigation. Time: 7:48 PM

1296 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON the board returned to open session. Time: 8:31 PM – No action.

1297 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

**ADJOURNMENT**

On MOTION BY SMITH-MORROW AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON the meeting adjourned. Time: 8:32 PM

1298 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

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Chairman

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Secretary