



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 6:00 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport. PURPOSE: New business items for approval

### **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, Aaron Sutherland, Melissa Sheffel, and Sylvia Covington.

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

### **NWEA SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAM**

Representatives from NWEA were present to discuss a proposal regarding school improvement Services. The district is seeking systemic, consistent, districtwide systems that support school leaders to be instructional leaders who nurture collaborative communities and meaningful data conversations among teachers and school leadership.

NWEA is offering an improvement plan that includes:

- Needs assessment
- Leadership coaching and system advising
- 5 Essentials Survey and associated 5 Essentials professional learning
- Professional learning for school leaders and teachers.

These services support the new mission of ensuring all students reach their fullest potential. These services align with the strategic pillars:

- Pillar 1 – NWEA will support Newport to build leadership capacity, develop data-driven systems, and reinforce quality core instruction through leader and teacher knowledge and skill development.
- Pillar 2 – NWEA will support Newport to create processes, protocols, and practices built on shared accountability and continuous improvement.
- Pillar 3 – NWEA will support Newport as it examines resource alignment to its goals, goal-setting and progress monitoring, and building relationships and trust that build systems of support.

The school improvement framework centers around a coaching model that is embedded in proven-effective 5 Essentials Framework from UChicago Impact:

- Ambitious instruction
- Effective leaders
- Collaborative teachers
- Supportive environment
- Involved families
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The improvement team will pick 2-3 essentials to start with.

This is a three-year partnership that will build capacity and sustainability across the district. The tentative start date will be July 2022.

After discussion, the board will vote to accept this proposal at the regular meeting on May 25, 2022.

### **UPDATE ON HB 678 – FACILITY PROJECTS**

Starting April 8, 2022 and continuing thru June 20, 2024, a local board may adopt a resolution that no longer requires KDEs approval for building plans and specifications, capital outlay funds, and financing arrangements. Such districts may initiate funding, financing design, construction, renovation or modification of district facility projects without prior approval from KDE. Districts may also use the estimate of an architect or engineer who prepared a project plan or specification to estimate the cost of the project in advance of financing. BG-1 project applications forms must still be filed with KDE for record keeping purposes.

KDE continues to approve or disapprove any complete district facility plan, request for acquisition of property or request for disposal of surplus property. These requests must be addressed within 30 days.

A district may include extracurricular facilities in any priority on a district facility plan. If the project is using ESSER or any other federal funds, prior approval must be obtained from KDE for their use.

Dr. Smith-Morrow expressed concern about using an estimated project cost in advance of financing. Mr. Grayson assured the board that our architects have always estimated all projects conservatively and with the current cost of materials in mind.

The board will consider adopting the resolution at the regular meeting scheduled on May 25, 2022.

### **FOOTBALL STADIUM REPAIR UPDATE**

In October 2011, the stadium was inspected by Douglas Crawford, VP and Project Manager, with GOP Limited. Mr. Crawford inspected the stadium again in April and said nothing has changed from his report in 2011. The surface of the seating area varies in degrees of disrepair. The concrete that the aluminum bleachers is fastened to has continued to deteriorate and spalling is occurring in varying degrees of severity along joints. The treads and riser portion of the structure is split in several sections creating expansion joints to butt, probably on the center of beam below. The underside of the structure continues to leak.

The stadium is currently closed due to liability concerns. Mr. Grayson said the board has a variety of options to consider moving forward. From a complete renovation of the stadium, field, locker rooms, concession stands, track, press box, restrooms, ticketing area, etc. to just a partial renovation on a smaller scale. If a full renovation is decided, the timeline for completion would be by August 2023. Mr. Grayson's best guess is the full project would be around \$10,000,000. A full cost analysis will hopefully be available soon. ESSER funds may cover the HVAC systems in a new field house and other structures.

### **NFL FOUNDATION PROGRAM**

Josh Tunning, Community Organizer for Brighton Center and a member of Re-Newport, has asked the district to participate in writing a proposal to seek funding to help renovate our existing football facilities. In order to be eligible for a grant, projects must be sponsored by non-profit community-based organizations. Organizations must be located specifically and exclusively within NFL target markets and serve low to moderate-income areas within those markets. Preference is given to proposals that seek to upgrade existing facilities that are in poor condition, demonstrate active use of the fields, attract matching funding,

involve local partnerships with non-profit community partners, provide for continuing maintenance and field safety, and involve youth football programs. The maximum request is \$250,000 and the proposal is due by May 31, 2022.

### **SFCC OFFER FOR LOCAL AREA VOCATION CENTER**

The district has been awarded a grant to upgrade our local area vocational education center in the amount of \$2,145,300, with the requirement the district must match 10% of the award amount. Accepting the funds does not dictate which CTE pathway those funds will support. If the board chooses to move forward, the offer must be accepted at the regular meeting scheduled on May 25, 2022; the deadline to inform KDE is June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **COVINGTON EDUCATION FOUNDATION AHLL OF HONORS CELEBRATION**

The Covington Education Foundation will sponsor their annual Hall of Honors Celebration on June 8, 2022. The board will cancel the June 8<sup>th</sup> scheduled work session in order to afford members an opportunity to attend. This event will give our board an opportunity to talk to Covington's foundation members for ideas on how they accomplish their objectives, etc.

### **DISCUSSION ON BRANDING AND MARKETING**

Dustin Miller was in attendance to present changes to his branding suggestions. The clock tower concept was changed slightly but still maintained the integrity of the meaning in the branding. The changes in the second concept, "moving forward together," included school colors which the board liked better. Gray was introduced in this concept which everyone was agreeable to also. There is still dislike among members regarding the "N" and not being able to distinguish it clearly in the design. Concept 2 is the branding logo the board is leaning towards, so Dustin will make some adjustments and come back to the board with an updated version for consideration hopefully by the May regular meeting.

### **IMPACT REPORT UPDATE**

Ms. Malone asked if any progress is being made on the information received in the IMPACT report. Mr. Watts said the principals will share information with the board at the June meeting.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Ms. Malone said she is very concerned by the continued lack of communication from the district office and schools to the community. She feels we have an urgent need to figure out how to disseminate information to all stakeholders. Ms. Malone asked where we are on hiring a district PR person and what exactly will be their responsibilities? Among other duties, the new hire will be expected to work with Pat Crowley also. She is in favor of making this a full-time position if that is what it takes to have a successful communication network.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW, item 3 will be tabled until the May 25, 2022 regular meeting.

1315 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

1. Create position of Director of District-wide Services and approve job description
2. Create a Spanish teaching position at Newport Primary School
3. Renewal of auditor's contract for FY 2022

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SMITH-MORROW items 1 and 2 were approved as presented.

1316 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND the meeting adjourned. Time: 8:55 PM

1317 – MOTION CARRIED 6-0

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Chairman

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Secretary