



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at 5:00 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Ramona Malone asked for a roll call. The following were present: Ramona Malone, Melissa Sheffel, Sylvia Covington, Aaron Sutherland, and Tim Curl

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

### **NWEA UPDATE**

Elena Bell, Leadership Coach for the primary and intermediate school, and Robert Thornell, Leadership Coach for the high school were present to update the board on this year's work with the schools. They reviewed:

- NWEA's Mission
- Objectives
- What they do, how they do it, and expected results

Over the course of the year, NWEA performed a needs assessment to pinpoint strengths and identify opportunities in each building. Through leadership coaching they have supported building leaders and receive progress reporting quarterly. They have equipped leaders with the data, tools, and training needed to facilitate and sustain improvement, as well as partnering with district leaders to develop structures and behaviors to support improvement goals.

The needs assessment highlighted two areas being focused on this school year: collaborative teaching and ambitious instruction.

This year NWEA has worked with staff on engaging in a culture of collaborative inquiry, understanding the 5Essentials, and building trust. The NWEA coach and school leaders are focused on:

- Weekly PLC meetings that are centered in data;
- Using classroom observations to calibrate instructional practices and align curriculum resources;
- Using data meetings to identify areas of need to inform instruction across the grade level.

Next steps:

- 5 Essentials Survey participation rates
- Root cause analysis – April 24 – participants will learn about the improvement cycle and use protocols to explore and discuss their data. Participants will identify and prioritize a measure for growth and aligned root causes. School leadership teams work together to establish a compelling vision for their improvement efforts.

## **DIAGNOSTIC REVIEW – DISTRICT**

Mr. Watts reviewed the results of Cognia Diagnostic Review Report with the board. The purpose of the review is to determine leadership capacity and their ability to facilitate the improvements stated in the report. The data being reviewed in this report is from last school year's state testing. The evidence presented in the report is current.

Diagnostic reviews are based on the evaluation of evidence that reflects an institution's ability to meet the expectations as defined by the Diagnostic Review Standards. These standards define the elements of quality that research indicates are present in an institution that is continuously improving. The review team applies a four-level rubric to determine the degree to which the institution demonstrates effective practices that reflect the expectations of each standard.

A school is identified by KDE for comprehensive support and improvement if the school is in the lowest-performing 5% of all schools in its level based on the school's performance in the state accountability system. When a school is identified for targeted support and improvement, the local school personnel, working with stakeholders, including the principal, other school leaders, teachers, and parents, shall revise its school improvement plan which shall be reviewed and approved by the board of education. This year the high school was identified as CSI based on the scores of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

Stakeholder groups interviewed for this review include: district-level administrators, building-level administrators, a counselor, a media specialist, a technology coordinator, students, and parents.

The reports listed strengths and continuous improvement areas as well as potential leader actions in the following areas:

- Performance Standards Evaluation
- Effective Learning Environments
- Improvement Priorities

It was the consensus of the review team that the district has the capacity to manage the intervention for grades identified as CSI.

Mr. Watts said under new business he will be recommending the board utilize KDE for the turnaround training and support team for NHS.

Mr. Curl commented on the lack of lesson plans and not following programs to fidelity as stated in the report. He also noted raising expectations. Ms. Malone asked about the lack of evident from walk-throughs. Mr. Watts said these are areas we will be working on.

Ms. Sheffel confirmed there would be a follow up in 2 years.

## **EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

Ms. Malone proposed the first meeting of the education foundation be set for May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. She will send written communication to both Mr. Moreland and Mr. Turner regarding the meeting.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Ms. Malone stated that board members have been discussing a more detailed financial report that breaks down expenses from each revenue source; local, state, or federal.

After much discussion on what such a report will look like from finance, Ms. Hoover offered to prepare a “mock” report for the April meeting using Title and ESSER budgets for talking purposes.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Before approving the consent agenda, Mr. Sutherland asked about the scope of the work in phase 1 of the stadium renovation. Noah Onkst from Hayes and Associates said it included demolishing the current structure and surrounding pavement, installing new sewer and water lines for potential phase 2, installing footings, fencing, fioptics, and bleachers (contract with Toadvine for bleachers). Mr. Sutherland mentioned the city might be able to help with demolition and hauling away of debris. He will talk to the city manager and get back to the board. The board can approve the bid from Brielmaier Company tonight and it can be revised if the city can help within the timelines needed.

1. Award bid for phase 1 of the NHS stadium project to Leo J. Brielmaier Co.
2. Pursuant to KRS 160.346 (8)(a), the Newport Board of Education intends to utilize the KY Department of Education to provide a turnaround training and support team to Newport High School for comprehensive support and improvement.

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON items 1-2 on the consent agenda were approved.

1428 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND the meeting adjourned. Time: 6:29 PM

1429 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

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Chairman

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Secretary