



The Newport Board of Education held a regular meeting on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8th 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.

MISSION STATEMENT

The 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.

RECOGNITIONS

Students of the Month:

NPS – Carmalita Thompson

NIS – Christian Aguilar

NHS – Jasmine Thompson

Employees of the Month:

NPS – Gabby Pawlaczyk

NIS – Kelly Montgomery

NHS – Mike Hunter

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2023, MARCH 1, 2023, AND MARCH 8, 2023

On MOTION BY CURL AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND the minutes were approved as presented.
1422 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

TREASURER'S REPORT

On MOTION BY SHEFFEL AND SECONDED BY MALONE the financial report was accepted and will be filed for audit.
1423 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY CURL the bills were approved for payment.
1424 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Ms. Hoover also provided the following for the board's review:

- Credit card statement
- Administrator expense detail report

Ms. Malone asked for an update on ESSER and an update on employee incentives to employees at the next meeting.

STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Mr. Watts asked Nichole Hayden to address the board regarding the contract with Keri Brewer they are being asked to approve under new business.

Ms. Hayden explained that Ms. Brewer will be providing in-classroom assistance to model and instruct self-regulation skills. Preschool assistance will be weekly at location(s) determined by Newport Primary School leadership. Ms. Brewer will prepare and deliver age-appropriate education for preschool children on how and when to use self-regulation skills. Focus will be given to modeling and instructing children to participate in regulation skills. Ms. Brewer will observe children responses and discuss progress with teachers/administration in order to adapt classroom support week to week as necessary.

NPS leadership has requested that Keri be available for this work 2 days per week, 3 hours per day starting April 10th and ending May 31st 2023.

Mr. Watts provided an update on current legislative items that potentially affect public education. Legislators will convene for the final two days of this's legislative session next week.

- SEEK funds
- SB 5 – requires boards to adopt new policies to handle parent complaints over material they feel is “harmful to minors”
- SB 150 – the parent’s right bill that now also bans gender-affirming care for minors and requires school boards to adopt a policy that students can only use bathrooms and locker rooms that correspond to their sex at birth.
- HB 32 – hiring classified staff without proof of high school diploma or GED
- HB 538 – student discipline bill regarding expulsions

Ms. Brown presented the curriculum department update. There were no questions.

Ms. Stewart presented the DPP and Student Services update. There were no questions.

Mr. Maines presented the facilities, transportation and safe schools update. Mr. Curl asked if there were alternative plans if the football field was not available by fall. Mr. Maines said plans will be similar to last season. The team would travel away until the complex can be utilized. Mr. Sutherland asked if we had been in touch with Re-Newport regarding the beautification of the primary school area. Mr. Maines said he has a meeting scheduled with Mr. Tunning on Thursday.

Ms. Swanson presented her update on special education services. Mr. Malone asked if the mental health therapists are at capacity and what the turnover rate is for each student. Ms. Swanson said the therapists use licensing guidelines per diagnosis for each case to determine turnover.

OLD BUSINESS

Scott Clark, Newport Historic Preservation Officer and Executive Director, returned to discuss the Restoration of the Southgate Street School grant. This project will restore and improve key features of the Southgate Street School, a pre-integration African American school to make the site a more accurate and accessible museum and education center celebrating Newport's diverse community. Estimated restoration costs will be \$157,000 and the grant awards range from \$50,000-\$150,000.

Mr. Clark is asking the board to write a letter of support to submit with the application. He also asked that the board consider a partnership to help run the center upon completion. Ms. Malone said the board cannot make any financial commitment to this project without approved from KDE. Mr. Clark said he is only looking for school involvement not financial support.

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL the board authorized Ms. Malone, Chairman, to sign a letter of support from the board, in conjunction with the city, to the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

1425 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Mr. Garland thanked Scott Clark for all his efforts in trying to secure this grant for such a worthy cause. He also thanked the board for their support.

Ms. Covington said she is very excited about this project. She thanked both Mr. Clark and Mr. Garland for their efforts.

Mom's for Liberty has submitted a list of 16 books being challenged to both the high school principal and the librarian. The district already has a policy in place for how these books can be checked out by students.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Personnel report.
2. Add CCR position to NHS staffing allocations for 23/24 SY
3. Contract with Keri Brewer to work with preschool students to teach them self-regulation skills
4. KSBA Procedures 03.125 AP.2 and 03.225 AP.2 – Travel Regulations & I Own Reimbursement Guidelines
5. 2022-2023 amended calendar

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY SHEFFEL consent agenda items 1-5 were approved as presented.

1426 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

BOARD COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Ms. Malone asked if the June work session could be changed from June 14 to June 6. Everyone agreed this would be fine.

Ms. Malone shared information regarding the Northern KY Juneteenth Freedom Celebration Day. There will be a celebration in Newport on June 15th, in Covington on June 16th, and in Erlanger on June 17th.

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION BY CURL AND SECONDED BY SUTHERLAND the meeting adjourned. Time: 8:10 PM
1427 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Chairman

Secretary