



To: Mr. Watts, Superintendent
Ms. Malone, Chairperson of the Board
Members of Newport Board of Education

May, 2024

Department of Exceptional Children Update:

1. Bocce Special Olympics Unified Champion Event.

Newport Middle and High School Students participated in the Special Olympics Unified Bocce Tournament on April 26, 2024 at Simon Kenton High School. Unified teams from Scott, Simon Kenton and Newport High School competed in the event. Four Unified Teams from NHS participated in the event. Three of our four teams won first place in their competitions.

Team 1 -James Turner and Leland Garrison – (Third Place)

Team 2- Deshaun Jackson and Kobe Vorhees – (First Place)

Team 3- Noah Silvertan and Enrique Agustin – (First Place)

Team 4- Taylen Kinney and Kaden Lynn – (First Place)

Newport High School Bocce Coach – Vicki Chamberlain

Newport Staff Volunteers – Kerri Niemann, Kia Gearding, Adam Gillespie, Annette Maxey, and Janice Miller.

Northern Kentucky Tribune Article

<https://nkytribune.com/2024/05/newport-high-school-special-olympics-unified-bocce-ball-takes-three-of-its-four-matches-at-local-event/>

2. Choose to Include Campaign

The last week of April all schools participated in “Choose to Include Campaign”. The purpose of the campaign is to break down barriers, create positive change, bring awareness to support and include all individuals 24/7. Choose to Include Campaign is designed to show how our language and actions can end discrimination of people with intellectual and development disabilities.

Campaign Activities:

- Students signed The Inclusion Pledge: I pledge to look for and build a better relationship with the lonely, the isolated, the left out, the challenged and the bullied. I pledge to overcome the fear of difference and replace it with the power of inclusion.
- School administration and staff shared their favorite books about the power of inclusion with students. Example of books showcased: Awesomely Emma, I Choose to Speak Up, You Are Enough, Making A Difference, I Am Amazing, Peace Train, Our Class is a Family, and It's Brave to Be Kind.

This is the first year Newport has promoted this type of inclusive activity. Because we are committed to ensure no one is forgotten, and promote acceptance of all, Choose to Include Campaign will be a yearly event.

4. Exceptional Children Programming Rates:

- **Special Education Services** – 200 Students
- **504 Programming Rates** – 14 Students

Related Service Enrollments:

- Speech & Language (primary) 38
- Speech & Language (related service) 66
- Occupational Therapy 31
- Physical Therapy 6
- Mental Health Therapy 34
- Orientation and Mobility 1

Alternate Service Location Enrollments:

- Restore Program 8
- Home/Private School Students 0
- Newport School of Innovation 4
- Campbell Regional School 3

District Mental Health Clinician Programming Rates:

Number of Students Receiving Individual Therapy:

- Newport Primary School-Krysten Munn
26 Students Total/Caseload
- Newport Intermediate School-Brandy Mains
28 Students Total/Caseload
- Newport High School-Hannah Lunde
34 Students Total/Caseload

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Swanson
