



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 6:00 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8th Street, Newport. Purpose: New Business

CALL TO ORDER

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

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

STEVE CRAWFORD, ASSURED PARTNERS

Steve Crawford was present to discuss the upcoming property and casualty renewals with the board. Due to the current state of the market, property deductibles for wind and hail claims have been increased to \$100,000 per occurrence/per location. As a result of this coverage change, he is encouraging the board to review the statement of values and consolidate any locations that have common boundaries. Assured Partners marketed our coverages to all known Kentucky school insurance carriers who have a desire to work with public schools. The only other carriers, besides Liberty Mutual writing public schools in Kentucky are Wright Specialty and CM Regent. Both of those carriers are not looking to consider any new school clients and will be cutting their writings in Kentucky in the coming year. That leaves Liberty Mutual as the only carrier actively writing in Kentucky. They also, are looking to reduce their writings in Kentucky.

Assured Partners, with their partners at Keenan, through their wholly owned subsidiary, Accretive have been working for the last 18 months or so to develop an alternative option for school clients. On Thursday May 16th, they got word that the Kentucky Department of insurance approved Bluegrass Risk Management, a fully insured pooling program. Brandon Voelker is on board with the idea of changing insurers if the board decides to move in that direction.

Mr. Davis asked how we account for the high deductibles on our books? Ms. Hoover explained that she examines claims over a 5–7-year period and holds back funds based on those averages.

Mr. Sutherland asked about the pooling cost? The cost with Bluegrass Risk Management will be \$498,000 and our current carrier, Liberty Mutual, is \$550,052. A savings of over \$52,000. He asked that the superintendent bring a recommendation to the board at June regular meeting.

NWEA

Elliot Price joined the meeting via Zoom to present current 5Essentials survey data to the board. His report covered:

- District Data Response Rates – 2022-2023
- District Data Response Rates – 2023-2024
- Overall Performance data

- Highest performing and most improved measures
- Lowest performing and most decreased measures
- Next steps

Mr. Sutherland asked how often reps work in the buildings? What is the plan moving forward? Mr. Price said the plan moving forward is to stay true to the process. Continue data analysis, planning, and improvement plan implementation, continue embedded coaching, engage in additional 5Essentials-based professional learning, and administer the 5Essentials Survey during the 24/25 school year.

School leaders & coaches met with NWEA reps monthly. A question was raised in regards to creating successful relationships with just a monthly meeting. Mr. Price said reps are available daily thru phone calls, emails, and text messages also.

Mr. Curl inquired about NWEA's role in the plan. Drawing on their extensive experience and research, NWEA understands effective strategies and best practices. They are adept at modifying and adjusting to various situations. NWEA's Professional Learning programs are intentionally designed to engage teachers in fostering meaningful, measurable instructional changes, aiming for high-quality instruction that improves student outcomes. These foundational elements are essential for schools to implement successful changes.

Mr. Sutherland asked about the median timeframe for a school to see change thru this process. Research shows there will be gains in 3 years and at 5 years there should be a big turn.

Ms. Malone inquired about the lack of support from NWEA between October 2023 and March 2024, during which there was no contact from the organization. Mr. Price explained that there was a complete changeover during that period. He suggested that if NWEA had been present in the district, the data might have looked different. Mr. Price affirmed that with consistent coaching and adherence to the plan, positive outcomes are likely, provided there is a strong leader-coach relationship and a commitment to continuous learning and growth. Mr. Curl reiterated that the district's results would have been impacted if support had been available during that time. It was also noted that NWEA has been working exclusively with the primary and intermediate schools, while the state has been supporting the high school.

The board thanked the reps from NWEA for their presentation and answering questions this evening.

NEWPORT SCHOOL OF INNOVATION

Josh Snapp was present to update the board on the School of Innovation. His report covered:

- Enrollment by grade
- Enrollment by district
- Attendance and grades
- Graduation rates since opening in the 2019-2020 SY

The board commended Mr. Snapp on the recent graduation ceremony for the NSOI students.

NEW BUSINESS

Before approving new business items, Mr. Sutherland requested a discussion on the supplemental salary schedule for administrators. He expressed a desire for a more balanced salary structure. By April 2025, he would like to see various pay options for administrators, with compensation evaluated in relation to job descriptions. He also suggested exploring more creative methods for determining salaries.

Mr. Sutherland would also like any unfilled positions to be removed from the supplemental schedule.

Ms. Hoover explained that there is a balance available in capital funds so the request is to pay for the fencing and blacktop with the excess funds thus saving the general fund.

There is only one change from the current contract with the Campbell County Imagination Library to the contract being presented this evening and it has to do with changes regarding funding to prevent auditing issues with each district.

1. Capital Funds Request – NHS fencing and NPS blacktop
2. 24/25 Salary Schedules
3. Contract with Campbell County Imagination Library

On MOTION BY SUTHERLAND AND SECONDED BY DAVIS consent agenda items 1-3 were approved.

1566 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Mr. Davis about the universal Pre-K report that was supposed to be presented this month. Ms. Malone explained that the agenda was heavy with other important topics but will be rescheduled.

He also remarked on the intermediate school graduation. In the past, when he mentored students, many felt they could never aspire to be successful. However, after speaking with current students, he observed a significant increase in their confidence and belief in their ability to succeed in the future.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, On MOTION BY COVINGTON AND SECONDED BY CURL the meeting adjourned. Time 7:15 PM

1567 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Chairman

Secretary