

**Curriculum Department Report to the Board of Education**  
**Curriculum Department Highlights**  
**Jun 18, 2024**

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

**Newport Curriculum Department Vision:**

We envision a day when **all leaders** of Newport Independent Schools exhibit high expectations and guarantee excellence of instruction, ensure equitable opportunities, and leverage all high quality resources so that students, staff, and leaders will **maximize** their fullest potential.

## Chief Academic Officer:

### End-of-Year Leadership Retreat

Each year the building leaders, their admin teams, and district-level leaders close out the year with a 2-day retreat. The purpose is to reflect on the previous year and to prepare for the upcoming school year. The agenda for day 1 is as follows:

**Leadership Retreat**  
**Day 1**  
**June 4, 2024**

**Day 1**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity Overview</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>
8:00-8:15	Purpose of Retreat & Motivational Video	T. Watts
8:15-8:30	Celebrations	T. Watts
8:30- 9:45	Superintendent's Message	T. Watts
9:45- 10:00	Break	-
10:00-10:30	Systems Work- Hierarchy of Organization	D. Payne
10:30-12:00	Instructional System(s)	D. Payne
12:00-1:15	Lunch	On Your Own
1:15- 2:30	NWEA	D. Payne
2:30-3:00	Reflection	T. Watts

## **Day 1: Understanding and Optimizing Systems**

The first day of the leadership retreat delved deeply into the concept of systems within the school district. The morning session began with an exploration of different types of systems that operate within educational settings, emphasizing administrative, educational, and support systems. Participants engaged in group discussions to identify strengths and weaknesses in current systems.

After lunch, attention turned to the role of leadership in optimizing systems. Presenters highlighted the importance of clear communication, accountability structures, and data-driven decision-making in system effectiveness. Practical exercises allowed participants to apply these concepts fostering collaboration and problem-solving skills.

This session provided valuable insights and inspiration for participants as they prepared for the next phase of the workshop.

## **Implementing and Sustaining Effective Systems**

The retreat also focused on actionable steps to implement and sustain effective systems within the school district. Admin teams and district-level teams worked to develop action plans based on the insights gained from earlier in the day. These sessions provided practical tools and resources tailored to different leadership roles within the district.

The retreat day 1 concluded with a reflection session where participants shared key takeaways and commitments to action. Leaders left the workshop equipped with new strategies and a renewed sense of purpose to drive positive change through enhanced systems within their schools.

The PowerPoint used for the systems work is linked below.

[Systems Presentation 1.pptx](#)

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Darla R Payne**  
Chief Academic Officer

**Katina Brown**  
Director of District Wide Services