



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 6:00 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8th Street, Newport. PURPOSE: date and time change

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. Mr. Davis read the district's mission statement.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

MINUTES OF May 22, 2024 REGULAR MEETING AND JUNE 5, 2024 SPECIAL MEETING

On MOTION BY CURL AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON, the minutes were approved as presented.

1568 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Sutherland inquired about the voided check on the financial statement. Ms. Hoover clarified that it was for a scheduled Kona Ice visit that did not occur. He also questioned the time period indicated as "through May 2024" on the grant report. Ms. Hoover explained that this period corresponds to the fiscal year, spanning to date from July 2023 to May 2024. Ms. Malone added that some title funds are carried over from previous years.

On MOTION BY DAVIS AND SECONDED BY CURL the financial report was accepted and will be filed for audit and the bills were approved for payment.

1569– MOTION CARRIED 5-0

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

- Credit card statement
- Administrator expense report
- Budget report on grants
- Monthly financial report

STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Ms. Darla Payne thanked the board for allowing her to work freely and effectively in her time with Newport. In saying that, she shared with the board an award for excellence in education she received at the Juneteenth celebration in Elsmere where she was also the keynote speaker.

Ms. Payne's monthly report covered the work that took place at the end-of-year leadership retreat. She shared the PowerPoint Presentation that was used in the systems work for hierarchy of the organization and instructional systems.

Mr. Maines provided an update on facilities, transportation, and school safety. He informed the board that the Newport School of Innovation has been relocated to the district office building, with the new room ready for setup and operational launch. Only a few minor tasks remain to be completed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

Before moving to new business items, Ms. Malone asked if anyone had questions regarding the evaluation of NWEA report that was provided for the board's review.

Mr. Sutherland said he had a conversation with Mr. Watts about NWEA. From the expense report provided we have spent \$390,000+ so far. His understanding was the original company sold to a third party and during the transition the schools received no services. Mr. Watts indicated Ms. Payne nor building administrators have been happy with their services or lack thereof. Ms. Malone said that when NWEA presented to the board they implied that had they been present in the district from October – March, our data could have possibly been better. To make matters worse, we were not alerted to the changeover; NWEA just stopped showing up for months.

Mr. Davis asked about if there was any financial obligation if we cancel the contract. Mr. Hoover said they only require a 30-day notice. Mr. Sutherland asked if there is anything in place to support administrators if the contract is cancelled. Ms. Payne will continue to provide all services currently provided by NWEA. She will outsource for additional services only if necessary.

Mr. Curl asked if we have a credit due for services not rendered? Ms. Hoover explained that we did not pre-pay for any services. We have only paid for services rendered.

Mr. Sutherland reiterated that this contract was entered into because of available ESSER funds received from the federal government after COVID; no local tax dollars have been allocated for services. Ms. Hoover said some Title I money was used initially also. If the board approves cancelling the contract, Ms. Payne and Ms. Hoover will work together to figure out the most beneficial way to use the money originally allocated to the contract with NWEA. The balance of ESSER funds must be spent by September 2024.

Mr. Curl asked about indirect cost rates. Ms. Hoover explained that indirect costs are general business and administration expenses that aren't directly linked to a grant or project; i.e., administrative costs, utilities, office equipment, computers, cell phones, supplies, etc. Mr. Sutherland asked how the amount of \$300,000 for the Fidelity Performance Bond of Treasurer is determined. Ms. Hoover replied that KDE sets the amount based on the size of the district.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Personnel report
2. 1st reading of 2024 KSBA policy & procedure updates
3. 2025 indirect cost rates
4. Fidelity Bond of Treasurer
5. KASA dues for district administrators, principals, and assistant principals
6. BG-4/BG-5 NPS re-roof
7. Property & casualty insurance renewal with Bluegrass Risk Management
8. Cancellation of contract with NWEA
9. NPS fundraiser request – Walk-a-Thon

On MOTION BY COVINGTON AND SECONDED BY CURL consent agenda items 1-9 were approved as presented.

1570 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

BOARD COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

The board discussed the football stadium and plans for a Grand Opening celebration that will include dedicating the press box to Paul Baker. Ms. Malone suggested a planning committee be formed to make preparations for this event. Mr. Sutherland offered his congratulations to the new Athletic Director, Kevin Reinhardt, and Head Football Coach, Paul Wiggins.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, On MOTION BY CURL AND SECONDED BY DAVIS the meeting adjourned. Time 6:50 PM

1571 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Chairman

Secretary