



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, at 5:30 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Newport, KY.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

### **APPROVE POSTING A VACANCY FOR DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM POSITION**

Ms. Malone asked Mr. Atkins to explain the rationale for posting a Director of Curriculum position. The role of a Director of Curriculum is essential in ensuring academic excellence and consistent instructional quality across the district. As educational standards, student needs, and accountability expectations continue to change, a curriculum director is required to oversee curriculum development, instructional alignment, and the implementation of best practices in teaching and learning. He noted that significant work lies ahead, and meaningful discussion of roles and responsibilities cannot proceed without this key leadership role in place. In addition to overseeing curriculum, the Director would also assume responsibilities as the District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) and lead professional development efforts districtwide.

Mr. Atkins also addressed the financial impact, stating that he has consulted with the finance director. Due to savings realized from other staffing adjustments, the district is in a position to absorb the cost of this new role.

Ms. Stubbeman asked whether an internal candidate would be considered as a cost-saving measure. Mr. Atkins responded that he would like to post the position and seek the most qualified candidate. However, he noted that if an internal applicant proves to be the best fit for the role, he would fully support that decision.

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY CURL the board approved positing a vacancy for Director of Curriculum.

1709 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **APPROVE 2025-2026 SCHOOL START AND END TIMES**

Questions centered around the younger students being dismissed earlier than the high school students. Ms. Kaeff explained that conversations are taking place to set up monitored holding areas for these students perhaps to do homework or after-school activities.

High school students will follow the same procedures for signing up for transportation as the younger students to secure space on the busses and their pick up/drop off spot. Sign-ups will start soon and parents will be made aware of time changes right away.

Ms. Kaeff explained that bus drivers have been involved in the planning process; making very meaningful suggestions to all the changes.

Ms. Malone would like an update on transportation at the August 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON the board approved the following school start and end times for the 25/26 SY:

- Newport Primary School – 7:50 AM – 2:50 PM
- Newport Intermediate School – 7:45 AM – 2:45 PM
- Newport High School – 8:15 AM – 3:15 PM

1710 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

#### **APPROVE MOU WITH HEALTH POINT FAMILY CARE**

Ms. Kaeff presented the MOU with HealthPoint Family Care to support the School-Based Health Center. After meeting with Cincinnati Children's Hospital and HealthPoint Family Care, she is asking the board to consider signing an MOU with HealthPoint. Her rationale is as follows:

- Staffing Covered: APRN
- Supplies Provided: All medical supplies needed to treat patients.
- District Role: Provide clinic space, utilities, internet, freezer/fridge, defibrillator, eye wash station, and scale (*All of these items are currently available in or in close proximity to the SBHC space.*)
- Focus: Student-only care.
- Billing: Medicaid/private insurance; \$23 max out of pocket for uninsured.
- Current SBHC Reach: Established SBHCs in Northern KY.
- Care Access Options:
  - APRN can rotate between schools if needed.
  - Telehealth with the assistance of the school nurse can be made available when students do not have direct access.
- MOU Status: Provided for Newport Independent School District Board of Education Approval
- Start Date: After the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is signed by the district, the provider will submit the required documentation to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for site approval as a provider location. This approval process may take one to two months. Once the site is approved, the provider will begin services.

#### Strengths:

- Local, familiar provider. HealthPoint Family Care has an existing location in Newport.
- Many families already utilize HealthPoint Family Care as their primary care physician (PCP). Therefore, a better continuity of care for current HealthPoint patients.
- Affordable out-of-pocket max for uninsured families.
- For approximately 25 years, HealthPoint Family Care has been providing healthcare through SBHCs in Northern Kentucky

#### Limitations:

- Slightly increased infrastructure responsibilities compared to the other provider.
  - Notably, in the previous School-Based Health Center (SBHC) model implemented in the district, the school nurse fulfilled a dual role, serving both as the school nurse and the SBHC registered nurse.

No adult (staff) healthcare provided.

An MOU with Children's has not been provided to date. At best, the earliest Children's could open would be January. There are no current SBHCs in KY serviced by Children's but they are expanding into NKY.

On MOTION BY CURL AND SECONDED BY STUBBEMAN the board approved the MOU with HealthPoint Family Care.

1711 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **MOU WITH PARTNERS FOR CHANGE**

Mr. Atkins informed the board that there are updates being made to the MOU and asked the board to table this agenda item for now.

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY CURL the MOU with Partners for Change will be tabled while changes are being made.

1712 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **MOUs FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

The board had questions about the in-take process which Ms. Kaeff explained involves the school counselor, the service provider and the family. Summer services are provided for families that wish to continue thru the summer months; many opt out until students return to school. Many students are identified for services through diagnostic testing conducted by the special education department. Mental health services are provided at no cost to families; all billing is managed directly through partnering agencies.

- Ramey Estep/ReGroup
- North Key Community Care
- Mainspring Wellness
- STOIC Health, Treeside Health and Wellness
- Family Care Counseling Solutions
- Healing Haven Counseling

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON the MOUs for mental health counselors were approved.

1713- MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY DAVIS, the meeting adjourned at 6:22 PM

1714 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

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Chairman

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Secretary