

Resolution of the NEWPORT INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION In Support of Read Ready Newport and Partnership with the City of Newport

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Newport Independent Schools recognizes that early learning, beginning with prenatal care, is foundational to long-term student success and community prosperity; and

WHEREAS, research shows that children who enter kindergarten ready to learn are more likely to achieve reading proficiency by third grade, meet or exceed grade level proficiency throughout school, and graduate from high school prepared postsecondary education and success in the workforce and life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Newport has launched *Read Ready Newport*, a place-based early learning and literacy initiative aimed at strengthening early development, parent partnership, and kindergarten readiness for all children birth through age five; and

WHEREAS, the Newport Board of Education affirms that public schools play a vital role in the ecosystem of early learning and that collaborative, community-wide efforts are essential to ensuring all children arrive at school ready to thrive; and

WHEREAS, efforts like Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and partnerships with local child care providers, libraries, and nonprofits already serve young children in Newport, but have not yet reached every child and therefore have not reached their full potential for connection and collective impact; and

WHEREAS, the Newport Board of Education will partner with EducateNKY, the Read Ready Newport team, and the overarching Read Ready Network in the commitment to supporting Northern Kentucky communities that step forward with local leadership and a clear charge to give every child a strong start.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Newport Independent Schools Board of Education hereby endorses the goals and mission of *Read Ready Newport* and commits to the following actions in partnership with the City of Newport:

1. **Align Kindergarten Readiness Goals**

The district will align its early childhood and family engagement strategies with Read Ready Newport's shared goals to improve school readiness outcomes across the city.

2. **Share Data and Resources**

The district will collaborate with the city and the Read Ready City Team to share non-identifiable, aggregate data that inform local readiness trends, while jointly promoting evidence-based early learning resources and tools for families.

3. **Leverage Educator Expertise**

Early childhood educators from the district will contribute to Read Ready Newport planning and implementation efforts, including participation on advisory groups and task forces when appropriate.

4. **Promote Community Literacy Tools**

The district will help promote Read Ready Newport’s literacy platforms, such as Footsteps2Brilliance and Clever Kids University, by informing families and incorporating them into outreach when possible.

5. **Support Seamless Transitions**

The district will work with early childhood providers, families, and the city to strengthen transitions from pre-K to kindergarten, ensuring more children are prepared socially, emotionally, and academically.

6. **Celebrate Progress and Partnerships**

The district will join the City of Newport in celebrating milestones, sharing success stories, and communicating progress toward community-wide early learning goals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the [Superintendent or Designee] is hereby authorized to coordinate with the City of Newport and its partners to carry out the intent of this resolution and report progress to the Board as appropriate.

Adopted this ___ day of _____, 2025.

Chairperson, Board of Education

Superintendent
