



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 6:30 PM. The meeting was held at 30 W. 8th Street, Newport, KY.

CALL TO ORDER

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

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

NEWPORT STADIUM CHANGE ORDER #3

Mr. Atkins explained that Phase 2 of the concession stand and restroom project requires a change order for the board's consideration. The proposed changes include installing wide gutters with protective screens to prevent leaves and debris from clogging the drains, as well as adding two "L"-shaped sections of fencing and a gate along the side of the concession stand for safety purposes. In addition, minimal-maintenance ground cover and mulch will be installed to enhance the area's appearance. The cost of the change order will be \$4,688.34. Overall costs of Phase II is still under budget. This change order will be added to the next regular board meeting agenda for approval.

BOARD POLICY 1.1 – LEGAL STATUS OF THE BOARD

Ms. Malone explained the reason for adding this item to the agenda. Last year, the board approved a pilot program establishing a student representative position on the board. Based on the program's success, she proposed updating the current board policy to include formal guidelines for appointing a student representative each year. Several sample policies from other districts were provided for reference. Mr. Atkins reviewed the examples and presented his recommendation.

The board agreed with Mr. Atkins' recommendation and requested that additional language be included to outline the application timeline. The revised policy will be presented at the next regular meeting for a first reading.

APPROVE HIRING A 2ND GRADE TEACHER TO REDUCE CLASS SIZE

Mr. Atkins explained that KRS sets guidelines for class size ratios and our 2nd grade classrooms currently exceed the 24:1 ratio. By adding another teacher, this will reduce the current ratios to approx. 22:1 which will enable better instruction across that grade level. In order to alleviate the cost to the general fund, Ms. Slankard will adjust 40% of her salary to be paid from Title II. She also increased the amount of money going toward OpenSciEd PD materials. Ms. Snapp said personnel costs came in under budget so there is additional money that can cover the cost of an additional teacher without any significant budget ramifications.

On MOTION BY CURL AND SECONDED BY DAVIS the board approved hiring an additional 2nd grade teacher to be paid from general funds.

1734 – MOTION CARRIED 4-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Malone explained that whenever there is a superintendent vacancy, KRS sets guidelines which must be followed regarding the hiring of a new superintendent. This search is no reflection on Mr. Atkins' performance; the board is required by law to follow certain guidelines and must adhere to the process set forth.

On MOTION BY COVINGTON AND SECONDED BY CURL the board went into executive session. 61.810 (f) – Personnel – consideration of professional service providers for the superintendent search. Time: 6:52 PM

1735 – MOTION CARRIED 4-0

On MOTION BY CURL AND SECONDED BY DAVIS the board returned to open session. Time 7:28 PM

1736 – MOTION CARRIED 4-0

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION BY COVINGTON AND SECONDED BY CURL, the meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM

1737 – MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Chairman

Secretary