



2025-2026 Phase One: Executive Summary for Districts_08272025_09:21

2025-2026 Phase One: Executive Summary for Districts

Newport Independent
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Description of the District

Describe the district's size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the district serves?

Newport, Kentucky is located near the Northernmost point of Campbell County, Kentucky on the banks of the Ohio River, adjacent to Cincinnati, Ohio. Newport is a mature inner-city community founded in 1795. The diverse community is densely populated. Unique features of this community include: 2.73 square miles of land 15,757 residents (6,000 residents per square mile vs. 110 per square mile state average).

Most recent Census data shows our community population is 54% male and 46% female. Total population data reveals a community that is 83% white, 7% African American, 5% two or more races, and 5% Hispanic. The estimated median household value for Newport was \$199,233 and is higher than the state average. Estimated household income was \$48,211 and is lower than the state average. Residents with income below the poverty level are reported at 23% and this is higher than the state average. Poverty rates are the highest for the population among school aged residents and those younger than aged five, outranking any other aged population within the community. Over 50% of housing units are renter occupied (compared to 31.3% state average). 20% of residents, under age 65, are without health insurance (compared to 10.5% nationwide average). Poverty level data shows that most identified within this group are living in homes built prior to 1939 (66%). Within the last three years revitalization efforts have continued with construction occurring throughout the West end of the city. Affordable housing continues to impact residents as apartment complexes undergo revitalization. Leaders within the city of Newport continue to address the needs of citizens through continued housing expansion, increase in entertainment industry, and in growing the city's offerings.

Newport continues to grow in its entertainment and hospitality endeavors.

Newport is home to Newport Racing and Gaming, Newport on the Levee, Newport Aquarium, Ovations, World Peace Bell, New Riff Distillery, and construction has begun on a new hotel resort. The City of Newport and community are committed to continued economic growth and opportunity. Community groups are active in all facets of community growth and development, meet regularly, and are actively involved in each organization's vision. The residents of Newport meet within their local community groups across the city, are active voices in Newport Independent Schools, and provide the school district with the opportunity to meet with each group no less than yearly.

- Newport Independent most recent end of year data shows a 2025 enrollment in grades Preschool through twelfth as 1351 (May 1, 2025).
- The district's economically disadvantaged rate was 87%.

- We continue to see variation in our school demographics related to race and ethnicity. End of school year data shows that 42.92% of the student body was white with African American populations at 19.80% and Hispanic at 20.93%. Two or more races comprise 16.11% of the student population.
- Students qualifying under McKinney Vento stood at 16% of students for Newport Independent at the end of school year 2025. Doubled up and unaccompanied youth were the most identified indicator. The diversified population is a trend spanning the last five years with the expectation of continuation.
- Diversification is also noted with an increasing English Language Learners population of 180 students in Kindergarten through grade 12. Languages include: Spanish, Arabic, Swahili, Portuguese, Gujarati, and Mai Mai.
- Spanish continues to be the largest home language for EL students standing at 95%.

Newport Independent values the immense history found within our city and school community. Our student body's diversity is our strength and sets us apart from other districts within our region comparable to our size. Newport Independent School District comprises five schools: Newport High, Newport Intermediate, Newport Primary, Newport School of Innovation, and Newport Regional. Demographic data for Newport Independent Schools reveals a diverse population representative of the community it serves.

District Stakeholders

Identify and describe the district's stakeholder groups. How does the district ensure stakeholder involvement and engagement in the improvement planning process?

Newport Independent Schools follows Board Policy for District Planning 01.111. The District planning committee, representative of the community and the school district, are appointed by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education to develop, review, and revise annually a Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP). The Superintendent develops and presents to the Board for review the procedures for appointment of the planning committee. The Superintendent makes the procedures known to the community and school personnel through announcements including, but not limited to: district website, newsletters, electronic mail, and board meetings.

The committee includes representatives from the following groups: Teachers, Principals, Other school leaders, Paraprofessionals, Central Office administrators, School administrators, Board member(s), Classified staff, Parents, Community representatives, and High school students. The Superintendent recommends members for appointment for approval to the Board of Education for the one year

term. The Superintendent actively engages with community stakeholders through community events and regional networks.

District's Purpose

Provide the district's purpose statement and supplementary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs, including the year in which they were last reviewed or revised. Describe how the district embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students and how stakeholders are involved in its development.

Mission: The Newport Independent School District will partner with families and the community to nurture, educate, and instill core values in all students to ensure they reach their full potential.

Vision: We envision a day when every student in Newport Independent Schools engages and thrives in educational excellence

Core Values:

- Equity- Ethical and moral imperative that ensures access, fairness and social justice.
- Integrity- With honesty and adhering to the highest standards of moral and ethical values as demonstrated in personal professional behaviors.
- Relationships- Connection or involvement between people built on trust and commitment that fosters meaningful communication.
- Accountability- Clear responsibility for actions and decisions aligned with organizational purpose and public trust.
- Achievement- An accomplishment that is obtained through great effort, courage, or skill. Excellence- Defined standard of highest quality.

Stakeholder Shared Beliefs:

- We believe it is essential that every student at NISD is ensured equal access to challenging and personally meaningful curriculum and participates in a learning environment that is culturally responsive.
- We believe that all staff members shall be committed to honesty, fairness, and justice ensuring equitable treatment of others and will adhere to the highest standards of moral and ethical values in personal and professional behaviors.
- We believe that staff, students, and families are accountable to the mission and vision of NISD and will illuminate the mission and vision in actions and decision- making
- We believe that it is our responsibility to develop courage, effort, and skills so students are able to achieve at their highest potential.
- We believe that fostering a culture of excellence prepares students in every aspect of their lives.

- We believe that developing caring and supportive relationships between stakeholders is central to effective schools where students, staff, and families connect, trust, and meaningfully communicate.

Notable Achievements

Describe the district's notable achievements in the last three years.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

- Availability of High-Quality Instructional Resources (HQIRs): every grade level and subject area now has access to HQIRs, ensuring that all teachers have the ability to teach from materials aligned to rigorous academic standards.
- Data-Based Decision Making: some schools are increasingly using data to guide instruction, identify students' needs, and determine next steps for intervention and enrichment
- Improved Student Outcomes on Diagnostics: district diagnostic assessment results show a slow rise in student percentile scores, indicating growth in student learning and readiness across grade levels.

Special Education

- Intentional use of high-leverage practices (HLPs). These research-based instructional and organizational strategies are proven to improve outcomes for students with disabilities.
- Parent Involvement: Positive results of the 2025 Parent Survey- provides district- and state-level comparisons on key measures such as parents' understanding of the IEP process, perceptions of being welcomed and involved in educational planning, and transition preparation for students aged 14 and older.
- Professional development and teacher training on HLPs: needed for consistency and fidelity, building capacity, closing gaps, sustainability, collaboration, and support.
- Parent survey results- Newport was above the state average in all areas for 2025. Create consistent

Pupil Personnel

- District enrollment has stabilized over the past three years, with SAAR numbers reflecting a leveling trend: 1,235.98 in 2023, 1,261.95 in 2024, and 1,232.78 in 2025. This pattern demonstrates that the period of decline has lessened, and the district is maintaining consistent enrollment.
- While the district continues to prioritize reducing classroom disruptions, we are encouraged to see a sharp decline in the number of severe behavior concerns. This trend reflects the positive impact of our staff's proactive strategies, student support systems, and commitment to maintaining safe and productive learning environments

- Attendance has steadily increased over the past three years, with each school setting its own attendance goals. In 2024, two schools met their goals, and in 2025, the district is on track to surpass its overall attendance target of 95%, reflecting the success of our ongoing initiatives.
- We are seeing a reduction in unexcused attendance events through the support of families, the community, and the local court system. Initiatives such as a chronic medical excuse program, expanded school-based health services, and targeted options for students at risk of dropping out are helping ensure students remain engaged and supported.

Safety & Wellness

- Notably, the number of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) across campuses has increased, ensuring quicker emergency response times in the event of cardiac incidents.
- Additionally, the district has upgraded and expanded its camera surveillance systems, further strengthening campus monitoring and overall security.
- A major milestone was the district-wide rollout of a formal threat and risk assessment process using the Navigate 360 platform.
- The district has made significant strides in enhancing school safety through strategic planning and implementation of critical safety initiatives. The development and implementation of comprehensive Cardiac Response Plans and Emergency Response Plans have standardized emergency protocols, improving preparedness and staff confidence in crisis situations.
- Navigate 360 has enabled schools to assess and address potential threats systematically and in real-time.
- Over the past three years, the district has seen measurable success in reducing behavior referrals across campuses, thanks in large part to the district-wide implementation of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS).

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment Name



2025-2026 NISD Executive Summary District

Areas of Improvement

Describe areas for improvement that the district is striving to achieve in the next three years.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

- Consistency: HQIRs. Goal: ensure every student has access to standards-aligned instruction provided by HQIRs and implemented consistently across grade levels and schools, , including building an HQIR cadre in the district that participates in NKCES' work.

- **Coherence: Effective MTSS System.** Goal: build a districtwide MTSS framework that ensures students receive timely academic and behavioral support, aligned with core instruction.
- **Belonging: High Expectations and Family Partnerships.** Goal: foster a culture of high expectations for all students while engaging families as active partners in learning.

Overall, these three goals should culminate and be measured in student academic achievement growth on diagnostic and state accountability assessments

Special Education

- Goal: strengthen student success by consistently using high-leverage practices, focusing on explicit instruction, progress monitoring, collaboration, and social-emotional supports to improve learning and opportunities for all students with disabilities.
- Continue to strengthen parent engagement by ensuring families are active partners in the IEP process. Provide clear communication, foster consistent two-way communication. Encourage active engagement in their child's learning at home and school to reinforce skills and support growth.

Pupil Personnel

- Looking ahead, an area of focus for the next three years is to increase the number of Newport students who choose to return to and remain in our schools. By strengthening academic programs, student supports, and community connections, the district is committed to ensuring families see Newport as their top choice for education.
- An area of focus for the district will be increasing student accountability and promoting self-monitoring within the classroom. By empowering students to take ownership of their behavior, we aim to continue improving overall school behavior data and create a more positive learning environment.
- Over the next three years, we will continue our current initiatives while adding a focus on reducing tardiness, promoting student self-monitoring of attendance, and supporting families in meeting attendance goals

Safety & Wellness

- Over the next three years, priorities will be to refine emergency communication, expand training opportunities for all staff, and increase student and community engagement in safety initiatives. Looking forward, the department is committed to building upon these safety enhancements by further integrating technology with safety procedures.
- Additional goals include increasing the availability of mental health support within the threat assessment process, enhancing district-wide training in trauma-informed care, and conducting more frequent drills and simulations. There is also a focused effort to foster a culture of safety through student-led initiatives, anonymous reporting systems, and a more proactive approach to conflict prevention and resolution.

- Continued improvement efforts will focus on deepening staff classroom management skills and capacity to implement MTSS with fidelity, expanding tiered interventions, and integrating data-driven decision-making into everyday practice.
- The department also aims to increase family engagement and strengthen restorative practices to further reduce exclusionary discipline and support all students in their behavioral growth.

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Additional Information

Provide any additional information you would like to share with the public and community that were not prompted in the previous sections.

District notable achievements, areas of growth, and next step actions per department attached.

Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
 2025-2026 NISD Executive Summary District	PDF Version of 2025-2026 NISD Executive Summary District Includes each district departments notable achievements, areas of growth, and areas of focus.	.