



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 6:30 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.

### **PLANNING FOR SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH LED BY TIM ABRAMS, KSBA CONSULTANT**

Mr. Abrams introduced himself and gave a brief history of his experience in education as superintendent in Henry County, KTRS consultant after retirement, and now as a consultant with KSBA.

Mr. Abrams provided the board with a timeline for the superintendent search. After discussion, on MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY CURL the board approved the timeline as presented.

1746 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Mr. Abrams presented an advertisement for the superintendent vacancy for review. On MOTION BY CURL AND SECONDED BY DAVIS the advertisement was approved with a minor correction and will be posted on KEPS, the KSBA website, and the district website on November 13, 2025.

1747 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Mr. Abrams asked the board to identify the criteria they would like the selection committee to use when reviewing applications and interviewing candidates. At the January 7, 2026 meeting, he will invite each member to share their thoughts on the qualities they believe are most important for the next superintendent.

The number of candidates to be presented to the board of education by the selection committee will be 3 +/- . This will give the committee leeway to choose just the candidates who fill the requirements of the board and is best suited to lead the district.

Kim Klosterman will be the district person chosen to assist Mr. Abrams in the search committee selection procedures. Per KRS 160.352, the selection committee shall be composed of: two teachers, elected by the teachers in the district; one board member, appointed by the board chairman, one principal, elected by the principals in the district, one parent, elected by the largest parent organization in the district (for Newport, that will be the advisory councils), and one classified employee, elected by the classified employees in the district. If a minority member is not elected or appointed to the screening committee, the committee membership shall increase to include one minority parent. This minority parent member shall be elected by the parents in an election conducted by the school board.

Mr. Abrams highlighted the valuable role of the selection committee, noting that these individuals care deeply about the district and have committed their time to this important task. He encouraged the board to thoughtfully consider their recommendations.

Ms. Stubbeman asked about focus groups being a part of the process. Mr. Abrams said this has been done in other districts thru surveys. The recommended timeline to open up a survey would be early/mid-December with a closing date of January 5<sup>th</sup>; the same date the application process ends. The surveys have been administered thru Google docs or QR codes in other districts. Mr. Voelker commented that we have no control who is actually responding to a survey; are they truly stakeholders or people who have an ax to grind? Mr. Abrams will send sample surveys for the board's consideration and stressed the importance of making access to controlled groups such as teachers, local businesses, etc. Surveys would be set up to go directly back to KSBA when completed if the board chooses to include focus groups.

Mr. Curl asked when the board would receive access to the applications? All applications will go directly to KSBA and the board can decide when they want access. It can be either January 12<sup>th</sup> or January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Abrams said he would be returning to the district on December 10<sup>th</sup> to train the members chosen for the selection committee. He asked that anyone with questions to feel free to call or email him.

### **TNTP SERVICE AGREEMENT DISCUSSION**

Ms. Slankard presented an overview of the TNTP Service Agreement she is asking the board to approve at the regular meeting. As recipients of the KyCL25 grant, the district is required to enter into a contract with a Rivet approved professional learning provider that ensures we are engaging in long-term, repeated professional learning regarding literacy.

Rivet Education helps education leaders expand the use of high-quality instructional materials by providing clear guidance on curriculum implementation—who does what and when as well as create practical resources to make the process easier and faster. TNTP is a Rivet certified provider.

The grant is reimbursement based meaning the district must first make payment and then we submit payment requests to the state on a quarterly basis for reimbursement from the grant. The partnership has been pre-approved by the grant manager at KDE, providing additional assurance that we will be reimbursed. NKCES is working through their Rivet certification process and will be able to provide high-quality PD to our district at a substantially lower cost or potentially free, once they are fully certified next year. They are also coming into the district with TNTP this year for additional support.

The scope of services include:

- Professional learning for district and school leaders
- Using high-quality instructional materials
- Continued walkthroughs, observations, and debriefs with district and school leaders
- Virtual professional learning in leader PLCs, focused on how to support teachers with internalization of high-quality literacy materials.

The cost of the services from November 2025 – May 2026 is \$82,987. This includes staff time and travel for up to two onsite visits.

Ms. Stubbeman asked about language in the contract referring to 3<sup>rd</sup> parties. Ms. Slankard said she would look into this since she was unaware the agreement mentioned that. Use of student and teacher data will be protected as required by law. Shared data will not include individual names. Ms. Malone asked if there are any reports that show the timeline for growth? Ms. Slankard does have data she will share and Mr. Voelker shared a link to the TNTIP website that reflects their impact over time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY CURL the fundraising requests from NHS were approved.

1748 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY CURL the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of KSBA policy 1.1. Legal Status of the Board, was approved.

1749 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY CURL, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM

1750 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

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Chairman

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Secretary