



MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER ►►►

The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on January 7, 2026, at 6:30 PM. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct the yearly organizational meeting and meet the members of the superintendent search screening committee.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ramona Malone called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call. The following were present: Ramona Malone, Tim Curl, Sylvia Covington, Bobbie Stubbeman, and Ed Davis joined via Google Meet.

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

2026 CALENDAR

Month	Work Session	Regular Meeting	Time
January 14	X		6:30 PM
January 28		X	6:30 PM
February 11	X		6:30 PM
February 25		X	6:30 PM
March 11	X		6:30 PM
March 25		X	6:30 PM
April 15	X		6:30 PM
April 22		X	6:30 PM
May 13	X		6:30 PM
May 27		X	6:30 PM
June 10	X		6:30 PM
June 24		X	6:30 PM
July 8	X		6:30 PM
July 22		X	6:30 PM
August 12	X		6:30 PM
August 26		X	6:30 PM
September 9	X		6:30 PM
September 23		X	6:30 PM
October 14	X		6:30 PM
October 28		X	6:30 PM
November 18		X	6:30 PM
December 16		X	6:30 PM

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH COMMITTEE INTRODUCTIONS/ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Mr. Tim Abrams, the KSBA consultant leading the superintendent search for the Board, was present to introduce the search committee and review the process with the board. The superintendent search process is KRS driven and involves a screening committee to review candidates, conduct interviews, and make recommendations, though the Board retains final hiring authority, with emphasis on confidentiality and board-set criteria.

The search committee consists of: two (2) teachers, elected by the teachers in the district; one (1) board of education member, appointed by the board chairman; one (1) principal, elected by the principals in the district; one (1) parent, elected by the presidents of the parent-teacher organizations of the schools in the district; and one (1) classified employee, elected by the classified employees in the district.

The members are: Esther Fatsy, Monique Wood (teacher reps), April Amis-Walsh (classified rep), Nicole Reinhardt (parent rep), Tim Curl (board rep), and Nichole Hayden (principal rep).

The committee will receive access to applicants this evening. The goal is to have their recommendations to the board by late January.

BOARD CHARGE

When interviewing applicants, the board asked the committee to consider the following qualities:

- Strong communication skills – clear, transparent, and approachable
- Leadership approach – servant and collaborative leadership style
- Accountability and support – hold employees accountable while working alongside them
- Trustworthy & ethical – demonstrates integrity in all decisions
- Student-centered – dedicated to meeting the needs of all children
- Team-oriented – understands they are part of the team and empowers teachers
- Culture builder – committed to improving and sustaining a positive environment
- Community awareness – understands the dynamics of working and living in Newport
- Problem-solver – sees unique challenges as opportunities, not barriers
- Data-driven – uses evidence to guide strategies
- Operational excellence – demonstrates strong financial management and prioritizes stakeholder satisfaction

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF SUPERINTENDENT APPLICANTS

12 applications have been received:

- 9 males
- 3 females
- 2 current superintendents
- 3 current central office personnel
- 3 current principals or assistants
- 4 current education related organization
- 0 teacher
- 7 in state
- 5 out of state

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- January 12, 2026 - 2nd screening committee meeting
- January 21, 2026 - 3rd screening committee meeting (1st round of interviews)
- January 22, 2026 - second round of video interviews (2nd round of interviews)
- January 28, 2026 - joint meeting with board and screening committee to receive committee recommendations

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON the meeting adjourned. Time: 7:00 PM

1759 - MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Chairman

Secretary