

Superintendent Report February 2025

Each Monday morning, our district leadership team meets to plan upcoming events and share ideas to improve student opportunities and instruction.

Each Tuesday morning, our district facilities team meets to review submitted work orders and discuss maintenance projects that need to be completed throughout the district.

- 1/29/26 Met with Scott Hawkins, Superintendent Executive Coach and mentor through the Kentucky Association of School Administrators (KASA).
- 2/4/26 Attended Newport Primary School's *Muffins in the Morning* and supported the administrative team with carline duty.
- Participated in a New Superintendent Webinar focused on *Personnel Essentials*, led by Mr. Wayne Young. This session is part of the required training for all new Kentucky public school superintendents.
- 2/5/26 Met with a Newport Primary School student during lunch to review grade-level sight words and read together.
- 2/6/26 Participated in a virtual meeting with River City Superintendents and Strategic Advisors to discuss collaborative public relations opportunities.
- Attended the Kentucky Association for School Superintendents (KASS) Legislative Zoom meeting to receive updates on proposed legislation during the General Assembly session.
- Celebrated the Transportation Department at the bus garage, as the team was selected by B105 to receive lunch delivered by radio personality Big Dave.
- Attended the Newport Boys Basketball game vs. Highland High School.
- 2/7/26 Attended the 3rd grade boys basketball game at Lincoln Elementary.
- 2/9/26 Participated in finance training focused on Munis, fund accounts, and the development of draft, tentative, and working budgets.

- 2/10/26 Met with district leaders to begin updating the Comprehensive District Improvement Plan (CDIP) needs assessment using updated data, including IMPACT survey results.
- 2/11/26 Attended the Northern Kentucky Cooperative Extension Services Board of Directors meeting at the Kenton County Board of Education Office.
- Participated in the Read Ready Newport meeting with city, community, and school leaders to increase student and family engagement and continue improving kindergarten readiness.
- Attended the Newport Independent Board Work Session, which included presentations on the development of the district's volunteer system and GEAR UP.
- 2/12/26 Met with a Newport Primary School student during lunch to review sight words and read together.
- Attended the Math Leadership Team meeting led by Ms. Slankard. The team developed a draft math instructional vision and reviewed potential high-quality instructional resources.
- 2/13/26 Attended the KASS Legislative Zoom meeting for continued updates on proposed legislation.
- Celebrated Crossing Guard Appreciation Day at the Newport City Building, recognizing those who serve Newport Independent.
- 2/14/16 Attended the 3rd grade boys basketball game at Lincoln Elementary.
- 2/16/26 Participated in required new superintendent training through KASA.
- Attended the Newport Boys Basketball game vs. Beechwood High School.
- 2/17/26 Engaged in professional learning with the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) alongside school and district leaders, focusing on creating enabling conditions for effective Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).
- 2/19/26 Met with a Newport Primary School student during lunch to review sight words and read together.
- 2/20/26 Attended new superintendent training focused on recruiting and retaining effective staff, provided by KASA.
- 2/23/26 Participated in a literacy-focused meeting with school and district leaders to review implementation of 6–12 high-quality instructional resources (HQIR), identify gaps

between materials and state requirements, and determine next steps for strengthening support.

2/25/26 Collaborated with district and school leaders and members of KDE to begin revising our District's Portrait of a Learner.

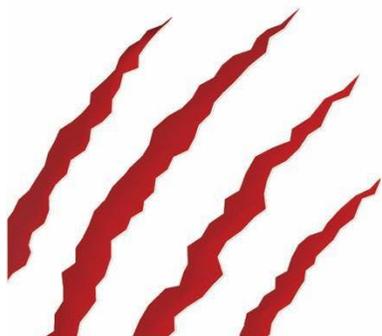
Standard 2: Instructional Leadership

This month, I would like to continue highlighting our work aligned to Standard 2, Instructional Leadership.

In February, district and teacher leaders from all three schools convened to develop a district-wide math instructional vision. The team collaboratively drafted a clear vision and mission, along with key actions and defined responsibilities for students, teachers, and leaders. The group also provided input on potential high-quality instructional resources (HQIR) in mathematics for the 2026–27 school year. Mrs. Slankard reviewed the projected timeline for a potential math HQIR adoption to ensure a thoughtful and inclusive process.

Additionally, our school leaders participated in professional learning facilitated by the Kentucky Department of Education focused on establishing the enabling conditions for effective Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). Mrs. Slankard is continuing to partner with KDE to design and implement ongoing professional learning to strengthen PLC practices across the district.

Finally, we collaborated with the Kentucky Department of Education to begin revising our District's Portrait of a Learner. A Portrait of a Learner is a community-driven, shared vision that articulates the essential skills, knowledge, and dispositions our students need to thrive in a rapidly changing world. KDE has initiated this work with district leaders and will support us in engaging additional stakeholders to ensure broad input and alignment.



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 fullest potential.

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