



The Newport Board of Education held a special meeting on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 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, 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.

IMPACT SURVEY RESULTS

Mr. Atkins gave an overview of the intention for this survey. The IMPACT survey is intended to provide "teacher voice" to school, district, and state leaders. By gathering data on teaching conditions, the Kentucky Department of Education aims to identify strengths and areas for improvement in the following areas:

- Professional Climate: School climate, staff-leadership relationships, and school leadership.
- Instructional Support: Professional learning, feedback and coaching, and resources.
- Student Environment: Managing student behavior and educating all students.
- Teacher Wellbeing: Emotional well-being and sense of belonging.

Mr. Wilson from Newport High School presented the results from his building. Overall, the high school improved significantly in many areas. Support from school administrators jumped 68 points from the survey results 2 years ago. Other areas of growth were educating all students, managing student behavior, school climate, emotional well-being, professional learning, feedback and coaching, and staff-leadership relations.

The three areas of highest concern are professional development, managing student behavior, and lack of resources. Next steps are redesigning professional development to align directly to what teachers say is missing, addressing student behavior systemically, and resource equity.

Ms. Watkins from Newport Intermediate School presented the results from her building. Educators reported strong connections with leadership, confidence in teaching all students, and a high level of school safety. Educators reported feeling the weight of limited classroom resources, the need for more specialized support, and the emotional demands of their work.

More support is needed in feedback and coaching. Teachers want more frequent, actionable feedback to continue growing. Emotional well-being – day to day demands of teaching are high and we must find ways to reduce burnout. Resources – more human resources to effectively support student behavior and academic growth.

NIS will focus on classroom sizes, hiring specialized student support, protecting teacher's mental health, and improving instructional coaching. This summer will be spent on establishing clear systems to help

teachers, administrators, and families understand school expectations. This includes clear expectations for homework, technology usage, and responses to behavior incidents.

Seeking ways to allow for teacher voice when it comes to professional development. PD will be catered to specific needs, be on-going throughout the year, and give teachers voice in the planning and implementation.

Ms. Hayden from Newport Primary School presented the results from her building. Key takeaways include: strong staff-leadership relationships and trust, teachers report strong instructional practices, including using assessment data, staff perceive the school as a safe environment, and opportunities exist to improve staff well-being, feedback/coaching, and resources.

Areas for growth include: feedback and coaching for instructional improvement, support for managing student behavior, and access to resources and student support personnel.

Next steps: continue strengthening positive school culture and staff support, increase instructional feedback and coaching opportunities, strengthen behavior support systems, advocate for additional resources and supports, and use survey results to guide school improvement planning.

The board commended the principals for their hard work. It has been a challenge this year as all three schools have new leadership. The improved survey results from the high school reflect what the board is hearing in the community.

The discussion focused on the launch of the new volunteer portal and identified the specific specialized support roles that principals believe are currently most needed:

- Coaching & Instruction: MTSS coaches, specialized instructional coaches, and behavior coaches.
- Behavioral Support: Behavior intervention teachers and dedicated staff for In-School Suspension (ISS).
- Personnel & Mentorship: Additional instructional assistants and the expansion of mentoring programs. Currently Big Brothers/Big Sisters are meeting with male students a few days each week.

Ms. Covington raised a concern regarding support for Ms. Hayden, noting that she has been working without an assistant for the duration of the current school year.

Ms. Stubbeman inquired about the process for addressing student behavior issues that may require specialized services.

Ms. Malone noted that survey responses can often be influenced by an individual's specific circumstances on a given day. She explained that when answers are driven by temporary situations rather than long-term trends, the resulting data is less helpful for identifying systemic issues.

Mr. Curl closed the discussion by encouraging principals to reach out directly to the Board of Education if specific assistance or resources are needed to address these gaps.

NEW BUSINESS

On MOTION BY CURL AND SECONDED BY STUBBEMAN the contracts with ASL for interpreting and communication services were approved.

1803 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY DAVIS, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM

1804 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Chairman

Secretary