

Superintendent Report May 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.

4/23 Attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Newport Buenger Boys and Girls Club, where a Newport High School senior was honored as Youth of the Year and delivered a speech.

Participated in the One-to-One Reading program during lunch, reading books and reviewing grade-level sight words with a student.

Joined the virtual EducateNKY Read Ready Planning meeting to develop strategies aimed at increasing enrollment and participation for children aged 0–5.

4/24 Attended the River City School District Network meeting, collaborating with regional superintendents and district leaders to discuss expanding student participation in dual-credit courses at Gateway.

Evaluated options with Gateway to add new course offerings tailored to our students' and districts' needs.

4/27 Met with City of Newport leadership to discuss mutually beneficial collaboration opportunities between the city and the school district.

Joined Ms. Slankard and Newport High School leaders to finalize logistics and planning for the upcoming Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA).

4/29 Led the initial principal selection committee meeting at Newport Primary School.

4/30 Celebrated Senior Commitment Day at Newport High School as our seniors publicly announced their post-secondary plans.

Met with a One-to-One Reading student during lunch to review grade-level sight words and read together.

Participated in a planning meeting with EducateNKY and a private preschool center to explore a half-day partnership model with Newport Primary School.

Attended the 6th-grade band concert at Newport Intermediate School.

Attended Newport High School's theatrical production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*.

5/1 Met with The New Teacher Project (TNTP) to align strategic planning initiatives for the 2026–27 school year.

Met with Steve Crawford for a comprehensive overview of our Bluegrass Risk Management insurance services.

Attended the Newport Intermediate School KSA Pep Rally to encourage students ahead of state testing.

Enjoyed Derby Day at Newport Primary School, where students learned about the Kentucky Derby and participated in stick-horse races.

5/2 Attended the City of Newport Hometown Heroes ceremony at the city building, honoring local veterans and active-duty military members.

5/3 Attended a weekend performance of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* at Newport High School.

5/4 Met with TradesNKY to discuss partnership opportunities aimed at expanding student exposure to high-demand trade careers.

5/6 Collaborated with Strategic Advisors and River City superintendents to discuss public relations strategies that highlight positive district achievements and student success stories.

5/7 Conducted a lunch session with my One-to-One Reading student to practice grade-level sight words and literacy skills.

Participated in the Math Leadership Team meeting, collaborating with teachers and administrators to evaluate current High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) and discuss potential adjustments for next year.

Cheered on our Intermediate students during the annual Wildcat Hustler one-mile run through the City of Newport.

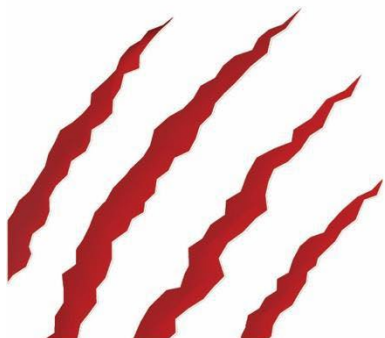
- 5/11 Met with Lt. Kohls of the Newport Police Department to coordinate the potential installation of a safer crosswalk at one of our elementary schools.
- 5/12 Led a preschool classroom tour with EducateNKY representatives to explore expanding local early childhood services.
- Chaired the second principal selection committee meeting at Newport Primary School.
- 5/13 Joined fellow River City superintendents at the Northern Kentucky Cooperative Extension Services Board of Directors meeting.
- Attended the Newport Independent Board Work Session, where RSA Advisors provided updates regarding bonding capacity and the strategic utilization of restricted funds.
- 5/14 Met with district leadership and Bluegrass Risk Management (BRM) to review their digital training platform, which offers complimentary Safe Schools modules to our staff.
- Attended an end of year celebration with my One-to-One Reading student.
- 5/18 Met with Energy Harness to review lighting audits and energy-efficient installation proposals for Newport Intermediate and Newport High School.
- Led the third and final principal selection meeting at Newport Primary School, where Mrs. Nichole Hayden was officially chosen as the school's next principal.
- Attended the Newport City Commissioners meeting, where Jenny Watson from EducateNKY provided a progress update on the Read Ready Newport initiative.
- 5/19 Met with Mr. Heidrich and Ms. Kaeff to review student pathways within the Young Scholars Academy and Gateway.
- Attended the final Math Leadership Team meeting of the year, where the committee finalized HQIM curriculum choices for the upcoming school year.
- 5/20 Joined EducateNKY and River City superintendents to discuss community-wide collaboration and expanded student opportunity frameworks.
- Attended the Newport Intermediate School awards ceremony and 6th-grade graduation.
- Attended the Newport High School Senior Awards Night, recognizing outstanding student achievements and distributing scholarships.

Standard 1: Instructional Leadership

This month, I would like to highlight our work around Standard 1, Instructional Leadership. We are working to make sure our classrooms, curriculum, and community partnerships are all pulling in the same direction to support our students. The math and literacy leadership teams worked incredibly hard to research curriculums and provide input on our next high-quality instructional material. Together, we wrapped up a thorough review of our current math and reading materials against state standards and finalized our curriculum choices for the upcoming school year. Mrs. Slankard will provide more details on the curriculum updates during her report.

Because strong instruction must start early, I spent time collaborating with EducateNKY and a local private preschool partner. We explored a potential half-day partnership model at Newport Primary, toured our current preschool classrooms to see how we can expand services, and continue to collaborate with Read Ready Newport to strengthen kindergarten readiness. On a personal note, one of the best parts of my week continues to be sitting down during lunch for our One-to-One Reading sessions, where I get to read books and practice sight words directly with one of our 2nd-grade students.

At the high school and middle school levels, I joined regional superintendents through the River City Network to figure out how we can get more of our kids enrolled in dual-credit courses at Gateway, and met with Mr. Heidrich and Ms. Kaeff to review Young Scholars Academy. We also collaborated to finalize the logistics and planning for the Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA). This month has been dedicated to honoring our students and staff—from celebrating Senior Commitment Day to watching our 6th graders graduate. It's been a busy but incredibly rewarding month focused on giving our students and staff the tools they need to succeed.



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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