NEWPORT INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

The Newport Board of Education held a regular meeting on Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at 6:00 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.

RECOGNITIONS

Each school recognized a student and staff member of the month.

- NPS recognized Liberty Boggs as their student of the month and Angelika Huff as the staff member of the month.
- NIS recognized Dharti Pandya as their student of the month and Ethan Snapp as their staff member of the month.
- NHS recognized Gwendolyn Manning as their student of the month and Clay Knight & Hannah Hudson as their staff members of the month.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

MINUTES OF AUGUST 26, AND SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON the board approved the minutes as written.

1868 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

TREASURER'S REPORT

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY CURL the bank reconciliation for August was approved and will be filed for audit.

1869 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

On MOTION BY CURL AND SECONDED BY STUBBEMAN the invoices were approved for payment.

1870 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

STUDENT LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICE

Mr. Atkins, Superintendent, provided the Board with his monthly report. Highlights include the work revolving around Standard 2: Instructional Leadership and Standard 6: Collaborative Leadership

- ILP Process
- CTE Completers
- Pathway alignment & exposure
- Monthly meetings with OneGoal – In October's meeting, they will review postsecondary success datasets, in November's meeting creation of a coaching plan and process will take place, and December's meeting will survey planning & ILP progress tracking.
- Family Engagement Day scheduled for October 2nd.

Under new business, the following items are listed for the board's approval:

1. Working budget
2. Owner-Architect Agreement for emergency masonry repairs at central office
3. District Planning Committee – this is a committee comprised of teachers, principals, school leaders, paraprofessionals, central office administrators, a board member or members, classified staff, parents, community reps, and high school students to develop, review, and revise annually the Comprehensive District Improvement Plan.
4. Rank change for numeracy counts academy - $5,400 per teachers financed with Title II funds.

The partnership agreement between Leaning Grove, EducateNKY, and the district has now been approved by KDE. KDE approved the MOA enabling full-day, year-round preschool for our students. Recruitment is now taking place with approx. 14-15 students already enrolled.

Ms. Slankard presented her report to the board. She highlighted the following:

- Numeracy Counts Academy - The KY Numeracy Counts Academy is a statewide professional learning program launched by the Kentucky Department of Education in partnership with the Kentucky Center for Mathematics (KCM). When paired with an approved Continuing Education Option (CEO) provider or graduate program, completing the academy allows Kentucky educators to fulfill the content component required to achieve a rank change. This program provides immediate access to high-quality instructional resources and strategies for student-led conversations, directly improving classroom instruction and student engagement.
- District cadre kick-off – successfully launched vertical teacher cadres led by regional partners and HQIR trainers to support HQIR implementation.
- Portrait of a Learner Relaunch – participated in the UK Next Gen Local Accountability training at NKCES. Followed up with a site visit to hear Clark County Schools share their process as they are in their second year of the POL development.

Ms. Malone asked how we are measuring student learning? Ms. Slankard responded by saying the iReady assessment is given 3 times each year, HQIR formative assessments are given by teachers at the end of chapters and units as well as monitoring PLC agendas.

Dr. Hemmerle presented her report on Federal Programs, ELL and Gifted. There were no questions.

Ms. Stewart presented her report on enrollment, attendance, and alternative education. There were no questions.

Ms. Niemann presented her report on special education. There were no questions.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Personnel report
2. Working budget FY 2027
3. Owner & Architect Agreement – emergency masonry repairs
4. Change order #1 – CTE renovations – Architects Sales
5. Change order #2 – CTE renovations – Ashley Construction
6. Change order #1 – CTE renovations - Interior Supply
7. BG4 – CTE renovations
8. District planning committee
9. Fundraising requests NHS – SkillsUSA, Graphic Arts, Volleyball, Girls' Basketball, NPS Walk-A-Thon
10. Waiver for shortened school week.
11. District funding assurances
12. Rank change for Numeracy Counts Academy
13. Review Newport School of Innovation Handbook

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY CURL the consent agenda were approved as presented.

1871 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS/ UPDATES

Mr. Davis thanked everyone involved in planning last Friday's events for the football game. The atmosphere was exciting and he feels like we are building a team and school family. He also thanked everyone who helped him get back on his feet after a fall over the bleachers. He is very grateful for the assistance and suffered any minor scrapes and bruises.

Mr. Atkins reminded the board about the College and Career Fair scheduled for Thursday, September 24th at Newport High School. The fair begins at noon.

ADJOURNMENT

On MOTION BY STUBBEMAN AND SECONDED BY COVINGTON, the meeting adjourned at 6:47 PM

1872 – MOTION CARRIED 5-0

_____
Chairman

_____
Secretary