



NEWTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Board Highlights

The School Board would like to highlight a few items of importance following each board meeting to share what is happening around the board table.

Regular Board Meeting – April 26, 2021 (6:30 PM)

Capturing Kids' Hearts

"If you have a child's heart...you have a child's mind." Flip Flippen, Founder & Chairman (The Flippen Group)

Building Principals gave an update on the district's Capturing Kids' Hearts (CKH) initiative. Since the 2015 – 2016 school year, we have offered professional development designed to teach our administrators and staff (K – 12) the skills on how to implement transformational processes on our campuses so that they become an emotionally safe and relationally connected place for students, staff, and parents to come together with a love for learning.



Two of our elementary schools (Aurora Heights and Emerson Hough) have achieved the honor of being Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools™. This means that their campuses have implemented CKH with fidelity, and they have seen amazing results in the culture of their campuses as well as the academic performance of their students. Through the award, we recognize and celebrate our schools for going above and beyond, building an environment where students and staff feel safe and connected.

We thank our school board for providing the support and encouragement necessary for our staff to receive the Capturing Kids' Heart training.

Agreement – Newton Community Education Association (NCEA)

Negotiations teams from the Newton Community School District Board of Directors and the Newton Community Education Association agreed to [contract modifications](#) for the 2021 – 2022 school year and recommended the modifications for ratification. The modifications pertain to Article IX (Base Wage), which states "the package increase for 2021 – 2022 shall be in accordance with the Salary Agreement in the [Appendix](#)." Both parties agreed that collaboration with negotiations went very well, despite the many challenges this past year presented.

Public Hearing to Approve the 2021 – 2022 and 2022 – 2023 School Year Calendars

A public hearing on the approval of the proposed [2021 – 2022](#) and [2022 – 2023](#) school year calendars was set for **Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6:45 PM** at the E.J.H. Beard Administration Center (1302 1st Avenue West) – Conference Room 105A. At the time and place set for the public hearing, interested individuals will be given the opportunity to express their views, both verbally and in writing, on the adoption of the school year calendars. After the public hearing, the Board may make a final determination to accept or reject the proposal as submitted, or upon condition that certain terms be changed, or the Board may defer action on any or all of the proposals until a subsequent meeting.

Thank you to the district's calendar committee for their work on forwarding the recommended calendar drafts to the board for approval.

Newton Community School District
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Professional Learning Agreement – Four Oaks Family and Children’s Services

The board approved a Professional Learning Agreement between the Newton Community School District and Four Oaks Family and Children’s Services. The overall goal is to provide staff access to high quality, evidence-informed professional learning experiences and implementation supports in regards to Social Emotional Behavior and Health (SEBH). The services provided by Four Oaks will be on a variety of topics selected and prioritized by district leadership. The agreement is effective July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2024 with an annual fee schedule of \$31,000 (FY22), \$27,800 (FY23), and \$17,200 (FY24). Dr. Jessica Ferguson, Director of Special Education and Tara Zehr, WEST Academy Principal have been instrumental in integrating trauma sensitivity into the Newton Community School District to assure that every student will meet their full potential. We look forward to partnering with Four Oaks on this initiative.

Upcoming Events

Board Work Session:

TOPIC: Multi-Year Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Plans

May 17, 2021 – 5:30 PM (EJH Beard Admin Center/via Zoom)

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99229009195> **Passcode:** 511832

Next Regular Board Meeting:

May 17, 2021 – 6:30 PM (EJH Beard Admin Center/via Zoom)

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95688315449> **Passcode:** 652247

Thanks to our Technology Department and Cardinal TV...you can now watch our board meetings **live-streamed** on the District Administration (@NewtonCSD) Facebook Page! <https://www.facebook.com/NewtonCSD>