

**MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER**  
**Board Meeting Notes**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**September 16, 2021**

**Convened: 5:00 p.m.**

**The meeting was called to order by Board President, Mrs. Chelli Yoho.**

**The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Vice President, Bonnie Lovejoy, and followed by a moment of silence.**

**Roll call:** Mandy Berardinelli, Roger Boltz, Patricia Brett were absent.

**Featured Program:**

Superintendent, Mr. Randy Griffith, escorted the Board to the Medical Assisting lab where he introduced instructor, Mrs. Alexis Rutledge. Mrs. Rutledge, along with students Marionna Fussner and Stephen Corley, gave a presentation highlighting the Medical Assisting program.

**Acceptance and approval of Board meeting agenda for September 16, 2021, as presented on BoardPaq.**

**Acceptance and approval of the minutes of the August 19, 2021, regular meeting as presented.**

**No visitors were present.**

Present: Mr. Randy Griffith, Superintendent; Mrs. Michelle Seckman, Treasurer

**President, Mrs. Yoho, reported on the following:**

- Mrs. Yoho, along with Board member Roger Boltz, attended the Ravenna Chamber of Commerce awards ceremony on September 1, 2021. The ceremony recognized the “best” of Ravenna for 2019 and 2020. Maplewood Career Center received a New Renovation 2019 Raven award. Mrs. Yoho said it was a really nice ceremony.

**Legislative Liaison, Mary Kaley, reported on the following:**

- President Joe Biden released his COVID-19 Action Plan that outlines new policies on vaccinations and testing for schools.
- The Ohio Department of Education released its Data Insights report that provides information on how the pandemic has impacted education. The report includes information on school enrollment, school attendance and spring assessment results.
- The Ohio Redistricting Commission voted to accept a proposed map by a vote of 5-2. The proposed map did not receive bipartisan support, which is required by the Ohio Constitution to implement a 10-year map.
- Mrs. Kaley received a client alert from Walter Haverfield, Attorneys at Law. The alert reported an Ohio Federal Court had issued a preliminary ruling denying a challenge to a school district’s mask mandate. On September 13, 2021, the Northern District of Ohio issued a preliminary ruling in *P.M. v. Mayfield City School District Board of Education*, denying a challenge to a mask mandate implemented by the Mayfield City School District Board of Education. This decision provides insight as to how similar lawsuits against mask mandates enacted in Ohio’s school districts could be handled. Mrs. Kaley reported she had been told by her home school superintendent that he had received an email from Governor DeWine imploring school districts to put in place mask mandates.

**Student Achievement Liaison, Joan Seman, reported on the following:**

- OSBA’s *Student Success* article – *Mansfield City adds gardening and agribusiness courses in intermediate school*: Mansfield City’s Malabar Intermediate School will offer students lessons on careers in plant and animal science, agriculture and agribusiness. Research shows physical and mental wellness benefits of school gardening.
- OSBA’s *Student Success* in-depth – *K-eight or middle school: What works for early adolescents depends on*

many factors: Research comparing outcomes of students at K-eight and middle schools remains inconclusive. Early adolescence is a period that is marked by more rapid physical and cognitive development than any stage other than the first two years of life. Some argue that it is the worst time to transition to a new school, while others argue it promotes strong relationships among students and teachers, and teachers and parents, and offers stability to young teens during a tumultuous time in their lives. There is not enough research promoting one model over the other. More important than what grades are in a building is making sure the programs and practices are developmentally responsive to the student's needs.

**Superintendent, Randy Griffith, reported on the following:**

- Mr. Griffith reviewed the Day School report: Medical Assisting Student Roster and Junior Orientation attendance.
- Mr. Griffith thanked the Ravenna Chamber of Commerce for awarding Maplewood Career Center with the 2019 Raven Award for New Renovations.
- The roof is essentially complete. There are repair items that still need to be addressed. There are some minor leaks, damage to concrete in the parking lot, lawns needing reseeding, and the restocking of tools damaged in the Welding lab. Currently, Maplewood is under contract with Greenspace to complete the front entrance remodel. Mr. Griffith has had discussions with Greenspace regarding terminating that contract. Greenspace has promised to assign a new project manager but has yet to notify Mr. Griffith of that replacement.
- Mr. Griffith commended the staff for a smooth start to the school year. They have done a great job. New instructors are providing good instruction.
- Maplewood Career Center had 18 positive Covid-19 cases in the first three weeks of the school year. Twenty percent of the student body had to be quarantined based on Ohio Department of Health guidelines. Now that masks are mandated, only 1 to 5 students will need to be quarantined if a student tests positive. If masks were not mandated, between 15 and 40 students are quarantined if one student tests positive.
- Mr. Griffith hopes to have a new Graphic Communications instructor in place prior to the October Board meeting. He has two interviews scheduled.
- Maplewood has not been able to find a Math instructor. Four of Maplewood's current Math instructors and one Science instructor have stepped up and have filled the Math teacher vacancy. They will probably have to continue through December. December college graduates will hopefully provide a larger than normal pool of Math teacher candidates.
- There is a Memorandum of Understanding with the Maplewood Career Center Education Association on the agenda. Law requires the OTES 2.0 teacher evaluation system to be implemented during the 2021-2022 school year. The Maplewood Career Center Education Association has not yet approved the Memorandum of Understanding.
- The Board packet included the following: Maplewood Career Center Enrollment as of September 2021; Thank You Note – Portage County NAACP; and Outreach and Support Card – First Church of God.

**The following recommendations were made by the Treasurer and motions were acted on by the Board:**

- The District Financial Report was approved the month of August, 2021.
- The expenditures were approved for the month of August, 2021.
- The investments were ratified for the month of August, 2021.
- The bank reconciliations were ratified for the month of August, 2021.
- Approved an advance for the Cafeteria Fund.
- Approved the Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources and Permanent Appropriations Resolutions for FY2022.

**Informational Items:** Fiscal Year 2021 GAAP Conversion; Pepple & Waggoner School Law Update Seminar: Glenmoor Country Club - Canton, Thursday, September 23, 2021, and Double Tree by Hilton - Independence, Thursday, September 30, 2021; OSBA Northeast Region Fall Conferences: Dilucia's -

Warren, Tuesday, September 28, 2021, and The Galaxy - Wadsworth, Wednesday, October 6, 2021; OSBA Capital Conference, Columbus Convention Center, November 7-9, 2021.

**The following recommendations were made by the Superintendent and motions were acted on by the Board:**

- Accepted the resignation of Elizabeth Haffner, Graphic Communications Instructor, effective the end of the workday on September 7, 2021.
- Approved the employment of part-time Adult Education Instructors: Robert Lattimer, Industrial Maintenance, Hollie Fry, American Sign Language, and Michelle Nehez, Quick Books.
- Moved certificated/licensed instructors, Dawn McLendon and Nancy Woodruff on the teachers' negotiated salary schedule due to acquiring additional semester hours.
- Approved paying the following staff members \$50.00/day for every day they are assigned to teach beyond the six-period limit stipulated in the MCCEA Master Agreement; Nancy Butcher, Melissa Cutright, Ryan Jadwin, Julie Lewis, and Steve Smith.
- Accepted a donation from The Catherine & Edward A. Lozick Foundation.
- Commended the cafeteria, secretarial, maintenance, custodial, Adult Education, and technology staff for their preparations and hard work leading to a smooth start of the new school year.
- Commended the instructional staff and day school administrators for an excellent start to the new school year.
- Commended the staff and students who manned Maplewood's Portage County Randolph Fair booth from August 23 – 28, 2021.
- Approved an overnight field trip for Mechanical, Groundskeeping and Construction students and Hospitality Service Careers students and advisors. The event will be held in Carrollton, Ohio, October 25 – 27, 2021.

**New Business:**

- Approved Maplewood Career Center joining the HPS Committed Purchasing Program, during the 2021-2022 school year.
- Approved the USDA Foods Member Agreement, for the 2022 – 2023 school year.
- Approved entering into the Memorandum of Understanding with the Maplewood Career Center Association, to remove the OTES teacher evaluation language from the Master Agreement and replace it with OTES 2.0 language that is in accordance with current state law.

**Executive Session:** Employment or appointment of public employees and negotiations. (6:15 p.m. – 6:26 p.m.)

**Adjourned: 6:26 p.m.**