

MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER
Board Meeting Notes
Regular Meeting
November 18, 2021

Convened: 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Board vice president, Mrs. Bonnie Lovejoy

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board member, Brian Violi, and followed by a moment of silence.

Roll call: Donna Karg and Chelli Yoho were absent

Acceptance and approval of Board meeting agenda for November 18, 2021, as presented on BoardPaq.

Acceptance and approval of the minutes of the October 21, 2021, regular meeting as presented and October 21, 2021, policy committee meeting.

Board Vice President Bonnie Lovejoy welcomed the following visitor: Mr. Steven Smith, MCCEA President.
Present: Mr. Randy Griffith, Superintendent; Mrs. Michelle Seckman, Treasurer

Vice President, Mrs. Lovejoy, had nothing to report.

Legislative Liaison, Mary Kaley, reported on the following:

- The House Primary and Secondary Education Committee accepted a substitute version and passed Senate Bill (SB) 229. The bill would do the following: temporarily extend the deadline to April 30, 2022, for a school district to submit a blended learning model to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) for the 2021-22 school year and would require a school district that implements a blended learning model to submit quarterly reports to ODE; require each district to complete and submit within 90 days a remediation plan to address the learning loss students experience during the COVID-19 pandemic and would permit school districts to use an already-submitted extended learning plan or local use funds plan to satisfy the remediation plan; permit a school district to adopt a resolution that provides remote learning to a student whose parent requests remote learning; permit a school that operates an online learning school to allow a quarantined student in a traditional district school to participate in the online learning school during the period of quarantine; exempt districts from retaining a student under the third-grade reading guarantee for the 2021-22 school year but would require the district to consult with the parent on the decision of a principal and reading teacher as to whether a student should be retained; prohibit the use of the chronic absenteeism measure on the state report card for the 2021-22 school year; add two school district superintendents and a school principal to the state report card review committee but specifies that they must represent urban, suburban and rural school districts; add a representative from a community school to the state report card review committee; require ODE to calculate an adjusted four-year graduation rate for those students who were continuously enrolled in the same district or building in grades nine-12; exempt an online learning school from the current law requirement that school administrators develop an emergency management plan for each building under their control; require a public school to integrate the study of economic and financial literacy into one or more existing social studies credits or into the content of another class for students graduating between 2022-2025; require EdChoice and Cleveland vouchers payments to be distributed to a student's guardian, legal custodian or caregiver if the student doesn't live with their parent; update the timing of Cleveland voucher payments to match EdChoice voucher payments; and make a change to the funding base used to determine state funding to an educational service center.
- The Senate Primary and Secondary Education Committee held a second hearing on Senate Bill (SB) 248, which would require, rather than permit, school districts to provide a moment of silence each school day.
- The Senate Primary and Secondary Education Committee held sponsor testimony on Senate Bill (SB) 233, which would require the State Board of Education to adopt licensure rules for school nurses and school nurse wellness coordinators and require membership in the state retirement system.
- The House Criminal Justice Committee amended and passed House Bill (HB) 99, which would expressly state that the intent of the bill is to overrule the decision of the Ohio Supreme Court in *Gabbard v. Madison*

Local School Dist. Bd. Of Edn. The bill also would require a school district to provide public notification if the school district authorized one or more persons to go armed within a school. Additionally, the bill would establish requirements for a person authorized to go armed within a school safety zone and establish training requirements. The amendment clarifies that a school district may require additional training. House Bill (HB) 99 has passed in the House and is now in the Senate.

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

- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *High school students on path to college, careers:* A Colorado school district has adopted an early college program, Future Educator Pathway, aimed at helping students prepare for careers as classroom teachers. Students work 20 hours per week in elementary school classrooms and are paid between \$12.68 and \$15.52 per hour. They can earn up to 24 college credit hours, and if they finish with an overall GPA of 3.0, they can be automatically admitted in the teacher education program. Students are encouraged to come back to teach at the district when they finish their degree.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *Stress and Short Tempers: Schools Struggle with Behavior as Students Return:* Students have not been behaving their best. Schools across the country have seen an uptick in disruptive behaviors. As children have returned to school, there has been much more interaction, much less downtime to recharge, and much less flexibility. The pandemic has placed additional stress on children. They have forgotten how to socialize. Students have been trashing bathrooms, fighting, running out of classrooms, and saying things to each other in person they would have previously only said online. Both students and teachers have shorter than usual tempers.
- OSBA's *Student Success* in-depth – *Study examines pros, cons of 4-day weeks in schools:* Four-day school weeks are gaining favor among students and parents, according to a study conducted for Rand Corp. Researchers found that student growth fell over time in schools with four-day weeks, when compared to those with five-day weeks. Those in favor of four-day weeks feel students are able to take on more responsibilities at home, do errands, spend time with family, and work.

Superintendent, Randy Griffith, reported on the following:

- Maplewood is terminating the remainder of the contract with Greenspace Construction Services. Mr. Griffith is working with legal counsel, Steve Friedman, of Squire Patton Boggs, to come to an amicable resolution. After a settlement is negotiated, Maplewood will engage with a different Construction Manager at Risk to complete the project.
- Maplewood is back in masks. Mr. Griffith made the decision effective Wednesday, November 17, 2021, after a substantial increase in COVID cases. In the optional masking scenario, exposed students have to be separated during lunches and Maplewood was running out of space and desks to separate them. The optional masking scenario also causes an excessive amount of administrative work. Lists must be maintained of positive cases, students exposed outside of schools, and students exposed at school. Contact tracing must be performed. Students exposed at anytime during the day must wear masks for 14 days. Every positive COVID case takes up at least one half of a day of an administrator's time. This is wasteful and not in the best interest of educating students. Mr. Griffith does not predict a change in the masking policy until late January, 2022. He has received many parent phone calls. Some parents do not want masks, and some parents complain their students are not safe if masks are not worn. The goal is to keep students in school and to keep them safe.
- Maplewood's renewal levy passed on November 2, 2021, by 17.5% of the overall vote. Mr. Griffith thanked the Board for their support, the Maplewood staff for all of their hard work, and Maplewood's constituents for their support of the levy. Mr. Griffith does not attribute the campaign strategy or signs to the passage of the levy, but the dedication and every day hard work of the Maplewood staff in supporting students and their education.
- Two good candidates applied for the HVAC instructor position. Mr. Griffith has offered the position to one of them. A lab space will be cleaned and equipped for the program. The program will be advertised. Several students have already indicated interest in the program. Mr. Griffith said he may also look to start another program for next fall.
- Mr. Griffith said he will not be submitting a blended learning plan, will not be looking into four-day school weeks, and will not be instituting waiver days. Maplewood students need to be at school. They do not learn when they are not. Many do not have food to eat when they are not at school. Mr. Griffith has informed the

associate home school superintendents about the need for Maplewood Career Center student transportation on their waiver days.

- The Board packet included the following: Honor Roll – 1st Quarter; Letter from Viki Brock; Maplewood Career Center Enrollment as of October 2021; Maplewood Career Center Enrollment as of November 2021; and Day School Report: November 18, 2021, Mr. Craig Morgan.

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

- The District Financial Report was approved and filed for the month of October, 2021.
- The expenditures were approved for the month of October, 2021.
- The investments were ratified for the month of October, 2021.
- The bank reconciliations were ratified for the month of October, 2021.
- Approved the FY2022 Five Year Financial Forecast & Assumptions.
- Approved payments to board members for attendance to training sessions for the 2021 calendar year.
- Informational Items: Fiscal Year 2021 GAAP Conversion; Fiscal Years 2020 and 2021 Compliance Audit; OSBA Capital Conference expense reimbursements; NSBA 2022 Annual Conference, San Diego, California, April 2-4, 2022.

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

- Accepted the resignation of Anita Binigar, main office Receptionist, effective December 31, 2021.
- Employed two certified substitutes, Laurie Maltempo and William Darby for the 2021 – 2022 school year.
- Employed certificated/licensed school personnel for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year: Jennifer Alvim, School Counselor.
- Accepted one donation.
- Commended the hard work and commitment demonstrated by Maplewood staff and students who participated in the Maplewood Sophomore Showcase events on November 2 & 3, 2021.

New Business:

- Approved convening the Board of Education Organizational meeting on Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 5:00 pm with regular Board meeting to follow.
- Conducted the first reading and review of policies.

Adjourned: 5:38 p.m.