

**MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER**  
**Board Meeting Notes**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**October 21, 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:** Patricia Brett was absent.

**Acceptance and approval of Board meeting agenda for October 21, 2021, as presented on BoardPaq.**

**Acceptance and approval of the minutes of the September 16, 2021, regular meeting as presented.**

**Board President Mrs. Chelli Yoho welcomed the following visitor:** Mr. Stephen Smith, MCCEA President.  
Present: Mr. Randy Griffith, Superintendent; Mrs. Michelle Seckman, Treasurer

**President, Mrs. Yoho, had nothing to report.**

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

- The House passed House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 35 by a vote of 95-0. The bill would invalidate the proposed amendments to rule 3301-35-04 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The proposed amendments to the rule would remove the requirement for a school to offer courses in personal safety, foreign language, technology, family and consumer sciences, and business education and, instead, make it optional. The Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review voted to invalidate the rule. However, both the Ohio House and Ohio Senate are required to vote on terminating the rule. The bill is now in the Senate for a vote.
- The House Primary and Secondary Education Committee held a second hearing on House Bill (HB) 368. The bill would permit school districts and schools to establish their own policies for weighted grade averages of courses completed through the College Credit Plus program.
- The State Board of Education approved a substitute resolution to repeal the July 2020 Resolution to Condemn Racism and to Advance Equity and Opportunity for Black Students, Indigenous Students and Students of Color by a vote of 10-7. The State Board of Education made several changes to the resolution that include removing references to critical race theory as it pertains to board-adopted K-12 standards and model curricula.
- The Ohio Department of Education released the 2020-2021 Ohio School Report Cards, which do not contain overall grades for any districts or buildings, individual grades or ratings for given components or performance measures.

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

- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *School districts get creative to fill vacancies:* School districts across the country are working to fill teacher and staff vacancies with strategies such as recruiting former military personnel and adjunct professors. They are offering four-day work weeks or signing bonuses and are encouraging high school students to pursue teaching careers. Massachusetts has enlisted the National Guard to drive school buses.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *National Blue Ribbon schools announced for 2021:* The U.S. Department of Education announced the 325 schools earning the National Blue Ribbon distinction for 2021. Sixteen schools were recognized in Ohio.
- OSBA's *Student Success* in-depth – *The rising importance of library leaders in K-12 schools:* The librarian role in school districts has been changing. They are media specialists. They are leaders who offer flexibility in support of teachers and administrators. Not only are they leaders of literacy and a love of reading, but also in integrating technology through different ways of learning like virtual field trips,

connecting with an author, or reading online.

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

- Maplewood is short a math teacher and does not have any qualified candidates. Mr. Griffith thanked the teachers who are teaching an additional period each day to cover this vacancy.
- There will be a guidance counselor opening, effective December 31, 2021. This will be a difficult position to fill mid-year. Most qualified applicants are currently under contract. It may be necessary to hire a retiree to substitute until the end of the year.
- Mr. Griffith has not been able to find a candidate for the HVAC instructor position. He has requested assistance from the Portage County Development Board to find someone to help advertise the program. Most qualified HVAC professionals are earning \$85,000 a year or more, and have a three-month backlog of work. If a qualified candidate cannot be found to help advertise the program to students in the next couple of weeks, Maplewood will probably not be able to offer the program to students next year.
- Maplewood's current salary schedule structure does not entice candidates to leave their current positions to become career technical teachers. They often have to take a pay cut when they start, and have very little mobility in moving across the salary schedule. Mr. Griffith has had discussions with MCCEA leadership to address this in the next negotiations.
- Maplewood continues to remain in masks. Mr. Griffith does not want to have to switch back and forth with mandating and not mandating masks. If masks mandates are removed and the number of quarantines rise, mask mandates will have to be reinstated. Students come to Maplewood to receive a hands-on learning experience. They cannot receive that same experience while quarantined at home. Mr. Griffith said he understands the staff and students are tired of the masks. He is tired of the masks. He hopes to lift the mask mandates sometime closer to the winter holidays.
- The majority of Maplewood's new instructors are doing a nice job and are providing good instruction to students.
- Mr. Griffith thanked the MCCEA membership for approving the Memorandum of Understanding for the implementation of the OTES 2.0 teacher evaluation system. The system must be implemented, but has many flaws. It is stressful for the teachers and the administration. It does not offer the evaluator a place to offer suggestions on how the teacher can make improvements. Out of the four categories of effectiveness, the majority of teachers will fall into developing or skilled.
- The Board packet included the following: Maplewood Career Center October 2021 Directory.

**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 September, 2021.
- The expenditures were approved for the month of September, 2021.
- The investments were ratified for the month of September, 2021.
- The bank reconciliations were ratified for the month of September, 2021.
- Approved transfers and advances for FY2021.
- Informational Items: Fiscal Year 2021 GAAP Conversion; OSBA Capital Conference, Columbus Convention Center, November 7-9, 2021; NSBA 2022 Annual Conference, San Diego, California, April 2-4, 2022, Board Pay for Attendance at Approved Training Programs for 2021.

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

- Employed a certificated/licensed instructor for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year: Haley Hunter, Graphic Communications.
- Approved the employment of three part-time Adult Education Instructors.
- Approved employment of classified substitute, Laurie Maltempi, Cafeteria/Secretary/Custodian, for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

- Approved employment of certified substitute, Amber Wolff for the remainder of the 2021 – 2022 school year.
- Accepted the resignation of Donna Czeck, Guidance Counselor, effective December 31, 2021.
- Approved the grant application: E-Rate Grant for Ohio SchoolNet.
- Accepted one donation.

**New Business:**

- Approved the purchase of a Barber Coleman Control System Upgrade from Gardiner, 31200 Bainbridge Road, Solon, Ohio 44139, utilizing the cooperative purchasing of the Ohio Schools Council ("OSC"), a regional council in the State of Ohio, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 167.081.

**Executive Session:** Employment or appointment of public employees and negotiations. **(5:29 p.m. – 6:13 p.m.)**

**Adjourned: 6:13 p.m.**