

# MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER

## Board Meeting Notes

### Regular Meeting

October 19, 2023

**Convened: 5:05 p.m.**

**The meeting was called to order by Board President, Brian Violi.**

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

**Roll call:** Patricia Brett was absent.

**Acceptance and approval of the Board meeting agenda for October 19, 2023, as presented on BoardPaq.**

**Acceptance and approval of the minutes for the September 21, 2023, regular meeting as presented.**

**No visitors were present.**

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

**Board President, Brian Violi, had nothing to report.**

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

- The House and Senate are considering two bills that would make temporary changes to property tax valuations. The bills could potentially be amended to adjust the 20-mill floor. OSBA, BASA and OASBO distributed a joint call to action letter with in-depth information on this issue and talking points for contacting your state legislators.
- The Senate Ways and Means Committee held a third hearing on Senate Bill (SB) 153. It would temporarily modify the method for valuing farmland and other real property for tax purposes.
- The House Ways and Means Committee heard sponsor testimony on House Bill (HB) 263. It would authorize a property tax freeze for certain owner-occupied homes.
- The House Transportation Committee heard sponsor testimony on House Bill (HB) 279. It would require occupant restraining devices to be installed on all school buses within five years.
- The House Transportation Committee heard sponsor testimony on House Bill (HB) 140. It would increase penalties for passing a school bus and allow the use of cameras on school buses.
- The House Higher Education Committee held sponsor testimony on House Bill (HB) 183. It regards single-sex bathroom access in primary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education.
- The House Higher Education Committee held sponsor testimony on House Bill (HB) 219. It regards the College Credit Plus Program.
- The House Government Oversight Committee held sponsor testimony on House Bill (HB) 257. It would authorize certain public bodies to meet virtually, including the School Employees Retirement Board. School boards, among other boards, are not included in the authorization.
- The House Pension Committee amended and passed House Bill (HB) 78. It would change the State Teachers Retirement Board membership to allow retirees who are reemployed to seek election as a contributing or retired member of the Board. The amendment states that those permittees employed as substitute teachers are included as members of the State Teachers Retirement System and specifically excludes them from the School Employee Retirement System.
- The House Finance Committee held a second hearing on House Bill (HB) 164. It would establish the Foster-to-College Scholarship Program, and would require the Department of Education to hire a full-time school foster care liaison and make an appropriation for the Foster-to-College Scholarship Program.
- Senate Bill (SB) 168 was introduced. It regards education regulation reform and updating outdated language in the Ohio Revised Code. Some changes include: amending the language on a Board of Education of

municipalities adopting teacher evaluations; permitting the Board of Education to combine their mandatory meeting to discuss the school calendar with another Board meeting; amending language on the standards for community schools and their report cards; amending language on the reasonable reductions in nonteaching employees to no longer give preferential treatment based on seniority unless deciding between two employees with comparable evaluations; and amending language on licensure requirements for certain school employees.

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

- OSBA's *Student Success* in-depth – *AI-powered tools can enhance teacher professional development*: Tools using artificial intelligence (AI) are transforming teacher professional development by providing personalized feedback and insights on classroom practices. They focus on improving teaching practices and student engagement while making professional development more accessible and scalable, and respecting teachers' privacy and supporting effective instruction. TeachFX is a program that records a teacher's lesson and generates a detailed feedback report on the teacher's style. It analyzes how many questions were asked, the type of questions asked, who is called on to answer and how much balance there is during the lesson between teacher and student talk. Other artificial intelligence programs provide feedback on good classroom practice prompting teachers to make their students provide evidence behind answers or the teacher to ask follow up questions. The basis of such programs is to change teacher behavior in order to move student outcomes in a positive direction. They can be used to provide teacher reflection regarding instruction and teacher feedback on how many times the teacher followed an effective classroom practice with another engaging action.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *How important is homework, and how much should parents help*: Parents and educators have raised concerns about homework and questioned how effective it is in enhancing students' learning. They are also concerned that students may be getting too much homework, which ultimately interferes with quality family time and opportunities for physical activity and play. Research suggests that homework should not exceed 1.5 to 2.5 hours per night for high school students and no more than one hour per night for middle school students. Homework for elementary school students should be minimal.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *Could four-day weeks lead to more progress for students?*: School districts are experimenting with altered schedules to address chronic absenteeism and pandemic-related academic challenges. Some districts are adopting four-day school weeks to provide students and staff additional rest and flexibility. Some districts are using the fifth day for lesson planning and students who need extra help.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *Studies show benefits of quizzes for students*: Timed exams are stressful and not the best way to measure knowledge. Practice tests and quizzes not only improved academic achievement, but also ended up reducing test anxiety. The brain learns new information and skills by being forced to recall them periodically.

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

- The window project is still not complete. The windows were installed incorrectly. The tape had to be removed and the windows had to be retaped. The project may not be completed until Winter break.
- Maplewood is working with Fastest Labs for Maplewood's *Your Choice* program. 287 students are currently signed up for random drug testing.
- The Maplewood free clinic is operating one day per week for six hours.
- Maplewood is working with Child Guidance and Family Services for in-house counseling. A mental health professional is providing services to both Windham and Maplewood. Maplewood receives services two to three days each week.
- The Carpentry program has class projects in Mantua. They have a project for a church and for dugouts.
- The Auto Collision program will be refurbishing a box truck for the Portage County Sherriff. They will complete body repairs and painting.
- The Christmas in the Woods Craft Show is November 3 - 4, 2023. The Spaghetti Dinner and Career Night is November 16, 2023. Maplewood will be marketing an Optician program.
- The Board packet included the following: Maplewood Career Center October 2023 Directory; Thank You Note from the Ravenna Balloon Affair; and Christmas in the Woods flier.

**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, 2023.
- The expenditures were approved for the month of September, 2023.
- The investments were ratified for the month of September, 2023 and the calendar year 2023.
- The bank reconciliation was ratified for the month of September, 2023.
- Approved transfers and advances for FY2023.
- Approved the FY2024 Five Year Financial Forecast & Assumptions.
- Approved entering an agreement with the Local Government Services Section of the Auditor of the State of Ohio for compilation of the Annual Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2024.
- **Informational Items:** Fiscal Year 2023 GAAP Conversion; Fiscal Year Audit 2023; OSBA Capital Conference, Columbus Convention Center, November 12 – 14, 2023; COSSBA, Consortium of State School Boards Associations, National Conference, Dallas, Texas, February 22 – 25, 2024; Board Pay for Attendance at Approved Training Programs for 2023.

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

- Approved employment of part-time Adult Education instructors and ASPIRE personnel.
- Employed security personnel for Christmas in the Woods, November 3 – 4, 2023.
- Approved the employment and contracts for Frankie Milnes and CJ Nalepa Devine, as Christmas in the Woods Coordinators.
- Accepted two resignations: Pauline Crawley, Attendance Secretary, effective December 31, 2023, and Matthew Byers, Mechanical, Groundskeeping and Construction Tutor, effective October 16, 2023.
- Approved the grant applications: E-Rate Grant for Ohio SchoolNet and Ohio Department of Higher Education Talent Ready Grant Program.
- Accepted two donations.
- Commended staff who worked the Ravenna Balloon-A-Fair booth on September 16, 2023.

**New Business:**

- Approved a five-year contract for the Superintendent, Mr. Randy Griffith, August 1, 2024 ending July 31, 2029.
- Approved a five-year contract for the Treasurer, Mrs. Michelle Seckman, August 1, 2024 ending July 31, 2029.
- Approved purchasing, from the Ohio School Plan, a crime insurance policy.

**Executive Session:** Discuss employment or appointment of public employees, matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes, and, safety and security. **(5:28 p.m. – 6:02 p.m.)**

**Adjourned: 6:02 p.m.**