

# MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER

## Board Meeting Notes

Regular Meeting April 20, 2023

**Convened: 5:00 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 was followed by a moment of silence.**

**Roll call:** Lori Calcei and Jay Kelsey were absent.

**Featured Program:** Superintendent, Mr. Randy Griffith, reviewed Ms. Meredith Hoover's history, qualifications, and comments. Mr. Griffith escorted the Board down to the Animal Science lab where he introduced Ms. Hoover. Ms. Hoover, along with her students Barbara Heeter and Abigail Goforth, gave a presentation highlighting the Animal Science program.

The meeting recessed at 5:02 p.m. and reconvened at 5:17 p.m.

**Acceptance and approval of Board meeting agenda for April 20, 2023, as presented on BoardPaq.**

**Acceptance and approval of the minutes of the March 16, 2023, regular meeting as presented.**

**No visitors were present.**

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

**Board President, Brian Violi, reported on the following:**

- Mr. Violi attended the inaugural conference of the Consortium of State School Boards Associations (COSSBA) in Tampa, Florida. He said it was not as well attended as the OSBA annual conferences. He attended a session on Disaster Preparedness. He said the final keynote speaker, John Quinones, gave a very good presentation.

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

- House Bill (HB) 145 was introduced last week. It would expand political subdivision joint purchasing authority to expressly include purchases for construction services.
- House Bill (HB) 146 was introduced last week. It would establish a contribution-based benefit cap in calculating a School Employees Retirement System member's retirement benefit.
- House Bill (HB) 147 was introduced last week. It would make changes to teacher licensure revocation, teacher hiring practices, and conduct unbecoming to the teaching profession.
- Senate Bill (SB) 104 was introduced last week. It would make changes to the College Credit Plus Program.
- The House Finance Committee voted to accept the substitute bill reflecting the first round of changes to House Bill (HB) 33 — the fiscal year (FY) 2024-25 biennial budget bill. Education related highlights of the bill include: The bill combines the bottom two tax-brackets and lowers the lowest rate to 2.75%; Updates the Fair Schools Funding formula with fiscal year (FY) 2022 inputs; Provides funding for a comprehensive study to determine the needs of economically disadvantaged students, the most effective services for meeting those needs, and the costs to provide those services; Requires Boards of Education to provide each pupil in grades K-eight substantially the same level of transportation service, route and schedule convenience, and pick-up and drop-off times relative to the pupil's school's start and end times, regardless of whether the pupil attends a school operated by the Board of Education or a nonpublic or community school; Creates a Pupil Transportation Pilot Program where an ESC could provide transportation to nonpublic students in lieu of the home district; Extends the FY 2022-23 school bus purchase fund program until the end of FY 2025; Increases school voucher eligibility to 450% of the federal poverty level; Establishes the Accelerated Appalachia School Building Assistance Program; Requires the Ohio Department of Education to provide reimbursements to make school breakfast and lunch free for all students eligible for reduced-price meals; Eliminates student retention under the law known as the third grade reading guarantee, beginning with the 2023-24 school year, and requires only one annual administration of the third-grade ELA assessment; Removes the provision requiring that the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) be completed as a graduation requirement and instead

requires that financial literacy include information on the FAFSA; Makes permanent the pilot program that provides alternative funding to dropout prevention and recovery (DOPR) e-schools; Extends, from 13 months to 16 months, the time during which the voters of a school district must approve bond and tax levies related to a school facilities project after the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission grants conditional approval of the project; and Eliminates the authority of local governments to levy replacement property tax levies, beginning with elections held on or after January 1, 2025.

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

- OSBA's *Student Success* in-depth – *Autism prevalence in the United States on the rise again:* Statistical data from the Center for Disease Control has shown the prevalence of autism spectrum disorder among 8-year-olds in the United States rose to approximately 1 in 36 children in 2020. This is a 20% increase from 2018, and is likely due to increased awareness and identification rather than in actual rise.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *ChatGPT called creative disruptor of education:* ChatGPT has sparked varying concerns across colleges and fields of study. Younger professors are more excited about the technology, while older professors voice more concerns. Before ChatGPT policing plagiarism was relatively easy with plagiarism checkers, but ChatGPT produces different answers every time. Professors are more likely to spot a student using ChatGPT in smaller seminars that allow the professor to engage more with the students and grow familiar with each student's style.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *100-point grading scale called flawed, gamed against student:* The earliest formal grading system emerged in 1785 at Yale University. It stratified grades into four groups. The groups were labeled with Latin terms but translated roughly to best, second best, less good, and worse. Harvard began using a 100-point grading system in 1837. One of the flaws in the 100-point grading system is when an assignment is missed and a student receives a zero. The implications of a very low grade or a zero can be catastrophic for a student. To compensate for this flaw, many districts have turned to minimum grading, automatically resetting zeros to 50. Critics say that no-zero policies fail to prepare students for the real world and encourage them to coast and wait later to "buckle down". A comprehensive 2015 study analyzed seven years of data of more than 29,000 students. When compared to students with traditional grading systems, students who benefited from minimum grading put more effort into their learning, earned higher scores on state exams, and had higher graduation rates.

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

- The Carpentry program is constructing a new Maplewood fair building at the Portage County Fairgrounds.
- A contract with Whitehouse Construction is on the agenda. If approved, Maplewood will complete a window replacement project this summer.
- The Waterloo School District is applying for a renovation grant. If they receive it, Maplewood's Electricity instructor and students will be helping with renovations.
- Maplewood's SkillsUSA students will be competing in Columbus on April 24-26, 2023. Maplewood's Applied Engineering and Machining students competed in the SkillsUSA Precision Machining North competition on April 14, 2023, at the Cuyahoga Valley Career Center. Maplewood had a first-place finisher and a fourth-place finisher. Dylan Martz placed first in Manual Machining.
- The Board packet included the following: Maplewood Career Center April 2023 Directory; Day School Report, April 20, 2023, Mr. Craig Morgan; National Honor Society New Inductees April 2023; and Honor Roll 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter.
- Mr. Griffith read an email from Sue McCullagh complimenting the services she received from a student in Mrs. Sue Giarrano's Cosmetology class.

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

- The District Financial Report was approved for March, 2023.
- The expenditures were approved for the month of March, 2023.
- The investments were ratified for the month of March, 2023 and calendar year 2023.
- The bank reconciliations were ratified for the month of March, 2023.
- Approved \$25,000 advance to the Adult Education Fund.
- Approved Revised Five-Year Financial Forecast and Notes for FY2023.

- Approved entering into an agreement with the Local Government Services Section of the Auditor of the State of Ohio for the compilation of the Annual Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2023.
- **Informational Items:** VSP & PASC Insurance Rates; OSBA Board Leadership Institute, Hilton Columbus/Polaris, April 28 - 29, 2023; Ohio ACTE Annual Innovation & Impact Conference, July 24-26, 2023, Hilton Columbus/ Easton.

**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.
- Approved two grant applications.
- Accepted four donations.

**Other Recommendations:**

- Adopted the 2023-2024 Student Handbook.
- Approved “*Staff Appreciation Week*”, May 1 – 5, 2023.
- Reviewed the student program fees for the 2023-2024 school year.
- Approved an alternate plan for making up calamity days during the 2023-2024 school year.
- Reviewed the Maplewood Preschool Parent Handbook.
- Approved an overnight field trip for Early Childhood Education students and advisor to attend the FCCLA competition in Columbus, Ohio, on April 27-28, 2023.
- Approved the Ohio Schools Council Governance Policy Change Resolution.

**New Business:**

- Approved an agreement with Whitehouse Construction Services, Co., as Construction Manager at Risk, of the Maplewood Career Center – 2023 Window Replacement Project.

**Executive Session:** (5:44 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.)

**Adjourned: 5:50 p.m.**