

MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER
Board Meeting Notes
Regular Meeting March 21, 2024

Convened: 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Board President, Jay Kelsey.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member, Mrs. Bonnie Lovejoy, and was followed by a moment of silence.

Roll call: Lori Calcei was absent.

Acceptance and approval of Board meeting agenda for March 21, 2024, as presented on BoardPaq.

Acceptance and approval of the minutes of the February 15, 2024 regular meeting as presented.

No visitors were present.

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

Board President, Jay Kelsey had nothing to report.

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

- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *Ohio AI toolkit for schools explores ethics, tools:* Ohio leaders introduced an AI toolkit for educators, students and parents. The toolkit includes introductory material, several examples of AI tools to explore, context on ethics issues surrounding AI use, classroom activities, hands-on challenges and a 10-week project-based learning course. One classroom activity shows students how an AI-powered tool can approve or deny a loan in 10 seconds based on 20,000 data points about the applicant. Lieutenant Governor, Jon Husted, encouraged schools to investigate AI curriculum, weighing the benefits of the new technology along with issues like student privacy, data security and ethics.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *College credit program promotes diversity among EMTs:* Ohio's Sinclair Community College has teamed up with Trotwood-Madison City Schools to recruit more Black students into the world of emergency medical services (EMS) through a program that leverages Sinclair's College Credit Plus Program, granting high school students the opportunity to earn college credit at no cost to their families. The initiative aims to address the lack of diversity in the profession.
- OSBA's *Student Success* in-depth – *Information on value of microcredentials lacking in high school:* High Schools are not doing a good job informing students about nondegree career pathways after high school. Two out of three students surveyed who were not pursuing a microcredential, which includes certificates, apprenticeships, and boot camps, said they would have considered getting a microcredential if they'd had more information. Of the students who were pursuing a nondegree pathway, 67 percent of female respondents and 63 percent of male respondents said they went to their parents for guidance on which program to pursue. In contrast, 13 percent of female students and 20 percent of male students went to a high school counselor or mentor. Teachers and counselors are unaware if employers will actually hire from nondegree pathways. They lack outcome data and are hesitant to encourage students to pursue a pathway that may not be the right path. Some credentials can be "stackable" and applied toward a degree in the future. Nondegree career pathways are often affordable and faster education programs that lead to immediate employment, a job with at least a local livable wage, and can also set the recipient of that credential for lifelong learning leading to a degree.

Legislative Liaison, Mary Kaley, reported on the following:

- The State Board of Education (SBOE) held a public meeting last week. State Superintendent of Public Education, Paul Craft, updated the Board on its financial status and outlook for the rest of the biennium. Current projections show that the Board will have \$3.5 million deficit by year's end. The State Board of Education will consider raising licensure fees to minimize financial losses.
- The Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) also held a public meeting last week to provide an update on literacy and allow for public comment on the administrative rules proposed for review. Dr. Melissa Weber-Mayrer

gave an update on the implementation of the science of reading across Ohio's school districts and on the progress of the professional development for educators in the science of reading to serve Ohio's students.

- House Bill (HB) 445 was introduced. It is in regards to school district policies for released time courses in religious instruction.
- House Bill (HB) 447 was introduced. It would modify and expand property tax homestead exemptions, gradually reduce school districts' 20-mill floor, and modify the formula for determining farmland's current agricultural use value.

Superintendent, Randy Griffith, reported on the following:

- Mr. Griffith recently gave a presentation to Leadership Portage County. He told them education has changed very little in the past few decades, while most businesses have had to change dramatically. Students need to learn critical thinking and problem solving, but are still memorizing facts they can look up on their phones in seconds. Colleges have a 60% drop out rate and most graduates end up in grey collared jobs where they are underpaid. Students are not being prepared for the workforce. Most of the State enforced curriculum does not prepare students for the workforce. Previous courses like home economics and finance that offer life skills have been cut in most schools. Fiscal Responsibility will be taught in schools moving forward. Mr. Griffith showed the group a video, *Success in the New Economy*.
- Mr. Svonavec and the Electricity students have completed lighting upgrades at Waterloo Schools. They were there 2-3 weeks. The Business Supervisor, Barbara Rach, commended the students on the great job they did and also said how professional they were.
- The architect proposal for the Culinary Arts renovation is on the agenda. Plans will be started as soon as possible.
- The Ohio Department of Education, Office of Exceptional Children, is conducting an audit of Maplewood's special education services. This is a two-year process. They are reviewing student IEPs. Mr. Griffith discussed with the Board items that have come up in the audit regarding enrollment criteria.
- Mr. Griffith reviewed the Day School Report: Upcoming End of Year Events; February Students of the month, Junior, Connor White, Mechanical, Groundskeeping & Construction, Field, and Senior, Serinity Lloyd, Medical Assisting, Windham; and the 2023-2024 Student Yearly Achievement Report.
- The Board packet included the following: Day School Report, March 21, 2024, Mr. Craig Morgan; Student Handbook 2024-2025; and Maplewood Career Center March 2024 Directory. Mr. Griffith said further changes will be made to the Student Handbook regarding driving and parking lot discipline.
- Ms. Minnick asked if schools are offering drivers training. Most said they were not. She said the Portage County PRC - Prevention, Retention, and Contingency Program, will pay for drivers training for income eligible students.

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 February, 2024.
- The expenditures were approved for the month of February, 2024.
- The investments were ratified for the month of February, 2024 and calendar year 2024.
- The bank reconciliations were ratified for the month of February, 2024.
- Approved participation in the Ohio Schools Council Workers' Compensation Group Retrospective Rating for the rating period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.
- Approved Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources and Amended Appropriations for FY2024.
- Informational Items: OSBA Northeast Region Spring Conference, Monday, March 25, 2024, Warren, Ohio; OSBA Board Leadership Institute, May 3 - 4, 2024, Hilton Columbus/Polaris, Ohio; Ohio ACTE All Ohio Conference, July 15 - 17, 2024, Hilton Columbus/Easton, Ohio.

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 employment of classified employee, Dennis Schaeffer, Custodian 2nd Shift, for the 2023 -2024 school year.
- Accepted four donations.
- Reviewed the 2024 – 2025 Student Handbook.
- Approved "Take Your Child to Work Day" for Thursday, April 25, 2024.

- Approved an overnight field trip for SkillsUSA students and advisors to attend the SkillsUSA State Competition in Columbus, Ohio, April 8 - 10, 2024.

New Business:

- Approved the Proposal for Architectural Services from Van Auken Akins Architects LLC to provide architectural services for the 2024 Maplewood Career Center Culinary Arts back of the house facilities, classroom, lockers, etc.

Unfinished Business - None

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. (5:56 p.m. – 6:21 p.m.)

Adjourned: 6:22 p.m.