

MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER

Board Meeting Notes

Regular Meeting April 18, 2024

Convened: 5:01 p.m.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board vice president, Mary Kaley, and was followed by a moment of silence.

Roll call: Mike Wisniewski was absent. Field Representative not yet appointed.

Featured Program: Superintendent, Mr. Randy Griffith, reviewed Mr. Joseph Roth's history, qualifications, and comments. Mr. Griffith escorted the Board down to the HVAC lab where he introduced Mr. Roth. Mr. Roth gave a presentation highlighting the HVAC program.

The meeting recessed at 5:03 p.m. and reconvened at 5:35 p.m.

Acceptance and approval of Board meeting agenda for April 18, 2024, as presented on BoardPaq.

Acceptance and approval of the minutes of the March 21, 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.

Legislative Liaison, Mary Kaley, reported on the following:

- Ohio Lawmakers are set to return to Columbus and tackle the capital budget. Each chamber has passed their own bill containing portions of the traditional capital budget, but neither chamber has considered the other's version. The Senate amended House Bill (HB) 27 to include \$1.37 billion while the House included \$2 billion in House Bill (HB) 2. Both bills appropriate \$600 million for the Ohio School Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) school building program assistance fund for the construction and renovation of public schools. Senate President Matt Huffman recently stated he was optimistic that the two chambers would come together and finalize the capital budget by Memorial Day. If the chambers do not agree on a version by July, the capital budget bill could require an emergency clause so that some projects relying on funds from the capital budget do not run out. The House and Senate have not agreed on which bill will be the vehicle for funding. The Senate's version, House Bill (HB) 27, is currently pending in the House awaiting a concurrence vote. The House will most likely not agree to the changes made in the Senate, sending the bill to a conference committee where the chambers will work out their differences and issue a conference committee report. Should House Bill (HB) 2 become the vehicle, the bill will need to proceed through the Senate committee process and receive a vote before going back to the House for concurrence. House Bill (HB) 2 has not been referred to a committee for consideration. The two bills differ on whether the One-Time Strategic Community Investment funding authorized in House Bill (HB) 33, the biennial budget, should be included. House Bill (HB) 2, the House version, contains projects for half of the \$700 million allocation. House members have stated it was their intent that the Senate would allocate the remaining \$350 million on community projects of their choice. The Senate did not allocate their projects, stating they would prefer consulting with the House on how to allocate the total \$700 million creating an agreed upon list of projects.
- The Joint Committee on Property Tax Review and Reform continues to hear testimony by invitation only. Education groups are testifying in mid-April and will explain the complexities of local and state education funding. The panel will address questions regarding the 20-mill floor, levies, cash balances, and how abatements impact local funding, among other topics. The committee has a deadline of December 31, 2024, to issue their recommendations to the General Assembly.
- 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.
- House Bill (HB) 468 was introduced. It is in regards to the presentation of information on patriotic organizations to students in public schools.
- House Bill (HB) 470 was introduced. It would require the Department of Education to conduct an annual audit regarding state assessments.

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

- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *Helping students feel like they belong*: Greg Walton, a psychology professor at Stanford University, has spent decades researching how to foster a stronger sense of belonging in education settings. His conclusions can also be applied to middle and high school populations.
- OSBA's *Student Success* in-depth – *Food insecurity tied to violence exposure in youths*: A study found that children with food insecurity were more than five times more likely to experience violence compared with those who were food secure. Strategies to address food insecurity and violence include implementing culturally competitive initiatives, food assistance programs, increased food insecurity screenings, and nutritional education.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *Students learn to spot misinformation*: Seattle area high school students participated in MisInfo Day, an event aimed at teaching media literacy and how to spot deepfakes at a time when artificial intelligence-generated content is flooding social media. Students participated in escape room challenges to discern truth from fiction with social media platforms, images of faces, and online rumors. A recent survey from Boston University showed 72% of adults say misinformation is a concern and that Democrats are more likely (81%) to agree than Republicans (66%) that media literacy skills are important.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *South Euclid Lyndhurst City students compete in esports league*: Brush High School launched a high school esports team. The creation of the team enables students to compete in a league against gamers in other school districts. The league called Esports Ohio has almost 400 middle schools and high schools throughout the state of Ohio that compete from a list of 10-12 games approved for competition. Brush High School got started by purchasing 21 computers and four 70-inch flat screen TVs. The Brush team has 16 players and competed in its first match on January 10, 2024, against Bio-Med Science Academy STEM School of Ravenna.

Superintendent, Randy Griffith, reported on the following:

- Three students earned gold medals in the State SkillsUSA competition and will be going on to Nationals in Atlanta to compete. The students earning gold medals will be competing in Carpentry, Medical Assisting, and Information Technology.
- Maplewood held two staff in-services on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. The first in-services involved mental health. The second in-service was put on by the Portage County Sheriff's Drug Task Force and Ravenna City Police Officer Lincoln. Officer Lincoln is the SRO for Ravenna Schools. The members of the Drug Task Force and Officer Lincoln gave a presentation on the different drugs and drug paraphernalia discovered in schools.
- Mr. Griffith complimented Mr. Joseph Roth, HVAC instructor, on the great job he is doing.
- Mr. Griffith reviewed the Day School Report: The third nine weeks attendance program, 96 students recognized; Cupcake with the Teacher/Open House, 43.58% incoming juniors present; and March Students of the Month, Junior, Rikki Cogley, Mechanical, Groundskeeping & Construction, Southeast, and Senior, Elijah Hunt, Mechanical, Groundskeeping & Construction, Ravenna.
- The Board packet included the following: Day School Report, April 18, 2024, Mr. Craig Morgan; National Honor Society New Inductees April 2024; Honor Roll 3rd Quarter, and Student Handbook 2024-2025.

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 March, 2024.
- The expenditures were approved for the month of March, 2024.
- The investments were ratified for the month of March, 2024 and calendar year 2024.
- The bank reconciliations were ratified for the month of March, 2024.
- Approved Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources and Amended Appropriations for FY2024.

- Approved Revised Five-Year Financial Forecast and Notes for FY2023.
- Informational Items: PASC Insurance Rates; 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 one grant application.
- Accepted six donations.

Other Recommendations:

- Adopted the 2024 - 2025 Student Handbook.
- Approved “*Staff Appreciation Week*,” May 6 - 10, 2024.
- Reviewed the student program fees for the 2024 - 2025 school year.
- Reviewed the Maplewood Preschool Parent Handbook.

New Business - None

Unfinished Business:

- Approved the revised 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.

Executive Session - None

Adjourned: 6:04 p.m.