

# MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER

## Board Meeting Notes

### Regular Meeting

August 21, 2025

**Convened: 5:01 p.m.**

**The meeting was called to order by Board President, Mary Kaley.**

**The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member, Patricia Brett and followed by a moment of silence.**

**Roll call:** Roger Boltz, Heather Hakin, and Joan Seman were absent.

**Acceptance and approval of the Board meeting agenda for August 21, 2025, as presented on Community/Highbond.**

**Acceptance and approval of the minutes for the July 2, 2025, special/regular meeting as presented.**

**No visitors were present.**

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

**Board President, Mary Kaley had nothing to report.**

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

- House Bill (HB) 96, the biennial budget bill, includes several policy change requirements for School Boards to adopt:
  - **Cellphone Policy:** School Boards may need to update their cellphone policies. School Boards previously adopted policies that fit their local communities' views on using cellphones during the school day. Schools could either adopt an Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) model policy or develop a policy that limited cellphone use based on local decisions. House Bill (HB) 96 now requires that schools adopt a policy by January 1, 2026, that prohibits the use of cellphones by students during the instructional day. The bill does not explicitly define instructional day. There are two exceptions to the prohibition. A student is permitted to use a cellphone as part of their learning based on an individualized education program and Section 504 plans. They also may use a cellphone to monitor or address a health concern with a written statement from the student's doctor. Schools must include in their comprehensive emergency management plans a protocol that addresses student use of cellphones during an active threat or emergency. The comprehensive emergency management plan can suspend the cellphone policy but it does not require it. The bill eliminates the ODEW model policy. Discussion took place on if students on an individualized education program and Section 504 plans would be permitted use of cellphones during a lock down or active threat or emergency.
  - **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** A School Board will now be required to have an artificial intelligence policy. The policy adopted must address the use of AI by students and staff for educational purposes. The School Board must adopt the policy by July 1, 2026. Additionally, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) must adopt a model policy by December 31, 2025. Schools have the flexibility to adopt the ODEW model policy or create a local policy. House Bill (HB) 96 also permits the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (ODEW) to collect data from districts and schools on their use of AI.
  - **Interdistrict Open Enrollment:** House Bill (HB) 96 makes two changes to Ohio's interdistrict open enrollment laws. The first provision makes additional changes to a law passed in the 135th General Assembly. That law required school districts to include an exception in their interdistrict open enrollment policies for students whose parents are active-duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces, allowing the students to enroll in a school district even if the district's policies normally do not permit interdistrict open enrollment. All school districts must accept these students and can't charge tuition. School districts, as

part of their open enrollment polices, have application deadlines. House Bill (HB) 96 requires that school districts exempt from those deadlines a student whose parent is an active-duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces stationed in Ohio. The second provision eliminates a law that permitted a school district to adopt a resolution that discourages or prohibits its native students from applying to enroll in an adjacent or other district if that district is receiving federal Impact Aid and has at least 10% of its students included in the aid calculation. These two provisions become effective September 30, 2025.

- **Religious Instruction Release Time:** The General Assembly made additional changes to the religious instruction release time (RIRT) laws in Ohio by requiring a school district to permit students to attend a released time course in religious instruction for at least one period per week. The legislature placed limits on how many periods an elementary student would be permitted to attend by capping the periods to no more than two periods per week. The legislature made a similar limit for high school students by limiting it to no more than two units of high school credit per week. The General Assembly inserted in the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) a requirement that school districts permit students to bring external educational and program materials into school. This newly inserted ORC provision was already in effect due to previous attorney general (AG) opinions. This provision harmonizes the AG opinion and ORC. These provisions will go into effect September 30, 2025.

**Student Achievement Liaison, Joan Seman, was not present to report.**

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

- Construction on the Auto Collision lab is complete. The lab was reconfigured to be more conducive to providing instruction while maximizing workspace. The old spray booths were removed. Two new spray booths were installed. Two new overhead doors were installed so that vehicles can be driven into the spray booths from outside. A four-post lift was installed in the lab. A new portable frame straightener is being purchased for the lab. Both Auto Collision Technology and Power Equipment Mechanics underwent similar construction processes in which the tool rooms were reconfigured, steel stairs were installed to the mezzanine's areas, halls between the office mezzanine and the storage area mezzanine were covered with a walkway to provide more storage space, and the outer wall of the mezzanines now have a metal post cable railing to ensure the safety of staff and students.
- New staff have been in last week and this week and are doing well. The Open House on Tuesday went really well. Everyone did a great job.
- Mr. Griffith is planning additional construction projects for the upcoming year.
- The Board packet included the following: Magnetic School Calendar.
- Maplewood's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is this year. Mr. Griffith is looking at getting shirts printed. The High School secretaries have given him a number of great designs. Mrs. Yoho suggested putting Alumni on some of the shirts. Mr. Griffith is asking staff and Board members for ideas of how to celebrate. Suggestions so far have included a 5K run around the building and an Open House with Food trucks.

**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 months of June and July 2025.
- The expenditures were approved for the months of June and July 2025.
- The investments were ratified for the months of June and July 2025.
- The bank reconciliation was ratified for the months of June and July 2025.
- Commercial Paper and Bankers Acceptances.
- Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources and Permanent Appropriations Resolution for FY2026.
- Approved the Change and Petty Cash Funds for FY2026.
- Notice of Application to become a Depository.
- Authorized the payment of the balance of unused leave for Randall Griffith, Superintendent.
- **Informational Items:** Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Recap, Fiscal Year 2025 GAAP Conversion; Fiscal Year 2025 Audit; Pepple & Waggoner School Law Update: Glenmoor Country Club, Canton, September 18, 2025, and

Holiday Inn Cleveland South, Cleveland, Ohio, September 25, 2025; OSBA Capital Conference, Greater Columbus Convention Center, November 16 - 18, 2025.

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

- Approved employment of a part-time Adult Education instructor, Jacob Whisman, Welding Instructor, effective August 25, 2025.
- Accepted the resignations of Juliann Ganoë, 3<sup>rd</sup> Shift Custodian, effective July 8, 2025, and Frankie Milnes, Receptionist, effective August 9, 2025.
- Employed certificate personnel Jill DeRamo, Counselor, and Don Hill, Graphic Communications Instructor, on a one-year limited teacher contract for the 2025-2026 school year.
- Employed classified personnel on one-year contracts for the 2025-2026 school year: Emily Ferrell, Receptionist, Gary Phile, 3rd Shift Custodian, and Whitney Robinson, Secretary/Receptionist.
- Employed classified substitutes, Sharon DuChene, Cafeteria Personnel/Secretary/Custodian, and Frankie Milnes, Secretary.
- Approved employment of certificated substitute, Victor Cianci, for the 2025-2026 school year.
- Accepted one donation.
- Adopted the 2025-2026 Teacher Handbook.
- Adopted the Adult Education Faculty Handbook.

**Unfinished Business:**

- Conducted the second reading and adoption of policies.

**Executive Session:** Employment or appointment of public employees, matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulations or state statutes, and safety, and security. **(5:49 p.m. – 6:17 p.m.)**

**Adjourned: 6:17 p.m.**