

# MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER

## Board Meeting Notes

### Regular Meeting

August 15, 2024

Convened: 5:00 p.m.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President, Mary Kaley, and followed by a moment of silence.

Oath of Office was administered by Treasurer, Michelle Seckman:

For the remaining duration of a three-year term, starting August 15, 2024 – December 31, 2025:

Roger Boltz, Field

Roll call: Chelli Yoho was absent.

Acceptance and approval of the Board meeting agenda for August 15, 2024, as presented on BoardPaq.

Acceptance and approval of the minutes for the July 18, 2024, regular meeting as presented.

The following visitor was received: Miss Wisniewski.

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

Board President, Jay Kelsey reported on the following:

- Mr. Kelsey thanked the Field Local Board of Education for appointing a representative. Mr. Kelsey said he was glad to have Mr. Roger Boltz back on the Board.

Legislative Liaison, Mary Kaley, reported on the following:

- Governor DeWine signed House Bill (HB) 214. This bill requires each public school to adopt a religious expression day policy allowing students up to three excused absences per academic year to express their religion during observed religious holidays or religious activities. Schools have ninety days from July 28, 2024, to adopt their new policy.
- The Ohio Attorney General rejected the summary of a proposed constitutional amendment titled “Homestead and Personal Property” for lack of enough verified voter signatures. The submission required 1,000 qualified electors, but only contained 508 valid signatures.
- Discussion took place among Board members regarding property value assessments and the tax estimator on the Portage County Auditor’s website.

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

- OSBA’s *Student Success* article – *ACT overhaul means shorter tests, fewer questions*: The ACT test will ask fewer questions and last up to an hour less next year. The reading and English sections will have 44 fewer questions and the reading passages will be shorter. The science portion will no longer be required.
- OSBA’s *Student Success* article – *Less screen time may improve mental health among youths*: Researches in Denmark did a study of 89 families. 45 of the families reduced their screen time for leisure to less than 3 hours per week for 2 weeks. 44 of the families maintained their usual screen habits. The children and at least one adult member of the families that reduced their screen time had to hand over their smartphones and tablets for 2 weeks. To ensure compliance, television monitors were installed in their homes. The study found that reducing screen time among children and teens led to fewer behavioral difficulties, with noticeable decreases in peer-related and emotional issues and improvements in positive social interactions.
- OSBA’s *Student Success* in-depth – *Studies show what works, what doesn’t with online tutoring*: Virtual tutoring has boomed since the federal government handed schools nearly \$190 billion of pandemic recovery aid and

specifically encouraged them to spend it on tutoring. A recent Columbia University study shows that inconsistent attendance for online tutoring during the school day can result in less effective help in catching up from pandemic-era learning losses, versus in-person tutoring, while regular attendance puts online tutoring on par with in-person help. School leaders have until March 2026 to spend the remainder of the \$190 billion in pandemic recovery, but contracts with tutoring vendors must be signed by September 2024.

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

- Mr. Griffith welcomed back Mr. Roger Boltz.
- The Culinary Arts remodel is coming along. Demolition is completed in the Culinary Arts lab. The floors will be poured in the kitchen area tomorrow. The lab will be boarded up for orientation. Construction was scheduled to be completed by October 31, 2024; however, the project is three weeks behind schedule. This will cause some instructional issues, but it is the price to pay to get state of the art equipment and facilities. The Culinary Arts program will be able to use the HSC lab and the cafeteria some. They may be doing some outside grilling and canning. They will also be using their prep stations in their classrooms.
- Mr. Griffith has spoken with the current architect regarding the possibility of creating more high bay labs and adding more classroom space. Mr. Griffith will explore the options over the next few months to determine possible next steps. As was the case regarding the last addition, construction will probably take a year or more.
- The new teachers have been in this week. They are becoming acclimated to the procedures and policies of the District. They have had two in-service days this week and will have two next week, beyond the two days of in-service with the existing staff members. Things have gone well to date.
- New student orientation is on Tuesday, August 20, 2024. 1,500 to 2,000 visitors will be in and out of the building that evening. The first day of school is Monday, August 26, 2024.

**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 July, 2024.
- The expenditures were approved for the month of July, 2024.
- The investments were ratified for the month of July, 2024 and the calendar year 2024.
- The bank reconciliation was ratified for the month of July, 2024.
- Commercial Paper and Bankers Acceptances.
- Approved the Change and Petty Cash Funds for FY2025.
- Accepted the Restricted Indirect Cost Rate Agreement for FY2025 at the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce approved rate of 8.44%.
- Authorized payment for instructors for the Science of Reading Stipend.
- **Informational Items:** Fiscal Year 2024 GAAP Conversion; Fiscal Year 2024 Audit; Pepple & Waggoner School Law Update Seminar: Glenmoor Country Club, Canton, September 19, 2024; OSBA Capital Conference, Greater Columbus Convention Center, November 10 - 12, 2024; required Fraud Reporting and Training.

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

- Accepted the resignation of Jackie Bower, Attendance Secretary, effective August 15, 2024.
- Employed classified personnel on a one-year contract for the 2024-2025 school year, Emma Sandy, Attendance Secretary.
- Approved employment of part-time Adult Education instructors and ASPIRE personnel.
- Approved employment of classified substitute, Jackie Pritchett, for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Approved employment of certificated substitute, Britt Palmer, for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Adopted the 2024-2025 Teacher Handbook.
- Adopted the Adult Education Faculty Handbook.
- Approved the partnership agreement between Child Guidance and Family Solutions and Maplewood Career Center.

Board Meeting Notes

August 15, 2024

Page 3

**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. **(5:35 p.m. – 5:43 p.m.)**

**Adjourned: 5:43 p.m.**