

MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER

Board Meeting Notes

Regular Meeting

September 19, 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 followed by a moment of silence.

Roll call: All were present.

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

The meeting recessed at 5:03 p.m. and reconvened at 5:31 p.m.

Acceptance and approval of the Board meeting agenda for September 19, 2024, as presented on BoardPaq.

Acceptance and approval of the minutes for the August 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.

Legislative Liaison, Mary Kaley, reported on the following:

- In June, the Ohio legislature made several changes to House Bill (HB) 147 before sending it to Governor Mike DeWine for his signature. The bill originally was introduced to fix a loophole in the Ohio Revised Code (RC) that pertained to teacher misconduct. The law did not require a school employee's misconduct to be reported to the state's superintendent of public instruction if the school employee retired during a disciplinary investigation for misconduct. The bill was introduced in April 2023 and moved smoothly through the Ohio House. The Ohio Senate held hearings, and the bill received no opponent testimony. The Ohio legislature wanted to advance several education provisions before the extended summer recess, and House Bill (HB) 147 was a vehicle primed for amendments. Some sports-related provisions and permanent flexibility for students who receive the Jon Peterson and Autism scholarships were added:
 - Public schools and Educational Service Centers must notify the state superintendent regarding a licensed employee who retires during a disciplinary investigation for misconduct. A report also must be filed if the employee retires under threat of termination or nonrenewal of their contract. The bill expands school personnel subject to discipline by the State Board of Education for misconduct by modifying the definition of "license" to include pupil services personnel, staff members who hold a private provider registration under the Autism Scholarship Program and certain unlicensed individuals authorized to teach in high-performing school districts. Lastly, school districts and Educational Service Centers must file a report with the state superintendent when they remove a licensed employee from the list of eligible substitute teachers because the employee was reasonably determined to have committed an act unbecoming to the teaching profession.
 - During the COVID-19 pandemic, the legislature allowed the Ohio Department of Education certain flexibilities for students who receive the Jon Peterson and the Autism scholarships. One of the flexibilities allowed recipients to receive services virtually. Those flexibilities were set to expire, and the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce couldn't extend the ability to use virtual services without legislative permission.

House Bill (HB) 147 provides that permission, allowing services prescribed in the student's individualized education program (IEP) to be offered virtually by qualified credentialed providers. Additionally, since the bill explicitly states that the virtual services must be administered by a qualified credentialed provider, the bill adds numerous credentialed professionals to the State Board's approved list.

- The bill allows a school district superintendent to permit a home-educated student or a student enrolled in a different school district, community school, STEM school, chartered nonpublic school or non-chartered non-public school to participate in interscholastic athletics at any of the district's schools if the student was a victim of any of the following: harassment, intimidation or bullying; an offense of violence; a violation of state importuning law; an attempt to commit an offense of violence or to violate state importuning law; conduct by a school official employee, or volunteer that violates the Licensure Code of Professional Conduct for Ohio Educators developed by the State Board of Education. The bill also indicates that the offense can be by a school official, employee, volunteer, or another student. Additionally, the bill indicates that the individual who was alleged to commit an offense of violence, violation of the importuning law, or an attempt to do either, must have been charged with, indicted for, convicted of, or pled guilty to committing the offense or, if the offender is another student, has been alleged to be or is adjudicated a delinquent child for committing the offense. If the superintendent allows the student to participate, that student must fulfill the same academic, nonacademic, and financial requirements as any other participant who resides in the district. A home-educated student must fulfill the requirements as prescribed in continuing law. A school district may not impose additional rules or fees that are not equally applied to other students who are participating in the same activity. The Ohio High School Athletics Association and the Buckeye Association of School Administrators have developed a template that superintendents can use to consider these requests. The template is not mandatory but intended as an optional tool.
- Prohibits qualifying schools and athletic conferences and organizations from establishing different ticket prices based on the payment method. The only exception is to cover the processing fee for tickets purchased online or by credit card. Additionally, the bill requires that student ticket prices be less than an adult ticket price for the same event.

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

- OSBA's *Student Success* in-depth – What researchers and educators say about fidget devices: Fidget devices can be beneficial for some students, though there is not a lot of research. They can help individuals to self-regulate behavior. They can be an outlet for nervous energy. They can help regulate attention, physical discomfort, or restlessness. They are marketed as a “universal classroom support,” and are believed to alleviate the symptoms of anxiety, hyperactivity, and boredom. They can also wreak havoc in classrooms. They can be misused and cause serious classroom disruptions. One third of schools have banned them. It is recommended teachers avoid the most distracting fidgets at all costs – spinners, poppers, and other devices that light up, make noise, or encourage throwing.

Superintendent, Randy Griffith, reported on the following:

- The Culinary Arts remodel is coming along. They are putting in hood units and curbs on the roof. The stainless steel installation will start soon and will be followed by flooring.
- 336 students signed up for the “Your Choice” program this year. Last year, 270 students signed up.
- Mr. Griffith reviewed the Day School Report: 755 students are enrolled at Maplewood this year; Six years of Enrollment Data; and Junior Orientation 2024 - 2025 attendance was 79.29%.
- Maplewood has been undergoing a special education review by SST8. It has not been streamlined. Maplewood has had difficulties getting IEPs from some of the home schools. Some have taken more than three weeks. It is impossible to implement directives in the IEPs if we do not have them. Mr. Griffith has requested assistance from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce and from SST8. SST8 prefers to remain a neutral party. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce does not rapidly respond. Mr. Griffith has commiserated with Mr. McCain at the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce trying to work out problems with the IEPs. Mr. McCain has told Mr. Griffith to tell the home school personnel to make changes to the IEPs. Mr. Griffith requested the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce to direct the home school personnel to make the changes to the IEPs. Discussion took place with Mr. Griffith and Board members regarding needs of special education students.

- The fire alarm system has not been functioning correctly. Calcom, Maplewood's current vendor, has said they can access and repair the system in pieces over a year or more. Maplewood has contacted another vendor who says they can access and repair the system and it would only take a week or two and they would be able to take over the current system after their assessment and repairs. There is a resolution on the agenda requesting the Board declare an urgent necessity exists and authorizing executing a contract outside the statutory bidding procedures for the installation of a fire alarm system. This will only be necessary if the current system cannot be repaired.

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 August, 2024.
- The expenditures were approved for the month of August, 2024.
- The investments were ratified for the month of August, 2024 and the calendar year, 2024.
- The bank reconciliation was ratified for the month of August, 2024.
- Approved the "Set A-Sides" for FY2025.
- Approved the Amended Certificate of Estimated Resources and Permanent Appropriations Resolutions for FY2025.
- Authorized payment to teachers for completing the Science of Reading Pathway.
- Authorized payment to teachers for attending an August 12, 2024, Summer In-Service with SST8.
- **Informational Items:** Fiscal Year 2024 GAAP Conversion; Fiscal Year 2024 Audit; OSBA Northeast Region Fall Conferences: Wadsworth, Wednesday, October 2, 2024; OSBA Capital Conference, Greater Columbus Convention Center, November 10 - 12, 2024.

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

- Moved certificated/licensed instructors on the teachers' salary schedule as stipulated in the Master Agreement between the Board and Maplewood Career Center Education Association; Renee Bell, Meredith Hoover, Linda Hunter, Ryan Jadwin, Natalie Kimmell, Michael Lovejoy, Ruth Russell, Katherine Stuver, and Nancy Woodruff.
- Approved employment of a part-time Adult Education instructor and ASPIRE personnel.
- Accepted the resignation of Shawn Wilson, Welding Instructor, effective August 27, 2024.
- Approved the termination of Adrian Rus, Computer Technician, effective September 10, 2024.
- Approved employment of classified personnel, Katelyn Bertka, Computer Technician.
- Approved the grant applications; IMAP Grant and Ohio Department of Higher Education Super RAPIDS Regional Program Grant.
- Approved two donations.
- Commended the cafeteria, secretarial, maintenance, custodial, Adult Education, and technology staff for their preparations and hard work leading to a smooth start of the new school year.
- Commended the instructional staff and day school administrators for an excellent start to the new school year.
- Commended the staff who manned Maplewood's Portage County Randolph Fair booth from August 20 - 25, 2024.
- Approved an overnight field trip for the Mechanical, Groundskeeping and Construction and Hospitality Service Careers students and advisors. The event will be held in Carrollton, Ohio, October 7 - 9, 2024.

New Business:

- Approved Maplewood Career Center joining the HPS Committed Purchasing Program, during the 2024 - 2025 school year.
- Approved USDA Foods Member Agreement for the 2024 - 2025 school year.
- Authorized the Superintendent to advertise/solicit for design/build services.
- Approved a resolution declaring an urgent necessity exists, and authorizing the execution of a contract outside of statutory competitive bidding procedures for installation of a fire alarm system.

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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. **(6:26 p.m. - 6:36 p.m.)**

Adjourned: 6:36 p.m.