

MAPLEWOOD CAREER CENTER

Board Meeting Notes

Regular Meeting

October 17, 2024

Convened: 5:02 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.

Public Hearing: A public hearing was held for comments regarding the Board of Education of the Maplewood Career Center considering the re-hiring of Mr. Britt Palmer as the Welding Instructor, effective November 11, 2024. Mr. Palmer retired from his position as Welding Instructor, effective June 30, 2024.

Acceptance and approval of the Board meeting agenda for October 17, 2024, as presented on BoardPaq.

Acceptance and approval of the minutes for the September 19, 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 passed 29 bills in a single day, nine of which impacted the education community. Senate Bill (SB) 168 is one of the largest education bills to pass the legislature in the past few years, and it will be effective October 24, 2024. A few areas of focus include:
 - Certain high-performing school districts are exempt from specific requirements for a period of three years as per the current law. However, the law does not allow for the exemption to be renewed, even if the district qualifies. Senate Bill (SB) 168 changed the law to allow school districts to renew the exemption and changed the eligibility. The new eligibility criteria are determined based on the following from the most recent state report card: the district receives a performance rating of five stars on the Progress component; and the district has a four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate of at least 93% and has a five-year adjusted cohort graduation rate of at least 95%. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce must annually notify all eligible districts by September 30. The districts that qualify for the exemptions are excluded from the following: the mentoring component of the Ohio teacher residency program so long as the district uses a local approach to train and support new teachers; any provision of the Ohio Revised Code or Ohio Department of Education and Workforce rule or standard prescribing a minimum or maximum class size; any Revised Code provision or Ohio Department of Education and Workforce rule or standard requiring teachers to be licensed specifically in the grade level in which they are teaching, unless otherwise prescribed by federal law. This exemption does not apply to special education teachers, nor does this exemption relieve a teacher from holding a valid Ohio license in the subject area in which that teacher is teaching and at least some grade level determined appropriate by the district board; and the superintendent of a school district may employ an individual who is not licensed as required by Revised Code 3319.22 to 3319.30 but who is otherwise qualified, based on experience, to teach classes in the district, so long as the district board of education approves the individual's employment and provides mentoring and professional development opportunities to that individual as determined necessary by the board, and that individual must have a criminal records background check and be enrolled Rapback.
 - Continuing law requires that each school district hold a public hearing regarding the school calendar at least 30 days before its adoption. Senate Bill (SB) 168 clarifies that the hearing can be part of another public

hearing or board meeting. The board of education does not need to hold a separate, individual hearing on the school calendar. Additionally, Senate Bill (SB) 168 clarifies and requires that the record of proceedings of a board of education meeting be read at the board's next regular meeting, instead of at the next succeeding meeting.

- House Bill (HB) 33, the biennial budget, mandated the date for an intra-district open enrollment to occur and set the date on the second Monday in June. Several school districts hold the lottery earlier in the year. Senate Bill (SB) 168 provides flexibility for a school district to hold the lottery on a different date but requires that the district conduct an intra-district open enrollment lottery *by* the second Monday of June prior to the school year for which a student is seeking enrollment. Senate Bill (SB) 168 also requires that the district notify parents of students who reside in the district of the lottery date before that date and post on the district's website information about the lottery, including how and when it will be conducted.

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

- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *4-day school weeks gain momentum*: More than 60% of districts in Colorado have a four-day schedule to help address teacher shortages and budget issues. The four-day week can help attract and retain teachers when salary increases are not an option. Though, one study showed a “relatively small, negative average” in standardized test scores for reading and math in districts that adopted four-day policies.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *Georgia elementary students turn food waste into compost*: Students in a Georgia elementary school are learning about sustainability through a composting program, in which they collect food waste in the cafeteria and turn the scraps into compost for the school garden.
- OSBA's *Student Success* article – *Leaders claim team-based teaching model is gaining traction*: A team-based model, in which teachers, paraprofessionals, and instructional coaches collaborate, can improve teacher retention and student outcomes.
- OSBA's *Student Success* in-depth – *Opportunities, not poverty alone, predict later-life success for children*: A study of 814 children over more than 26 years, revealed that access to multiple opportunities is more predictive of future success than poverty alone. Opportunities could include travel and visits to aquariums, museums and the library. The study showed that children from low-income households who benefitted from even a few opportunities had better outcomes as young adults, including higher college graduation rates and higher annual salaries.

Superintendent, Randy Griffith, reported on the following:

- The Culinary Arts kitchen project is coming along. Floors are going in at the end of this week. The work in the classroom is mostly complete. Some casework and finishes still need completed. The ceilings are installed in the kitchen. Hopefully, service will reopen by the middle of November.
- The Auto Collision Technology lab will be remodeled over the summer of 2025. The lab space will be renovated to create a more conducive teaching and learning environment. Two new overhead doors will be installed in the back of the lab. They will serve as overhead doors to new paint booths. Vehicles will be painted in the booths and the doors in front of the booths will allow vehicles to be pulled into the lab to dry. Equipment used to provide compressed air in various areas of the building will be moved outside the Auto Collision Technology lab.
- Maplewood will not be moving forward with a building addition this summer. Job postings for instructors of potential programs did not produce any applicants. Mr. Griffith said we cannot build it and hope they will come, with tax payer dollars. As a result, adding new space and programming is on hold.
- Maplewood has been undergoing a special education review by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce. The process has been extremely taxing. At the beginning of the year, Maplewood could not get IEPs from all of the associate schools. Getting supporting services from the associate schools has also been difficult, even though in law it is their responsibility to provide. Mr. Griffith met virtually today with representatives from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce and SST8. There was debate on who was responsible for the 504 plans and who would decide when a student's misconduct is a manifestation of their disability. Representatives from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce said it is ultimately the

associate school's decision on whether a student's misconduct is a manifestation of the student's disability. If the misconduct is ruled a manifestation of the student's disability, Maplewood may not discipline the student for that misconduct. Discussion took place among the Board members and the Superintendent regarding safety and requesting written clarification.

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 September, 2024.
- The expenditures were approved for the month of September, 2024.
- The investments were ratified for the month of September, 2024 and the calendar year 2024.
- The bank reconciliation was ratified for the month of September, 2024.
- Approved transfers and advances for FY2024.
- Approved the FY2025 Five Year Financial Forecast & Assumptions.
- **Informational Items:** Fiscal Year 2024 GAAP Conversion and Fiscal Year 2024 Audit; OSBA Capital Conference, Greater Columbus Convention Center, November 10 – 12, 2024; COSSBA, Consortium of State School Boards Associations, National Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, March 21-23, 2025; Board Pay for Attendance at Approved Training Programs for 2024.

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.
- Approved re-hiring Britt Palmer, Welding Instructor, for the 2024-2025 contract year.
- Approved retroactive payment for Britt Palmer from September 3, 2024 through November 8, 2024.
- Approved employment of certified substitute Emily Resnick for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year.
- Employed security personnel for Christmas in the Woods, November 1-2, 2024.
- Approved the employment and contracts for Frankie Milnes and CJ Nalepa Devine, as Christmas in the Woods Coordinators.
- Approved the grant application: E-Rate Grant for Ohio SchoolNet.
- Accepted one donation.
- Commended staff who worked the Ravenna Balloon-A-Fair booth on September 21, 2024.

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. **(5:48 p.m. – 6:21 p.m.)**

Adjourned: 6:21 p.m.