

## **MINUTES OF THE MARGARETTA BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 22, 2021.**

The Margarettta Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. at Margarettta Elementary School gym. Mr. Miller called the Calendar Review Hearing to order and the following Board members were in attendance: Mr. Schoenegge, Mr. Sutorius, Mr. Warner, Mrs. Yetter, and Mr. Miller. The Margarettta Board of Education convened the public hearing on the school calendar.

Mr. Miller opened the calendar review session up for any public discussion on the proposed 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 school calendar.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter, seconded by Mr. Warner to adjourn the public hearing on the school calendar review portion; Roll call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Miller: aye. The Margarettta Board of Education met in regular session at 6:34 p.m. on Monday, February 22, 2021 at MES Gym 5906 Bogart Road West, Castalia, Ohio.

Mr. Miller, Board President, called the regular meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and forgone the roll call given no one had left.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Motion by Mrs. Yetter seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the minutes from the Special Board Meeting held on Saturday, January 30, 2021 and Special Board Meeting held on Friday, February 19, 2021; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

**Fresch Electric Food Donation** Mr. Kurt introduced Tyghe Windau and Tony Pooch who presented Margarettta with a \$1,000 check for an OhGo donation to support Margarettta's drive thru food pantry events. The food pantry events occur the first Saturday of the month from 9-11 am at the Margarettta Elementary School parent loop.

### **Erie County Sheriff SRO**

Mr. Kurt introduced Matt McPeek, Sheriff Deputy and School Resource Officer (SRO), and introduced Sheriff Paul Sigsworth. Mr. Kurt talked about the SRO's role in the school and the joint relationship. Mr. Kurt also mentioned that we will be utilizing the Erie County and Sandusky County Sheriffs for their expertise on the new security plans for the new facilities.

### **Board and Staff Reports**

#### **Townsend Community School's (TCS) Report**

Mr. Ryan Bohn, TCS Principal, reported that the current TCS student enrollment as of February 15<sup>th</sup> was 785. He also stated that TCS is working closely with Margarettta to complete all the necessary compliance issues in the ODE Settlement agreement and committed to supplying Margarettta with their new detailed 2021-2022 school year Blended Learning plan to Margarettta and ODE by March. TCS will tentatively be bringing the students back in the building March 1, 2021. Mr. Bohn has also started working with Margarettta Transportation Supervisor, Matt Smith on next year's busing plans.

#### **TCS Margarettta Sponsor's Report**

Mr. Steve Keller, Margarettta Compliance Officer, stated that we had our monthly joint sponsor meeting and have been working on the details of the Sponsor contract renewal between TCS and Margarettta. He also stated that we continue to work through all the requirements for the May and June uploads to the ODE Epicenter.

### **Public Participation**

Mrs. Jamie Kennedy addressed the board about the Facebook posts of Mr. Andy Warner and stated that she had communicated through an email to the board and was upset about not receiving a reply. She then stated that she was pleased that Mr. Warner apologized to the paper for the posts, however she was also upset though from a new post over the weekend. She discussed her concerns about the types of posts that are being made on Mr. Warner's private Facebook page.

Then Mrs. Jill Hudgel also spoke about Mr. Warner's posts her disappointment that a board member would post these types of memes and perpetuate hatred.

Mr. Miller responded that we want to move forward from this and stated that under both Ohio law and Board Policy, the individual members of the Board do not speak for or on behalf of the Board, unless they have been expressly authorized to do so by the Board. To date, the Board has never authorized any of its individual members to make posts on social media on its behalf. As such, the Board does not endorse the social commentary or political expressions of its individual members, regardless of their viewpoint, and regardless of whether they are published online, in print, or are made orally. While the members of the Board retain their First Amendment right to free speech during their term of office, they are encouraged to consider the impact that their speech may have on (1) the public's positive perception of the District; and (2) the District's ability to effectively provide a quality education to the community's children. With this in mind, I intend to prepare a statement for the Board's next meeting which expresses a desire for all Board members to promote these two objectives through their words and deeds. In view of the foregoing, I will not pass judgment on the Board's behalf about your hypotheticals concerning the "appropriateness" of online statements made by another Board member (or by students or staff) which do not reflect the views of the Board itself.

### **Introduction of Additional Agenda Items**

No additional items tonight.

### **The Financial Report and Schedule of Bills**

Mrs. Keegan presented the schedule of bills, bank reconciliations, or fund balances, etc., that were included in the Board's packages for review. Mrs. Keegan reminded the board that we are reviewing the January's fiscal year to date results (the seventh month of the fiscal year). She stated that the fiscal year to date revenue is up due to Nexus taxes for the first half taxes of \$2M. The beginning cash balance on July 1, 2020 was \$1.3 million and the first seven months generated a net cash decrease of \$(0.7) million, leaving the final General Fund cash balance of \$562 thousand (which includes the general fund reserve of \$854K). Mrs. Keegan reminded the board that this is the low mark for the general fund given the property taxes will begin to arrive in February for the first half of the years taxes.

### **Treasurer's Report**

#### **Old Business/Informational**

Mrs. Keegan informed the board that she and Mr. Kurt attended an Erie County Auditors meeting and there was discussion about the Nexus pipeline appeals. She informed the board that the year one 2020 tax payment year Nexus appeal was scheduled with the Board of Tax Appeals in early May, 2021. However, the BTA has not had any court hearings this year and is not planning on starting any before the July 2021 time period. She also mentioned that Nexus again in 2021 taxes appealed down to 40% of the billed amount and as of the date of this meeting Nexus had not yet paid their taxes, however we are assuming they will again tender pay (i.e., short pay their taxes to the 40% amount) for the 2021 tax year.

## **Superintendent's Report**

### **New Business**

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge seconded by Mrs. Yetter, on Resolution number 20-21-61, to approve the Community Partnership Memorandum of Understanding with Community Development Institute Head Start for Migrant Seasonal Head Start children for a two year period; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

Mr. Kurt then introduced the discussion of Construction Manager at Risk (CMR) and Owners Rep (OR) Facility Evaluation Committees for the new facility. Mr. Kurt stated that there were discussions for the committee to be made up of Mr. Ed Kurt, Mrs. Diane Keegan, the two Board Members of Mr. Kent Miller and Mr. Brian Sutorius (and alternate Mr. Paul Schoenegge) and community member, Mr. Elmer Lippert with the non-voting attendees from Fanning Howey Architects, Bricker & Eckler Attorneys. With our first meeting scheduled on this Wednesday at 8:00 am. Mr. Tyghe Windau raised concerns with using a CMR and not allowing local contractors to bid on jobs. Mr. Miller reinforced that the board is very interested in allowing local contractors to bid on the new facility and that the board will have a say in the selections and the CMR is required to have an open book with the school.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on Resolution number 20-21-63, to approve the NCOESC agreement to provide Braille services for the remainder of the 2021 school year. Mr. Kurt mentioned that our current district braille machine has been sent away for repairs and in the interim we will contract with NCOESC until the machine is back; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

### **Old Business**

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 School Year Calendars; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

Mr. Kurt reviewed the Facilities project and informed the board that we have been having regular meetings to discuss the layout of the classrooms, technology needs in the building, kitchen layout meeting with Fanning Howey Architects and toured of Bellevue Elementary Kitchen with our kitchen staff. Mr. Kurt also reminded everyone that we are putting information on the new facilities on our Margareta website under community resources and then the new facilities tab.

Mr. Kurt also mentioned that the district is publishing a newsletter that will be available on our Facebook and Margareta website and electronically sent to each parent through final forms in early March. He informed everyone to be on the lookout for the information.

## **Personnel Actions**

### **Certified:**

Motion by Mrs. Yetter seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the following supplementals for the spring 2021 Season: Jim King - HS Boys Assistant Track Coach, Mike Yantz - Volunteer Track Coach; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge and seconded by Mr. Warner, to accept the resignation for retirement from the following: Garry Denman - 35.5 Years, Cynthia Hedden - 33.5 Years, James King - 32 Years, Angela Tucker - 32 Years, Timothy Volzer - 31 Years, Michael Yantz - 32 Years. Mr. Kurt stated that the above employees have contributed a total of 190 years of teaching to Margareta; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Miller: aye with great thanks.

Classified

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Sutorius to accept the resignation of Katlyn Canada, Girls Junior High Track Coach; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge seconded by Mrs. Yetter, to approve the hiring of Lucinda Kapler, Substitute Custodian, for the 2020/2021 school year.; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the following supplemental positions for the spring 2021 season: Kory Herman - Girls JH Track Coach; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve Barb Bouy - Volunteer Assistant Track Coach and Brian Stimmel - Volunteer Track Coach; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius seconded by Mrs. Yetter to accept the resignation of Margaret (Peggy) Young, (7 years) special educational aide, at the end of the 2020/2021 school year; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye with great thanks.

Motion by Mr. Yetter and seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve Brad Hoffman, Robotics Coach, replacing Justin Liskia effective February 17, 2021 for the 2021 Season; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius and seconded by Mrs. Yetter, to approve Brad Hoffman, MES Educational / Computer Aide, effective February 17, 2021 for the remaining of the 2020-2021 school year; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius seconded by Mrs. Yetter, to enter Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion or compensation of public employees; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:18 p.m. with Mrs. Keegan and Mr. Kurt remaining in the Executive Session.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge and seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to return to open session; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to adjourn the meeting having no further business to come before the Board; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Miller: aye.

Adjourning at 8:15 p.m.

The next regular BOE meeting for the Organizational Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, March 15, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at the Margareta Elementary School (MES) Gym, 5906 Bogart Road West, Castalia, Ohio.

Respectfully Submitted

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Kent Miller  
Board President

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Diane Keegan  
Treasurer