

**MINUTES OF THE MARGARETTA BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) REGULAR MEETING OF April 16, 2018.**

The Margarettta Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday April 16, 2018 at the Administrative Offices.

Mr. Warner called the meeting to order with roll call:

Mr. Miller:	present,
Mr. Schoenegge:	present,
Mr. Sutorius:	present,
Mrs. Yetter:	present,
Mr. Warner:	present.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2018 Special BOE Meeting; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Warner: aye.

The Financial Report and Schedule of Bills

Mrs. Keegan mentioned that the financial reports in the agenda reflect the ninth month of the fiscal year. In March, the District's General Fund revenue was down \$262,259 compared to last year and expenditures were up \$630,222 compared to last year. The primary reason for the revenue being less than last year is the continual phase out of tangible personal property taxes and reduction in state financial aid dollars. We began the fiscal school year with a cash balance of \$2.473M and at this pace Mrs. Keegan is predicting to end the school year at less than \$1.5M.

Board and Staff Reports:

Pete Bartkowiak gave an update on Townsend Community School (TCS). He stated that Townsend has enrolled 75 new students this month compared to the entire month of April last year at 49 new students. Mr. Bartkowiak stated that testing has begun and the Townsend graduation is scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at the State Theatre.

Mr. Hammond gave his TCS Sponsor report covering Margarettta's TCS Needs Assessment as follows: 1). Academic Performance - TCS has changed their curriculum, therefore we need to assess that the new curriculum meets all standards. Mr. Hammond also talked about student/teacher safety and the safety walk through. 2). Financial Performance - the previous year FTE (Full Time Equivalent) audit to the actual FTE, has required TCS to pay back \$2.9M over 5 years and with the current year FTE calculations at approximately 88%, it would require TCS to pay back approximately \$1.1M. The beginning Fiscal Year cash balance

was \$1.5M, which causes the Sponsor to have concerns with the known pay back amounts for the two periods that were referenced above. 3). Legal Compliance Assessment and 4). Organization and Operation Assessment - Margaretta is soliciting ODE's review of the validity of having TCS facilities outside of the Margaretta School District (i.e., the new Marion location, etc.) and the Sponsor has also raised concerns about the stand alone, homegrown TCS XD software (that is used to capture student data/reporting for EMIS requirements) and potential concern of having only one knowledgeable IT person that understands the software.

#### Public Participation:

There was a multitude of people speaking on the supposition that there would be a reduction of the preschool program due to Perkins Schools pulling their special Ed. children out of the Margaretta preschool. There are currently 2 preschool teachers and a total of 4 half day classes. The following people spoke and a short synopsis of their comments:

- Mrs. Peggy Young stated that she was saddened this evening about what she heard about cutting the preschool program due to Perkins pulling out of Margaretta's program. She stated: 1). this is more than a babysitting service, 2). we should be proud of our Step Up to Quality accomplishments, 3). without preschool, you will need more intervention later, 4). Mentioned the long waiting list for Margaretta preschool, 5). Margaretta's District Mission statement is focused on academic achievement, then why cutting preschool, 6). School seems to be focused sports and it was very important to fix the wind damaged stadium.
- Ms. Ashley Shortridge, who is a Perkin's kindergarten teacher, stated the following: 1). Cost of servicing Special Ed. students goes up every year when not addressed at young ages, 2). The main reason behind the IDEA program is to enhance toddlers and early education Special Ed. Children that are in need of services, 3). Her child was nonverbal when entering preschool and at risk and he had great improvement through the program, 4). Ms. Karyn Barnette (Margaretta preschool teacher) is great at helping the Special Ed. Students, she is dependable, motivated, and one of the best teachers, 5). She believes Perkins has realized the need is high for an in-house preschool and the benefits for kindergarteners, so they are bringing it back in house.
- Ms. Julie Geiger, who is a Services Coordinator at Erie County Board of Developmental Disabilities with 30 years of experience, then spoke. She handles children from birth to 3 years old and transitioning them to preschool. She stated that she has an amazing working relationship with Margaretta and highlighted the caliber of

- Margaretta's preschool. She commented with the heroin epidemic that the numbers of children that need intervention and more center based preschools is growing expedientially.
- Ms. Damata Mautz, who came here from California, stated that her son has been in the preschool program. He started out nonverbal and after center-based preschool, he is reading at a third grade level. She stated that Ms. Karyn's IEP was amazing, and leaving her son with Ms. Karyn is like leaving them with their parent.
  - Ty stated that his son started at Playland and Kathy Hall noticed his son's needs and recommended placing him into Margaretta's center-based preschool program. He felt that his son's improvement was tremendous once he was placed at Margaretta.
  - Ms. Sara Smith stated that her child was diagnosed with high functioning autism and she would have never known that without the help of the school. Her child went from a fulltime aide to a part time aide and went on an IEP in January and by May was communicating to her.
  - Mr. Andrew Yetter stated he had children in 4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, preschool and a future preschooler. His first child went to North Point preschool, and the next ones went to Margaretta's preschool and he stated that his kindergartener was way ahead of his older son. He also stated that after 2 years of help his child went from not speaking to talking all the time. He also praised the preschool program.
  - Ms. Lynn Yetter stated her grandson has made huge improvements since Margaretta's preschool; talking in full sentences. She stated that it's important to put the children's education in front of sports, given most won't go onto sports after high school. She stated that she volunteers at the school and feels that there are a lot of extra people employed that are not needed and to cut there.
  - Ms. Courtney Fitzgerald stated that she has had her oldest in St. Stephens preschool and her 2<sup>nd</sup> child went to Margaretta's preschool and that both children were doing the same level of work. She stated that IEP and Help Me Grow identified children cannot go to Playland. She stated that education should not be taken away at this age.
  - Ms. Sandy Kennedy stated Margaretta preschool will teach them to the Margaretta curriculum and that will help them in later grades. She asked why build new facilities and then ask these same parents and grandparents to support the new buildings. She asked why we have Perkin's children when Margaretta has a waiting list for preschool. Mrs. Keegan explained that the Perkin's children are all IEP students and they help to fill the IEP slots, so we are able to offer more Margaretta

- 'typical' students slots (given there has to be a proportionate number of 'typical' to IEP students). She asked if the Board was looking at the ratio of administrators to students and if Margaretta is at the right levels.
- Ms. Shannon Brammel asked if we could screen all preschoolers to see if there are more IEP students out there.
  - Ms. Susan Miller, preschool teacher, brought a handout on preschool statistics and the benefits for preschool programs, which referenced that \$1 of preschool cost would equal approximately \$2.50-\$17 of return on investment.
  - Mr. Mike Young stated that people are going to ask, 'why can't I send my child to preschool, but we can have a new stadium?' Mr. Mock explained that the improvements at the stadium are being funded partially by the insurance money from the tornado damage and also from the permanent improvement (PI) fund. Mr. Mock explained that the PI dollars are required to be separated from the general fund money and you cannot use PI dollars to fund the General Fund expenses. The PI can only fund capital type projects and not wages and benefits, which has to be funded by the general fund. The issue is that the general fund is in a deficit situation and Ohio Department of Education (ODE) is requiring cuts to be made to eliminate the general fund deficit. Mrs. Keegan also stated that if we keep all four preschool classes, with the lost of Perkin's cost sharing, that it will result in increased cost for the district next year versus this year. Therefore if we keep all four half day preschool classes, we will need to find more cost cutting measures elsewhere to offset the increase costs in preschool. At the end of the day, ODE is expecting Margaretta to make reductions that will net approximately \$300,000 of savings next year versus our cost this year.
  - Mr. Mock then asked Mr. Hammond and Mrs. Kathy Hall to speak. Mr. Hammond stated that he and the board understand the importance of early intervention and understand all the benefits for the students in Margaretta preschool program and we are exploring all the options with the changes that are occurring in the makeup of the classes. Mrs. Hall than reiterated the positive things about the preschool program and referenced the statistic of the \$17 return.

Introduction of Additional Items to the Agenda:

Mr. Mock requested to add Toby Miller as a Summer Worker under Personnel Actions, Classified Staff, item number IX.A.4. and IX.C.5. for the calamity makeup days, with a signed MOU, to be professional development days and no student instructional days.

Mrs. Keegan requested to add under her report Resolution number 17-18-63 to approve an expenditure that requires Board action under the conditions of a "then and now" statute and item number VIII.5. OAPSE MOU for student transportation.

Treasurer's Report:

New Business:

Mrs. Keegan mentioned, as background for the below resolutions, that we need to participate with the Ohio School Council (OSC) to participate in their established insurance rates with Grady Benefits for life and AD&D coverage, which is required to change from the current carrier Humana. Mrs. Keegan mentioned that she explained Margaretta's current future deficit with the OSC representative and she has given us a waiver for the month of May and June 2018 and if OSC does not get us savings greater than the membership cost, they will refund us the cost at the end of the school year. Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve Board Resolution number 17-18-57 to authorize the establishment of a membership in the Ohio School Council effective May 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019; Roll call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve Board Resolution number 17-18-58, to approve a contract with Grady Benefits to provide life and disability insurance (Option 1) for eligible Margaretta employees beginning May 1, 2018; Roll call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve Board Resolution number 17-18-59, to approve an agreement with North Point Educational Services Center (ESC) for cooperative education services for the 2018-2019 School Year; Roll call: Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve Board Resolution number 17-18-63, for expenditures that have exceeded the \$3,000 threshold requiring Board action under the statutory conditions prescribed in Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(d); Roll call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the OAPSE MOU for the transportation of a special needs student (pending the OAPSE approval, with the vote scheduled for Thursday April 19, 2018); Roll call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Superintendent's Report:

New Business:

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, Board Resolution number 17-18-60, to approve the 2018 Senior Class for graduation pending the completion of all state and local requirements; Roll call: Mrs. Yetter: abstain, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the Board Resolution number 17-18-61, to approve a multi-agreement contract with the Educational Services Center (ESC) of Lorain County for the 2018-2019 school year; Roll Call: Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve Board Resolution number 17-18-62, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Tiffin University to create a dual enrollment relationship for College Credit Plus for the 2018-2019 school year; Roll call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Personnel Actions:

Classified Staff:

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve Toby Miller-summer worker starting May 1, 2018; Roll call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: abstain, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Old Business:

Mr. Mock presented the second reading of Neola Policies (number 4121, 4162, 5111, 5112, 7530, 7530.02, 7542, 7543, 8400, 8600.04, 9141). He stated that any updates or changes should be communicated to Mr. Mock.

Mr. Mock gave a quick stadium update that Mrs. Keegan is continuing to work with the insurance adjuster for settlements for the storm damage and received the boring sample results and waiting on final drawings to send the foundation work out for bid.

Mr. Mock gave a prom update, that it is no longer going to be outside in a tent and the dance is scheduled for the elementary gym and the after prom is in the high school gym. Mr. Warner asked why the board found out about the prom being in a tent outside at the last board meeting and not made aware sooner. Mr. Mock said it will come to the Board sooner in the future years.

Mr. Mock then gave a facility update that he is scheduling a visit to Willard, Bellevue and Mohawk for next week.

Mr. Mock updated the BOE on the three calamity makeup days, that the union has requested for the three days to be professional development days and no student instructional days. He will be getting a MOU drafted and signed with the union. Students last day would then be June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Informational Items/Correspondence:

Mrs. Keegan informed the Board that she could represent the new BOE members as their designee at the OASBO conference for the Public Records and Open Public Meeting training in Columbus.

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

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:52 with the following in attendance, Mr. Mock and Mrs. Keegan.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter, seconded by Mr. Miller to return from Executive Session; Roll call: Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:28 p.m.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Andy Warner  
President

Diane Keegan  
Treasurer