

MINUTES OF THE MARGARETTA BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 26, 2023.

Margaretta Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 26, 2023 at the Margaretta Board of Education, 305 S. Washington Street, Castalia, Ohio.

Regular Board Meeting

Mr. Sutorius, Board President, then called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. requesting roll call by Mrs. Keegan:

Mr. Schoenegge:	Present
Mrs. Tucker:	Present
Mr. Warner:	Present
Mr. Sutorius:	Present

Mr. Hula was excused from the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited after roll call.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion by Mrs. Tucker, and seconded by Mr. Warner, to approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held on May 25, 2023 and the Special District Update Meeting held on June 20, 2023; Roll Call: Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Board and Staff Reports

Townsend Community School's (TCS) Report and TCS Margaretta Sponsor's Report

Mr. Ryan Bohn, TCS Principal and Superintendent, was excused from the meeting and Mr. Kurt gave the TCS update that they have graduated 97 students for this school year. The current enrollment is at 487 students as of June 26, 2023. Mr. Kurt also talked about the TCS remodeling being approximately 1/3 complete and on schedule. He also mentioned that they just had an FTE review and will be receiving the final outcome and report soon.

Mr. Steve Keller, TCS Compliance Officer, stated that we had our monthly TCS/Margaretta meeting to review current events. He also stated that Margaretta with TCS' support has completed the site visit and just needs to upload the results of that review. Mr. Keller also thanked the board for their support in his previous Assistant Principal and this TCS Compliance Officer roles and he stated that he is excited to get back in the classroom as a CBI teacher and to be in a position to help his father in his lawn care business in the summer with the new teaching position.

Public Participation

Mr. Gary Smith asked if we have received any update from the state on our state share funding of 38% of the new facility project and if it will increase with inflationary factors. Mrs. Keegan stated that we have not had any updates since the question was posed by Mr. Smith at the May board meeting. Mrs. Keegan stated again that OFCC verbally stated that they understand what is causing our delay and understands that our costs have gone up, but have not made any written responses to our questions. Mrs. Keegan also stated that we probably won't get an OFCC response until we have the CMR, Mosser, recalculate the GMP (Guaranteed Maximum Price), which won't happen until the project is taken off of pause.

Mr. Tim Tucker thanked the board for allowing him to coach the track team and stated that he loves coaching and the boys program is definitely improving and the girls program should remain strong for the upcoming years as well. Mr. Tucker also asked the board to consider to increase the number of track coaching staff to the same level as football coaching staff, given they have just as many participants and so many specialized events that need their own coaches. He stated that if it weren't for all the volunteers, it would be extremely difficult to support all the kids in field events. Mr. Sutorius thanked both Mr. and Mrs. Tucker for stepping up and helping out the track program these last few years.

Introduction of Additional Items to the Agenda

Mr. Kurt stated that we had the following additional items and changes:

1. Deletion/Strike out Mollie Biehl items IX.Certified.3
2. Addition IX.Certified.5. Accept Mollie Biehl resignation
3. Addition IX.Certified.6. Hire Kelsey Fresch as 7th grade class advisor

The Treasurer's Financial Report and Schedule of Bills

Mrs. Keegan presented the schedule of bills, month end reports, bank reconciliations for last 3 months, fund balances, etc., that were included in the Board's packages for review. Mrs. Keegan stated that the total operating revenue through May results (with 11 of the 12 months in the fiscal year completed) was a total of \$16.2M and with the transfer of the New Facility Reserve transferred back to the general fund increased the total revenue to \$19.3M and operational expenses of \$14.0M and including the transfers out, grand total expenses were \$18.1M resulting in an increase to the general fund balance of \$1,143,160. The beginning cash balance in the total general fund as of July 1, 2022 was \$631,329 and the eleven months into the fiscal year generated a final General Fund cash balance of \$1,774,488. Operating Revenue was down \$1.2M due to Nexus payments of 66% and the 40%. The expenses have increased \$298K in wages, \$39K in purchased services, and \$93K in supplies with benefits down \$39K year over year. Mrs. Keegan also mentioned that the food service account after eleven months into the fiscal year that they are a positive cash balance of \$148,770, which is the first time since she has been at the district (2017) that we did not have to transfer and subsidize the food service account from the general funds. She also stated that it has been a good year for the Food Service program. Mrs. Keegan informed the board that at the direction of Mrs. Carrie Keller, we have: implemented the food share table at both buildings to help feed kids and reduce food waste; we had themed days where we partnered with our local business, Village Pizza House, to have a pizza day; we are working on a grant that if received, we would be able to get new cafeteria furniture at the high school that is more contusive for that aged student; we have brought back the salad bar; changed up the menu based on feedback from the students; and worked very hard at collecting and keeping negative lunch balances down. She also stated that the positive balance was maintained even with one-time extraordinary costs of new equipment of \$18,855 and severance payouts of \$14,773 that are nonrecurring. In addition, this was the first year that we went back to parents having to pay for lunches again (with the end of the free lunches for all students at the end of last school year in June 2022). Mrs. Keegan stated with all those negative things happening this 2022-2023 school year and still end with a positive balance and not requiring any general fund subsidy, is great news for the District.

Treasurer's Report

New Business

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, on Resolution number 22-23-91, to approve the Shared Preschool Itinerant Services contract with Vermilion School District to share a Special Education teacher for the 2022-23 School Year. Mrs. Keegan explained that this agreement was needed given one of our yearlong students who moved out of our district to Vermilion, so Vermilion schools agreed to do this agreement for the continuity of the student's education; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Warner, on Resolution number 22-23-92, to authorize the Treasurer to make Inter-Fund Transfers of funds for the current fiscal year 2023. Mrs. Keegan stated that this resolution was needed to clean up negative balances in the federal grant accounts for yearend; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mrs. Tucker, on Resolution number 22-23-93, to adopt a Temporary Appropriation measure as proposed for the 2024 Fiscal Year commencing with expenses incurred beginning July 1, 2023; Roll Call: Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge seconded by Mr. Warner, on Resolution number 22-23-94, to authorize the Treasurer to make the proposed budget modifications and supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year 2023; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Tucker seconded by Mr. Warner, on Resolution number 22-23-95, to approve expenditures that have exceeded the \$3,000 threshold of the "then and now" provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(d); Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Superintendent's Report

New Business

Motion by Mr. Warner and seconded by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the renewal of the OAPSE MOU to utilize a third party transportation services for transportation of Margareta PEP student for the 2023-2024 school year; Roll Call: Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Personnel Actions

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge seconded by Mr. Warner, to approve FMLA and unpaid leave requests; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Certified

Motion by Mrs. Tucker seconded by Mr. Warner, to approve the extended days, as needed at the discretion of the supervisor, but not to exceed 5 days for the 2023-2024 school year: Literacy: Heather Campana, MS/HS Assistant Principal: Mike Robert; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge seconded by Mrs. Tucker, to retroactively approve Teal Balduff (mentoring Jessalyn Vogt) Mentor for the 2022-2023 School Year (SY); Roll Call: Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Tucker seconded by Mr. Warner, to hire the following Supplemental Positions for the 2023-2024 SY: Lead Mentor - Marnie Hallett-Szymanski, ~~Resident Educator - Mollie Biehl~~; High School Play/Hourglass: 1 Play - Amanda Zust & Logan Harris; Music Directors: Marching Band - Adam Reardon, Assistant Band - Amanda Reardon; Pep Band - Adam Reardon, Vocal Music - Amanda Reardon; Yearbook Advisor - Mykenzi Greenler; Class Advisors: Seniors-Marnie Hallett-Szymanski, Juniors - Courtney Gysan, Sophomores - Mykenzi Greenler, Freshmen - Melissa Depinet, 8th Grade - Katie Berg, 8th Grade Trip - Kim Miller, ~~7th Grade - Mollie Biehl~~, 6th Grade - Chris Smith; Department Chairs: Electives - Kevin Kremer, ~~Intervention Specialist - Mollie Biehl~~, Science - Lindsey Miller, Math - Katie Berg, English Language Arts - Sara Weller, Social Studies - Marnie Hallett-Szymanski; Hourly Pay Responsibilities: Adult Education FFA - Kevin Kremer; Club Advisors: SADD - Kim Miller, Varsity M - Lauren Drossman, National Honor Society - Jamie Drossman, Student Gov't - Marnie Hallett-Szymanski; Academic Challenge: HS - Sara Weller & Mark Novak, 7th/8th - Sara Weller & Jenna Kline, 5th/6th - Jen Coffman & Dana Belak. Mrs. Tucker asked if the 8th Grade DC trip would just be the 8th graders or if it would include the 9th graders, given they were not able to participate last year. Mr. Kurt stated that Dr. Theis is looking into that and will let us know if that is feasible. Mrs. Keegan also stated that Dr. Theis is looking at the possibility of a 6th grade trip to replace the previous Mohican trip that is no longer available for the kids, so more to come on that as well.; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the combined football positions for Freshman, Assistant Freshman and Assistant Varsity Coach for the fall of 2023 as follows: Conar Burns, Luke Weyer, and Brian Kingsborough (each at 27%) and Jason Ziegler (at 19%); Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mrs. Tucker, to accept the resignation of Mollie Biehl, Intervention Specialist effective at the end of current teacher contract year; Roll Call: Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge seconded by Mrs. Tucker, to hire Kelsey Fresch as the 7th grade class advisor for the 2023-2024 school year; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Classified

Motion by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mrs. Tucker, to approve the retirement of Don Adams, Head Fleet Mechanic, effective July 31, 2023. Mr. Kurt stated that he has worked with Don both times he was here and congratulated him on his 30 years of service to the District. Mr. Kurt also stated that Don has saved this district significant costs through preventative maintenance and performing the bus maintenance onsite. Mrs. Karen Keller seconded Mr. Kurt's comments and stated that he was a huge asset in the bus garage; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to hire Henry Brisker, Bus Driver for the 2023-2024 school year, pending all state and local requirements are met; Roll Call: Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Tucker seconded by Mr. Warner, to approve Joann Rutger, Kitchen Helper for a one-year contract for the 2023-2024 school year; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to hire the following kitchen substitutes for the 2023-2024 school year, pending all state and local requirements are met: Roberta Crum, Shari LaMarca, Stephanie Mayse and Rebecca Lorenz; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mrs. Tucker, to hire the following Football Supplemental Positions for the 2023 fall season, pending all state and local requirements are met: Darren Michel - 8th Grade Coach, Mike Sabo - 7th Grade Coach, Scott Bauer - 8th Grade Assistant Coach, Jim Bodey & Todd Moore - 7th Grade Assistant Coach (50-50 split); Roll Call: Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Tucker seconded by Mr. Warner, to approve Darren Draper, Volunteer Assistant JH Football Coach, for the 2023 fall season, pending all state and local requirements are met; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Mr. Kurt then went over several informational items as follows:

- He reminded the board that the district will be on split times and two bus routes with the MES day being from 8:40 to 3:30 and the MS/HS times being 7:35 to 2:38 and due to this, Margaretta will offer a morning program where parents can drop off their elementary children from 7:30 to 8:40, when school starts, for \$3 per day. The district ran a survey to understand the level of interest and we have approximately 37 students on average each day of the week interested.
- Margaretta's Amicus brief that is being sent to the Supreme Court by June 30th, in support of upholding the Tax Commissioner's Nexus Tax Settlement and dismissing Lorain County Snodgrass' appeal. We are anticipating 2 schools and 8 county auditors to sign in support of our brief as well. Mr. Kurt also stated that it was encouraging that the Association of Ohio Businesses also wrote their own Amicus brief to support the dismissal of this appeal, in comparison, no one has submitted an Amicus brief in support of Lorain County Snodgrass' appeal, which is encouraging as well.
- Mr. Kurt stated that there is a committee of administrators and teachers that are looking at our extracurricular Drug, tobacco, vaping student discipline policy for violations. He stated that currently vaping carries the same punishment as illegal drug use and they are considering a reduction of the time suspended from extracurricular participation for a vaping violation.
- Mr. Kurt also informed the board that after the last wind storm we have 16-20 tress down on the FFA land and around by the pond that are a safety concern. We have been able to get a quote and a quick turnaround for the work from Jarrett's Tree Service for a total of \$10,250 and given the unavailability of other services, is recommending to use them for this clean up activity.
- Mr. Kurt asked the board to pencil in July 7th as a potential special board meeting to hire a replacement Intervention Specialist for the 2023-2024 school year, given we are very late in the hiring process want to get this approved asap.

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mrs. Tucker, to enter Executive Session. Motion to move into Executive Session under R.C. 121.22(G)(5) for discussion of matters required to be kept confidential by state statutes; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mrs. Tucker: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. with Mrs. Keegan, and Mr. Kurt remaining in the Executive Session.

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

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

Adjourning at 8:00 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting will be Monday, July 17, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Margaretta Board of Education, 305 S. Washington Street Castalia, Ohio.

Respectfully Submitted

Brian Sutorius
Board President

Diane Keegan
Treasurer