

MINUTES OF THE MARGARETTA BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 4, 2020.

The Margarettta Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, August 4, 2020 (for the July meeting) at MES Gym 5906 Bogart Road West, Castalia, Ohio.

Mr. Warner called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. requesting roll call by Mrs. Keegan:

Mr. Miller:	Present
Mr. Schoenegge:	Present
Mr. Sutorius:	Present
Mrs. Yetter:	Present
Mr. Warner:	Present.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion by Mrs. Yetter seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the minutes from the Regular BOE Meeting held on Monday, June 29, 2020 and special work session meeting on Tuesday, July 28, 2020; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Board and Staff Reports

Townsend Community School's (TCS) Report

Mr. Ryan Bohn, TCS Principal, gave a report out of the current information on TCS (402 graduates for 2019-2020 SY, focus on the six county radius of students, staff reduction from 70 to 30, transitioning to DASL, transitioning the curriculum from VLA to Jefferson County ESC, estimating 500-750 students this upcoming year, etc.). Mr. Bohn also stated that TCS will begin the school year utilizing a Remote Learning Plan, with two options of full online courses or a paper-based version of learning. Mr. Bohn also stated that their school year begins on August 31, 2020.

TCS Margarettta Sponsor's Report

Mr. Steve Keller, Margarettta's Compliance Officer was excused from attending this month. Mrs. Keegan communicated to the board the content of the monthly TCS/Margarettta meeting and that we reviewed and distributed the June, 2020 financial analysis. She also reminded the board that we are still awaiting a counter proposal from ODE for the TCS settlement agreement.

Public Participation

Mrs. Kim Miller asked if there were any decisions made on the DC trip and similar events. Mr. Kurt said that it will be evaluated after the first of the year, at which time we will look at the current facts and make factual decisions.

Mr. Jim Hultgren also asked, later on in the meeting, if we will be addressing connectivity issues for students whose households do not have internet or the bandwidth needed. Mr. Kurt reassured him that the District is addressing that issue for the families that are in need.

Introduction of Additional Agenda Items

No additional items required.

The Financial Report and Schedule of Bills

Mrs. Keegan asked if there were any questions on 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 June 30th results are the end of the fiscal year; therefore the reports reflect twelve months (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020). She then reviewed the financial report that compares this fiscal year results to last fiscal year for the twelve months. Mrs. Keegan stated that the District's General Fund revenue was favorable for this fiscal year by approximately \$2M (\$15M last year versus this year at \$17M), which was primarily driven by the incremental Nexus taxes. Last year's expenditures at the end of June were \$15.7M and this year the total expenditures were \$15.2M (normalized for the Nexus transfer) favorable from the overall expenditures of \$0.5M. The wages and benefits are favorable approximately \$185 thousand and purchased services that are favorable by approximately \$229 thousand, due to budgetary cuts that occurred in June 2019. Given it was the end of the fiscal year, she reflected back over the last five years, stating that the district revenues have been extremely flat at a range of \$15.5 to \$15.0 million (taking out the anomaly of the Nexus incremental taxes) for the five year period. While the five years, even with the last two years of budget cuts, has seen a flat to a slight increase in our costs, due to economic factors. She also stated that even with the budget cuts and roll over union contracts, that we have spent more money than we have received in revenue. This has created four consecutive years of deficit spending (excluding the Nexus revenue for this year, to keep it on a comparable basis). The last year of positive revenues higher than our spending was in the 2015-2016 school year. She stated that we ended the fiscal year with a cash balance of \$1.3M in the general fund.

Treasurer's Report

Additional Information

Mrs. Keegan informed the board that the first-round ruling on the Nexus appeal, upheld the Department of Taxations valuation, which for Margareta would generate a first year taxes of approximately \$8M. However she cautioned everyone that Nexus has 60 days to appeal this ruling to the Board of Tax Appeal (BTA) and it is highly likely that Nexus will. She also reminded the board that Nexus' appeal if won, would reduce our taxes to approximately \$3M instead of the \$8M. If they do not win at the BTA level, Nexus could appeal it up to the Ohio Supreme Court. Mr. Kurt also reminded us the importance of passing the renewal tax levy when it comes up, given we have to maintain the level of the current taxes. If the overall millage goes down, then Nexus will also pay less in overall taxes. Mrs. Keegan stated that we will continue to monitor the status and continue our involvement in the Pipeline Coalition to actively have a voice in the issue.

Mrs. Keegan stated that there are state budget cuts pending and will keep everyone informed on the status. However Mrs. Keegan gave a positive update on the CARES Act funding, with the first round in May that generated approximately \$121 thousand dollars. The district used the funds for a portion of the cost to give each student their own Chrome book for in class or online remote learning. She also informed the board that we will be receiving an additional amount of \$62,043 to be used for incremental costs that are incurred due to COVID-19 related issues.

New Business

Motion by Mr. Sutorius seconded by Mrs. Yetter, on Resolution number 20-21-02, to approve the renewal of a contract with Johnson Control Fire Protection LP for the purpose of providing fire alarm inspection services to the District for the 2020-2021 School Year; Roll call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on Resolution number 20-21-03, to approve the renewal of a contract with the North Central Ohio Educational Services Center (NCOESC) for the purpose of providing the District with ESY services for the visually impaired for the for the period of June 1, 2020 to August 4, 2020; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on Resolution number 20-21-04, to authorize the Treasurer to purchase and award one school bus based on the bids received to Cardinal; Roll Call: Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius seconded by Mrs. Yetter, on resolution number 20-21-05, to authorize the Treasurer to make the proposed Inter-Fund Return of an Advance of funds for fiscal year 2020-2021; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, on resolution number 20-21-06, to authorize STRS for employer pickup of employee contributions; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve the deficit recovery plan to fulfill the ODE requirement to develop a recovery strategy if the tax renewal does not pass which will force the district into a deficit. Mrs. Keegan explained that the proposed deficit recovery plan would just require us to not transfer as much of the Nexus dollars to the Facility and Capital Improvement Reserve to cover the General Fund potential shortfall; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Superintendent's Report

New Business

Motion by Mrs. Yetter seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the 2020-2021 Calendar adjustments, to add two additional Professional Development (PD) days in August and eliminate two student days on December 21st and 22nd, extending Christmas break. Mr. Kurt stated that the two additional PD days are to enhance the remote learning initiative and it will be a synchronous and an A-synchronous training days. Mr. Kurt also stated that he is very proud of the efforts across the entire District to help make this remote learning more robust than last spring; Roll Call: Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on resolution number 20-21-07, to adopt the contract with the Northern Buckeye Education Council (NBEC) to provide the District with the Northwest Ohio Virtual Academy (NOVA) educational services for 100% remote learning students for the 2020-2021 School Year. Mr. Kurt stated that the NOVA option

is for parents that want to stay 100% remote and this will allow the students to still stay tied to the District for a smooth transition back to the in class option. There was also a discussion with Mrs. Vicki Myers about the teacher of record; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on resolution number 20-21-08, to adopt Remote Learning option for the 2020-2021 School Year. Mr. Kurt reminded the Board that they previously approved the Blended Learning Resolution and that now we are recommending to rescind the blended learning resolution and replace it with this resolution for remote learning; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve new Face Coverings Board Policy for the 2020-2021 School Year. Mr. Warner ask if there was any discussion, Mrs. Kim Miller asked if they recommend shields and would they be available and Mr. Kurt said yes they will be available and they recommend to use a mask or a shield and can use both. Mrs. Beth Burkett also informed us that Governor DeWine stated today that K-12 are required to wear a mask for school.; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the MTA MOU to prorate the supplemental contracts into three trigger points of earning the supplemental payment (i.e., when hired, halfway point, and completion of full duties) for the 2020-2021 School Year; Roll Call: Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Old Business

Mr. Kurt gave an update on the restart/reopening plans for school. He stated that we will follow the recommendations of the Health Departments. He spoke about having regular meetings with Pete Schade, at the Erie County Health Department and the local superintendents about the reopening. He stated that having initial time in front of our students and with the teachers to get their Chrome book and learn how to use the Google platform from home is imperative. Mr. Kurt stated that he is very proud and impressed with the staff. He stated that he will continue to record videos and put them on the Margareta website and our Facebook page to keep the parents informed

Mr. Kurt then introduced the second reading of the following Handbooks: Polar Cubs Preschool Parent Handbook 2020-2021 School Year (SY), Margareta Elementary School Student Handbook 2020-2021 SY, Margareta Elementary School Staff Handbook 2020-2021 SY, Margareta Middle School/High School Student Handbook 2020-2021 SY, Margareta Middle School/High School Staff Handbook 2020-2021 SY, Margareta Athletic Handbook for 2020-2021 SY. He also stated that the MS/HS Student and Faculty Handbooks have been updated with an appendix for the one-to-one Chrome books and he has asked the other administrators to do the same.

Mr. Kurt then introduced the second reading of the Attendance board policy po5200 and Academic Acceleration Policy (included for review).

Personnel Actions

Certified:

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mrs. Yetter Motion to approve the following Supplemental Contracts for the 2020/2021 SY: Music: Band Director – Adam Reardon, Assistant Band Director – Amanda Reardon, Vocal Music Director – Amanda Reardon. Special Responsibilities: Preschool Coordinator - Susan Miller, Medicaid Services Provider - Tranette Novak, Medicaid Services Provider - Tela Yetter, Publications: HS Newspaper - Lisa Wurzel, Unit Leaders: Special Education Unit Leader - Erica Grahl, Kindergarten - Sarah Lochotzki, First Grade - Beth Burkett, Second Grade - Amy Didion, Third Grade - Kristy Jensen, Fourth Grade - Tonya Foos, Fifth Grade - Jen Coffman, Department Chairpersons: English – Lisa Wurzel, Math – Vicki Myers, Science – Jim King, Social Studies – Steve Gravenhorst, Miscellaneous: Lead Mentor – Marnie Szymanski, Resident Educator - Ann Streaun, Resident Educator - Teal Balduff, Resident Educator - Jessica Tamar, LPDC - Ann Ball, LPDC - Danielle Comparette, LPDC -Teal Balduff, Hourly Pay Responsibilities: FFA Adult Education – Kevin Kremer Detention Supervisor – Mark Novak, CCP: College Credit Plus Teacher - Lauren Drossman; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve extended days, as needed at the discretion of the supervisor, but not to exceed, for the 2020/2021 school year: Tranette Novak - Not to exceed 10 extended days for Speech Services, Susan Miller - Not to exceed 5 extended days for PK Step-Up-To-Quality, Alison Butler - 25 Days for VoAg, Kevin Kremer - 45 Days for VoAg, Heather Lott - Minimum of 10 Days, but not to exceed 15 days for Counseling, Adam Reardon - 9 Days for Band, Amanda Reardon - 6 Days for Choir, Heather Wiley - 5 Days for Counseling; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Sutorius to approve the following coaching supplementals for the 2020/2021 fall season, effective August 1, 2020: Girls Golf: Christine Smith - Head Coach, Cross Country: Mike Yantz - Head Coach, Jim King - Varsity Assistant Coach, Matt Schwan - JH Coach, Cheerleading: Lauren Drossman-Martin - Head Coach, Jamie Drossman - Volunteer Coach, Football: Todd Polk - Head Coach, Steve Gravenhorst - Assistant Coach, Trey Gluth - Assistant Coach, Steve Hofacker - Assistant Coach, Mike Raifsnider - Assistant Coach, Luke Weyer - Assistant Coach, Keven Wise - Volunteer Assistant Coach; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the hiring of Kevin Johnson, Curriculum Director and Overseeing Testing for the 2020-2021 SY, pending all necessary pre-employment requirements are met; Roll Call: Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Classified

Motion by Mrs. Yetter, seconded by Mr. Miller, to accept the resignation of Junior High Football Coach Chris Leibacher; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the following coaching supplementals and Assistant Athletic Director for the 2020/2021 School Year effective

August 1, 2020: Assistant Athletic Director: Mark Freeh, Boys Golf: Ryan Spicer - Head Coach, Austin Spicer - Volunteer Assistant, Cheerleading: Lori Feiszli - JV Coach, Brevyn Hedden - JH Coach, Football: Karen Pooch - Equipment Manager, Darren Michel - JH 8th Grade Head Coach, Mike Sabo - JH 7th Grade Head Coach, Scott Bauer - JH 8th Grade Assistant Coach, Jim Bodey - JH 7th Assistant Coach – 50% Split, Todd Moore – JH 7th Grade Assistant Coach – 50% Split, Darren Draper - Volunteer JH Coach, Tom Bouy - Volunteer JH Coach; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: Abstain, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the following Event Workers for the Fall Events of the 2020/2021 SY: Patrick Freeh - Fall Scoreboard Operator, Jim Edwards - Fall Ticket Taker, Karen Fields - Fall Ticket Taker, Kristine Grey - Fall Ticket Taker, Connie Harkness - Fall Ticket Taker, Jackie Henline - Fall Ticket Taker, Sara Jackson - Fall Ticket Taker, Nancy Johnson - Fall Ticket Taker; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, the modified contracts for Mark Freeh, Technology Coordinator and Sarah Ransom, Food Service Supervisor, for the 2020-2021 SY, effective August 1, 2020; Roll Call: Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, Motion to approve Sarah Ransom's 5.5 additional days worked for the 2019-2020 SY contract; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to accept the EMIS and Support Services Supervisor resignation for Carrie Keller and approval of the 2020-2021 SY modified Superintendent Administrative Assistant contract for Carrie Keller, effective August 1, 2020; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mrs. Yetter to approve the hiring of Frances Kremer, part time EMIS Coordinator for the 2020-2021 SY, effective August 1, 2020, pending all necessary pre-employment requirements are met. Mr. Warner asked what she still needed to complete and Mrs. Keegan stated we were just waiting on the BCI/FBI background check; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the rehiring of Jen Morris Cox, MS/HS Administrative Assistant for the 2020-2021 SY, pending all necessary pre-employment requirements are met; 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 the 2019-2020 School Year contract modification for Geralyn Lippert and Maree Markley; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the disability retirement of Arnold Hamilton effective October 1, 2019 based on the determination by the School Employees Retirement System (SERS); Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Informational Items/Correspondence

Mrs. Keegan gave an update on the Expedited Local Partnership Program (ELPP) for the potential new facilities. She reminded the board that we approved an agreement with OFCC for the ELPP program back in February, 2020. She informed the board that OFCC Commission approved the ELPP agreement on June 25, 2020 and then the Controlling Board approval was completed at their July 27, 2020 meeting. She stated that the final fully executed agreement has been received.

Mr. Kurt also mentioned that he had a BCSN interview and has been posted to the Margaretta website and Facebook page. He also mentioned that he is having an interview with WCPZ about the restart plan.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to adjourn the meeting having no further business to come before the Board; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

The next regular BOE meeting has been scheduled for Monday, August 17, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Andrew Warner
Board President

Diane Keegan
Treasurer