

## **MINUTES OF THE MARGARETTA BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2020.**

The Margaretta Board of Education met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2020 at MES Gym 5906 Bogart Road West, Castalia, Ohio.

Mr. Warner called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 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 Mr. Miller seconded by Mrs. Yetter, to approve the minutes from the regular BOE meeting that was held on Monday, October 19, 2020 and Special BOE Working Session on October 29, 2020; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

**Tuscarora Wayne Mutual Group Foundation** – Mr. Kurt introduced Mark Bodey and Jake Mahnke from Bodey Insurance. Mr. Bodey presented the school with a \$1,000 check to be used for the local community food needs. Mr. Kurt explained that we have just partnered with OhGo and the community churches to start a food pantry for our students to have access to food to be able to take home and we have begun a food pickup at our MS/HS on November 7<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 a.m. where we were able to feed 169 families or 609 people. We will be doing this food pickup every month on the first Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the MS/HS back by the pool parking area. Mr. Kurt thanked Mrs. Kathy Hall for being the catalyst and her leadership to get this up and running, as well as our Food Service Supervisor, Mrs. Sarah Ransom. Our partners at OhGo has stated that the \$1,000 can pay for up to 4,000 meals. Mr. Warner stated that this is great news for our families and community and thanked everyone that has made this happen.

### **Board and Staff Reports**

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

Mr. Ryan Bohn, TCS Principal, reported that the current TCS student enrollment as of today is 830. He also stated that TCS is working closely with Margaretta to complete all the necessary annual compliance issues by the deadlines and thanked Margaretta for their continuing support. Mr. Bohn also informed the Board that they are working with Firelands Forward to focus on the area of workforce development in our region, with the goal of filling vacant employment gaps locally and providing students with more career ready opportunities.

#### **TCS Margaretta Sponsor's Report**

Mr. Steve Keller, Margaretta Compliance Officer, reviewed the items covered at our joint TCS/MLSD meeting and that we continue to work through our fall deadlines and current items due in Epicenter (for example, the Sponsor's Annual Report, the TCS Five Year Forecast, etc.).

### **Public Participation**

No public participation.

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

Mrs. Keegan introduced additional items to the agenda that will be covered in later actions as follows: IX.B.2. Motion to approve the sponsor agreement modification extending the current agreement with the Ohio Department of Education and IX.C.Certified.7. Motion to approve Janni Keller and Gloria Pooch as an Athletic Ticket Sales person/Event Worker for the 2020-2021 school year.

### **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 October results (the fourth month of the new fiscal year). She stated that the fiscal year to date revenue is up due to Nexus taxes (that they paid at 42% of the tax values assessed), she also reminded the board that the taxing values were upheld in Nexus' first appeal and Nexus has now appealed to the next level, the Board of Tax Appeal. She also stated that the open enrollment into the district is continuing to trend down this year versus last year in the first four months by \$(41)K and the open enrollment out is also continuing to trend unfavorable in the same period by \$(106)K. She also mentioned the people cost is unfavorable versus last year at this time primarily due to the number of pay periods this year (nine pays) is higher than last year (with eight pays) for the same period. This timing issue occurs due to the employee paychecks being paid every two weeks and depending how the payrolls fall within the months, can cause a timing variances. The beginning cash balance on July 1, 2020 was \$1.3 million and the first four months generated a net cash increase of \$1.2 million, leaving the final General Fund cash balance of \$2.5 million.

### **Treasurer's Report**

#### **New Business**

Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mrs. Yetter, on Resolution number 20-21-28, 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. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, on Resolution number 20-21-29, authorizing the Treasurer to make Inter-Fund Transfers of funds for the current fiscal year of 2021. Mrs. Keegan explained that this transfer was needed due to spending more for Covid related expenses than the CARES Act Federal Grant dollars that were available. Mrs. Keegan went on to explain that the District has spent approximately \$306 thousand to date on disinfectant foggers, masks, shields, plastic barriers, wipes, hand sanitizer, NOVA Remote learning software, Chromebooks (technology for remote learning), mobile bleachers (social distancing), public Wi-Fi, Hot Spots for homes without internet, etc. The District has currently received approximately \$236,167. Therefore to date we have spent in unbudgeted purchases approximately \$70,000 out of the general fund. The above numbers so not include any additional wages and benefits for Covid, the cost of switching to two bus routes, etc.; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on Resolution number 20-21-30, to allow the Treasurer to request advances on local tax collections from the County Auditors as needed for the 2021 CY; 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, on Resolution number 20-21-31, to approve the Nexus Pipeline property tax revenues percentage allocation between General Fund operations of 25%, General Fund Reserve of 25%, and Facility Reserve of 50%. Mrs. Keegan reminded the Board that we already approved the establishment of the General Fund Reserve and the New Facility/Major Capital

Improvements fund back in September, 2018 and this is just documenting the Board's intention to designate specific percentages; 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, on Resolution number 20-21-32, declaring it necessary to levy a renewal tax (levying a 7.75 mill operating levy for five years) in excess of the ten-mill limitation. Mrs. Keegan stated that this is to move forward for the renewal on the May, 2020 ballot and she reminded everyone that this is a renewal levy (so no new taxes) and that keeping our current millage is important moving forward to be able to collect that level of taxes from Nexus going forward as well. If this renewal levy does not get renewed, then the amount of tax revenue collected from Nexus will be decreased as well; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Yetter, on Resolution number 20-21-33, to approve the amended contract with Julian & Grube (J&G) firm for the extended audit requirements (Single Audit) due to Federal Funding greater than \$750,000. Mrs. Keegan explained to the Board that historically Margaretta's total federal funding (for grants like Title I, IDEA/Special Education, and Free/Reduced lunch subsidies, etc.) has always been less than \$750,000 annually. However for the Fiscal Year of 2020, given the Federal Summer Seamless meal subsidy for all students due to the pandemic, the District has exceeded \$750,000 of annual Federal Aid. Given we were above \$750,000, this requires us to bump up to a Single Audit, which is more extensive and costly. J&G is estimating that it may cost the District approximately \$1,500 more in audit expenses and is requiring us to amend our contract with ; 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 20-21-34, to offer support for Fair School Funding Formula S.B. 376 of the 133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly (the Senate companion bill to Substitute H.B. 305). Mrs. Keegan shared with the Board that this is the continuation of the Cupp/Patterson funding formula initiative and it was developed in collaboration with Ohio School District Treasurers, etc. to try to develop a more robust and student need based funding. She stated that there is a push from the school districts point of view to get this through during this lame duck session and the reasons for that. Mrs. Keegan passed out to the board the estimated change that it could create for Margaretta over the six year phase in period of approximately \$375K. She also mentioned that the challenge is how the state will fund the approximate \$2 Billion needed to fund this formula over the next six years. Mr. Kurt also mentioned that he had participated in some of the committees in the past and personally supports the new funding formula. With the passing of this resolution, Mrs. Keegan will send out letters to Senator Gavarone and State Representative D.J. Swearingen, from our District 89 and send a press release to the Sandusky Register stating our support.; Roll Call: Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

## **Superintendent's Report**

### **New Business**

Motion by Mrs. Yetter seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on Resolution number 20-21-35, to approve the agreement with Bayshore Counseling Services, Inc. to provide mental health and prevention services for Margaretta students for the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Kurt mentioned that this contract will allow Margaretta to partner with Bayshore Counseling to utilize the use of a local Mental Health Grant that Margaretta received of \$9,020. While the school has already partnered with Family Health Services for one on one counseling for our students social and emotional needs, this partnership will allow the District to work with Bayshore and be trained in group setting programs like the ROX program and Cope 2 Thrive program. These two programs have evidence based positive results to

empower young ladies (ROX) and all teens to make good decisions. This Mental Health grant will also include training for our school counselors in the ROX and Cope 2 Thrive programs as well.; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge seconded by Mrs. Yetter, on Resolution number 20-21-36, to approve the renewal of a contract with the North Central Ohio Educational Services Center (NCOESC) for the purpose of providing the District with Orientation and Mobility services for the visually impaired 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 Mr. Sutorius and seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, on Resolution number 20-21-37, to approve the intent to renew the Townsend Community School sponsorship contract for the period of two years; Roll Call: Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge seconded by Mrs. Yetter, to approve the OAPSE, Local 379, MOU to renew for one additional year through June 30, 2021 with the same terms and conditions, except a lump sum stipend for employees that did not receive a step increase effective July 1, 2020; 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 MTA MOU to add a supplemental duty/position for a Robotics Coach to the collective bargaining agreement for the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Kurt also mentioned that this position will allow our elementary students to compete in competitions and help to continue to develop our STEM program. Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

#### Old Business

Mr. Kurt reviewed the Second nine weeks of school learning plans in this pandemic. He stated that he has heard from a lot of parents, teachers, and students. He stated the trends across the county is going in the wrong direction, however to date we have not seen the Covid spread starting in our schools, it has been traced to outside influences and we have been doing a good job with our disinfecting, mask compliance, hand washing, etc. Mr. Kurt stated that he is continually trying to balance the students emotional and social needs, continuing to promote students' academic progress, the dynamics of students' families and families' needs as well as the safety of our students and employees. He stated that we have been able to cover all requirements for absent employees for this week. He will continue to monitor all issues and adjust accordingly. He also reiterated that our District's teachers and all employees are doing a great job in a very difficult year. Mr. Kurt asked if Mr. Steve Keller, our Covid Coordinator, if he had anything to add. Mr. Keller reminded everyone that the District is making all quarantining decision based on the guidance and direction of the two health departments. They are the experts and we rely on their medical experience and we continue to try to be fluid and flexible. Mr. Keller also pointed out that we are communicating to the parents and staff as soon as the communication comes from the health department and we are not publishing directions or positive cases, unless it is first confirmed by the health department, which of course causes delays in communications going out to everyone. Mrs. Diane Jacoby asked if the teachers were quarantined with the students in fourth grade. Mr. Kurt said, yes it was a full fourth grade class and three teachers. Mr. Warner then stated that he has a son in the fourth grade and Mrs. Temari has done a great job in her remote instruction.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the sponsor agreement modification extending the current agreement with the Ohio Department of Education and submitting it to ODE

after approved, relating to TCS; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

### **Personnel Actions**

#### **Certified:**

Motion by Mr. Sutorius and seconded by Mrs. Yetter, to accept the resignation of Mike Raifsnider as JV Boys Basketball Coach and approve Mike as a Volunteer Boys HS basketball coach for the 2020-2021 season; 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 the following Supplementals: Academic Challenge Team - Sara Weller and Mark Novak (50% split), Sophomore Class Advisor - Andrea Yaussy, Freshman Class Advisor - Chris Miller, 8th Grade Class Advisor - Katie Berg, 7th Grade Class Advisor - Lindsey Miller, 6th Grade Class Advisor - Christine Smith; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

#### **Classified**

Motion by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve Scot Lehrer as a Substitute Custodian for 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, to approve Justin Horne as the JV Boys Basketball Coach for the 2020-2021 season; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius and seconded by Mrs. Yetter, to approve the use of Substitute Bus Drivers and approving the recommended wage rate of \$18.00/hour; Roll Call: Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the retirement of Maree Markley, Assistant Treasurer-Budgetary, effective January 15, 2021; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius and seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve Kory Herman as the Assistant Treasurer-Budgetary, effective November 23, 2020; 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, to approve Justin Liskai as the Robotics Coach for the 2020-2021 season; Roll Call: Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius and seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve Janni Keller and Gloria Pooch as an Athletic Ticket Sales person/Event Worker for the 2020-2021 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 enter Executive Session for preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees and specialized details of security arrangements where disclosure of matters discussed might reveal information that could be used for the purpose of committing or avoiding prosecution for a violation of the law; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:43 p.m. with Mrs. Keegan and Mr. Kurt remaining in the Executive Session.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Miller, to return to Open Public Session; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mrs. Yetter: aye, Mr. Miller: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye.

Motion by Mrs. Yetter, seconded by Mr. Miller, 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.

Adjourning at 8:50 p.m.

The next regular BOE meeting has been scheduled for Monday, December 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Margareta Elementary School Gym.

Respectfully Submitted

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Andrew Warner  
Board President

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Diane Keegan  
Treasurer