

MINUTES OF THE MARGARETTA BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 21, 2022.

Margaretta Board of Education met for the Retirement/Rehiring Hearing on Edward P. Kurt, Margaretta Superintendent at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, November 21, 2022 at the Margaretta Board of Education, 305 S. Washington Street, Castalia, Ohio.

Retirement/Rehiring Superintendent Hearing

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

Mr. Hula:	Present.
Mr. Schoenegge:	Present
Mr. Warner:	Present
Mr. Sutorius:	Present

Mrs. Tucker: Teleconferenced into the meeting to listen to the meeting. Given she was out of state, she was on the phone as a non-voting public participator for this meeting.

Public Comment on the Retirement/Rehiring of Edward P. Kurt

During public comment, Mr. Kurt left the board room. The only comment made was from Mr. Toby Harkness who stated that Mr. Kurt has done an excellent job for the district and rehiring him will be a money savings to the district and he hoped that the school board will look at rehiring him back.

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Hula, to adjourn the Retirement/Rehiring Hearing having no further public participation to come before the Board; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Adjourning at 6:33 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting

Mr. Sutorius, Board President, then called the regular meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. requesting roll call by Mrs. Keegan:

Mr. Warner:	Present
Mr. Hula:	Present.
Mr. Schoenegge:	Present
Mr. Sutorius:	Present

Mrs. Tucker: Teleconferenced into the meeting to listen to the meeting. Given she was out of state, she was on the phone as a non-voting public participator for this meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited after roll call.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion by Mr. Warner, and seconded by Mr. Hula, to approve the minutes from the Special BOE Meeting held on Thursday, November 10th, 2022; Roll Call: Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: 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 board meeting and Mr. Kurt presented Mr. Bohn's paperwork. Mr. Kurt presented Mr. Bohn's information that stated the current TCS student enrollment was 526 and 19 graduates this year already. They are also performing the STAR testing and end of course testing soon and also began to implement YouScience testing for their students to evaluate students' career-related strengths and interests, similarly to what Margaretta is doing. TCS also put the potential Vermilion site on hold for now. TCS is also exploring purchasing a school van for use with CBI and small school trips.

Mr. Steve Keller, TCS Compliance Officer, was also excused from the meeting and Mr. Kurt did the report out. Mr. Kurt stated that TCS and Margaretta are on track to get the Annual Report out to TCS families and get it uploaded into ODE's Epicenter by November 30, 2022. We are also working on a new land lease contract increasing the TCS land rent from \$200 to \$450 per month. The TCS five year forecast has also been completed and reviewed by Margaretta and uploaded into ODE's Epicenter data collection online system.

Margaretta Elementary School (MES) Update – Mr. Keven Wise

Mr. Wise gave an extensive overview of all the great things that are happening in the MES building, with support from some of the MES teachers, Mrs. Burkett, Mrs. Troxel, and Mrs. Bramel. Mr. Wise first introduced all the new faces of the MES and their positions [Mrs. Olds, Ms. Chaffins, Mrs. Bush, and Mr. Weyer (moving to MES from the HS), fulltime MES SRO Deputy Dan, and Katelyn Miller our onsite counselor from Family Health Services]. He also discussed some of the things that are happening at MES like; Flooding Classrooms (using aides, literacy team, and intervention specialists to 'flood' high needs classrooms with support), Flexible Grouping (data driven testing information used to group students for targeted instruction), Math Coaching (utilizing Mrs. Burkett to do enrichment math), introduced preschool specials for the first time this year (for exposure to art, music, and gym), Mrs. Belak with the teachers is providing gifted services and we offered our first fifth grade Academic Challenge team and took first place in their first meet, Stone Lab field trip, highlighted Fire Prevention Week (thanking the partnership with the Margaretta Fire Department for their involvement), sheriff K-9 unit visit, Duane Abel, National Cartoonist school assembly (sponsored by PTO), Spooky Halloween gym class, veteran's day program (thanking Mrs. Adams for all her hard work on this event), robotics expansion (to include MS students and additional competitions), nursing home holiday decorations projects, new book vending machine and has been making a positive impact on our PBIS program and the After School Reading Program starting December 3rd. Mrs. Keegan stated that all these great things happening at MES are requiring very little general funding of the costs. Mr. Wise and his team have written and received a lot of grants to cover the costs, fundraisers, as well as we have been able to use Federal Title Funds, PTO supported programs, and Family Health Services (which is completely free to the district). Mr. Wise also stated that the nice thing about the Family Health Services counseling is that it is onsite at MES, which is very convenient for parents. Mr. Sutorius and Mr. Kurt thanked the MES team and acknowledge the great leadership and great employees of MES.

Ohio School Council (OSC) Membership Savings – Mrs. Diane Keegan

Mrs. Keegan presented a chart of our district's savings that we experienced with our OSC membership. She reviewed our natural gas savings for Fiscal Year (FY22) of \$53,252, Power4Schools electric of \$38,000 for 2022 through 2023, electricity bill audit program savings of \$1,315 net savings, bus purchase savings of \$1,500 per bus, and life insurance savings of over \$2,000 per year.

Public Participation

Mrs. Burkett stated that she likes to honor and recognize our students, to that end, she wanted the board to be aware that two of our high school students, Reaganne Wilson and Cohen Gahler competed in a National sheep judging. This National show was called Naile 2022 and occurred in Louisville, Kentucky. Mr. Sutorius thanked Mrs. Burkett for bringing it to the attention of the board.

Introduction of Additional Items to the Agenda

Mr. Kurt stated there were no additions to the agenda

Treasurer's Report

New Business

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Hula, on Resolution number 22-23-34, to adopt a Five Year Forecast for the fiscal years 2023-2027. Mrs. Keegan reviewed some of the assumptions in the five year forecast like, assumes Nexus tax payments at 58% of the tax billed amounts; 1% step increases, 2% additional pay rate increases and 4.25% healthcare insurance econ for each year of the five years. The forecast is also available on the Margareta website; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Superintendent's Report

New Business

Mr. Kurt introduced the First Reading of the Neola Board Policies: PO1520-Employment of Administrators, PO1617-Weapons, PO2220- Adoption of Courses of Study, PO2266- Complaints of Sexual Harassment, PO2280-Preschool Program, PO2413-Career Advising, PO2430-District- Sponsored Clubs and Activities, PO2431-Interscholastic Athletics, PO3120- Employment of Professional Staff, PO3120.08- Employment of Personnel for Co-Curricular/Extra-Curricular Activities, PO3217-Weapons, PO4120- Employment of Classified Employees, PO4217-Weapons, PO5111-Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students, PO5335-Care of Students with Chronic Health Conditions, PO5336-Care of Students with Diabetes, PO5460.01- Diploma Deferral, PO6700-Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), PO7217-Weapons, PO7440-Facility Security, PO7440.03-Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems, PO8210-School Calendar, PO8320-Personnel Files, PO8330- Student Records, PO8600-Transportation.

Mr. Kurt also reminded the board that as discussed before, he will be bringing forward at a future meeting to revise the district's policy to only require 22 credits to graduate (which is the ODE state requirement) instead of 22 credits, as well as issuing grades on the semester to add flexibility for students that may be struggling. Mr. Schoenegge then asked if the district was to drop the requirement to 20 credit hours, how many students would that help to graduate? Mr. Kurt said he didn't have the specific number, but one student is too many. Mr. Schoenegge continued to ask questions about semester grades and then potential changes.

Informational Items

New Facility Update

Mr. Kurt shared the following statement that he plans to release that states: The Margareta Local School District will be pausing its construction project due to an appeal of the Nexus Settlement. The district had set aside approximately 75% of the Nexus payments from the first three years of collections. Utilizing a portion of those set aside funds, they have been working to complete the site & utility work for the project. During this stoppage, the completed work will not be affected in any way by this pause nor require any reworking costs, while the district waits for the appeal to be resolved. The Lorain County Auditor was the only Auditor of all the thirteen counties affected by the Nexus settlement to appeal. Mr. Kurt also shared with the board the site map with the gating plans when we pause the project. Mr. Schoenegge then asked how far off the road the gates will be and how people will be able to use the parking lots for the ball diamonds. Mr. Kurt acclimated him to the map to show that the parking lots will be unaffected by the gating and Moser will know the proper distances from the road.

Mr. Kastor gave an update on the bid package of GMP #1, for the site and utility work. This package includes earth moving, paving, stone building pads, tree removal, utilities installs, adjusting the elevation of the site to allow the school to sit up from the road, etc. Mr. Kastor stated that the original GMP #1 package had an end date of November 30, 2022. He stated that it may spill into the first part of December, at which time the project will pause and all employees will be pulled from the sight. Mr. Kastor also stated that when we release Mosser to go forward with the process, there will be 29 more bid packages that will be released and quoted. At that time we will have a firm price of what this project will cost. He also stated that we will leave the site protected and secure. He stated that if the appeal is withdrawn, we are positioned well to pivot quickly and turn the project back on.

Mr. Kurt discussed the setting of the date for the Organizational Meeting Date and time as January 4, 2023 at 6:30pm. The board confirmed that this date and time will work.

Personnel Actions

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

Motion by Mr. Hula seconded by Mr. Warner, to hire Makayla Spurlock-Johnson, Student Special Educational Aide Sub, for the After School Reading Program Roll Call: Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Certified:

Motion by Mr. Warner seconded by Mr. Hula, to hire the following staff for After School Reading Program: Teal Balduff, Liz Jacoby, Sarah Riedy, and Ashley Williams; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Classified

Motion by Mr. Hula seconded by Mr. Warner, to hire Melissa Vassallo as the District Secretary effective January 3, 2023, pending completion of all state and local requirements. Mr. Kurt reminded the board that Melissa is being hired to backfill for Ali Downing's position, who moved to Carrie Keller's Secretarial position, when Carrie moved to the Food Service Director position. Mr. Kurt also stated that Melissa will work at the board office approximately half of

her time, 1/4th of her time at the bus garage and 1/4th of her time helping the Athletic Director; Roll Call: Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mr. Warner, seconded by Mr. Hula, to hire the following staff for After School Reading Program: Nicole Blair, Jackie Henline, Caitlin King, Natasha McCowan, and, Donna McGory; Roll Call: Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Warner: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

Motion by Mr. Warner and seconded by Mr. Hula, to enter 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, Mr. Warner: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mr. Sutorius: aye.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:26 p.m. with Mrs. Keegan, and Mr. Kurt remaining in the Executive Session.

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

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

Adjourning at 7:35 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting will be Monday, December 12th, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Margaretta Board of Education, 305 S. Washington Street, Castalia

Respectfully Submitted

Brian Sutorius
Board President

Diane Keegan
Treasurer