

MINUTES OF THE MARGARETTA BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 27, 2025.

Margaretta Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 27, 2025 at the Margaretta Board of Education, 305 S. Washington Street, Castalia, Ohio.

Regular Board Meeting

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

Mr. Hula:	Present
Mr. Lippert	Present
Mr. Schoenegge:	Present
Mr. Sutorius:	Present
Mrs. Tucker:	Present

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited after roll call.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion by Mr. Lippert, and seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the minutes from the Organizational and Special Board of Education Meeting held on Thursday January 2, 2025; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Board and Staff Reports

Townsend Community School's (TCS) Report

Mr. Ryan Bohn, TCS Principal and Superintendent was excused from the meeting and Mr. Kurt passed out Mr. Bohn's report to the Board, which communicated the following:

- Graduates for the 2024-2025 School Year: 35
- Enrollment: 497
- The grand opening for the new Fremont learning center at Terra State Community College is Tuesday, January 28th.
- Thank you Margaretta for your continued partnership in education.

Important Upcoming Dates

- Wednesday, February 12th: Steered Straight Assembly @ MHS (10:15-11:45 AM)
- Tuesday, February 25th: TCS Board Meeting (4:00 PM)

TCS Margaretta Sponsor's Report

Mr. Kurt informed the board that the two schools have great collaboration on Professional Development (PD) days and assemblies with both groups of students and teachers as demonstrated by the planned February 12th event. He also stated that we had our monthly meeting with TCS and that everything is on track between the two schools.

Mr. Kurt also mentioned that we have been experiencing some bus issues due to the extreme cold and had buses that have broken down and a broken windshield due to a hawk strike that is keeping our mechanics very busy. These issues have prompted us to request additional consulting hours on Don Adam's contract to help with the bus garage repairs and issues. Mr.

Hula also offered his heated pit if the bus garage was struggling during these really cold days. Mr. Kurt thanked him and said he would pass that onto Mr. Chris Leibacher, Transportation Supervisor.

New Facility Progress Update - Ed and Diane

Mrs. Keegan shared an update on the money that has been set aside for the new facility reserve and the money spent to date for the new school and the current balance. She also communicated that the first three years of the Nexus tax payments true up to the settled 58% of the original tax bill has occurred and was paid to the counties at the first of December and Margaretta received a tax advance on those payments received. She also reported to the board that we have pulled back from the New Facility Reserve the total of \$4,444,249 to the general fund to keep the district out of deficit spending.

Mrs. Keegan then reviewed the parallel path that the New Facility cross-functional team has been working on. The finance team has been preparing the resolutions for the COPs (Certificate of Participation) offering, preparing the extensive COPs Preliminary Offering Circular (POC), prepping for the Moody's credit rating agency meeting on February 6th, and distributing the POC, pricing and closing on the COPs financing by March 20th. At the same time Fanning Howey are completing the revised drawings for the building code changes that have occurred in the last two years during the pause by February 28th. Once the drawings are received, then Mosser will send out the approximately 30 construction bid packages, review the incoming packages and then awarding during the week of May 5th, with them starting construction May 19th and estimating the completed building by December 31, 2026.

Public Participation

Mrs. Sarah Reidy raised safety concerns in the parking area by the High School swimming pool and around the back of the school building. After some discussion, Mr. Kurt stated that the district will take a look at it and work on solutions.

Introduction of Additional Items to the Agenda

None

Treasurer's Financial Report and Schedule of Bills

Mrs. Keegan presented the schedule of bills, bank reconciliations, investment balances, fund balances, etc., that were included in the Board's packages for review. Mrs. Keegan stated that the 2025 Fiscal Year to Date (FYTD) revenue through December was a total of \$7.8M (favorable to last year at this time by \$69,636) and expenses of \$9.2M resulting in a decrease to the general fund balance of \$(1.4)M. The Fiscal Year beginning cash balance in the general fund as of July 1, 2024 was \$1.2M so the current general fund balance is a deficit of \$(0.2)M. Mrs. Keegan reminded the board that this time of year we are usually in deficit spending waiting on the first half tax revenue to eliminate the deficit spending.

Treasurer's Report

Informational

Mrs. Keegan reviewed the FY2024 Excess Costs that we billed the other districts for Margaretta educated students that are Open Enrolled In (OE In) from other Districts. Mrs. Keegan then explained the difference between the average schoolwide cost per student (Per Capita) that would have only billed \$249K versus Student specific cost per student method that generated

\$373K of billings for 31 OE In students. She then explained that other districts have billed Margaretta for our resident students that open enrolled to other districts (OE Out) for a total charge to Margaretta of \$(89)K for 9 of our residents using the per capita method. Netting a positive income to our district of \$284K.

She also reminded the board that the FY2024 Threshold (previously known as Catastrophic Cost) Cost Recovery process for Margaretta resident special education students begins in March with a due date of completion in April that Mr. Keegan Hall will need to start working on with Mrs. Kathy Hall in March.

Mrs. Keegan also informed the board of the Auditor of State (AOS) opinion on our fiscal yearend statements for the period ending June 30, 2024. Margaretta was selected to receive an AOS desk review and the results were that the financials were acceptable and required no modifications.

Mrs. Keegan also informed the board that Margaretta will receive Auditor of State (AOS) Award for excellence in financial reporting in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and compliance with applicable laws for the fiscal year 2024. She also stated the Margaretta has received this award for 7 of the last 8 Fiscal Years (FY) (FY24, FY23, FY22, FY21, FY19, FY18, and FY17). The AOS award is given to approximately 8% of the public audits performed (that total approximately 6,000 entities). Some of the criteria to be awarded this honor is to have a clean audit, meet all deadlines and timing requirements, no finds for recovery or restatements, no management comments in the management report, no reconciliation issues, no violations of public records laws, etc.

New Business

Motion by Mr. Hula, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on Resolution number 24-25-51, authorizing the Treasurer to make Inter-Fund Transfers of funds for the current fiscal year of 2025 - Nexus settlement prior year settlement payments; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Lippert, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, on Resolution number 24-25-52, to accept the Master Facility Plan for the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC) Expedited Local Partnership Program (ELPP), covering Phase II of the new school facility construction; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Hula, on Resolution number 24-25-53, to authorize the issuance of the Certificates Of Participation (COPs) Series 2025 for the new school facility project; Roll Call: Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, on Resolution number 24-25-54, to approve expenses exceeding the \$3,000 threshold of the "then and now" provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.41(d). Mrs. Keegan stated that this was needed given the FFA fundraiser did not get pre-approval for the purchase expenditures for the fruit and nut purchases; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, on Resolution number 24-25-55, to approve the agreement with Bellevue City Schools to provide pooling services for our Title I Non-Public federal funds retro for the entire 2024-2025 School Year; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: abstain.

Motion by Mr. Hula, seconded by Mr. Lippert, on Resolution number 24-25-56, to approve the renewal of Corporate Health Center consortium drug screening agreement for the 2025 calendar year. Mrs. Tucker asked if this contract also includes the pre-employment drug testing in addition to the van and bus driver random testing and Mrs. Keegan stated, yes; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Superintendent's Report

New Business

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Hula, on Resolution number 24-25-57, to approve the Lorain County Community College (LCCC) College Credit Plus (CCP) dual enrollment MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) for the 2025-2026 school year. Mr. Kurt stated that these CCP agreements are vetted through the Guidance Counselor's office and High School Principal and validated that it meets the mileage radius requirements, before being presented to the board; Roll Call: Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Lippert, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to remove the following policies, Policy 0165.1 Regular Meetings, Policy 0165.2 Special Meetings and Policy 0173 Board Officers. Mr. Kurt stated that the deletion was at the recommendation of NEOLA, given these issues are covered in the new policies in the next agenda item; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Mr. Kurt introduced the first reading of the following NEOLA Policies: 0100 Definitions, 0142.1 Oath, 0151 Organizational Meeting, 0152 Officers, 0155 Committees, 0163 Presiding Officer, 0164 Notice of Meetings, 0165 Board Meetings, 0166 Agendas, 0167.2 Executive Session, 0167.7 Use of Personal Communication Devices, 1130 Conflict of Interest, 2413 Career Advising, 3113 Conflict of Interest, 4113 Conflict of Interest, 4120.08 Employment of Personnel for Co-Curricular/Extra-Curricular Activities, 4121 Criminal History Record Check, 5136.01 Electronic Equipment, 5200 Attendance, 5500 Student Conduct, 5780 Student/Parent Rights, 6110 Grant Funds, 6111 Internal Controls, 6112 Cash Management of Grants, 6114 Cost Principals - Spending Federal Funds, 6220 Budget Preparation, 6320 Purchasing and Bidding, 6325 Procurement - Federal Grants/Funds, 6460 Vendor Relations, 6550 Travel Payment & Reimbursement/Relocation Costs, 7310 Disposition of Surplus Property, 7450 Property Inventory, 7530.01 Cellular Telephone Allowance, 7530.02 Staff Use of Personal Communication Devices, 7540.03 Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety, 7540.04 Staff Technology Acceptable Use and Safety, 7540.09 Artificial Intelligence, 8310 Public Records, 9160 Public Attendance at School Events and 5113 Inter-District Open Enrollment

Motion by Mr. Lippert, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to appoint Paul Schoenegge, as Margaretta's OSBA Student Achievement Liaison for the 2025 Calendar Year; Roll Call: Mr.

Schoenegge: abstain, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on Resolution number 24-25-58, to adopt the Special Education Model Policies and Procedures that were released by the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce ("DEW") in December 2024 (Senate Bill 29). Mrs. Keegan stated that this will be an annual requirement every fall to get this board approved and then uploaded into the ODEW online system each year by November 1st. Mr. Kurt stated that it was vetted through the Special Education Director, Mrs. Kathy Hall and NEOLA policy support before being presented to the board and Mr. Kurt stated that he has this on his radar for each fall renewal; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, on Resolution number 24-25-59, to approve the amended independent consulting agreement with Don Adams, for mechanical repairs and training services for the 2024-2025 school year; Roll Call: Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Personnel Actions

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

Motion by Mr. Lippert, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the revision of the Limited Employment Wage Schedule (updating minimum wage employees from \$10.45 to \$10.70); Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Certified

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Hula, to accept the resignation of Joy Hassen, Intervention Specialist at the end of the 2024-2025 school year; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the following CCP Class Supplementals for Kevin Kremer, retro to the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year: AGR 2000 - Agronomy & Soil Science, AGR 2150 - Crop & Pest Management; Roll Call: Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Hula, seconded by Mr. Lippert, to approve the hiring of the following Track and Field coaching supplemental positions for the 2025 spring season: Marnie Hallett-Szymanski - Head Girls JH Track Coach, Luke Weyer - Head Boys JH Track Coach, Olivia Powers - Assistant Girls JH Track Coach; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve Conar Burns and Bill Minshall, Track and Field Volunteers for the 2025 spring season; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Classified

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Lippert, to approve the hiring of the following Track and Field coaching supplemental positions for the 2025 spring season: Taylor Deer (Parkhurst) - Varsity Assistant Girls Track Coach, Aaron Canada - Varsity Assistant Boys Track Coach, Courtney Orshoski - Assistant Boys JH Track Coach; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Hula, to approve Brian Stimmel and Barb Bouy, Track and Field volunteers for the 2025 spring season; Roll Call: Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Hula, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to enter Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion or compensation of public employees - employee negotiations; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Mr. Kurt stated that it was Board Appreciation Month and wanted to thank the board for their dedication and presented the board members, Mrs. Keegan and himself with plates that were made by Mr. Weyer's fifth grade class for the Board Appreciation Month.

Mr. Kurt also mentioned that we will be honoring our class of 2025 Margareta Achievement Hall of Fame newest inductees between the JV and Varsity boys basketball game on Friday, February 14th. The three inductees are Mrs. Julie Lodge-Jarrett, Mr. James Knauer, and Dr. Carmen Parkhurst. They will also be invited back for the Achievement Banquet on May 12th, with Mrs. Julie Lodge-Jarrett as the quest speaker.

Mrs. Tucker stated the next Regular Meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Margareta Board of Education office, 305 S. Washington St. Castalia, Oh 44824.

Mrs. Tucker also wanted to thank Mrs. Keegan for her years of dedication to the Treasurer's position as this was her last official meeting before her February 14th retirement date.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:32 p.m. with Mrs. Keegan, Mr. Keegan Hall, and Mr. Kurt remaining in the Executive Session.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Angie Tucker
Board President



Diane Keegan
Treasurer

Certificate Section 5705.412, Ohio Revised Code

It is hereby certified that the Margareta Local School District Board of Education, Erie and Sandusky County, Ohio, has sufficient funds to meet the contract agreement, obligation, payment, or expenditure for the above, and has in effect for the remainder of the fiscal year and succeeding fiscal year the authorization to levy taxes which, when combined with the estimated revenue from all other sources available to the district at the time of certification, are sufficient to provide operating revenues necessary to enable the district to operate an adequate educational program on all days set forth in its adopted school calendar for the current fiscal year and for a number of days in the succeeding fiscal year equal to the number of days instruction was or is scheduled for the current fiscal year.


Margareta Treasurer
President, Board of Education
Margareta Superintendent