

MINUTES OF THE MARGARETTA BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 20, 2024.

Margaretta Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 20, 2024 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 Special Board of Education Meeting held on Thursday, May 9, 2024; 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 did the TCS report out. He stated that TCS has 70 graduates for the 2023-2024 school year, and 479 current students as of May 20, 2024. Mr. Bohn also gave an update on the teacher/stadium parking lot paving, the continued progress on the 3rd satellite site at the Lorain County Community College LCCC and year end activities.

TCS Margaretta Sponsor’s Report

Mr. Kurt gave an update on the completion of the second site visit for the school year and that it was reviewed and completed with the help of Mr. Bohn. He also stated that we have the TCS five year forecast submission that is due to be uploaded into Epicenter no later than May 31, 2024 and is on track to be received from TCS after their May board meeting.

Public Participation

Ms. Lori Brodie, Northwest Regional Liaison to the Auditor of State (AOS) came to the meeting to present the AOS Award for excellence in financial reporting in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and compliance with applicable laws for the fiscal year 2023 to Mrs. Keegan. Ms. Brodie stated that only 8% of the public audits (that total approximately 6,000 entities) receive this award. Some of the criteria that she mentioned was that Margaretta had 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. to name a few of the requirements.

Ms. Jennifer Neese and Ms. Tonda Zelms from Civista Bank came to give an update to the board of their services that they can provide the school. Ms. Neese thanked the board for allowing the Civista local Castalia branch to be Margaretta's bank of choice. She reminded the board that they are able to help support local financial literacy activities in the classrooms, also can be a local source for Margaretta employees to obtain vehicle loans, home improvement loans, etc. While she recognizes that it is difficult for Civista to compete with Star Ohio's rates, she wanted us to know that they do have money market options as well that are available to the school. She also wanted to mention that the Castalia branch received the award for Civista's Branch of the Year. Ms. Zelms then talked of the local Castalia branches volunteer work that they do in our community like helping at the Grace Lutheran dinners, sponsor local t-ball teams, local school scholarship awarded, allow the Cold Creek Festival to utilize the bank parking lot for the festival car show, they participate in the local blood drives, and they also participated in the student ticket rewards program for the Margaretta Elementary School One School One Book, etc.

Mr. Gary Smith from LifeWise gave an update of their organizations activities with the students whose parents authorized their participation in the LifeWise program. He reviewed the outside organizations number of participants and yearend wrap up.

Mr. Smith also asked why the wind turbine has not been spinning. Mr. Kurt stated that the turbine was damaged during the August 2023 storm and made it inoperable. Our attorneys and the company that installed the turbine are in discussions on how to proceed with the turbine and working through the issues.

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, fund balances, etc., that were included in the Board's packages for review. Mrs. Keegan stated that the Fiscal Year To Date (FYTD) revenue through April (with 83% of the fiscal year complete) was a total of \$16.2M and expenses of \$15.2M resulting in a increase to the general fund balance of \$1.0M. The Fiscal Year beginning cash balance in the general fund as of July 1, 2023 was \$1.0M so at the end of April the general fund balance was \$2.0M. Mrs. Keegan stated that the biggest change in the revenue for this fiscal year to date versus last year at this time is the \$(551)K in tangible personal property, which is primarily due to Nexus paying us a lower percentage of their tax bill this year versus last year at this time. She also stated that our employee wages and benefits are unfavorable this year versus last year by \$(285)K and she reminded the board of the 9.6% increase in the healthcare premiums this year in comparison to last year. This prompted Mr. Hula's question on what options we have to leave the healthcare consortium and potentially shop other consortiums. Mr. Kurt and Mrs. Keegan stated that it is a very difficult thing to change consortiums due to the districts investment in the balances

that are carried in the consortium and that our overall premium costs are still very competitive to other consortiums out there.

Mrs. Keegan also reviewed the current status of the Food Service Account and stated that the program has had some significant head winds to overcome this year with the inflationary increases in the price of food, the loss of the free commodity products (fresh fruits and vegetables) from the government, milk carton shortages, and having to pay for the one-time installation costs of the new Point of Sale (POS) system with PaySchools this year. Even with all those obstacles that they are facing, they are still currently sitting with a positive (in the black) cash balance in Food Services and are on pace to end the year in the black.

Treasurer's Report

Informational

FY2023 Threshold Cost Recovery

Mrs. Keegan reported out on the Threshold Cost reporting (previously known as Catastrophic Costs that she submits a detailed bill for each high cost special needs students that reside in the Margarettta school district and attends Margarettta schools. She gave the board our breakdown of the 24 high cost district students that totaled to a district cost to educate of \$1,665K, which equates to an average cost of \$69,372 per student. She stated that the state funding for a special education student can range from funding of \$27,375 to \$32,850 per student dependent on their disability code. On average the state funding received by the district is underfunded by approximately \$40,400 per student or a shortfall of \$970K. We will receive a portion of the \$970K shortfall back based on what the state has allocated to the Threshold cost budget. We should be seeing the amount for threshold cost recovery before the end of June fiscal year. Mrs. Keegan thanked Mrs. Kathy Hall for all of her insight and help to identify students' specific costs to maximize our potential reimbursement.

New Business

Motion by Mr. Sutorius seconded by Mr. Hula, on Resolution number 23-24-69, to adopt a Five Year Forecast for the fiscal years 2024-2028; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on Resolution number 23-24-70, to approve the renewal Shared Preschool Itinerant Services contract with Perkins School District to share a Special Education teacher for the 2024-2025 School Year; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Hula, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on Resolution number 23-24-71, to approve the renewal Shared Preschool Itinerant Services contract with Huron School District to share a Special Education teacher for 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, on Resolution number 23-24-72, to approve the contract with Julian & Grube for preparing GAAP financial statements for Fiscal

Year 2024 through 2026; 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. Lippert, on Resolution number 23-24-73, authorizing the Treasurer to make Inter-Fund Transfers of funds for the fiscal year of 2024; 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. Hula, on Resolution number 23-24-74, approval to proceed with election on the question of renewal of an existing emergency tax levy; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Superintendent's Report

Old Business

Motion by Mr. Hula, seconded by Mr. Lippert, to rescind the current baseball land lease with the Margareta Athletic Booster Club. Mr. Kurt took this opportunity to mention the baseball field house dedication and thanked the great support that the district receives from the Margareta Athletic Booster club. He also mentioned the great success and tournament runs that the boys and girls track team, baseball, and softball is having; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

New Business

Motion by Mr. Lippert, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the 2024 Senior Class for graduation, pending the completion of all state and local requirements; 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, on Resolution number 23-24-75, to adopt and enforce nutrition standards governing the types of food and available for sale at school, per the requirements of Ohio Revised Code 3313.814. Mrs. Keegan reminded the board that this is just our annual renewal; 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. Lippert, on Resolution number 23-24-76, to approve an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) agreement with BGSU for the purpose of providing opportunities for students to enroll in the dual credit College Credit Plus (CCP) Program for the 2024-2025 School Year. Mr. Kurt stated that the high school principal, the guidance counselor and Curriculum Directory vet these contracts before recommending them for approval to the board; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: Aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

First reading of the updated spring 2024 NEOLA board policies as follows: Po2623 - Student Assessment and Academic Intervention Services, po2623.02 - Third Grade Reading Guarantee, po3120.04 - Employment of Substitutes, po3140 - Termination and Resignation, po4124 - Employment Contract, po4140 - Termination or Resignation, po5310 - Health Services, po8600 - Transportation, po8600.04 - Bus Driver Certification, po8640 –

Transportation, for Field and other District-Sponsored Trips, po8650 - Transportation by Vehicles other than School Buses, po8660 - Incidental Transportation of Students by Private Vehicle, po2271 - College Credit Plus Program.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Hula, on Resolution number 23-24-77, to approve the Scott Nave independent consulting Agreement, for music sectional coaching services for 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. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Lippert, on Resolution number 23-24-78, to approve the independent consulting agreement with Pat Boogher to provide transition and work study services for the district students for the 2024-2025 school year; 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. Lippert, on Resolution number 23-24-79, to approve the independent consulting agreement with Robin Welch, Beyond the Moment, services for CPI training and behavioral services for the 2024-2025 school year; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, and seconded by Mr. Hula, to approve MOU with the MTA to correct the teacher work days to total 182 days by adding an in-service teacher day on August 15, 2024; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Personnel Actions

Certified

Motion by Mr. Hula, and seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to accept the resignation of Abigail Doster, School Psychologist, effective July 31, 2024; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Classified

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to hire the following Adult Summer Workers, for the 2024 summer, pending completion of all state and local requirements: Jana Berg, Rockell Kuns, Jennifer Lowther, Deb McEowen, and Donna McGory; 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. Hula, to hire the following Summer Student Workers, for the 2024 summer, pending completion of all state and local requirements: Julia Berg, Will Coffman, Lucy Hartman, Grace Paseka, Sydnie Riedy, Addison Strayer, and Landon Weyer; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Hula, to hire CoAnne Westerhold, MES Cook, effective for 2024-2025 school year; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Hula, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve a one-year classified contract for Brittany House, Custodian II, effective July 1 2024; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Lippert seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to hire Robotics Coaches for the 2024-2025 school year as follows: Dan Eubank - High School Robotics Coach, Brad Hoffman - Middle School and MES Robotics Coach; 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. Hula, to accept the retirement of David Fultz, Fleet Mechanic effective July 31, 2024; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Lippert, to approve moving Dan Gearheart from Mechanic to Fleet Mechanic, effective with the 2024-2025 school year; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Informational

Mr. Kurt reminded the board and audience of the Community Informational Meeting that is scheduled for May 23, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Margaretta Elementary Gym on Bogart Road, Castalia, Ohio 44824.

Mr. Kurt also gave a shout out to the spring sports teams and invited everyone to attend all the upcoming tournament action. He stated that it is a proud time to be a polar bear with all the success on and off the fields.

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; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

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

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Mrs. Tucker informed the public that the next BOE Regular Meeting is scheduled for

June 24, 2024 at 6:30pm at The Margarettta Board of Education office, 305 S. Washington St. Castalia, Oh 44824

Respectfully Submitted

Angie Tucker
Board President

Diane Keegan
Treasurer

Certificate Section 5705.412, Ohio Revised Code

It is hereby certified that the Margarettta 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.

Margarettta Treasurer

President, Board of Education

Margarettta Superintendent