

MINUTES OF THE MARGARETTA BOARD OF EDUCATION (BOE) REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 21, 2024.

Margaretta Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, October 21, 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. Hula, and seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve the minutes from the Regular Board of Education Meeting held on Monday, September 16, 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, communicated that TCS has 8 graduates for the 2024-2025 school year. The current students as of October 21, 2024 is 501 students. Mr. Bohn also reviewed their state report card which overall score was Exceeds Standards. He also reviewed upcoming events at TCS.

TCS Margaretta Sponsor’s Report

Mrs. Keegan informed the board that there are several Epicenter uploads that are due on December 2, 2024 (i.e., 5 year forecast and Sponsor Annual report). Mr. Kurt gave an update on our monthly meetings and stated that we have a great communication with TCS. Mr. Kurt also stated that we our currently good standings with the ODEW and there are no scheduled ODEW reviews, however we continue all our normal auditing activities needed. He also stated that the first site review is being performed on October 24, 2024.

Conditions of Football Field - Drew Grahl & Lucas Poggiali

Mr. Kurt, Mr. Lucas Poggiali and Mr. Drew Grahl updated the board on the state of the football field grass (type of seed and grub issues in the past) and the plans to kill the existing grass and reseed it with a different seed blend that will be more conducive for the football terrain. They also made the board aware that it will be dead grass for an extended amount of time as they work through the process of reseeding. Mrs. Diane Jacoby asked if the grass will be ready to go for kickoff of the 2025 football season and she was assured that is the current plans. Mr. Kurt stated that even with all the care that Mr. Tom Barnes, Margaretta Grounds and Maintenance employee, gives to our properties, including the field, more needs to be done to sustain the plush grass for the sport season.

In addition, Mr. Poggiali and Mr. Kurt informed the board that we uncovered a sewage pipe blockage problem at the HS that was uncovered when toilets were backing up. The current quote to clear the blockage and replace the necessary old cast iron pipes that have deteriorated is currently estimated at \$6,000, with the potential of additional costs once they get into the project. Even though the intention is to tear down the old high school if the new school is built, we need to continue to invest in these buildings to keep them functional.

Senate Bill (SB) 29 – related to educational records and student data privacy

Mr. Kurt shared the Margareta school letter that is required to be sent to all parents by October 24, 2024. It is the districts intent to send it out tomorrow if there were no objections by the board. No objections were made and therefore Mr. Kurt was moving forward to send tomorrow.

Public Participation

Mr. Gary Smith asked with the new tax revenue from the solar farm, Nexus pipeline settlement, and the potential of Margareta schools being on the tax 20 mill floor (House Bill 920), if the board has considered not collecting (aka reducing the taxes being collected) in the future. Mr. Gary Smith stated that with the increases in property values due to the tax reassessments, tax payers are concerned about their overall increase in taxes residence will need to pay. Mrs. Keegan gave a brief explanation of the 20 mill floor impact on schools and then Mr. Kurt stated that we have been living off of 2010 tax revenues, given we have not asked for any new taxes levied since 2010 and we have not been on the 20 mill floor and therefore our total tax revenue is not growing with the reappraisals. Also Mrs. Keegan stated that as we have been communicating in all the community meetings for the new school facilities, the cost of building the new school has risen from approximately \$49M to almost \$68M in the past few years as we have been waiting on the appeal resolution of the Nexus pipeline tax revenues settlement. Given all the above, the board is currently not planning on adjusting the taxes collected in the future.

Mr. Gary Smith also shared his outside organizations (LifeWise) activities. This is an organization that allows for religious educational opportunities during the school day, if the parents voluntarily agree to send their child to the outside program.

Mrs. Shannon Bramel asked when we will see the PILOT tax revenues for the solar farm taxes. Mrs. Keegan explained that the PILOT tax revenue will not begin until all the solar panels are installed and operational and then with the permission of the ODOT to plug into the grid, only then will the tax revenue begin. Mrs. Keegan stated that we are not told when that will exactly occur, but have decided to put it into the five year forecast in fiscal year 2026.

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 2025 Fiscal Year (FY) revenue through September was a total of \$6.0M and expenses of \$5.4M resulting in an increase to the general fund balance of \$0.6M. The Fiscal Year beginning cash balance in the general fund as of July 1, 2024 was \$1.2M so the current August general fund balance was \$1.8M.

Treasurer's Report

Informational

Mrs. Keegan reported that our Bus #6 (purchased in 2008) was being auctioned on GovDeal.com and the bids close October 24, 2024

Mrs. Keegan stated that we are out for repair quotes for Bus #7 that was involved in an accident (the bus driver was not at fault) on September 25, 2024.

Mrs. Keegan stated that we had the T1 Transportation Count Week last week and all of the T1 report submittal is due by October 31, 2024.

Mrs. Keegan stated that the Records Commission asked that we use the current standard updated form, therefore Mrs. Keegan brought back to the board the same Records Retention Schedule just updated to the current revised form.

Mrs. Keegan report out that our preliminary results of the Fall District's garage sale was \$2,261 for the miscellaneous sale items and \$6,250 for old weight equipment, for a total of \$8,511. Mrs. Keegan stated that the proceeds of the weight equipment would be allocated to the Athletic Department to purchase new items for sports.

Motion by Mr. Schoenegge, seconded by Mr. Lippert, on Resolution number 24-25-26, to approve the renewal of North Central Ohio ESC (NCOESC) District Service Agreement for August 1, 2024 to July 31, 2025, to provide the services for the visually, hearing, orientation & mobility impaired and braille services; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Hula, on Resolution number 24-25-27, to approve the proposal with Corrigan Mechanical Contractors to repair the underground diesel tank located at the bus garage for \$4,800. Mrs. Keegan stated that these were repairs that were necessary based on inspection recommendations and these repairs will eliminate the ongoing issue of water in the tank; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Hula, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on Resolution number 24-25-28, to approve the renewal of the Shared Diving Coach and Facility Use agreement with the Huron City School District in accordance with the terms and conditions identified in the agreement for the 2024-2025 Swimming Season; 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 24-25-29, to approve the Shared Diving Coach and Facility Use agreement with the Perkins Local School District in accordance with the terms and conditions identified in the agreement for the 2024-2025 Swimming Season. Mrs. Keegan stated that all incremental costs incurred by the district for supporting the other schools diving activities will be charged to the appropriate district and reimbursed to Margaretta; 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. Schoenegge, on Resolution number 24-25-30, to approve the Natatorium agreement with Sandusky City Schools effective for the 2024-2025

swimming season. It was clarified that this is just for SCS Junior High programs. Mrs. Tucker if it would be precipitated if Margaretta was in need. Mrs. Keegan stated that the contract is written with that language included; Roll Call: Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Lippert, on Resolution number 24-25-31, to approve the Independent Consulting agreement with Don Adams, for mechanical repairs and training services for the 2024-2025 school year). Mrs. Keegan stated that this was needed with our retirements and having two new mechanics in the garage; 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 24-25-32, to approve the MOU agreement with the Erie County Health Department (ECHD) to implement the Botvin Life Skills training program (designed to promote mental health and positive youth development) 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. Hula, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, on Resolution number 24-25-33, to approve an MOU agreement with Terra State Community College 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, retroactively back to the start of the school year; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Superintendent's Report

Old Business

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, for the second reading and approval of the following Policies: Policy 1617, 3217, 4217, 7217 Weapons and Policy 5610 removal, suspension, expulsion, and permanent exclusion of students. Mr. Kurt stated that these modified policies were needed to potentially have a Clay Target Shooting Club, which could potentially start in the Spring of 2025; 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, to approve the district membership in the Coalition of Rural and Appalachian Schools (CORAS), as previously discussed at the September 16th Board meeting Mr. Kurt introduced the potential membership in the CORAS and the benefits of the membership to advocate for the rural public schools for approval of the \$5,000 membership fee. Mr. Kurt stated that the cost of the membership was \$5,000 and the lobbyist support will be beneficial to our rural school; Roll Call: Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: Aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

New Business

Motion by Mr. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Schoenegge, to approve the NPESC Student Handbooks that applies to district students who are in programs operated by NPESC; 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, to approve the OAPSE MOU for field trip transportation requiring wheelchair bus lift use or handicapped van use; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Informational

College Student Teachers at MES during the 2024-2025 school year: Marley Ruffing, Grace Hall, Lauren Green, Destiny Pullano, Alissa Anderson, Shelby Smith, Seth Bogner, Hunter Martin, Allie Steffani, Autumn Gessling, Mallory Chapman, Brynn Vogel, Elle Ballard, Alexis Bloom, Chloe Branum, Kevin Ware, Stanley Peters, Ellyanna Gee, Bryan Vogel, Sarah Emery, Blaine Wheeler

Personnel Actions

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

Certified

Motion by Mr. Hula, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to approve Marnie Hallet-Szymanski and Katie Berg, 8th Grade Trip Advisor supplemental 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. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Lippert, to accept the resignation of Bill Minshall, Head Boys Track Coach for the 2024-2025 season; 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, to hire the following coaching supplemental positions for the 2024- 2025 school year: Swim/Dive: Lauren Drossman - Varsity Dive Coach and two other schools Dive; Kaycee Hallett - Varsity Assistant Swim and JH Swim Coach; Mollie Biehl - JH Assistant Swim Coach; Girls Basketball: Corey Britton - 34% Varsity Assistant and JV Coach; Logan Harris - 50% Freshman Coach; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Classified

Motion by Mr. Hula, seconded by Mr. Sutorius, to hire Kain Hall (CBI Student), as a Substitute Custodian 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. Sutorius, seconded by Mr. Lippert, to hire Melissa Stetler Substitute Bus Driver; 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, to amend Sondra Adams Substitute Bus Aide/Substitute Bus Driver; 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. Schoenegge, to amend Meredith Hind's contract to Kitchen Cashier / Special Education Aide position, retroactive to September 23, 2024. Mr. Kurt stated that we have several OAPSE employees that are willing to pick up additional jobs within the OAPSE union to help support temporary openings and issues, which is a win-win for the employee and district; 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 amend Karen Gearheart and Joann Rutger's contract to Bus Driver/Educational Aide for the 2024-2025 school year, effective October 21, 2024. Mr. Kurt reiterated that this is the same situation as the previous motion; 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, to hire the following coaching supplemental positions for the 2024- 2025 school year: Boys Basketball: Jake Meisler - Varsity Assistant Coach; Denny Bailey - JV Coach; Dylan Morris - Freshman Coach; Ryan Spicer - 8th Grade Coach; Austin Spicer - 7th Grade Coach; Girls Basketball: Brian Heck - 33% Varsity Assistant and JV Coach; Dan Hedberg - 33% Varsity Assistant and JV Coach; Courtney Fitzgerald - 50% Freshman Coach; Tony Haerr - 50% 8th Grade Coach; Rockell Kuns - 50% 8th Grade Coach; Greg Wiedenheft - 7th Grade Coach; Wrestling: Kaden Keegan - Varsity Assistant Coach; Derek Cook - JH Coach; 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. Sutorius, to approve the following sports volunteers for the 2024-2025 school year: Swim - Volunteer Swim Coach: Troy Miller; Boys Basketball - Volunteer Assistant Coaches: Mike Raifsnider; Steve Keller Sr.; Derick Bailey; Micah Groot; Girls Basketball: Tom Link - Volunteer Assistant Coach; Joe Bias - Volunteer 7th Grade Coach; Wrestling - Volunteer Assistant Coaches: Tristan Stoll; Cameron Gessner; Jacob Supina; 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; Roll Call: Mr. Lippert: aye, Mr. Schoenegge: aye, Mr. Sutorius: aye, Mr. Hula: aye, and Mrs. Tucker: aye.

Mrs. Tucker stated the next BOE Regular Meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at Margaretta Board of Education office, 305 S. Washington St. Castalia, Oh 44824

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. with Mrs. Keegan, and Mr. Kurt remaining in the Executive Session.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 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