RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS 009
Minutes of MADEIRA BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting
Held February 18, 2025

The Regular meeting of the Madeira Board of Education was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 7:00 pm respectively in accordance with written notices sent to each member. The meeting was called to order by President Ryan Lex.

Present: Steve Bernicke, Brad Cunningham, Dave Eberly, Ryan Lex, Ann Ramos
Also present at the meeting were Kenji Matsudo, Emily Hauser, Dave Bergan and Eric Guerre.

AGENDA (30-25) – Mrs. Ramos moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham to approve the agenda for the February 18, 2025 meeting of the Board of Education.
Mr. Eberly, aye; Mrs. Ramos, aye; Mr. Bernicke, aye; Mr. Cunningham, aye; Mr. Lex, aye.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC – There were no public comments at this time.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORTS
Understanding and Navigating the Landscape of Tech in K-12 Schools (Exhibit-1), presented by Eric Guerre. Planning Commission team members were Emily Morgan, Kara Foley, Katie Smith, Chris Wagner, and Eric Guerre.

Objective: This study will explore how to better prepare and expose students to the emerging artificial intelligence boom and evolving technology usage in K-12. How can we help students become critical thinkers and consumers of digital information? What impacts will artificial intelligence have on career paths for students and how do we help prepare our students for this evolving landscape?

Methodology:
- Researched neighboring school districts' current practices and compared to Madeira
- Surveyed students & staff on their current usage
- Interviewed industry contacts on how to best prepare students for future career paths
- Explored best practices
- Recommended next steps

Key Findings:
- AI is being leveraged in all three schools in Madeira, however, there is a significant gap in understanding how to use the technology for its intended result, both for students and staff.
- Surveyed staff in Madeira want to learn more about AI.
- Funding through state programs may help offset cost associated with training.
- AI is a complement to teaching and learning, not a replacement.
- AI offers greater potential outcomes rather than damaging impacts.
- Based on privacy policies and age recommendations from the technology apps themselves, some districts restrict student access to grades 8 and below based on general age requirement of 13 in user agreements.
- This is the tip of the iceberg. There are endless opportunities for learning within the classroom and an equal amount of opportunities for teachers to learn how to best integrate the use of AI in their classrooms.

The committee covered what neighboring districts are doing, Madeira's current practices and staff surveys.

Key Takeaways from staff survey results:
- AI can assist with planning, assignments, study guides and tests. AI's impact on critical thinking skills for students.
- Staff would love more professional development on integrating AI into the classroom, along with dedicated time to plan and collaborate on best practices.

Key takeaways from student survey results:

- 46ish% of our middle school students have used AI on schoolwork.
- Most see it as a tool to help with writing
- They are using AI that is teacher directed or popping up on documents (Grammarly)
- MMS students generally have a fairly limited view of how AI can be used as a learning tool (writing assistance)
- Many associate AI with cheating
- MMS students are most comfortable with AI tools that have been introduced and modeled by teachers.
- Many of our middle schoolers currently have a limited view of how AI will impact their futures.
- There is a weariness in many responses about AI and how it may negatively affect the job market.
- An emphasis on empowering students to view AI as an opportunity for learning and growth should be a goal as we discuss AI use in the classroom.

Recommendations:

- Develop written policies and resolution paths for incidents; include student parent acknowledgement
- Create an "AI Exploration" team, comprised of staff and students
- Designate in-building resources to focus on AI in the classroom
- Incorporate AI topics into In-service day education; "Train the trainer"
- Further research best practices for how to incorporate AO into class curriculum(s)
- Extend Digital Citizenship program through middle and high school
- Establish "AI/Technology" board as a part of PC; leverage alumni

Conclusion:

- AI is a complex topic that no one has solved
- Students are using AI, but need guidance on the rules and how to use it "for good"
- Emphasize creativity, adaptability, communication, and collaboration skills
- Continuous education for AI literacy is needed
- Leverage Madeira network to link the classroom to career paths

PRESENTATION

EdChoice School Voucher Presentation

Mr. Matsudo and Mr. Bergan provided information on Ohio universal school vouchers and their impact to public education.

As of the 2023-2024 school year in Ohio, any family can take a school voucher to attend any school of their choice regardless of income or performance of their home district. In the 2024-2025 school year, Madeira has 188 students on the Edchoice expansion voucher. The majority of these families were already sending their students to a private school. Private schools that accept Edchoice vouchers don't have any regulations on how the funds are spent, while the list of public school regulations and requirements is long, costly and ever-expanding. Families do not have the same comparison tool that is required of public schools with the Ohio public school report card. State voucher spending has ballooned to over $1 billion dollars. Local communities will likely be asked to shoulder more and more of the tax burden to keep their public schools operating.

Takeaways for our community and legislators:

- Fair School Funding Plan: Continue to phase in the Fair School Funding Plan and update the base cost inputs.
- State Guarantee Funding: Continue to fully fund the guarantee for districts experiencing enrollment growth.
- Property Tax Funding: As law makers introduce tax reform legislation, they need to keep in mind that making changes to property taxes can impact districts that don't have the option to rely on state funding.
- Universal Vouchers: Public Ohio tax dollars being sent to private schools impacts public school funding and if it continues and there is no referendum, private schools should at least have the same public school accountability measures so that taxpayers know their effectiveness.

CONSENT CALENDAR (31-25) – Mr. Eberly moved, seconded by Mrs. Ramos to approve the consent calendar.

A. Minutes

1. January 13, 2025 (Exhibit-2)

B. Resignation – Classified/Support

1. **Lisa Hilliker –** MHS Media Aide effective 2/28/2025
2. **Leah Brady –** Preschool Aide effective 2/11/2025 (pending below approval)

C. **Employment – Classified Support, Educational Aide, *dependent upon valid license and background checks.***

1. **Julie Crompton –** MES Special Education Assistant
2. **Leah Brady –** MES Special Education Assistant

D. Supplemental Contract for the 2024-2025 School Year unless otherwise specified
Supplement contract finalization will be dependent upon person/s obtaining background checks and active Professional License or Educational Aide Permit issued by the State Board of Education per 3319.303, signing contract and personnel file paperwork completion.

Funded with General Funds - Certified

Name	Assignment	Amount
Mari Cisney	MHS Theatre – Spring Vocal Director	$1,000.00
McKenna Flores	MHS Theatre – Spring Choreographer	$500.00

Funded with Non-General Funds - Certified

Name	Assignment	Amount
Tieraney Flores	MHS Theatre – Spring Costume Designer	$500.00
Rick Adams	MHS Theatre – Spring Audio Director	$500.00
Lori Adams	MHS Theatre – Spring Orchestra Director	$1,200.00
Mari Cisney	MHS Theatre – Spring Orchestra Member	$700.00
Ryan Ervin	MHS Theatre – Spring Orchestra Member	$700.00

Funded with Non-General Funds - Classified

Name	Assignment	Amount
Andrea Azzarita	MHS Theatre – Spring Technical Director	$1,000.00

E. Treasurers Report

1. General Fund Financial Report for January, 2025 and **warrant payments for all funds** in the amount of $940,111**.** (Exhibit-3)

	Jan 1- Jan 31	FY25 FYTD	FY24 FYTD
Revenues	$2,256,459	$16,033,459	$14,065,772
Expenditures	$2,274,486	$15,824,079	$17,663,128
Ending Cash	$14,182,660	$14,182,660	$11,155,253

2. Donations

Donor	Item/Recipient	Amount
St. Paul United Methodist Church	MES – Field Trips	$500.00
Chris and Stacey Browning	MHS – Football	$250.00
Chris and Stacey Browning	MHS – Band	$250.00
Madeira Athletic Boosters	MHS – Athletics	$6,000.00
Madeira Athletic Boosters	MHS – Athletic Training Muscle Stimulator Machine	$3,700.00
Neediest Kids of All	MHS – Student Needs	$500.00
Chipotle Mexican Grill	MHS – Student Government	$491.04

Vote: Mr. Eberly, aye; Mrs. Ramos, aye; Mr. Bernicke, aye; Mr. Cunningham, aye; Mr. Lex, aye.

ATHLETIC CONSENT CALENDAR (32-25) – Mrs. Ramos moved, seconded by Mr. Eberly to approve the athletic consent calendar.

A. Supplemental Contracts for the 2024-2025 School Year - ***dependent upon valid license and background checks.***

Funded with General Funds - Certified

Name	Assignment	Amount
Taylor Brannon	MHS – Boys Tennis Head Coach	$3,352.00
Catie Sherman	MMS – Boys Tennis Coach	$1,200.00
Tyler James	MHS – Baseball Head Coach	$5,084.00
Kirby Slater	MHS – Baseball Coach	$3,461.00
Josh Dooley	MHS – Track Head Coach	$4,651.00

Funded with Non General Funds – Classified/Support

Name	Assignment	Amount
Erin Cofskey	Mini Zons Camp Supervisor	$1,500.00
Aaron Harding	Mighty Mustang Camp Director	$1,500.00
Brian Kellett	Mighty Mustang Camp Supervisor	$1,000.00
Robert Manning	Mighty Mustang Camp Site Coordinator	$1,000.00
Mike Lockhart	Mighty Mustang Camp Site Coordinator	$1,000.00

B. LIMITED CONTRACTS FOR NON-TEACHING PUPIL ACTIVITY DUTIES – Moved the Board resolve that a vacancy exists in the positions listed below, that the position was offered to current district or out of district licensed employees and no such qualified person applied for or accepted the position. The following non-licensed person/s applied for and is/are qualified for the position. ***Coach employment and contract finalization will be dependent upon person/s obtaining background checks, completing OHSAA requirements, valid pupil activity program permit issued by the State Board of Education per 3319.303, signing contract and personnel file paperwork completion.***

Name	Assignment	Amount
Ron Bashara	MHS – Boys Tennis Coach	$1,838.00
Mason Elam	MHS – Baseball Coach	$2,704.00
Charles Smith	MHS – Softball Head Coach	$5,084.00
Nate Mercer	MHS – Softball Coach	$2,055.00
Emma Boomershine	MHS – Girls Lacrosse Head Coach	$4,867.00
Brooke Paciolla	MHS – Girls Lacrosse Coach	$2,866.00
Howard Miller	MHS – Boys Lacrosse Head Coach	$4,867.00
Andrew Stricker	MHS – Boys Lacrosse Coach	$2,866.00
Spenser Cox	MHS – Track Coach	$2,184.00
Alex Dawson	MMS – Track Coach	$2,080.00
Dale Clever	MHS – Track Coach	$1,456.00
Alison Echler	MMS – Track Coach	$800.00
Sarah Wagner	MMS – Track Coach	$2,163.00

Vote: Mr. Eberly, aye; Mrs. Ramos, aye; Mr. Bernicke, aye; Mr. Cunningham, abstain; Mr. Lex, aye.

PERSONNEL

Resignation for Purpose of Retirement (33-25) – Mr. Eberly moved, seconded by Mrs. Ramos to accept with great appreciation the resignation for purpose of retirement of **Mary Ann McPherson** effective at the end of the school year.
Vote: Mr. Eberly, aye; Mrs. Ramos, aye; Mr. Bernicke, aye; Mr. Cunningham, aye; Mr. Lex, aye.

Resignation for Purpose of Retirement (34-25) – Mr. Eberly moved, seconded by Mrs. Ramos to accept with great appreciation the resignation for purpose of retirement of **Tricia Wilson** effective at the end of the school year.
Vote: Mr. Eberly, aye; Mrs. Ramos, aye; Mr. Bernicke, aye; Mr. Cunningham, aye; Mr. Lex, aye.

GOVERNANCE

Time, Date, and Location of Meetings (35-25) – Mrs. Ramos moved, seconded by Mr. Eberly to change the following dates for Regular Board Meetings which will be held at 7pm in the Madeira High School – Perin Learning Commons, 7465 Loannes Dr., Hamilton County, Madeira, Ohio, unless otherwise announced.

June 9, 2025
July 14, 2025
August 4, 2025

Vote: Mr. Eberly, aye; Mrs. Ramos, aye; Mr. Bernicke, aye; Mr. Cunningham, aye; Mr. Lex, aye.

Middle School Grade 8 Students to Washington DC in 2025 (36-25) – Mr. Eberly moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham to approve an extended field trip for the Madeira Middle School 8th grade field trip to Washington DC from October 8 to October 10, 2025. (Exhibit-4)
Vote: Mr. Eberly, aye; Mrs. Ramos, aye; Mr. Bernicke, aye; Mr. Cunningham, aye; Mr. Lex, aye.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Finance – Mrs. Hauser reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the increase to Madeira's property/liability insurance of 12.86% and took its first look at the salary study spreadsheet results. The planning commission will report the salary study results at the March Board of Education meeting. The committee also discussed staffing, the tech replacement cycle, and facilities. Lastly, Mrs. Hauser reported that the Kenwood Senior Star property came off of abatement at the beginning of 2025 as expected. The property's new value is exactly what we were expecting. As planned in the Five Year Forecast, Madeira will lose the TIF revenue while also receiving the new tax revenue with a net increase in revenue of approximately $438,000. This revenue has been expected and planned for in Madeira's Five Year Forecast.
- Buildings and Grounds – Mr. Bergan reported that the district is on track for a spring break demolition in the gym to replace the gym floor and bleachers. Mr. Bergan also reported that he is gathering information on smaller projects and will report back.
- Community Relations – Mr. Matsudo reported that the middle school theatre performance was great and had over 70 kids involved. Mr. Bergan added that they also had a lot of great helpers.
- Policy – There was no formal update provided at this time.

BOARD COMMITTEE/LIASION REPORTS

- Planning Commission – Mr. Matsudo reported that the Board will hear the salary study in March.
- Great Oaks – There was no formal update provided at this time.
- Legislation – Mr. Matsudo reported that we will continue to monitor what happens with the budget bill and get in touch with our legislators. Mrs. Hauser reviewed that the budget continues the phase in of the Fair School Funding Plan but it freezes base cost inputs at FY22 levels. Failing to update the base cost inputs, while updating property valuation and income (Ohio law), results in the formula becoming unbalanced leading to districts being further reliant on local property taxes and the guarantee. The budget also reduces guarantee funding to 95% in FY26 and 90% in FY27. A change in the guarantee would directly impact Madeira as the district is heavily reliant upon the guarantee. While 5% and 10% may seem minimal, I fear that this would open the floodgate to further guarantee reductions. The majority of Madeira's funding is from our local taxpayers, further reduction in state funding would make the district even more reliant on our community to fund the schools.
- Student Achievement Liaison – Mr. Cunningham reported that Tyler Matsudo made it to swim at state this week! Mr. Matsudo thanked Mr. Cunningham for his dedication to the swim program. Mr. Matsudo also thanked Mrs. Ramos for her dedication to the Theatre program.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. Matsudo reported that Madeira Silverwood Church approached the district to partner with them to repair their parking lot. Madeira uses the parking lot for overflow parking for events at the high school and elementary school. Mr. Matsudo did an analysis and counted how many days we use the lot for overflow parking and came up with a calculation of how much could be contributed. We will continue to work with the church on a solution and bring it back for Board approval.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (37-25) – Mr. Eberly moved, seconded by Mrs. Ramos to adjourn to Executive Session to consider employment of public employees.
Vote: Mr. Eberly, aye; Mrs. Ramos, aye; Mr. Bernicke, aye; Mr. Cunningham, aye; Mr. Lex, aye.

ADJOURNMENT (38-25) – Mrs. Ramos moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham that the February 18, 2025 regular meeting of the Madeira Board of Education be adjourned.
Vote: Mr. Eberly, aye; Mrs. Ramos, aye; Mr. Bernicke, aye; Mr. Cunningham, aye; Mr. Lex, aye.

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Board President Treasurer