

## Minutes of April 3, 2017 CEO's Public Update Meeting

CEO Krish Mohip called the meeting to order. The meeting was at Discovery Transitions to Careers at Volney, 2400 S. Schenley.

CEO Mohip announced that Treasurer Sherry Tyson is retiring and he is investigating several options to fill her duties. That could mean hiring a new treasurer or consolidating those duties with other positions. He said he's also considering contract suspensions and other options to put more money into classrooms.

The district's directors of transformation each presented reports highlighting their respective schools progress including parent events, student and staff attendance , afterschool participation and teachers receiving feedback.

Roshay Huff works with East and Chaney, Kelly Weeks with Bunn and Volney, Stephanie Rider with Martin Luther King Elementary and Discovery at Kirkmere, Michelle McCaughtry Youngstown Early College and Rayen Early College, Amanda McGuinness with McGuffey and Williamson, Connie Coburn with Harding and Taft Elementary schools and Greg Kibler with Choffin Career and Technical Center and Programs of Promise at Wilson.

Joseph Nohra Jr., chief operations officer, talked about plans and programs of the district's food service department which is led by Susan Paris, director. This marks the fifth year that the department has been awarded a grant to provide fruits and vegetables to elementary school students as an afternoon snack.

Participation in breakfast provided by YCSD to all students is lower at Williamson, 49 percent, and East, 44 percent. The food service department is pursuing another grant to try to bolster those numbers next school year. The school district also is exploring Breakfast in the Classroom for next year. That would allow students to eat the morning meal in the classroom. Nohra explained that some children may not have enough time to finish breakfast in the cafeteria before class or if they come to school late, they miss breakfast altogether. Breakfast in the Classroom would curb that.

The district has developed a partnership with Oh Wow! The Roger & Gloria Jones Children's Center for Science & Technology and the center is going to provide "Hello" signs for each of YCSD's schools.

Greg Slemons, chief financial officer, is seeking requests for proposals for the school district's property and casualty insurance.

Joseph Meranto, chief of career-technical and adult education, said 32 students at Choffin Career and Technical Center will compete next week in the Skills USA competition, giving up a portion of their spring break to go.

Choffin is also selecting students for his programs and with the new system, 250 individuals already have applied. That's a 25 percent increase from last year, Meranto said. Choffin will be offering tests for adults in surgical technology and some other medical-related fields.

On April 19, Choffin, along with Eastern Gateway Community College, will unveil the new machining and welding lab inside at Choffin.

On April 28, Choffin and the Youngstown NAACP will host a scholarship luncheon and senior recognition at Choffin.

Of 150 student participants in the Youngstown Community Connectors program, led by Lois Haynes-Paige, 141 have been placed in jobs. Meranto said state officials have pointed to Youngstown's Community Connectors program as an example of how the program is supposed to work.

Lori Kopp, chief of student services, reported that the district will be offering Success By Six, a program through the United Way of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley, in August rather than June this year. Her department is continuing into the next phase of the state's audit of the special needs department.

Timothy Filipovich, chief of academic accountability and assessment, reported that representatives from the Ohio Department of Education are in the city school district this week for a review.

Filipovich reviewed DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) and STAR assessments which found the majority of students in most grade levels are performing "well below benchmark. CEO Mohip said the district still has a lot of work to do, but there are many who are meeting the benchmarks as well.

John LaPlante, chief information officer, talked about the BAG (Behavior, Attendance and Grade) reports that have been used by teachers and administrators since the fall to offer assistance earlier for students who need it. Those reports last week began being distributed to students and sent home to parents.

Nohra, who gave a Transportation Chief Colleen Murphy-Penk's report, said the district has purchased new buses and those vehicles are being outfitted with up-to-date technology. The transportation department also is updating its maintenance system so equipment is repaired

more efficiently. Murphy-Penk couldn't attend the CEO meeting because she was driving a school bus as several drivers called in sick.

Denise Dick, communications, reported she and LaPlante are talking to a couple of companies about improving the district's website and developing an app.

Tyrone Olverson, chief academic officer, said a job fair in late March drew 107 people which was a slight decrease from the previous year. He's visited several colleges and universities to try to recruit teachers to come to YCSD. He listed the University of Cincinnati, Miami University, Wilberforce, Wright State, Central State and the University of Akron as some of those visited.

Nohra said the district has two major events planned later this month. On March 22, the district is working with Jon Howell, a city native, in Advancing Education-Reducing Crime. The event will run from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Taft, McGuffey, Harding and Martin Luther King. Participants can enjoy reading, essay writing contests, free breakfast and lunch, entertainment, free haircuts, city police dog demonstrations and the Sandy Hook Promise program.

On April 29 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the district is hosting a community garden building day. Patrick Lowry, director of strategic initiatives, is organizing the event which will install gardens at each school.

CEO Mohip announced that the next CEO Public Update will be Monday, May 8 at Martin Luther King Elementary School, 2724 Mariner. He said he's trying to bring information to residents as they may not be able to get to a meeting downtown.