

## Mayfield Schools Liaison Committee Meeting

Friday, May 12, 2023

In attendance: Jim Stafford (Co-Chair), David Atton, Audrey Dvorak, Greg Minichello, Meghan Perez, Robin Pollack, Laurel Ravida, Vikram Swamy

**Update on Focus Forward Mayfield initiative:** The Focus Forward Mayfield initiative is ongoing. Following the last meeting of the steering committee in April, steering committee members and school district staff and administrators were sent a survey to provide input on the 4 pillars (Our Students, Our People, Our Families and Community, and Our Operations) and their underlying goals. Some of the key discussion points for improvement throughout the process have been how to simplify the pillars and their underlying goals to improve communication and understanding of the pillars for district residents. For example, the use of “Our” for each pillar was intended to improve connection between the pillars and residents. The survey asked for input on whether the goals were working, could be improved, or if anything was missing. The Focus Forward Mayfield plan will be presented at the Board of Education Meeting on May 31, 2023 at 6:00pm.

**Recap of Environmental Center tour:** Committee members had an informative tour of the Gates Mills Environmental Center. The land is owned by the consortium of schools that manages Excel Tecc. At the tour, instructors estimated that about 65 students attend programs at the center, and about 20 of those students are from Mayfield. Jim presented figures on the number of overall Excel Tecc students that are Gates Mills residents and in the Excel Tecc program:

2022-2023-10  
2021-2022-11  
2020-2021-15  
2019-2020-17  
2018-2019-9

Attendees discussed the pros and cons of having additional data breakouts of the number of Gates Mills residents using district facilities in the village. The committee currently has data on the overall number of residents enrolled in the district.

### **Review of Schools:**

**Mayfield Middle School:** Robin discussed upcoming events at the Middle School. Students will have their Spring Fling with games, activities, and dancing later in May. 7<sup>th</sup> graders will be having their tour of Ohio end of school year trip, while 8<sup>th</sup> graders will get to go to Niagara Falls/Buffalo.

Robin also noted that the district will host large educational leaders from other states to showcase the Mayfield Portrait of a Wildcat and personalized learning pathways being implemented throughout the district. She also noted that the Garden Club Plant Sale at the Environmental Center is occurring today.

**Gates Mills Elementary School:** Meghan discussed recent and upcoming events at the elementary school. In April, students and families held Spring Fest, which included minute-to-win-it games and prizes, and planted nasturtium seed with the Gates Mills Garden Club. 1<sup>st</sup> graders recently completed their project based learning economics projects, making dog

blankets and cat wands for families to take home when they adopt a pet from Rescue Village in Geauga county. May featured Muffins in the Morning to celebrate all of the students' moms, grandmas, aunts, and other female role models, and the last official event of the school year will be the end of year picnic on the student's last day (June 9<sup>th</sup>). Students are participating in a contest to make posters for the 2023 Gates Mills 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade based on the theme of Family, Friendship, and Freedom. The elementary school is also coordinating with the village to host a summer movie night, aligned with the comprehensive plan goal of providing more activities for families in the village with children. The movie night will be July 28<sup>th</sup> (rain date July 29<sup>th</sup>) and information will go out in the June Pink Sheet.

Laurel shared that the students have completed state testing in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades and are ending the year with several field trips, including to the Cleveland Botanical Gardens, Severance Music Center, and the Great Lakes Science Center. Students will also be participating in a Community Service Day on June 6<sup>th</sup> where students will help out around the village (for example, one grade will help wash the police cars).

Gates Mills Elementary is also the featured school at the Board of Education Meeting on May 31<sup>st</sup>, and students will present in a video about their favorite things from the school year.

Renovations are underway at the school to relocate the main entrance to the front of the building so entrants will have to first pass through and be screened at the office before entering the building, vs. the current side door configuration. Construction will primarily be over the summer and be completed before the start of the school year.

### **Recap of Board of Education Meetings:**

March 30<sup>th</sup>: Vik presented the takeaways from the March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. About 30 people attended and CEVEC was the featured school so students and administrators were recognized. Athletic Director Keith Leffler was also recognized as Athletic Director of the year.

House Bill 1 was discussed as it relates to its effect on the tax burden to individual tax payers, as well as to revenue for school districts and participants were encouraged to contact their state representatives.

April 26<sup>th</sup>: Audrey presented the takeaways from the April 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. Excel Tecc students and administrators were recognized.

Next meeting: Attendees discussed when the next meeting would occur and whether to hold one in July. Attendees largely agreed that they could wait until the fall for the next meeting, at which point the Focus Forward Mayfield results could be discussed, and tours of the renovated facilities at Lander, Center, and Gates Mills elementary schools could occur.

### **Upcoming Village events:**

Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee Meeting, Lower level Gates Mills Community House, Tuesday May 16<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7:00pm

Gates Mills Players 75 year anniversary-Come for Dessert, Gates Mills Community House, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-9:00pm

Minutes prepared by Meghan Perez