



2022 TMACOG General Assembly School Districts & Colleges/Universities Caucus Monday, April 25, 2022

Call to Order/Welcome – The School Districts and Colleges/Universities Caucus met on Monday, April 25, 2022, at 8:15 a.m. in Parlor B at the Hilton Garden Inn in Perrysburg, Ohio. Cindy Miller, director of grants and strategic initiatives at Lourdes University, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present. She explained the purpose of the caucus for anyone who may be new to TMACOG.

TMACOG Members in attendance included:

- Bob Bailey, Senior Project Manager, DGL Consulting Engineers
- Lu Cooke, Northwest Ohio Regional Liaison, Office of Ohio Lt. Gov. Jon Husted
- Jeff Demaray, Project Coordinator MCCC Robotics, Monroe County Community College
- Ed Ewers, Superintendent, Penta Career Center
- Bob Falkenstein, Assistant Superintendent, Penta Career Center
- Shawn Frick, Assistant Provost/Career Design, Bowling Green State University
- Barry Kinsey, Director of Workforce Development, Monroe County Community College
- Cindy Miller, Director of Grants and Strategic Initiatives, Lourdes University
- Diane Miller, Chief of Staff/Associate Vice President for Governmental Relations, University of Toledo
- Mark North, Superintendent, Wood County Educational Service Center
- Dione Somerville, President, Owens Community College
- Megan Stretavski, Workforce Initiatives Manager, Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce

Non-Caucus members present included:

- Gary Click, State Representative, 88th District, Ohio House of Representatives

TMACOG staff present included:

- Sara Guiher, Water Quality Planner

Election of Representative to the TMACOG Board of Trustees – The first order of business on the agenda was the election of caucus members to this year's Board of Trustees. A ***motion*** was made by Diane Miller and ***seconded*** by Megan Stretavski seconded to elect the following representatives. The motion passed unanimously.

Trustees elected to represent member school districts include:

Ed Ewers, Penta Career Center
VACANT ALTERNATE SEAT

Trustees elected to represent member colleges and universities include:

Cindy Miller, Lourdes University
VACANT SEAT

Discussion Topics – The following topics were discussed by the caucus.

- **Coming back from COVID...moving on, again**

- Attendees acknowledged the development of some beneficial new efficiencies and pedagogies that were developed in response to the pandemic.
- Some concerns that were expressed regarding education post-pandemic included:
 - Decrease in people who go directly from high school to college
 - Increase in turnover and low interest in entering the education field, especially at the K-12 level
 - Pool of substitute teachers is very small for all capacities
 - Aspects that students have missed for the last two years, such as socialization, will need to be dealt with for at least the next 5 years
 - Mental health is a major concern, and the capacity of schools to address this is limited
 - Attempts to remedy some of the impacts of the last two years include enhanced mental health/counseling services, success coaches and first year experiences, and more touchpoints to help students stay on track, and engagement of families to support students

- **Workforce development**

- There is a need for increased cooperation across the state line for employment and training programs
- Programs for employees were discussed, such as Michigan New Jobs, Ohio Works, and Making Ohio
- The Talent Alignment Strategy, a study completed in 2018 by the Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce, is being updated

- **Legislation**

- Attendees mentioned two pieces of legislation:
 - Ohio House Bill 123: How can this bill help to provide mental health services to students at schools when the students are from neighboring counties?
 - Ohio Senate Bill 166: An incentive program to encourage employers to bring in young people for work-based learning

- **Action items**

- There were several potential action items identified that the caucus could collaborate on:
 - Opportunities around the federal infrastructure bill
 - Opportunities associated with the location of Intel in Ohio
 - Retaining students in the area/attracting those who may return
 - Regional transportation
- Cindy Miller offered to communicate with TMACOG and caucus members to coordinate any work items.

Next Steps – TMACOG staff reviewed notes from the caucus discussion. Ms. Miller and caucus attendees provided input to prepare a brief report for the TMACOG business meeting.

Adjournment – Cindy Miller thanked everyone for attending the caucus and adjourned the meeting.