

Prepared Notes for Staff Intro

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Marc A. Schare

614 791-0067

marc9@aol.com

Good Morning. My name is Marc Schare and I have the honor of serving as the President of the Worthington Board of Education this year. The theme for the morning is “Why Worthington” and if I don’t stick to the theme, I’ll get the famous “Jeff Maddox Stare of Disapproval” and trust me on this, you don’t want to get the famous “Jeff Maddox Stare of Disapproval” this early in the morning.

“Why Worthington”?

I could talk about the academic excellence that our community takes for granted, but you already know that because I’m sure you researched us before you decided to come and work here.

I could talk about all star team we have working in Central Office, but really, no one ever wants to talk about upper management in a large corporation.

I could take about the diversity and autonomy in each of our buildings, the really supportive parents and community and the amazing variety of opportunities we offer students, but you’ll experience all that soon enough.

No, I want to take my few minutes and talk about public education in general, it’s role in society and my personal expectations for our district.

Our society is changing, rapidly becoming a global knowledge based society. Public education must and will change to remain relevant. I don’t know what form that change is going to take. How could I? I’m a software guy, I’m not a teacher. But you are, and you are where the change is going to come from.

So Why Worthington? We have a history of innovation with our Linworth Program, Phoenix Alternative Middle School, STEM programming, Worthington Academy and others. In my experience, the best innovation in Worthington has always and will always come from teachers. Innovation cannot be dictated, it must be organic and you will be in the best position to suggest, to propose and to implement the changes that we all know must come to public education in the next 5, 10 and 20 years. Why Worthington? Because this district, right here in our increasingly diverse inner ring Central Ohio suburb is in a prime position to lead this effort, and lead we do. Our teachers have leadership positions in statewide organizations, as does our Central Office Staff and Treasurer. Even on our board, my colleague Charlie Wilson is a past President of the Ohio School Boards Association and a current member of the Board of Directors for the National School Boards Association. Why Worthington? Because we encourage risk if our students can benefit, we encourage personal and professional growth and because we have taken to heart a growth mindset not only for our students, but our staff as well. As with any job, there are no

guarantees here, but I'll make one anyway. Your job and the entire teaching profession is going to look different in 10, 15 or 20 years and I thank you in advance for coming to Worthington, working with our students every day and simultaneously, leading that change. Thank you for taking the time to listen and I'll pass the mike to my fellow BOE members to get their take on "Why Worthington".