

On Line With the Board

The following actions, comments, or discussions took place at the January 12, 2011 meeting of the board of education.

1. President Leacher called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Symons student council advisor, Dan Adams, and several of his students presented a large thank you card, signed by all of the students at Symons, to the board in appreciation of School Board Recognition month.
3. Transportation Director Cheryl Mayher also presented coffee mugs, filled with mementos, as a thank you gift to the board from her transportation staff.
4. Title I & At Risk staff from Paddock Elementary School gave a presentation on the intervention programs that are currently taking place in grades K-2.
5. The consent agenda, including the minutes of the regular meeting of December 12, 2010, and the bills/reimbursement of expenses were all approved.
6. First Reading material for the South and West Washtenaw Consortium Agreement was distributed. No Action Was Required.
7. Superintendent Girbach reported on the following:
 - Student Issues
 - Mr. Girbach commented on how proud he was of all the students and staff in the district regarding the high school tragedy that took place a week ago. He felt all staff in the district helped in any way they could to comfort and support the grieving students and each other. He was extremely impressed with the maturity of our students regarding their conduct throughout the services. He also commented on how the community came together and offered support.
 - Student Board Representative Blake LaForte was congratulated for having been chosen as one of two students from the State of Michigan to take part in the 49th Annual United States Senate Youth Program.
 - Six students from the newly formed DECA Club will represent Milan at the State Competition.
 - Letters to all 8th grade students were recently mailed home to parents regarding the International Baccalaureate program.
 - MEAP data has been received by the district but at this time it is still embargoed. The district is reviewing the data and will release it as soon as we are able.
 - There were concerns raised about our district attendance for Friday, January 7th, and there not being enough students in attendance for the day to be counted. Our district had an 80.7 % attendance rate that day and it will be counted.
 - The district is looking into presenting some staff, student, and possibly community assemblies during an informational series that will cover several topics.
 - There is a Postvention Meeting scheduled at MHS at 7:00 p.m. on January 27th.
 - Bond Update
 - MMS Pool is still under renovation but is close to completion. Construction crews are currently working on tile around the pool deck.
 - Phase 2A – Athletic concession building, bleachers, sound system, bus garage, tennis courts and the bathroom building are all in the design phase.
 - Other Information
 - Julie Helber presented information to the board on many current curriculum issues and updates.
 - Board Updates

- The board was reminded that the January workshop meeting is January 19th and topics of discussion will be district accreditation, policy review, central office work study, consortium agreement and MASB Next Steps.
 - There will be a bond update for the board at the February workshop meeting.
 - Information for the superintendent evaluation by the board will be distributed in February.
 - The WISD survey for State Legislature was emailed to the board and needs to be completed as soon as possible.
 - Meetings of the building and grounds committee and the policy committee were scheduled.
8. Student Board Representative Charles Polenz thanked the superintendent, the principals, counselors and all the staff at the high school for their handling of the previous week's tragedy.
 9. City Council member Michael Armitage complimented the behavior of the high school students at the funeral service this past week.
 10. A parent addressed the board with compliments to the board and Superintendent regarding our districts School of Choice program and how appreciative as a family they are that their children attend Milan Schools. He said they are completely satisfied with the programs and opportunities their children have in this district.
 11. Board members Bushart, Vershum and Leacher all commented on their pride for our student's behavior and the administration and staff support during the recent tragedy. They also felt a sense of coming together within the community.
 12. President Leacher adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.