

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, January 13, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order by Vice President Cislo at 7:00 p.m. on January 13, 2021.

Board Members Present: Cislo, Moccio, Kiger, Landingham, Frait, Heikka, Faro

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahon, Krista Hendrix, Lon Smith, Alison Smith, Clara Thiry, Connie Rose, Danial Heikka, James Brousseau, Jennifer Barker, Jill Gerweck, MAS Admin, Melissa Fiederlein, Micah Collins, Nichole Kuenzel, Pam Smaby, Tracy Terris, Wendy Unger, Andrea Kaplan, Lisa Francis

Guests Present: 734-546-7828, Aubrey Bukosky, Dell OptiPlex 7020's iPhone, iPhone, Jeannie's phone, Julian O'Bryan, Lamberts, Marsh, Michelle Dunnett, NC, S. Finch, Sadie Swartzlander, Samantha Stines, Sarah Vershum, Yo Gabba Gabba, April Smith, Tina, Kurt's iPhone, Renn Lambert, Eva Ruff, Stefanie's iPhone, David Smith, dmartini, Emily Pool, Ashley Putman

Pledge of Allegiance

Location of Board Members Attending Virtually:

Cislo – Milan, MI

Faro – Milan, MI

Frait – Milan Township, MI

Heikka – Milan, MI

Kiger – London Township, MI

Landingham – Exeter Township, MI

Moccio – York Township, MI

The Oath of Office was performed by Milan City Hall on January 7, 2021 at 2:00 pm for our three recently elected Board Members (Andrew Cislo: re-elected, Michelle Heikka: re-elected, and Thomas Faro: newly elected). Andrew, Michelle, and Thomas will be serving 6 year terms. A special thank you to City Hall for allowing us this honor by performing the oaths.

In recognition of National School Board Month, Superintendent Girbach recognized the Board for their hard work and tireless effort to support our students.

Motion by Faro supported by Heikka to elect Cislo for President of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education for a one year term. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Moccio supported by Kiger to elect Landingham for Vice-President of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education for a one year term. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Kiger to elect Moccio for Secretary of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education for a one year term. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Landingham supported by Faro to elect Kiger for Treasurer of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education for a one year term. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Kiger to approve the appointments listed below:

Washtenaw School Board Association Representative Frait.

Legislative Relations Network Representative Frait.

All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Lon Smith provided a Special Education Update to the Board. The presentation was included as Attachment A.

Public Comments: Tyler Sommers of 5655 Willow Rd, inquired about district plans regarding future instructional model changes.

Motion by Faro supported by Heikka to approve the minutes of the special meeting of December 2, 2020, approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 11, 2019 and to approve payment of bills/reimbursement of expenses. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Kiger to approve the 2020-2021 General Fund Budget Amendment as presented in Attachment C. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Landingham to appoint the following person to the teaching position listed and Base Salary listed effective immediately.

* Carol Winter – MMS Math (\$52,000)

Carried 6-1 (No vote by Heikka)

Motion by Moccio supported by Heikka to ratify all actions taken at the December 9, 2020 Regular Meeting as detailed in Attachment E. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Heikka supported by Moccio to remain in the hybrid instructional model with full virtual option for all grade levels and programs. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Heikka supported by Faro to approve the NEOLA policy updates as presented in Attachment F. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Heikka supported by Moccio to approve sending a letter (included as Attachment G) to the Washtenaw County Health Department supporting prioritizing the COVID vaccination to staff members in districts with in-person instruction ahead of staff members in districts with full virtual instruction. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Superintendent's Comments:

Students

- Second Semester Instructional Model Shifts (start January 19th)
 - All requests were granted. (a few families withdrew their request when contacted)
 - 47 students made request to switch from hybrid to virtual.
 - 71 students made request to switch from virtual to hybrid.
- Our Girls Swimming and Diving Team has 9 girls attending the State meet this Saturday. We wish the athletes and their coaches the best of luck!
- Congratulations to the MHS Football program. The team ended their season as District Champions after losing a tough fought game for the Regional Championship last Saturday.
- The current MDHHS Pandemic Order prohibits indoor contact sport competitions through January 31st. This includes basketball, wrestling, and ice hockey. Practices are allowed under very specific safety requirements. We believe that Boys Swimming and Diving will be allowed to practice and compete. The potential for our Bowling Team to compete and/or practice will depend on the MDHHS orders regarding bowling alley restrictions.

Staff

- Emily Mansour (MMS Teacher) had a Baby Boy – Henry Joseph Mansour
- Cheryl Moore (Former Paraprofessional) passed away on 12-11-20
- Luanne Latocki (Symons Administrative Assistant) lost her mother
- Andrew Cislo (Board Member) and Jennifer Barker (MMS Teacher) lost their father, Clyde Cislo
- Jane Keefe (Former Elementary Teacher) passed away at age 98
- Micah Collins (MMS Paraprofessional) had a baby girl – Charelette Maya Collins

Communication

- The district currently has 1,032 Twitter followers. That is down 11 from the last meeting.
- The district currently has 2,322 Facebook followers. That is up 17 from the last meeting.

General

- Superintendent Girbach thanked the district's mechanics (Doug Orr and Todd Anderson) and the transportation department for achieving a 100% pass rate on the 2019-2020 State School Bus Inspections. This marks 17 years of 100% pass rates for Milan Area Schools.

Assistant Superintendent's Comments:

- Assistant Superintendent McMahon shared that the amendment to the Consolidated Application has been approved and grants funds are now available.

- Assistant Superintendent McMahon thanked each of the schools for participating in the Rotary Christmas Basket program this year, which provided boxes of nonperishable food items, household essentials, and personal hygiene products to 90 households.

Board Member Comments:

- Board Member Kiger welcomed Thomas Faro to the Board.
- Board Member Landingham welcomed new Board Member Thomas Faro. Landingham shared that she will be attending the virtual National School Board Association Conference for Public Education Leaders in April. She also planned to attend the Equity Conference.
- Board Member Heikka thanked the City of Milan for the swearing in ceremony. Heikka also thanked all the staff and community for participating in the meeting via Zoom. In addition, Heikka thanked the social studies teachers for providing information about current events.
- Board Member Faro thanked the Milan community for their support and also thanked Rita Vershum for her support. Faro thanked the City of Milan for the swearing in ceremony. Faro also thanks President Vershum, Vice President Cislo, and Superintendent Girbach for the Board Member Orientation Seminar. In addition, Faro shared that he has and will be participating in numerous MASB courses.
- Board Member Cislo thanked all the staff and community for participating in the meeting via Zoom. Cislo thanked everyone for their kind condolences. Cislo stated that he is happy to have Thomas Faro on the Board, and reminded the Board that committee's will be coming soon. Cislo reminded the Board that the Michigan Association of School Board Winter Institute will be taking place on February 19-21st.

Student Board Member Comments: None

Time of Adjournment: 8:53 p.m.