

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024
AGENDA**

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Communications / Community Engagement

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public meeting. There are two times for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda. When addressing the Board, you will be asked to state your name. The Board determines the amount of time granted to individuals or groups to speak. Each person shall be allowed to speak for up to 3 minutes. Board members may question speakers, but are not obligated to answer questions or make statements or commitments in response to issues raised by the public. In general, such items will be referred to the superintendent for advisement, investigation, study, and/or recommendation or designated as future agenda items for Board consideration.

A. Public Comments

IV. Routine Matters for Approval

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting January 17, 2024

V. Board Organization

A. MASB Region 7 Board of Directors Representative Election – Attachment A

B. Change of Date of February 13, 2024 Regular Meeting - Attachment B

VI. Milan Area Schools Strategic Plan Business

A. Academics / Programs

1. Reimagine MAS: 2024-2025 and Beyond Update

B. Communications / Community Engagement

1. Public Comments

2. Student Board Representative Comments

3. Assistant Superintendent Comments

4. Superintendent Comments

5. Board Member Comments

VII. Other Old/New Business

A. Closed Session – Negotiation Strategies

VIII. Adjournment

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024
RESOLUTIONS**

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order in the District Office Boardroom located at 100 Big Red Drive, Milan MI, 48160, by President Cislo at _____ p.m. on January 31, 2024.

Board Members Present:

Board Members Absent:

Staff Present:

Guests Present:

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Communications / Community Engagement

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A. Public Comments

IV. Routine Matters for Approval

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting January 17, 2023

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 17, 2024.

Rosen-Leacher ____ Cislo ____ Faro ____ Gutierrez ____ Heikka ____ Meray ____ Prior ____
Carried _____.

V. Board Organization

A. MASB Region 7 Board of Directors Representative Election – Attachment A

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to direct the Superintendent, or designee, to cast the district's vote for the MASB Region 7 Board of Directors position for _____.
(Select One: Sharon Lee, Michael McVey, Jack Temsey, Mary Vincent, Dale Wingerd)

Cislo ____ Faro ____ Gutierrez ____ Heikka ____ Meray ____ Prior ____ Rosen-Leacher ____
Carried _____.

B. Change of Date of February 13, 2024 Regular Meeting - Attachment B

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to approve the change of date for the February 13, 2024 Regular Meeting as detailed in Attachment B.

Faro _____ Gutierrez _____ Heikka _____ Meray _____ Prior _____ Rosen-Leacher _____ Cislo _____
Carried _____.

VI. Milan Area Schools Strategic Plan Business

A. Academics / Programs

1. Reimagine MAS: 2024-2025 and Beyond Update

B. Communications / Community Engagement

1. Public Comments

2. Student Board Representative Comments

3. Assistant Superintendent Comments

4. Superintendent Comments

5. Board Member Comments

VII. Other Old/New Business

A. Closed Session – Negotiation Strategies

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to enter into closed session pursuant to Section 8(1)(c) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act for the purpose of negotiation strategies.

Gutierrez _____ Heikka _____ Meray _____ Prior _____ Rosen-Leacher _____ Cislo _____ Faro _____
Carried _____.

Time entered closed session _____.

Time returned to open session _____.

VIII. Adjournment - Time of Adjournment _____.

DRAFT

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, January 17, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order in the Milan Area Schools District Boardroom located at 100 Big Red Drive, Milan MI, 48160, by President Cislo at 7:00 p.m. on January 17, 2024

Board Members Present: Prior, Rosen-Leacher, Cislo, Meray, Gutierrez

Board Members Absent: Faro, Heikka

Signed in Staff: Bryan Girbach, Margaret Durkee

Signed in Guests: Beth Vandergrift, Andrea Bennink, George Elder, Holly Charter

Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent Bryan Girbach read a proclamation from Governor Gretchen Whitmer in observance of School Board Recognition month. He then personally thanked the board members for their service to Milan Area Schools.

Motion by Prior supported by Rosen-Leacher to elect Andrew Cislo for President of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education for a one year term. All Ayes Carried 5-0

Motion by Gutierrez supported by Meray to elect Rosen-Leacher for Vice President of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education for a one year term. All Ayes. Carried 5-0

Motion by Gutierrez supported by Rosen-Leacher to elect Heikka for Secretary of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education for a one year term. All Ayes. Carried 5-0

Motion by Meray supported by Gutierrez to elect Faro for Treasurer of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education for a one year term. All Ayes. Carried 5-0

Motion by Rosen-Leacher supported by Meray to approve the appointments listed below:

Washtenaw School Board Association Representative Gutierrez.

Legislative Relations Network Representative Prior.

All Ayes. Carried 5-0

Public Comments: None

Motion by Prior supported by Gutierrez to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 13, 2023. All Ayes. Carried 5-0

Motion by Rosen-Leacher supported by Gutierrez to approve the minutes of the regular meeting closed session of December 13, 2023. All Ayes. Carried 5-0

Motion by Meray supported by Prior to approve the bills/reimbursement of expenses. All Ayes. Carried 5-0

Motion by Gutierrez supported by Rosen-Leacher to approve Vickie Morey as a Symons Elementary School Classroom Teacher and Simona Cucuiet as a Milan Middle School Teacher Consultant effective immediately. All Ayes. Carried 5-0

Motion by Gutierrez supported by Rosen-Leacher to approve Kristen Schwartz as the Symons Elementary School Principal effective immediately. All Ayes. Carried 5-0

The Board received a PAC update presented by Andrea Bennink.

The Board was provided an update on the Strategic Plan Scorecard by Superintendent Girbach.

Public Comments:

- Andrea Bennink asked if there was a way to create a survey specifically for students with IEPs that would be more accessible. She also suggested adding direct links on the MAS website to social media accounts for various school groups, buildings, clubs etc.

Student Board Representative Comments: None

Assistant Superintendent Comments: None

Superintendent Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Milan Rotary Club Christmas Basket Program
- Passing of Dawn Hynds's Sister
- Passing of Terry Himich's Mother and Kristi Hosler's Grandmother
- Passing of Debbi Hosler's Husband
- MASSS LOA Approval
- MHS Exam Cram
- Board Support for Symons Principal
- Additional Paraprofessional Hires
- Passing of Dennis McComb
- Passing of Joanne Heath
- Washtenaw County Superintendents and Police Chiefs Meeting
- School Closures

Board Member Comments:

- Cislo discussed Board Member committee assignments, the upcoming School Board self-evaluation with MASB, and Ms. Moran's GMACF grant support letter. Cislo also thanked Mrs. Bennink for her

update and reminded the audience that the district has a vacant slot on the WISD Parent Action Committee.

- Rosen-Leacher asked about the GMACF gala date and location. She summarized the work of the GMACF and how MAS students and schools benefit from the GMACF. She highlighted the upcoming Big Red Chat with the Board scheduled for February 20th at Milan Middle School.
- Prior spoke about attending the District Communications Committee meeting and expressed appreciation for the work being done by the committee.
- Gutierrez expressed gratitude for the many people working to support special education in our district/county and for their advocacy work. She echoed Ms. Bennink's call for cognitive accessibility across our district and programs.
- Meray thanked Ms. Bennink for her advocacy efforts and shared that she has completed all of the Level 1 and Level 2 CBA classes offered by MASB.

Time of Adjournment: 8:41pm

Region 7 (Three-Year Term)



Sharon Lee

A

Ypsilanti Community Schools, Washtenaw County

**Time served
on this board:**

9 years

Offices held:

President, Vice
President, and
Secretary

MASB Certification:

Certified Boardmember Award
Award of Merit
Award of Distinction
Master Boardmember Award
Master Diamond Award
Advocacy Specialty
Data Specialty

Election Statement:

As a candidate for the MASB Board of Directors, my commitment to education is evident through my nine years of dedicated service on the Ypsilanti Community Schools Board of Education, where I currently hold the position of Vice President. My extensive experience in educational governance has provided me with valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities facing our schools.

I am deeply involved in the Michigan Association of School Boards, participating in various board subcommittees and actively engaging with the community at district events. My volunteer work at Joyful Treats Community Development Corp., led by Ms. Khadija Wallace, underscores my commitment to serving the broader community. By distributing food to the Ypsilanti Community and surrounding areas,

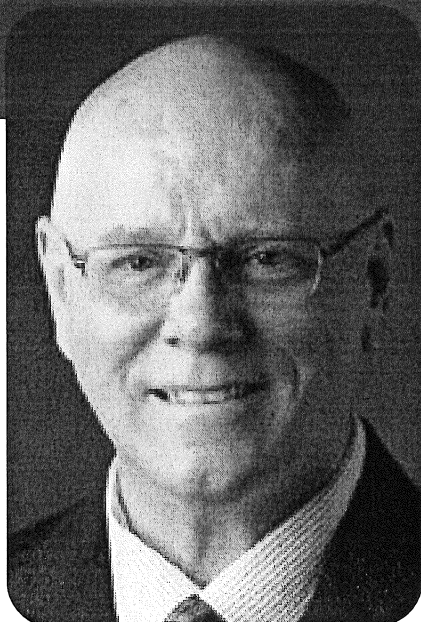
I contribute to the well-being of our residents beyond the realm of education.

Student safety is a top priority for me. I am proud of our collective effort to empower teachers, administrators, and staff through training programs such as A.L.I.C.E., Threat Assessment and Mental Health First Aid. Ensuring a secure environment for our students is crucial, and I am committed to fostering a culture that prioritizes their well-being.

One of the pressing issues we face is youth homelessness. Research has highlighted the alarming rates of homelessness among young adults, a situation that demands our immediate attention. While Ypsilanti Community Schools has commendable programs addressing this concern, I believe that a collaborative, all-encompassing approach is necessary. I am determined to work towards expanding and enhancing initiatives to support homeless youth, ensuring they have the resources and opportunities they need to break free from the cycle of homelessness.

In seeking a position on the MASB Board of Directors, my goal is to leverage my experience, passion, and dedication to effect positive change in education. I believe in the power of collaboration and aim to bring diverse perspectives to the table to address the multifaceted challenges our schools face. I am committed to making informed decisions that benefit all stakeholders, with a focus on student success, safety and well-being. Your vote for me is a vote for a stronger, more inclusive education system that prepares our youth for a brighter future. Together, let's build a foundation for excellence in education and ensure that no student is left behind.

Region 7 (Three-Year Term)



Michael McVey

Saline Area Schools, Washtenaw County

**Time served
on this board :**

7 years

Offices held:

President, Vice
President, and
Secretary

MASB Certification:

Certified Boardmember Award

Award of Merit

Award of Distinction

Master Boardmember Award

Master Diamond Award

Master Platinum Award

President's Award of Recognition

Advocacy Specialty

Election Statement:

It has been my honor to have spent over 40 years serving students, teachers, schools and educational organizations. I have gained a wealth of experience that has served me well during my service as a trustee.

I began my career in the classroom as an ELA and Special Education teacher. I also taught ESL for a year in Japan. After authoring a book for teachers and parents, "Meeting the Internet Challenge," I shifted gears to help train teachers at The University of Arizona. I earned a doctorate in Education and trained to be a school administrator.

That career path was altered when I became a professor of Teacher Education at Eastern Michigan University. In that role, I earned a reputation for my ability to explain policy issues and plan strategically. Most recently, I have been working with faculty and students as we manage both the disruption and the potential of AI in our classrooms.

Seven years ago, I sought a seat on our local school board because I wanted to be part of an engaged board focused on the needs of our students and the community. I was pleased to discover that the solid expertise of MASB was there to assist us as we worked through our district's challenges.

Since I was elected trustee for Saline Area Schools, I have served as that board's Secretary, Vice President and President. I was also the Washtenaw Association of School Boards president.

From my first day as a trustee, I embraced MASB's CBA program and was recently notified that I will receive the President's Award this spring. I am honored by that recognition.

MASB takes principled stances on current educational issues and provides much-needed guidance about legislative initiatives. I recently began serving on the Governmental Relations Committee and have enjoyed our vigorous debates in service of the districts we serve.

MASB has offered clear guidance, excellent legal support and superb trustee development. For those (and other) reasons, I am proud to run for a seat on its Board of Directors and to represent Region 7. Service on the Board of Directors would provide me an excellent opportunity to help MASB stay the course and continue providing such excellent support to newly elected and long-serving trustees.

Region 7 (Three-Year Term)



Jack Temsey

Eaton RESA, Eaton County

**Time served
on this board :**

7 years

Offices held:

President, Vice
President, Secretary
and Treasurer

**Time served on
another board :**

8 years

Pottersville
Public Schools

Offices held:

Secretary and
Treasurer

MASB Certification:

Certified Boardmember Award
Award of Merit
Award of Distinction
Master Boardmember Award
Master Diamond Award
Master Platinum Award
Advocacy Specialty
Data Specialty

Election Statement:

As a Board of Education Trustee, I feel we are the voice for our children. We need to utilize this voice to ensure we can offer our children the education they deserve, regardless of the struggles we face behind the scenes. We need to direct this voice to those that create legislation we feel will adversely affect public education and remember to offer praise to those that show us favor and offer to help. I believe the voice of our boards and communities can make a difference.

I have strived to become the best board member I can be. The way I have tried to accomplish this is to become certified through the MASB's CBA program. I have gained a wealth of knowledge by attending classes, conferences and other various events as well as networking with board members from around the state.

Public education is as diverse as our country. There are no single fix-all solutions that work for every school district. I feel bringing the voice of small communities and small districts to the forefront is important. I would like to continue advocating to provide adequate and equitable funding for ALL districts. Adequate funding is sufficient funding to provide basic schooling. Equitable funding is based on fairness.

I have served the Pottersville Public Schools Board of Education for eight years. During this time, I served on the Policy, Community Relations and Technology Committees, as well as Secretary and Treasurer of the board. I have been an Eaton RESA Trustee for seven years, serving on the Building and Grounds and Finance and Audit Committees as well as Secretary, Vice President and Treasurer. I am currently serving again as President.

Additionally, I have served MASB as a member of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee, Government Relations Committee plus served as its Vice Chairman. I just concluded my term on the Resolutions and Bylaws committee as its Vice Chairman and am currently serving again on the Government Relations Committee.

I would be honored to serve on the MASB Board of Directors, to represent you, our Region, and our students plus bring your voices to the table to further benefit the future for public education.

Region 7 (Three-Year Term)



Mary Vincent

Monroe Public Schools, Monroe County

**Time served
on this board:**

2 years

Offices held:

Secretary

MASB Certification:

Certified Boardmember Award

Award of Merit

Advocacy Specialty

Data Specialty

Election Statement:

BACKGROUND:

I earned my bachelor's degree in K-12 music education and my master's degree in K-12 administration and educational leadership. I was a public-school music teacher in southeast Michigan for 16 years – I have taught all grade levels, Y5 - 12, and a variety of content areas including general music, band, entrepreneurship and technology. My years of service have given me insights into the changing needs of our students, the new realities in our classrooms, and the important roles teachers, support staff and administrators play in the lives of our students and our community.

I serve on the Monroe Public Schools Board of Education and I am entering my second year as board secretary. I enjoy learning and I take every opportunity to educate myself about effective governance and how to be an effective board member. Since May 2023, I have earned an Award of Merit, Data Specialty, Advocacy Specialty and I am a member of the MASB Resolutions and Bylaws Committee.

PERSPECTIVES ON EDUCATION:

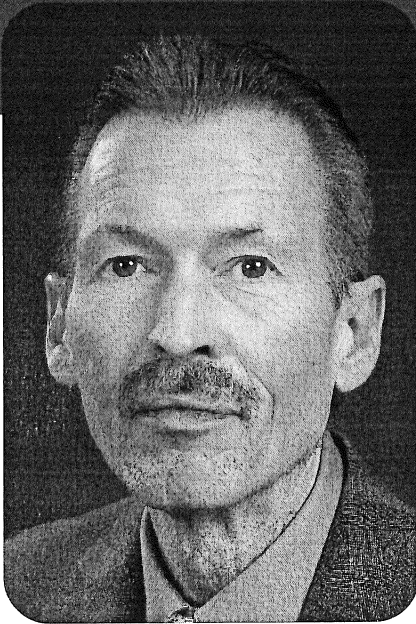
I believe our institutions are compelled to provide educational experiences and environments where all students and families are valued and supported. It is my belief that curricula and learning opportunities must provide high-quality content that reflects the people, the histories and the experiences of the communities we serve. I believe children are more than test scores and that school districts, along with community partners, need to prioritize individual student growth and well-being above summarized standardized test data.

WHY I WISH TO SERVE ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

One of my main goals as a board member is to advocate for our students and families by amplifying the voices of our school community members. I view the opportunity to serve on the MASB Board of Directors to continue this work on a larger scale. Region 7 embodies complex diversity, and my goal is to express the distinct needs represented in our districts at the MASB board table.

There is significant potential to increase MASB organizational engagement in southeastern Michigan. Increased association engagement will have a ripple effect. Increased MASB participation leads to increased board member development which leads to more effective governance which leads to positive trends in district outcomes. I believe serving on the Board of Directors will provide the needed stimulus to initiate conversations surrounding MASB opportunities while strengthening the network connecting our area school boards.

Region 7 (Three-Year Term)



Dale Wingerd INCUMBENT

Clinton Community Schools, Lenawee County

**Time served
on this board:**

17 years

Offices held:

President and
Secretary

**Time served on
another board:**

2 years
Lenawee ISD

MASB Certification:

Certified Boardmember Award

Award of Merit

Award of Distinction

Master Boardmember Award

Master Diamond Award

Master Platinum Award

President's Award of Recognition

Election Statement:

I would like to continue serving on the MASB Board of Directors for Region 7. Education is important to me. Serving as a director, I have continued to expand my knowledge as well as serving the learners of the great state of Michigan. I feel you never have enough knowledge; continued learning is important.

I have served on several committees through my two terms with MASB. If I am reelected, I will continue to provide guidance to the learners of this great state of Michigan.

NOTICE OF CHANGE OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MILAN AREA SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Milan Area Schools
100 Big Red Drive
Milan, MI 48160
(734) 439-5050

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Date of Original Meeting: Tuesday, February 13, 2024
Location of Original Meeting: Milan Area Schools District Office Boardroom
100 Big Red Drive, Milan MI, 48160
Time of Original Meeting: 7:00 PM

Date of Rescheduled Meeting: Monday, February 12, 2024
Location of Rescheduled Meeting: Milan Area Schools District Office Boardroom
100 Big Red Drive, Milan MI, 48160
Time of Rescheduled Meeting: 7:00 PM