

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, October 14, 2020**

The regular meeting (held in person and virtually using Zoom) of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order by President Vershum at 7:00 p.m. on October 14, 2020.

Board Members Present: Vershum, Moccio, Cislo, Kiger, Frait, Heikka, Landingham (remotely)

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahon, Aaron Shinn, Sean DeSarbo, Krista Hendrix, Jennifer Barker, Andrea Kaplan, Becky Hovatter, Clara Thiry, Connie Rose, Courtney Jeffers, Daniel Heikka, James Brousseau, MacKenzie Chappell, Melissa Fiederlein, Miranda Laskowski, Miranda Trout, Melissa Machak, Nicole Kuenzel, Wendy Unger

Guests Present: 734-546-7828, Aubrey Bukosky, Carrie, Holly, Karen Lambert, Lauren, Tom Faro, Yo Gabba Gabba, Ren Lambert, Tracey Kasperek

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Frait supported by Moccio to thank the administrators of Milan Area Schools as recorded in Attachment A. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Public Comments:

- Tom Faro of 696 Jefferson Lane thanked the teachers at the HS for supporting his daughter.

Motion by Cislo supported by Kiger to approve the consent agenda that includes the minutes of the regular meeting of September 9, 2020, the minutes of the workshop meeting of September 23, 2020, the approval of payment of bills/reimbursement of expenses, and the 2021 resolution to levy summer taxes. Carried 5-2 (No votes by Heikka and Frait)

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

* Nicholas Prentice – MHS Math (\$40,000)

Carried 5-2 (No votes by Heikka and Frait)

The Board heard a First Reading of the 2020 Annual Audit by Tracey Kasperek from Rehman Robson, as presented in Attachment D

The Board heard a First Reading of NEOLA Policy 6320 Revision as detailed in Attachment E

Superintendent Girbach provided the Board with a 2020-2021 School Year Update

- MAS COVID Case Dashboard Update

- Week Ending September 25 – 0 Positive Cases and 0 Quarantines
- Week Ending October 2 - 0 Positive Cases and 0 Quarantines
- Week Ending October 9 - 0 Positive Cases and 0 Quarantines
- We Will Have 2 Positive Cases the Week of 10-16-20 (no contact at school)
- ECOL Plan Attendance Update – Students with 2 Two-Way Communications

Building	Week Ending 9-11-20	Week Ending 9-18-20	Week Ending 9-25-20	Week Ending 10-2-20
Paddock	99.0%	99.5%	96.8%	98.5%
Symons	98.5%	99.2%	99.0%	98.8%
MMS	98.6%	98.9%	97.7%	98.2%
MHS	97.7%	97.2%	95.8%	97.4%
District	98.4%	98.6%	97.1%	98.1%

Motion by Heikka supported by Cislo to confirm the Milan Area Schools instructional model as detailed in the Extended Continuity of Learning (ECOL) Plan provided in Attachment F. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Superintendent’s Comments:

Students

- The Milan High School Equestrian Team participated at the equestrian regionals in Mason. The team finished as Reserve Champions and are on their way to States in Midland. Congratulations to the following: Lexi Keel, Sydney Bain, Hailey Burd, Taylor Hawley, Caelan Hunter, Lucy Middleton, Makenna Noon, Samantha Raasch, Payton Seog, Addie Wilcox and Nellie Wilcox. States will take place on Oct 14-18.

Staff

- MAS staff and families are doing a tremendous job of adapting to the new normal of K-12 education. We all continue to get better every day. Continued patience and understand is appreciated from and towards all stakeholders.
- Todd Clark (custodian) and Dawn Clark (transportation) lost Todd’s Father on 9-27-20

Communication

- The district currently has 1,033 Twitter followers. That is up 3 from the last meeting.
- The district currently has 2,195 Facebook followers. That is up 0 from the last meeting.

Board

- Off Scale Compensation
 - Spreadsheet has Been Developed
 - Tentative Percent Determined
 - Calculations Finalized following Board Approval of the Audit
 - Calculations Reviewed in November
 - Distribution on Last Paycheck of December
- The district has scheduled a candidate forum for the upcoming election. The forum will be held on Tuesday, October 20th. The forum will be moderated by a representative from the Milan Chamber of Commerce.
- The MASB virtual Leadership Conference is scheduled for November 5th through November 7th. Board members interested in attending should contact Anne Foor to assist with registration.

- Amy Landingham (Board Trustee) lost her Brother-in-Law

General

- Technology Update
 - We are Waiting for Delivery Information on the Chromebooks
 - Being Told Late October
 - Nation Wide Shortage
 - Help Desk Tickets – Getting Caught Up (prioritizing)
- General Update on Hybrid and Virtual Instruction
 - Both Models are Going Fairly Well
 - Friday Student Remote Day Provided Needed Time for Staff to Prepare
 - Student/Family Attention to Remote/Virtual Day Work is Needed
 - Remote/Virtual Days are a Struggle for Some Households
 - District is Investigating Ways to Provide Additional Support to Students

Assistant Superintendent's Comments:

- Assistant Superintendent McMahon shared a highlight for Paddock Elementary. A new book titled Vocabulary Development Across the Day, by Dr. Tanya Wright from MSU, is soon to be released and Paddock students and staff are showcased throughout the book. The instruction provided by the teachers at Paddock has served as a model for other districts for a number of years and MAS is proud to have their work highlighted in a major publication.
- Assistant Superintendent McMahon shared an update on assessments. Today was the first day for grades 9-11 on the PSAT suite of assessments and the NWEA assessment for grades K-5 should be wrapped up within the week.
- Assistant Superintendent McMahon shared that MAS is one of the first districts in Michigan to be activated in the new MDE school improvement program, MICIP, and the district is looking forward to serving as a model for other districts in the State.

Board Member Comments:

- Board Member Vershum gave an update on the Superintendent evaluation process. Vershum requested that the Finance Committee look into the finance materials provided each month for the consent agenda. Board Member Vershum gave kudos to the Paddock Staff for being selected to be part of Tonya Wright's new book on literacy. Vershum also directed a question to Superintendent Girbach regarding protocol for parents who do not comply with our mask mandate. Vershum also announced that Board meetings would be moving to the MHS Theater.
- Board Member Heikka expressed her happiness that we are looking in to ways to support families and asked a question regarding support for our teacher's mental health.
- Board Member Cislo thanked the staff and the community for the efforts to keep our cases down.

- Board Member Frait thanked Board Member Vershum for moving her finance concerns to the Finance Committee. Frait expressed concerns about High School work load on remote days.

Student Board Member Comments:

- Student Board Members Vershum and Bukosky talked about their positive experiences in the hybrid model.

Public Comments:

- Courtney Jeffers of 8919 Creekway, Ypsilanti made a suggestion to the Board to better utilize Zoom.

Motion by Cislo supported by Heikka to enter into closed session as allowed by the Open Meetings Act for Negotiation Strategies. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Time entered closed session 8:43 p.m.

Time returned to open session 9:20 p.m.

Time of Adjournment: 9:21 p.m.