

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, December 13, 2023**

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 December 13, 2023.

Board Members Present: Cislo, Faro, Heikka, Meray, Prior, Rosen-Leacher, Gutierrez (7:02)

Board Members Absent: None

Signed in Staff: Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahon, Margaret Durkee

Signed in Guests: Scott Morrell, Ruby Marteney, Ryan Lindemann, Laila Nemeth, Gabriela Balonos, Jennifer Bolanos, Maya Faro, Avery Powell

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

- Margaret Durkee spoke in favor of the Letter of Agreement with the Milan Area Schools Support Staff (MASSS) and upcoming negotiations on the expiration of the current contract.

Motion by Meray supported by Gutierrez to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 5, 2023. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Prior to approve the minutes of the regular meeting closed session of December 5, 2023. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Meray to approve the Letter of Agreement with the Milan Area Schools Support Staff (MASSS) as included in Attachment A. This approval is contingent upon the Milan Area Schools Support Staff's ratification of the same Letter of Agreement. Carried 6-0 Abstention from Gutierrez

Assistant Superintendent Ryan McMahon and Superintendent Bryan Girbach provided an update on several grants to both the Board and the Community.

Motion by Rosen-Leacher supported by Heikks to approve Allison Davis as a Milan Middle School Science Teacher effective immediately. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Public Comments: None

Student Board Representative Comments:

- Faro provided an update on upcoming events.
- Powell provided an update on upcoming events and previous events. She also discussed the Junior/Senior mentor program.

Assistant Superintendent Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Grant Update
- AI Conference

Superintendent Comments were heard on the following topics:

- MMS and MHS Band Concert
- Elementary Music Concerts
- MMS and MHS Choir Concert
- Community Input Session on Symopn's Principal Vacancy
- 12-8-23 Professional Development Day
- Winter Break

Board Member Comments:

- Rosen-Leacher spoke about closed sessions and comments received regarding changes in the principal at Symons Elementary. She wished the High School students good luck on their upcoming exams and everyone a joyful holiday season.
- Faro wished everyone a great holiday season.
- Meray thanked the music staff at the schools and praised their musical accomplishments. She thanked the staff for participating in the internal review process. She welcomed back Ms. Davis.
- Heikka explained she was able to vote on the MASSS LOA because it involved only a pay increase and, therefore, her usual professional conflict did not exist. She wished everyone a great holiday season.
- Gutierrez thanked the music department and our extremely talented students and staff. She apologized for being tardy and wished everyone good luck on their upcoming exams.
- Cislo wished everyone a Happy New Year and expressed appreciation to everyone for their hard work. He encouraged everyone to celebrate the holidays safely with their families.

Motion by Heikka supported by Faro to enter into closed session pursuant to Section 8(1)(a) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, and upon the request of the employee, for the purpose of conducting a periodic personnel evaluation. Carried 7-0

Time entered closed session 7:45 p.m.

Time returned to open session 9:53 p.m..

Motion by Heikka supported by Faro to rate Superintendent Bryan Girbach as Highly Effective for the 2023-2024 school year. Carried 6-0 Abstention by Prior

Time of Adjournment 9:54 p.m.