

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023
AGENDA**

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Board Recognitions

- A. Milan Area Schools Career and Technical Education Students - Attachment A

IV. 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

V. Routine Matters for Approval

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 8, 2023
- B. Minutes of the Regular Meeting Closed Session of February 8, 2023

VI. Milan Area Schools Strategic Plan Business

- A. Academics / Programs
 - 1. Paddock Body Safety Curriculum - Attachments B1, B2, B3
- B. Learning Environment / Culture
 - 1. Book Study of "Why Meadow Died"
- C. Communications / Community Engagement
 - 1. WISD PAC Update - Andrea Bennink
 - 2. Public Comments
 - 3. Student Board Representative Comments
 - 4. Superintendent Comments
 - 5. Assistant Superintendent Comments
 - 6. Board Member Comments

VII. Other Old/New Business

- A. Closed Session - Review Attorney-Client Communication
- B. Book Challenge Action - "Identical" - Attachment C
- C. Book Challenge Action - "Tricks" - Attachment D
- D. Book Challenge Action - "Push" - Attachment E

VIII. Adjournment

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2023
RESOLUTIONS**

I. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order in the Milan High School Theater located at 200 Big Red Drive, Milan MI, 48160, by President Cislo at _____ p.m. on February 22, 2023.

Board Members Present:

Board Members Absent:

Signed in Staff:

Signed in Guests:

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Board Recognitions

A. Milan Area Schools Career and Technical Education Students - Attachment A

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to commend our 2022-2023 Career and Technical Education students for all of their accomplishments this year.

Meray _____ Moccio _____ Rosen-Leacher _____ Cislo _____ Faro _____ Frait _____ Heikka _____
Carried _____.

IV. 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

V. Routine Matters for Approval

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 8, 2023

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 8, 2023.

Moccio _____ Rosen-Leacher _____ Cislo _____ Faro _____ Frait _____ Heikka _____ Meray _____
Carried _____.

B. Minutes of the Regular Meeting Closed Session of February 8, 2023

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting Closed Session of February 8, 2023.

Rosen-Leacher _____ Cislo _____ Faro _____ Frait _____ Heikka _____ Meray _____ Moccio _____
Carried _____.

VI. Milan Area Schools Strategic Plan Business

A. Academics / Programs

1. Paddock Body Safety Curriculum - Attachments B1, B2, B3

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to approve the Body Safety Curriculum, created by the Washtenaw Area Council for Children and recommended by the Sex Education Advisory Board, for use at Paddock Elementary School.

Cislo _____ Faro _____ Frait _____ Heikka _____ Meray _____ Moccio _____ Rosen-Leacher _____
Carried _____.

B. Learning Environment / Culture

1. Book Study of "Why Meadow Died"

C. Communications / Community Engagement

1. WISD PAC Update - Andrea Bennink

2. Public Comments

3. Student Board Representative Comments

4. Superintendent Comments

5. Assistant Superintendent Comments

6. Board Member Comments

VII. Other Old/New Business

A. Closed Session - Review Attorney-Client Communication

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to enter into closed session pursuant to Section 8(h) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act for the purpose of reviewing attorney-client communication.

Faro _____ Frait _____ Heikka _____ Meray _____ Moccio _____ Rosen-Leacher _____ Cislo _____
Carried _____.

Time entered closed session _____.

Time returned to open session _____.

B. Book Challenge Action - "Identical" - Attachment C

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to _____
"Identical" by E. Hopkins.

Frait _____ Heikka _____ Meray _____ Moccio _____ Rosen-Leacher _____ Cislo _____ Faro _____
Carried _____.

C. Book Challenge Action - "Tricks" - Attachment D

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to _____
"Tricks" by E. Hopkins.

Heikka _____ Meray _____ Moccio _____ Rosen-Leacher _____ Cislo _____ Faro _____ Frait _____
Carried _____.

D. Book Challenge Action - "Push" - Attachment E

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to _____
"Push" by Sapphire.

Meray _____ Moccio _____ Rosen-Leacher _____ Cislo _____ Faro _____ Frait _____ Heikka _____
Carried _____.

VIII. Adjournment - Time of Adjournment _____.

DRAFT

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday February 8, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order in the Milan High School Theater located at 200 Big Red Drive, Milan MI, 48160, by President Cislo at 7:00 p.m. on February 8, 2023.

Board Members Present: Cislo, Rosen-Leacher, Moccio, Heikka, Meray, Faro, Frait

Board Members Absent: None

Signed in Staff: Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahon, Yvette Kashmer, Krista Hendrix

Signed in Guests: Scott Morell, Jill Tewsley, Elizabeth Satterley, Scott Shepherd, Andrea Bennink, Anna Sowards, Brittany Shephard, George Elder, Alibeth Vandergrift, Amy, Susan Gauvin, Janice Kiger, Carrie Gutierrez, Mike Angstat, Rachel Hobbs, Mitchell Blauvett, Xoché Blauvett, Vanessa Perez, Lake Foster, Annette Tellas, Holli Vallade, Kirk DeMars

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment:

- Andrea Bennink commented on adapting the Body Safety curriculum for students with special needs, the budget amendment, staff shortages, and the Parents Partnering for Change state training.
- Rachel Hobbs commented on the Superintendent's evaluation, the meeting minutes from the previous meeting, and the Board's book study.
- George Elder commented on threats he received during the last election.
- Lake Foster advised the community that he had been called names because of his public comments, urged the community to stop name calling, and spoke in favor of certain books in the library.
- Kirk DeMars stated that he believes the name calling comes from both sides and believed the threats to Board members and their families did not come from those that comment about books.
- Holli Vallade stated that the threats to Board members and their families did not come from those that comment about books and that commenting individuals did not encourage the threats. She stated that she also received threats and provided the Board with the following advice: Put on your big girl pants, self reflection, file a police report, or resign.

Motion by Faro supported by Meray to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of January 12, 2023. Carried 6-0 Abstention by Frait

Motion by Faro supported by Heikka to approve the bills/reimbursement of expenses. Carried 6-0 Abstention by Frait

Motion by Faro supported by Rosen-Leacher to approve the 2022-2023 General Fund Budget Amendment as included in Attachment A. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

The Board heard the First Reading of the Paddock Body Safety Curriculum as described in Attachments B1, B2, B3

Assistant Superintendent McMahon presented to the Board the Section 98b Benchmark Achievement Goals February Update

Motion by Heikka supported by Moccio to appoint the following person to the administrative position listed and Base Salary listed effective February 20, 2023.

* Jessica Kishiyama – Director of Early Childhood (\$88,000)

All Ayes. Carried 7-0

- Faro and Cislo discussed the motion.

The Board discussed the foreword and preface of “Why Meadow Died”

Public Comments:

- Andrea Bennink commented on the Board’s book study and explained state law requiring schools to educate children with special needs in the least restrictive environment. She also explained that Milan was a fully inclusive district. She also stated that Florida and Michigan differ in education requirements.
- Jan Kiger welcomed Board members Meray and Rosen-Leacher and offered them advice.
- Rachel Hobbs read an anonymous statement.
- Kirk DeMars stated that he appreciated the Board’s book study, commented on the Board’s comments on the book, and discussed school safety.
- Holli Vallade discussed the Board’s book study.
- Xoché Blauvett discussed books she finds objectionable.
- Anna Sowards discussed books she finds objectionable.
- Brittany Shephard encouraged the Board and the community to work together.
- Annette Tellas discussed books she finds objectionable and her beliefs as to their potential impact on students.
- Lake Foster spoke in favor of books in the library and the intelligence of students reading the books.

Student Board Member Comments: None

Superintendent’s Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Band Accomplishments
- Choir Accomplishments
- Bowling Team Bowl-a-Thon

- CTE Month Recognition at February 22nd Meeting
- Successful Staff Professional Development on February 3rd
- Clarification Regarding Books in Milan Area Schools Libraries
- FOIA Requests
- Communication Committee Progress
- Milan Area Schools Responses to Staff Shortages

Assistant Superintendent Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Grant Updates
 - Robotics Grant
 - Section 41
 - Mental Health
 - School Safety

Board Member Comments:

- Faro spoke about the Board's book study and respect for the author, the Governor's proposed budget, comments made about students speaking in favor of books, and welcomed Board member Meray.
- Rosen-Leacher thanked the SEAB and their work on the curriculum.
- Meray spoke about the Board's book study indicating she is reading the book with an open mind, but will call out concerning language. She also congratulated the Milan Middle School Quiz Bowl team for their accomplishments.
- Frait provided a WASB update, welcomed Board member Meray, and sought clarification on the CTE recognition.
- Heikka commented on the advice provided by community members and announced she would not resign.
- Moccio encouraged the community to participate in the Downtown Read Around. She also read a letter in which she resigned.
- Cislo discussed the process for replacing Board member Moccio and upcoming book challenge appeals.

Motion by Faro supported by Moccio 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. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Time entered closed session 8:40 p.m.

Time returned to open session 10:21 p.m..

Motion by Moccio supported by Faro to rate Superintendent Bryan Girbach as Effective for the 2022-2023 school year. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Time of Adjournment: 10:22p.m.

Milan Area Schools

Board of Education Resolution February 22, 2023

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH

WHEREAS, career and technical education in Michigan prepares students at the secondary and postsecondary levels to have the academic, technical, and work-behavior skills to enter, compete, and advance in education and their careers; and,

WHEREAS, career and technical education offers a diverse delivery system that provides students with leadership opportunities in various career fields, allowing for the rigorous and relevant application of workplace skills while incorporating reading, writing and mathematics; and,

WHEREAS, career and technical education serves as a career and college-ready connection and it the foundation of a strong and well-educated workforce; and,

WHEREAS, career and technical education offers students opportunities to earn college credit, industry certification, and licenses in high-wage, high-skilled, and in-demand fields, as aligned with Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan to expand secondary learning opportunities for all students and increase the percentage of adults with a post-secondary credential; and,

WHEREAS, career and technical education provides students with work-based learning experiences to provide Michigan with a highly-skilled, sustainable workforce, which will help achieve the state's goal of reaching 60% postsecondary education attainment rate by 2030; and,

WHEREAS, according to the Michigan Department of Education, career and technical education enrollment in Michigan rose by 3% in 2021-22 compared to 2020-21, with over 106,000 students enrolled in CTE, and CTE program completers increasing by over 65% from 27,014 in 2014-15 to 44,609 in 2021-22; and,

WHEREAS, during this month, we join with the Governor's Office, the Michigan Department of Education, the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, and the Michigan Association for Career and Technical Education to encourage youths and adults in Michigan to be ambassadors for career and technical education, and to send the message that Michigan career and technical education students are prepared for the 21st century high-wage, high-skilled, and in-demand jobs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milan Area Schools Board of Education commends our Career and Technical Education Students and Staff and that we sincerely thank them for the honor and pride they bring to themselves, their school, and the community.



washtenaw area

council for children

safe kids, sound community

3075 W. Clark Rd., Suite 110

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

(734) 434-4215

www.washtenawchildren.org

kourtnee@washtenawchildren.org

B1

BODY SAFETY TRAINING: Personal Safety Lessons for Young Children

As a parent you do your best to keep your child safe, but know that you cannot keep them with you every second of the day. While parents understand the importance of teaching safety to their children in regards to the dangers of fire, traffic, etc., they may have a difficult time discussing *personal safety*, or sexual abuse, or may feel it is not something that would be a concern in their children's lives. The sexual abuse of children is a subject that no one likes to talk about, but unfortunately it is a reality in society, and in our community. Statistics indicate that as many as *1 in 10* children may either experience sexual abuse or be approached for abuse by the time they are 18. Young children are particularly vulnerable to sexual abuse for the following reasons: 1.) They lack a vocabulary to describe the abuse. 2.) Their lack of experience may lead them to believe this behavior is normal. 3.) Society places value on obedience by children. 4.) Children are, unfortunately, not always believed. 5.) Children, themselves, place great value on their ability to "keep a secret." This is especially true of very young children. *The American Academy of Pediatrics* recommends that parents begin a prevention plan to safeguard children from sexual abuse as early as eighteen months old by teaching them about the privacy of body parts and what to do if someone tries to touch them inappropriately.

The **Body Safety Training** program was developed to educate young children how to recognize, react and respond to child sexual abuse and is presented as just part of a larger spectrum of personal safety, such as from the dangers of fire, traffic, etc., all presented in a manner that young children can grasp. The children receive this information in a very concise, concrete and matter-of-fact manner which is not frightening for them. Although adults understand the ramifications surrounding sexual abuse, children do not understand it in that way and learn simply that some behaviors are "okay" and some are "not okay." Just as they learn how to "Stop, Drop and Roll" if their clothing should happen to catch on fire, to "stop, look and listen" before crossing a street or not to play with fire, they learn how to recognize inappropriate behavior and what to do about it. The emphasis is on developing prevention skills in young children with information and techniques such as modeling, rehearse social reinforcement, shaping and feedback. **The Washtenaw Area Council for Children**, the child abuse prevention agency for our community, provides **Body Safety Training** as a way to help empower children with the knowledge that they have the right to make decisions concerning their own bodies and to object and/or tell someone when they feel their rights are being violated; that people who abuse them are not always strangers; and most importantly, that sexual abuse is never the fault of the child and that children are not responsible for inappropriate acts of adults.

Key program concepts include:

- the child as the boss of his/her own body
- identifying "private parts" and the proper terminology for these parts
- distinguishing appropriate from inappropriate situations in which an older person (stranger, relative, acquaintance) looks at or touches their private parts
- how to respond to inappropriate touch
- it is never a child's fault when they are abused.

The program is offered in a series of ten lessons which are presented as *one 15 minute lesson a day for about two weeks*. At the end of each week, you will be given a letter detailing what has been covered so that you may practice the learned concepts with your child.

This program will be taught to your children beginning [Date inserted here]
Please contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Kourtnee J. Swafford-Bynum

Child Abuse Prevention Coordinator

Washtenaw Area Council for Children



3075 W. Clark Rd., Suite 110
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(734)434-4215
www.washtenawchildren.org

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This letter is to tell you a little bit about what we have been learning as part of the Body Safety Program being taught at your child's school. The students are all bright and eager to learn. They have been learning lots of important rules and practices about how to keep their bodies safe and we would like to share some of those with you so that you can practice them at home with your children. Part of helping children stay safe is for them to learn their names, first and last, their street address and phone number. You may want to practice this also with your children. That way if they are ever lost they will be able to tell someone how to contact you.

Summary of The Body Safety Training – Week 1

- **I'm the BOSS of my Body.**

We learned that the teachers are the Bosses at the school and mom, dad and other adult caregivers are the Bosses at home, but that we are the Bosses of our Bodies. This helps empower the children and helps them to understand that they can help keep their own bodies safe from dangers.

- **Poison, Fire and Gun Safety.**

We learned about poisons in such things as cleaners that adults use for washing clothes, dishes, cleaning windows, etc. and how we must never drink, eat, taste, or play with these things. We learned that we must never pick up, touch, or play with matches and lighters. We also learned that if a fire happened at our home that we must get out of the house as quickly as possible, and that we shouldn't try and hide from a fire. We learned how to "Stop, Drop, and Roll" if our clothes catch on fire. We learned that we must never pick up, touch or play with a gun. If we find a gun, we must leave it where it is and go tell an adult about it. (**** Gun Safety – as we have had several incidents in our community and surrounding communities involving children shooting other children with guns not kept safely in homes, as well as suicides of young people who've had access to guns, we advise you to visit this U-M Hospital website for more information about gun safety and children: <http://www.med.umich.edu/yourchild/topics/guns.htm>***)

- **Home Alone/Getting Lost.**

We learned that if the adult that takes care of us must leave the house for awhile, leaving us by ourselves, that we must make sure that the doors and windows are shut and locked (Note to parents and caregivers: you may want to remember to take your keys with you from now on if you need to step outside of your home for a minute or two.) We also learned not to answer the door or phone if we are by ourselves, that we should keep quiet and not announce to anyone that we are in the house by ourselves. We also learned that even if the adult is home when someone comes to the door, in order to stay safe we should let the adult answer the door.

We learned that if we become separated from an adult while out somewhere, such as at the store, we should “stay in one spot” and let our grown-up come and find us instead of moving around and looking for the grown-up. We do not advise children to tell strange people in stores and elsewhere that they are lost and to go with them to find their parent. While most adults would probably try to help a child, it also opens them up to becoming victim to a predator. We teach them in the “stranger” lesson not to go anywhere with someone they don’t know, so don’t want to give mixed messaging.

- **Car and Street Safety.**

We learned that every time we are in the car we must be buckled in and not ever take the seat belt off until we reach our destination. We learned that we need to sit in our car seat or booster seat until we are of the size not to need them any more. We learned to keep our arms and heads inside the car and to not move around or make lots of noise when in the car, so we don’t distract the driver. We learned that the only safe place to cross a street is at a corner, at a crosswalk and only after we stopped, looked, and listened for cars and made sure there weren’t any before crossing. We talked about how streets are made only for cars and we must not play or ride or bikes in them. If a ball or other toy rolls out into the street, we must wait for an adult to get it for us.

- **Strangers.**

We learned some rules about what to do when encountering strangers. We learned never to accept gifts or rides from strangers. We learned that big people should not ask children for help (such as trying to find a lost dog) so we must get away from someone asking for help and tell our caregiver about it. We also learned that it is not safe to play or be by ourselves at parks and other places, and that police officers are our friends if we need help.

Next students will begin to learn about personal safety and how certain parts of the body are private and the correct terminology for those parts. Students will also learn the difference between appropriate and inappropriate behavior directed towards them, and what to do and how to report if someone tries to touch their body inappropriately or another person wants the student to touch them in an inappropriate way.

If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact me at the Washtenaw Area Council for Children, (734) 434-4215 or by email: kourtnee@washtenawchildren.org. Thank you so much for allowing WACC to teach your children these important lessons in our effort to keep the children in our community safe.

Sincerely,

Kourtnee J. Swafford-Bynum

Kourtnee Swafford-Bynum, Child Abuse Prevention Coordinator

Washtenaw Area Council for Children



3075 W. Clark Rd., Suite 110
 Ypsilanti, MI 48197
 (734) 434-4215
www.washtenawchildren.org

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

This letter is to tell you about what we have been learning as part of the Body Safety Program during our second week. This week we've learned lots of important things about how to keep our bodies safe and I would like to share some of those with you so that you can practice them at home with your children. Talking to young children about the prevention of sexual abuse is never easy and not something that anyone likes to do. However, at this age they are especially vulnerable and may not understand if sexual abuse happened to them that it is not a normal occurrence. I would like to stress how important it is to continue this dialogue with your children. Having good communication with your child about this subject will give them the message that it is okay for them to talk to you, not only about this, but about other things that may come up in their lives as they get older. Keeping the lines of communication open with your child will help make your job of parenting easier.

Summary of The Body Safety Training – Week 2

- I. **Private Parts.** We learned that we have special parts of our bodies known as private parts and that they are the areas that are covered up by our bathing suits or underwear. We learned that these parts had names: breasts, vagina, penis, buttocks (also butt, behind, or bottom). (Please be aware that when we begin our discussion of private parts we show the children a picture of children without clothing. Like all of the other pictures we show during the course of the program, this is a drawing, not a photo. We use this picture to show exactly what areas we are referring to as private parts so there is no misunderstanding. Once we feel the children have a good grasp of this information we show a picture of the same children in bathing suits.)

Note to Parents – while it is tempting to use “cute” names for these parts, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that parents teach the actual names for these parts starting as early as 18 months of age. We at WACC also feel it is important that children learn the proper names starting at a very early age. Study has shown that if a child does happen to be victimized by sexual abuse that he/she will need to be able to tell exactly what has happened so that the perpetrator can be brought to justice. Also, some studies have shown that perpetrators may be less likely to approach a child who seems knowledgeable about personal safety and proper names for their body parts.

We also learned the difference between parts of our body that were private and those that are not. We reinforced that we are the *bosses of our bodies*. We learned that there were times when it would be okay for others to look at or touch our private parts such as when we are babies and need our diapers changed, when we need help cleaning ourselves, if we are hurt or sick, or if we touch our own private parts (as long as we keep this private).

- II. **Body Safety Rule.** We learned the Body Safety Rule, that it is “**Not okay for anyone to touch or look at my private parts**” unless we need help cleaning ourselves or are sick or hurt. We also learned that it was not okay to touch someone else’s private parts. We talked

about different ways that the Body Safety Rule could be broken – what was inappropriate and what was appropriate touching.

- III. **What to do if someone breaks our Body Safety Rule.** We learned that if someone tries to break our Body Safety Rule, such as tries to touch or look at our private parts or asks us to look at or touch their private parts that we are to say, “NO!” or “Leave Me Alone” and to get away and tell a grown-up what happened. We talked about who we could tell, such as a parent or a teacher or some other adult that we know and trust. We also learned that “keeping a secret” about this is not okay, that we must tell a grown-up what happened so that they can help us.
- IV. **No, Go, Tell.** We reviewed our No, Go, Tell skills and learned that it is *never our fault* if someone touches or looks at our private parts, or asks us to touch or look at their private parts, *even if it happens*. We learned that when we tell an adult what happens that we must tell WHO did it and WHAT they did. We reinforced who they could tell (parents, relatives, teachers, etc.) and that it is not okay to keep this information secret.
- V. **Review.** We spent our last day reviewing all that we learned this week and practicing our new skills using different stories about different situations. We reinforced the Body Safety Rule and who is the boss of our body.

Thank you so much for allowing us to teach your children these very important lessons. We hope that you will continue to practice them with your child so they will remember them. You may also be interested in this recently published article about child sexual abuse told from a parent’s perspective which highlights the importance of a program such as the one your child just experienced:
<https://medium.com/@anonymousparent/its-mid-morning-and-you-re-a-thousand-miles-away-from-home-when-your-phone-rings-66ffd089e8aa>

If you have any questions about this program, please feel free to contact me at the Washtenaw Area Council for Children, (734) 434-4215 or by email, kourtnee@washtenawchildren.org. Thank you for all your incredible efforts in helping keep the children within our community safe.

Sincerely,

Kourtnee J. Swafford-Bynum

Kourtnee J. Swafford-Bynum
Child Abuse Prevention Coordinator
Washtenaw Area Council for Children

Milan Area Schools Book/Curriculum Review Recommendation Form

Title: Identical
Author/Producer: Ellen Hopkins
Has every member of the committee read the material entirely? If not, why? Yes
Resources consulted: (include policies, articles, reviews etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Milan Area Schools Board Policies Articles and other review processes followed through typical library intakes Outside articles and websites for background information regarding book reviews
<p style="text-align: center;">Review Guiding Principles</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How the material is being used - As a part of the library self-selection process. Increase diversity in reading material for developing a well-developed library collection. 2. The accuracy of the material - Fictional story that follows a plausible storyline for children with traumatic experiences and the impact on their life. Mirrors available cases of actual traumatic events in the lives of youth and the following impacts on their lives. 3. Objectivity of the material - Author does not specifically choose a side or condone acceptance with regards to the presented objectionable content. Objectivity for a fictional story or self-selection book is not always expected as related to best practices for book selection. 4. The appropriateness of the material for the age and maturity level of the students with whom it is being used - Topic is appropriate for the age and maturity of students at the high school and the context for a self-selection library book. However, some of the text specifically related to graphic sexual verbage, sexual story lines, and drug use/abuse might not be appropriate for the age and maturity level of all students.
Committee recommends: Maintain the book on the library shelf as part of the self-selection collection in the library. Add a parent/guardian permission requirement to the existing check-out procedure by flagging the book as such in the existing library system.
Signatures of Reconsideration Committee Members: The committee finalized the recommendation on 12.16.22. This serves as the electronic signature and approval of the committee for the above recommendation.
Date: December 16, 2022

Milan Area Schools Book/Curriculum Review Recommendation Form

Title: Tricks
Author/Producer: Ellen Hopkins
Has every member of the committee read the material entirely? If not, why? Yes
Resources consulted: (include policies, articles, reviews etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Milan Area Schools Board Policies Articles and other review processes followed through typical library intakes Outside articles and websites for background information regarding book reviews
<p style="text-align: center;">Review Guiding Principles</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How the material is being used - As a part of the library self-selection process. Increase diversity in reading material for developing a well-developed library collection. 2. The accuracy of the material - Fictional story that follows a plausible storyline for children with traumatic experiences and the impact on their life. Mirrors available cases of actual traumatic events in the lives of youth and the following impacts on their lives. 3. Objectivity of the material - Author does not specifically choose a side or condone acceptance with regards to the presented objectionable content. Objectivity for a fictional story or self-selection book is not always expected as related to best practices for book selection. 4. The appropriateness of the material for the age and maturity level of the students with whom it is being used - Topic is appropriate for the age and maturity of students at the high school and the context for a self-selection library book. However, some of the text specifically related to graphic sexual verbage and sexual story lines and drug use/abuse might not be appropriate for the age and maturity level of all students.
Committee recommends: Maintain the book on the library shelf as part of the self-selection collection in the library. Add a parent/guardian permission requirement to the existing check-out procedure by flagging the book as such in the existing library system.
Signatures of Reconsideration Committee Members: The committee finalized the recommendation on 12.9.22. This serves as the electronic signature and approval of the committee for the above recommendation.
Date: December 9, 2022

Milan Area Schools Book/Curriculum Review Recommendation Form

Title: Push
Author/Producer: Sapphire
Has every member of the committee read the material entirely? If not, why? Yes
Resources consulted: (include policies, articles, reviews etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milan Area Schools Board Policies • Articles and other review processes followed through typical library intakes • Outside articles and websites for background information regarding book reviews
<p style="text-align: center;">Review Guiding Principles</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How the material is being used - As a part of the library self-selection process. Increase diversity in reading material for developing a well-developed library collection. 2. The accuracy of the material - Fictional story that follows a plausible storyline for a student with traumatic abuse and neglect in their past. Mirrors available cases of actual abuse/neglect and the process of being supported by adults that have been shared in case studies. 3. Objectivity of the material - Author does not specifically choose a side or condone acceptance with regards to the presented objectionable content. Objectivity for a fictional story or self-selection book is not always expected as related to best practices for book selection. 4. The appropriateness of the material for the age and maturity level of the students with whom it is being used - Topic is appropriate for the age and maturity of students at the high school and the context for a self-selection library book. However, some of the text specifically related to graphic sexual verbage and sexual story lines might not be appropriate for the age and maturity level of all students.
Committee recommends: Maintain the book on the library shelf as part of the self-selection collection in the library. Add a parent/guardian permission requirement to the existing check-out procedure by flagging the book as such in the existing library system.
<p>Signatures of Reconsideration Committee Members: The committee finalized the recommendation on 12.9.22. This serves as the electronic signature and approval of the committee for the above recommendation.</p> <p>Date: December 9, 2022</p>