

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORKSHOP MEETING
WEDNESDAY, February 28, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order by President Vershum at 7:00 p.m. on February 28, 2018.

Board Members Present: Cislo, Kiger, Moccio, Landingham, Peacock, Heikka, Vershum

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahan

Guests Present: Milan Police Chief Don Tillery, Debbie Allen, Penny LeBlanc, Cyndy Jones

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

Cyndy Jones of 4233 Briarhill Dr, Milan, MI thanked the district for a job well done during the emergency evacuation on Monday, February 26, 2018.

Debbie Allen of 20020 Hickory Rd, Milan, MI thanked the District for an orderly evacuation.

Penny LeBlanc of 8526 Carpenter Road, Milan, MI thanked the bus drivers for a job well done during the emergency evacuation.

Chief of Police, Don Tillery, thanked Mr. Girbach for his professionalism during the emergency evacuation and also commented on what a pleasure it is working with Mr. Girbach.

The Board held a discussion regarding the district's Data Dashboard.

The Board discussed the new "Open Requests Document" that was created as part of one of the goals of the Board.

Superintendent's Comments:

Students

- Superintendent Girbach shared a draft of the letter he intends to send to the entire district regarding a possible student walk-out on March 14th at 10:00 AM. He also discussed the focus on student safety during the event.
- Superintendent Girbach could not be prouder of the students, the staff, the Milan PD, the parents, and our community. On Monday, February 26th, everyone did an amazing job of keeping our student's safe during the evacuation process. While this was a

difficult situation, everyone worked together to handle the incident with seriousness, compassion, and security in the forefront. The district received countless compliments and a few criticisms. Superintendent Girbach responded to every communication via email or personal phone call. The Administrative Team is reviewing the implementation, including the criticisms, to ensure that any necessary improvements can be implemented.

Students

- Athletic Director, David Kaiser, is working with a committee of stakeholders to reignite the Athletic Hall of Fame. The committee will be working through many aspects of the process and hope to hold an induction ceremony in September of this year.
- On February 22nd, the current 8th Graders visited Milan High School for a tour and orientation meeting. The event was very successful.

General

- No School REMINDERS: Spring Break is March 26th through April 2nd.
- Superintendent Girbach and the Business Office have been working diligently to get everything in place to distribute the ORS 3% refunds. If all continues to go as planned, the district anticipates distributing the funds during the week of March 19-23. This time frame is actually in the early portion of the 60-90 day ORS recommendation.
- The District Improvement Parent Survey is now available on milanareaschools.org. The Survey window will close on Monday, March 5th.
- On Wednesday, February 21st, Superintendent Girbach met with Officer Couture, Lieutenant Nieman, and Chief Tillery regarding school safety. The group discussed several aspects of the district's safety plan in order to make sure that the district and the PD are in agreement regarding procedures. Two action items were scheduled. (1) The Police department will have every officer re-read the district's safety plan. (2) The entire PD staff will be touring all four of the district's school buildings over spring break. Superintendent Girbach will be showing them all of the "nooks and crannies" of each building. This will allow them to be better prepared if they ever need to enter the building during an emergency.
- On Wednesday, February 28th, Mr. DeSarbo and Superintendent Girbach met with approximately 15 student teachers. DeSarbo and Girbach discussed the interview process, current expectations of teachers, and many other topics pertinent to future educators. The student teachers were invited to substitute (and apply for vacancies) in Milan after graduation.

Communication

- The district currently has 660 Twitter followers. That is up 14 from last meeting.
- The district currently has 1,465 Facebook followers. That is up 35 from last meeting.

Assistant Superintendent's Comments:

- Assistant Superintendent McMahon announced that the MiPHY (Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth) survey will be administered to seventh, ninth and eleventh grade

students next Monday and Tuesday. These surveys are given every two years to inform and guide our planning around student health programming/risk behavior analysis..

- Assistant Superintendent McMahon announced that the next District Improvement Team meeting will be Wednesday, March 7, at 4:15 in the Central Office Board Room.

Board Member Comments:

- Board Member Heikka thanked the city for their help in creating a smooth traffic flow through the city streets during the evacuation.
- Board Members Heikka and Landingham addressed some questions with regards to procedures during the evacuation.
- Board Member Vershum gave kudos to a job well done by bus drivers, school staff, and the administrative team.
- Board Member Cislo commented on the great organization of the staff and students at the Senior Center.

Public Comments:

Student Board Member Julia Woelmer shared some of her observations during the evacuation.

Penny LeBlanc spoke to the Board about creating a full color brochure for Milan Area Schools.

Debbie Allen spoke to the Board regarding the 5th Grade Panel Presentation. She stated that it was a great presentation and she was glad the students were included.

Time of Adjournment: 9:03 p.m.