

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday April 12, 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 April 12, 2023.

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

Board Members Absent: None

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

Signed in Guests: Mike Angstadt, Alibeth Vandergrift, George Elder, Rachel Hobbs, Michael Steinberg, Nethra Raman, Saba Khan, James Rickard, Michael Meyers, Trisha Deshuk, Cindy Wood, Holli Vallade

Pledge of Allegiance

The Oath of Office was ceremoniously performed by President Cislo for recently appointed Board Member Carrie K. Gutierrez for the unexpired term of Kerri Moccio (resigned) ending on December 31, 2024, as authorized by law. The official Oath of Office was performed at an earlier date.

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

Public Comment:

- Holli Vallade expressed her opinion related to the paraprofessionals and encouraged the Board to invite Lon Smith to present on the District's Special Education programs.
- Rachel Hobbs expressed her concerns related to school safety, administration pay increases, and test scores.

Motion by Meray supported by Rosen-Leacher to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 22, 2023. Carried 6-0 Abstention by Gutierrez

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

Motion by Heikka supported by Faro to approve the cancellation of the May 9, 2023 Regular Meeting as detailed in the Attachment B. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Heikka to renew the Food Service Management Company Contract for the 2023-2024 school year with Chartwells School Dining Service Management Company as described in Attachment C. Further, to authorize the superintendent or designee to sign all necessary documents. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Frait supported by Rosen-Leacher to approve the Adult/Community Education Graduates (as listed in Attachment D) contingent upon their completion of all graduation requirements. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Andrea Bennink provided the Board an update on the work of the WISD PAC.

The Board discussed chapters 7 and 8 of the book “Why Meadow Died”

Motion by Rosen-Leacher supported by Meray to appoint the following person to the teaching position listed and Base Salary listed effective June 12, 2023.

- Shelby Muir - Milan High School Counselor (\$47,650)

All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Public Comments:

- Rachel Hobbs sought clarification related to the District's implementation of safety measures and discussed recent scheduling changes at the High School.
- Holli Vallade expressed her concerns related to the meeting minutes, pupil counts, and test scores.
- Janet McFall offered her thoughts on the book Why Meadow Died and offered her thoughts on paraprofessionals.
- Annette Tellas discussed her experiences in school and accountability. She also asked questions about how the MHS schedule change would affect consortium students.

Student Board Member Comments: None

Superintendent's Comments were heard on the following topics:

- MHS Band Accomplishments
- MHS Choir Accomplishments
- Encouragement to Finish the School Year Strong
- Announcement of the Posting of the 2023-2024 Calendar
- Comment Regarding the MHS 6-Hour Day
- Comment about State Test Scores
- Announcement of Sarah O'Neill's New Daughter
- Announcement of New Board Member Orientation for Gutierrez
- Update of New Hand Held Radios Purchased
- Update on Work with Secure Educational Consultants
- Update on Critical Incident Mapping
- Update on WISD Legislative Meeting

No Assistant Superintendent Comments were heard

Board Member Comments:

- Cislo discussed Board Committee assignments, provided information relative to the upcoming Big Red Board Chat, and expressed that the Board values dialogue with the community.

- Frait provided a WASB update that included information about a student forum and a legislative meeting.
- Faro thanked the paraprofessionals for their contributions to the District, discussed student enrollment and statewide trends and discussed upcoming school events, expressed that the Board appointed a highly qualified candidate to replace Kerri Moccio, and welcomed Carrie Guitierrez to the Board.
- Meray thanked the paraprofessionals for their contributions to the District, welcomed Carrie Guitierrez to the Board, and discussed test scores.
- Heikka thanked the paraprofessionals for their contributions to the District, congratulated students/teams on their recent accomplishments, and discussed upcoming events.
- Gutierrez thanked the paraprofessionals for their contributions to the District and Ms. Bennink for her update and discussed encouraging paraprofessionals to attend WISD bootcamp.

Due to the timing of the closed session hearing, President Cislo recommended that the remaining Board Comments be suspended until after the closed session.

Motion by Heikka supported by Rosen-Leacher to appoint Attorney Robert Dietzel of the Thrun Law Firm, P.C. to serve as the Board's Hearing Officer for the student discipline hearing.  
All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Heikka supported by Faro to enter into closed session pursuant to Section 8(1)(b) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, and upon the request of the student's parent/guardian, for the purpose of conducting a hearing to consider the discipline of a student whose identity is known to the Board as student 2022-2023-6. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Time entered closed session 8:33 p.m.

Time returned to open session 12:43 a.m. p.m.

Motion by Rosen-Leacher supported by Heikka to expel student 2022-2023-6 in accordance with the attached resolution as read by Robert Dietzel. Carried 6-1 No vote by Frait

#### Board Member Comments Continued:

- Heikka thanked the paraprofessionals for their contributions to the District, congratulated students/teams on their recent accomplishments, and discussed upcoming events.
- Gutierrez thanked the paraprofessionals for their contributions to the District and Ms. Bennink for her update and discussed encouraging paraprofessionals to attend WISD bootcamp.

Time of Adjournment: 12:52 a.m. p.m.