

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday April 26, 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 26, 2023.

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

Board Members Absent: None

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

Signed in Guests: Sara Saylor, Jennifer B., Janice Kiger, Aidan Broadworth, Jenna McCall, Elizabeth Satterly, Mike Angstadt, Beth Vandergrift, George Elder, C. Williams,

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment:

- Holli Vallade commented on bullying, accused the Board of playing the victim over mean comments and insults, lying about filing police reports, abuse of power, only being concerned about some kids, and not addressing bullying of white, male, Christian children.
- Janice Kiger discussed her concerns related to others belittling the accomplishments of the staff and students.

Motion by Rosen-Leacher supported by Meray to approve the corrected and amended minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 12, 2023. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

- Meray sought clarification.
- Heikka sought clarification.

Motion by Faro supported by Rosen-Leacher to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting closed session of April 12, 2023. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Meray supported by Gutierrez to approve the 2023-2024 Schools-of-Choice Resolution as provided in Attachment A. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Heikka to approve the 2023-2024 Budget and Truth-in-Taxation Hearing Announcement as provided in Attachment B. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Heikka supported by Gutierrez to approve the Milan Area Schools 2023-2024 Course Offerings as detailed in Attachment C. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

- Heikka sought clarification.
- Frait sought clarification.

Motion by Gutierrez supported by Faro to approve the “Resolution to Consider Designation of Electoral Representative for the June 5, 2023 WISD Biennial Election” as outlined in Attachment D All Ayes. Carried 7-0

The Board heard the first reading of the 2023-2024 WISD Budget Resolution as provided in attachments E1, E2, E3, and E4

- Meray announced that she would be abstaining on the impending vote due to a conflict of interest.

Motion by Rosen-Leacher supported by Faro to approve the My Future Fund Memorandum as included in Attachment F1. Further, to authorize the Board President, Superintendent, or designee to sign all necessary documents regarding the My Future Fund initiative.

All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Frait supported by Heikka to approve the FCI Graduates (as listed in Attachment G) contingent upon their completion of all graduation requirements. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

The WISD PAC Update was postponed due to the excused absence of the presenter.

The Board discussed chapters 9 and 10 of the Book Study of “Why Meadow Died”

Public Comments:

- Holli Vallade expressed her concerns related to the GSA reading books to Symons students, gender ideology, alleged Board political agendas, her perception that conservative families are disdained, enrollment and its impact on the budget, and Mr. Girbach’s salary.
- Janice Kiger expressed her concerns related to public comments she believes are mean spirited and offensive and praised the community.

Student Board Member Comments:

- Avery Powell thanked Mr. Cislo for attending soccer games and announced upcoming school events.

Superintendent’s Comments were heard on the following topics:

- MHS Choir Accomplishments
- Elementary Art Show and Grand Event
- Symons PTO Science Night
- K12 School Quality Survey
- Recent MHS Lockdown

Assistant Superintendent Comments were heard on the following topics:

- State Testing
- Read by Grade 3
- At Risk Counts
- 11t Before and After School Tutoring
- Sec98c Learning Loss Math Intervention

Board Member Comments:

- Rosen-Leacher commented on the busy sports season, thanked Mr. Girbach for exploring career technical opportunities, and praised the recent AP research presentations.

- Frait discussed her attending certain events, praised Mr. Hull for using Facebook to keep the community informed, discussed the Big Red Board Chats, and thanked the parent groups for supporting our staff.
- Meray congratulated MHS Productions for their recent production and thanked the GMACF for financially supporting the production and discussed her support for the LGBTQ community and their right to exist in our community.
- Faro praised the students and staff for their achievement in trying times, discussed the complexity of declining enrollment, the budget, and allegations that Board members have political agendas. He also thanked the staff, teachers, and administrators for keeping students safe.
- Heikka congratulated the Choir, the softball, and baseball teams for their recent accomplishments and explained her vote on the County program presented during the meeting. She also reminded everyone that the threats made against the Board and their family members caused one member to resign and made clear that she reported to the police threats she received. She also expressed her support for LGBTQ students. She also addressed allegations related to Mr. Girbach's salary.
- Gutierrez thanked the board for welcoming her, expressed her support for the LGBTQ community and their right to exist and thrive, and expressed her confidence in the staff's ability to address issues with students. She also discussed recent community events at the elementary schools, including science night and the Grand Event. Lastly, she praised Wendy Unger for the student art show.
- Cislo thanked the community for attending the Big Red Board Chats and expressed the Board's commitment to continuing them.

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 2022-2023-11. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Time entered closed session 8:57 p.m.

Time returned to open session 9:52 p.m.

Motion by Heikka supported by Rosen-Leacher to expel student 2022-2023-11 in accordance with the attached resolution as read by President Cislo. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Time of Adjournment 9:56 p.m.