

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, June 5, 2024**

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 June 5, 2024.

**Board Members Present:** Cislo, Prior, Meray, Faro, Gutierrez, Rosen-Leacher, Hiekkala (7:20 p.m.)

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Signed in Staff:** Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahon, Krista Hendrix, Margaret Durkee, John Evans

**Signed in Guests:** Mrs. Evans, Andrea Bennink

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Gutierrez supported by Prior to thank John Evans, Patrice Stover, LuAnn Kanitz, Sandra Harmison, Debra Sontag, and Sheryl Baker for their service to Milan Area Schools.  
All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Public Comments: None

Motion by Faro supported by Rosen-Leacher to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 21, 2024. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Motion by Rosen-Leacher supported by Meray to approve the minutes of the regular meeting closed session of May 21, 2024. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Motion by Faro supported by Gutierrez to approve the bills/reimbursement of expenses.  
All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Motion by Meray supported by Gutierrez to approve the 2024-2025 MHSAA Membership Resolution as included in Attachment A. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

The Board heard a First Reading of the 2024-2025 Board Meeting Dates as included in Attachment B

Motion by Faro supported by Prior to approve the 2023-2024 General Fund Budget Amendment as presented in Attachment C. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Motion by Faro supported by Meray to approve the 2023-2024 Debt Funds Budget Amendment as presented in Attachment D. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Motion by Faro supported by Gutierrez to approve the 2023-2024 Food Service Budget Amendment as presented in Attachment E. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Motion by Faro supported by Rosen-Leacher to approve the 2023-2024 Student/School Activities Budget Amendment as presented in Attachment F. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Motion by Faro supported by Prior to approve the 2024-2025 General Fund Preliminary Budget as presented in Attachment G. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Gutierrez to approve the 2024-2025 Debt Funds Preliminary Budget as presented in Attachment H. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Meray to approve the 2024-2025 Food Service Preliminary Budget as presented in Attachment I. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Prior to approve the 2024-2025 Student/School Activity Funds Preliminary Budget as presented in Attachment J. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Rosen-Leacher to approve the 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act as presented in Attachment K. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

The Board discussed a potential Site Sinking Fund ballot proposal

The Board heard a WISD PAC Update presented by Andrea Bennink

Motion by Prior supported by Meray to approve Elizabeth Zehnder as a Speech and Language Pathologist effective for the 2024-2025 school year. All. Ayes. Carried 7-0

Public Comments:

- Andrea Bennink sought clarification on the Site Sinking Fund, including the impact that Board member turnover might have on the proposed mileage and how the District would respond to a failure of the mileage.

Assistant Superintendent Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Congratulated the Staff on a Successful Year
- Thanked the High School Staff for a Wonderful Graduation Ceremony

Superintendent Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Provided Details Regarding the Platt Road Closure on 6-6-24
- Thanked the High School Staff for a Wonderful Graduation Ceremony
- Congratulated Ava Pustalka, Erik Severtson, and William Publiski for winning Third Prize in the StudentCam 2024 Documentary with “To AI or Not to AI: The Workplace Dilemma
- Recognized a Successful Senior Honors Night Event
- Congratulated the Choir Students and Mrs. Powell for an Outstanding Choir Concert
- Thanked the Adult Education Staff for Hosting a Wonderful Graduation Ceremony
- Highlighted the Senior Walk at Paddock
- Thanked the Staff for Wonderful Great Start Readiness Program and Preschool Graduations
- Thanked the Staff for Organizing the MHS Grill and Chill
- Announced the Olympic Watch Party for a 2022 MHS Graduate (Andy Dobrzanski)
- Congratulated the Girls Track and Field Team
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- Recognized the Girls Softball Team as District Champions
- Congratulated the Girls Soccer Team
- Discussed the Upcoming Building Moves for 2nd Grade, 5th Grade, and Infant/Toddler
- Thanked the Board for Hosting a Big Red Board Chat on 5-29-24
- Discussed Presenting the “History of Milan Area Schools” at the Senior Center
- Discussed the 5-30-24 meeting of the Professional Development Advisory Committee

Board Member Comments:

- Cislo expressed deep gratitude to everyone in the District and expressed appreciation for all the work performed by all. He provided information on the upcoming Board election.
- Rosen-Leacher thanked Connie Cox for her work on the Adult Education graduation ceremony. She discussed awarding scholarships to our recent graduates. She praised the High School graduation ceremony and how the students demonstrated care for one another. She congratulated the retirees and wished everyone a restful and safe summer.
- Faro wished students and staff a great summer. He also echoed comments on the High School graduation ceremony and praised the impactful speeches. As the father of a recent graduate, he praised the staff and administration for the first-class education offered. He thanked Member Prior for attending the Senior Walkthrough at Paddock.
- Meray expressed gratitude for the beautiful graduation ceremony. She wished everyone a fun and safe summer. She expressed a desire to expand paraprofessional training as the WISD Boot Camp is only open to new paraprofessionals. She wished everyone a happy Pride Month and discussed the District’s belief statements and their connection to the celebration. She also discussed the need for reading instruction. She announced that she would not be at the meeting on June 26.
- Prior thanked everyone for a great graduation ceremony. She also thanked everyone who participated in the latest Big Red Board Chat. She also thanked Nancy Gill for all of her work on extra programming. Lastly, she wished everyone a good summer.
- Gutierrez expressed that the graduation ceremony was lovely, she especially enjoyed the musical choices. She thanked Connie Cox for a lovely adult education graduation. She congratulated all of the graduates including the fifth and eighth grade graduates. She discussed the Big Red Board Chat and the discussion of after care for fifth graders at the Middle School. She was impressed with the Amazing Shake program at the Middle School and the current and former staff and students who helped with the program. She also thanked the staff for all of the end-of-year student activities. She congratulated the retirees and wished everyone a restful summer.
- Heikka thanked the staff and students that participated in the High School Exam Cram. She thanked the retiring teachers. She congratulated the Softball Team on their District Championship. She discussed the need for the Sinking Fund and how it relates to maintaining the District’s competitiveness in the County. She congratulated the Adult Education graduates. She also thanked everyone that participated in the High School graduation ceremony.

Motion by Heikka supported by Meray to enter into closed session pursuant to Section 8(1)(c) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act for Negotiation Strategies and pursuant to Section 8(1)(h) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act for the purpose of attorney client privileged communication. All. Ayes. Carried 7-0

Time entered closed session: 9:14 p.m.

Time returned to open session: 11:34 p.m.

Time of Adjournment: 11:34 p.m.