

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, June 9, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order by President Cislo at 7:00 p.m. on June 9, 2021.

**Board Members Present:** Faro, Moccio, Cislo, Kiger, Landingham, Frait, Heikka

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahon, Krista Hendrix, Jennifer Glushyn, John Fleming, Jesse Hoskins, Sue Kesterson, McKenzie Chappell, Jenny Ware, Joyce Name, Courtney Jeffers, Jennifer Barker, Nicole Gerbens, Kristen Lawver, Chad Lawver, Sandy Hrmison, Sara Beckman, Nick Prentice, Nichole Kuenzel, Jill Gerweck, Jessie Stafford, Julie Mossburg, Heather Gruber, Clara Thiry, Sara Meray, Amy Hertler, Clarie McFadden, Megan Hubbard, Allison, Jordett, Kristina Mahaney, Kaitlyn Erehart, Jeff Davis, Melissa Fiederlein, Molly Jeppesen, Liz Miller, Deb Nichols, Josephine Forbush, Nancy Gill, Cataline Salas, Annie Kiser, Kim Rock, Mary Hammer, Carol Winter

**Guests Present:** Annie Kruse, Kim Taylor, Renee Humes, Emily Linzell, Julz Meray, Yo Gabba Gabba, Harold Powell, Alecia Powell, Rachel Hobbs, E Wills, 3 illegible signatures.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Motion by Frait supported by Kiger to thank Debra Nichols, Judy McKeen, and Joan Maloney for their service to Milan Area Schools. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Frait to thank Sarah Vershum and Aubrey Bukosky for their service as School Board Student Representatives. All Ayes. Carried

**Public Comments:** None

Motion by Landingham supported by Kiger to approve the consent agenda that includes the minutes of the regular meeting of May 12, 2021, the minutes of the workshop meeting of May 26, 2021, the approval of payment of bills/reimbursement of expenses, and the 2021-2022 MHSAA Membership Resolution. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Jesse Hoskins, Courtney Jeffers, Kristina Mahaney, and Jill Gerweck gave a presentation regarding the Milan Education Association contract.

Motion by Moccio supported by Faro to approve the payment of Milan Area Schools' Classroom Heroes as detailed in Attachment C. Motion carried 6-1 (No vote by Frait)

Motion by Landingham supported by Kiger to approve the 2020-2021 General Fund Budget Amendment as presented in Attachment D1. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Landingham to approve the 2020-2021 Debt Funds Budget Amendment as presented in Attachment E. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Kiger supported by Landingham to approve the 2020-2021 Food Service Budget Amendment as presented in Attachment F. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Landingham supported by Kiger to approve the 2020-2021 Student/School Activities Budget Amendment as presented in Attachment G. all Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Landingham supported by Kiger to approve the 2021-2022 General Fund Preliminary Budget as presented in Attachment H1. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Kiger to approve the 2021-2022 Debt Funds Preliminary Budget as presented in Attachment I. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Landingham supported by Faro to approve the 2021-2022 Food Service Preliminary Budget as presented in Attachment J. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Landingham to approve the 2021-2022 Student/School Activity Funds Preliminary Budget as presented in Attachment K. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Landingham supported by Kiger to approve the 2021-2022 General Appropriations Act as presented in Attachment L. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Faro supported by Landingham to renew the Food Service Management Company Contract for the 2021-2022 school year with Chartwells School Dining Service Management Company as described in Attachment M. Further, to authorize the superintendent or designee to sign all necessary documents. Motion Carried. 6-1 (No vote by Heikka)

The Board received a 2020-2021 School Year Update from Superintendent Girbach.

Motion by Moccio supported by Heikka to remain in a hybrid model, with virtual option, for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

The Board discussed the Board Goal Development plan.

## Superintendent's Comments:

### Students

- The district wants to remind our students and families that meals continue to be provided for free to all children under the age of 18. The provision of free food will continue through the summer months using the current weekly ordering system. Breakfast and lunch will also be provided for free at school next year. A link to place food orders can be found on the main page of [milanareaschools.org](http://milanareaschools.org). Orders are taken each week between Wednesday morning and noon on Thursday. Orders are filled between 4:00 and 5:00 PM on Tuesdays behind Milan High School. The federal program does not include free milk as a separate item. The federal government is only reimbursing for free meal equivalents (meaning a full lunch).
- Athlete testing continues to go well with only 0 positive results out of approximately 140 tests last week. Robert Hull (Athletic Director) and Rebecca McLeod (Athletic Trainer) have been doing a great job of implementing the testing regimen. We thank our athletes and parents for cooperating with the required testing protocols.
- The Senior Honors Night on May 27th was wonderful. The students and families were excited and everyone enjoyed being back together. It is always rewarding to see all of the successes of our graduates. The generosity of our community through the Foundation and other organizations is also very impressive!
- We congratulate all of our 2021 graduates! The graduation ceremony on Sunday, June 6th was very nice. Noah Pyle, Ben Stafford, and Mr. Packard all made wonderful comments. The choir and instrumental music sounded great. Thank you to all who coordinated and participated. Special thanks to Mr. Shinn, Mr. Gill, Mrs. Goffee, Mrs. Kiser, Mr. Walline, Mr. Morelock, and the maintenance/custodial department for getting everything set up!
- The Eighth Grade Recognition Ceremonies on Wednesday, June 2nd went very well. Luckily the administration opted for three smaller indoor ceremonies and avoided the rain. Each ceremony was special. It was nice to recognize all of the eighth graders for their academic, athletic, and extracurricular accomplishments at Milan Middle School. Congratulations to our eighth grade students and thank you to everyone who made the ceremonies possible.
- The district held its first Young Adult Graduation ceremony on Tuesday, June 8th. Two young men were recognized for their accomplishments in the program. We look forward to hearing about their future successes. Congratulations to the graduates and thank you to everyone who made the ceremony possible.
- Three Milan Area Schools' students had big days at the Michigan State Championships and Miss Majorette of Michigan Pageant on May 15th and 16th. Maggie Smith, Milan Middle School seventh grader; Aubrey Bukosky, Milan High School Junior; and Laila Frye, Milan Middle School seventh grader; each earned multiple competitions and awards.
- Our preschoolers are enjoying Graduation Ceremonies this week. Individual ceremonies are being held for each classroom. We want to congratulate our youngest graduates. We also want to welcome them into Paddock for the 2021-2022 school year.

- The Girls' Tennis team placed 21st in state. We congratulate the team on their individual and team accomplishments this year. Congratulations to Coach Rodriguez for coaching the team to their first ever appearance at the state meet!
- Two boys from our track team made all state in their events at the state competition. Ethan Budd in high jump and James Stines in the long jump.
- Nate Edwards has been hired as our Boys Varsity Basketball Coach. Mr. Edwards is a very experienced and respected coach and we look forward to him taking over the Milan program.
- A special thank you to Robert Hull, our Athletic Director. He attended numerous competitions all across the state during the last couple of weeks. His use of social media to keep the community updated is amazing.

### **Staff**

- Dan Spagnol (Technology Department) had a baby girl Ameila Spagnol
- On Friday, June 4th, the district hosted an End of Year Celebration and Retirement Recognition Zoom. It was nice to see everyone, acknowledge the hard work of our staff, and honor our retirees.

### **General**

- A survey asking families about the 2021-2022 school year has been published to the community. Information about the survey (including the link) is available in a pop-up window on any Milan Area Schools website. We are asking that families complete the survey for every student by Friday, June 11th at 4:00 PM. At this point, we have over 1,600 responses. Summary information from the survey will be provided once the survey is complete. At this time, an overwhelming majority of the respondents are excited to be back in-person 5 days a week next year.
- On Tuesday, June 15th, between 3:00 Pm and 5:00 PM, the Washtenaw County Health Department will conduct a vaccination clinic at Milan High School. More details will be shared soon.

### **Board**

- The 2021-2022 Proposed Board Meeting Dates were presented to the Board as in Attachment N

### **Communication**

- The district currently has 1,037 Twitter followers. This is up 0 from the last meeting.
- The district currently has 2,392 Facebook followers. This is up 5 from the last meeting.

### **Assistant Superintendent's Comments:**

- Assistant Superintendent McMahon publicly thanked the building principals for all of the work they have been putting into getting summer school setup. There are a lot of moving parts to this new program and the principals are putting in additional hours during an already extremely busy time.

- Assistant Superintendent McMahon shared appreciation for all members of the MAS staff for the tremendous amount of effort that each individual put into making this unique school year as successful as possible.

### **Student Board Member Comments:**

Student Board Member Aubrey Bukosky shared the results of a survey she conducted of fellow students. The survey discussed student activities for the 2021-2022 school year.

### **Board Member Comments:**

- Board Member Faro thanked Lon Smith, Jesse Hoskins and all staff, parents and students.
- Board Member Heikka thanked Lon Smith, Greater Milan Area Community Foundation, the community for working the vaccine clinic, the MEA, Superintendent Girbach for his support, and Coach Rodriguez.
- Board Member Landingham thanked the High School Administration and the MEA. Landingham apologized for missing the WASB meeting.
- Board Member Kiger thanked all staff and wished everyone a safe and happy summer.
- Board Member Frait mentioned the Great Art Doors sponsorship and thanked the following: Tennis team, public for comments, 8th Grade Recognition, Young Adult Graduation, Jesse Hoskins, MEA, the audience, Aubrey Bukowsky, HS Graduation, and the MEA
- Board Member Moccio thanked the staff, students, and families for a great year.
- Board Member Cislo Thanked Coach Rodrieguez, Lon Smith, the Young Adult Community Partners, and all staff members.

### **Public Comments:**

Nicole Gerbens spoke to the Board about the MEA contract.

Annie Kruiise thanked the Board for being in-person. She then voiced concern about staff salaries, discussed the need for town hall meetings, asked the Board and Administration to value cultural issues, and requested better transparency.

Sue Kesterson thanked the MEA. She then voiced concern about staff salaries. She also requested that the community reach out to the Board.

Sandy Harmison talked about the privilege of working at MHS and voiced concern about staff salaries. She also requested that the community get more involved.

Alecia Powell voiced concerns regarding staff salaries as well as the posting of Board meeting agendas and minutes. She encouraged community feedback, more communication from the board, and is happy to help the district.

Holli Vallade voiced concern about staff salaries.

Rachel Hobbs thanked past teachers, and talked of posting draft minutes and Board packets.

Hannah Wiles voiced concern about staff salaries.

Emily Wiles thanked Board Member Frait and voiced concern about staff salaries.

Motion by Faro supported by Heikka to enter into closed session as allowed by the Open Meetings Act for Negotiation Strategies. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Time entered closed session 9:06 pm.

Time returned to open session 11:07 pm.

**Time of Adjournment:** 11:07 p.m.