

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORKSHOP MEETING
WEDNESDAY, July 22, 2020**

The workshop meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order by President Vershum at 7:00 p.m. on July 22, 2020.

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

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahon, Krista Hendrix, Lon Smith, Sean DeSarbo, Jennifer Bookout, Chris Gill, Kim Jasper, Kristina Mahaney, Kelley Smith, Connie Rose, Melissa Fiederlein, Debra Nichols, Molly Jeppeson, Anne Middleton, Jennifer Barker, Clara Thiry, Cara Payne, Matthew Gittleson, Mary Kliber, Lisa Martin, Courtney Jeffers, Jim Brousseau, Wendy Unger, Kaitlyn Erehart, Jessica Stafford, Julie Brenke, Jill Gerweck, Jennifer Glushyn, Amy Hertler, Liz Miller, Nichole Kuenzel, Allison Smith, Kelly Straub, Miranda Trout

Guests Present: Debbie Allen, Cynthia Wood, Shannon Dare, T. Faro, Krista Grutt, Tom Taylor, Melissa Brown, Trisha Lurette, Carrie Gutierrez

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Cislo supported by Moccio to approve the technology device purchase as presented in Attachment A. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Kiger supported by Cislo to approve the technology device purchase as presented in Attachment B1 and B2. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Superintendent Girbach gave an update for the approaching 2020-2021 School Year.

Superintendent's Comments:

Staff

- Alison Smith's (Paddock Teacher) lost her father
- Jennifer Hoffman (Symons Paraprofessional) lost her father-in-law

Communication

- The district currently has 1,003 Twitter followers. That is up 2 from the last meeting.
- The district currently has 2,123 Facebook followers. That is up 7 from the last meeting.

Budget Update

- The 2019-2020 state budget deal is moving quickly in Lansing and is expected to hit the Governor's desk by this Friday.
 - The deal closes a \$2.2 billion hole in the current year budget (FY20) for the General Fund and the School Aid Fund through a series of transfers, reductions,

and spending of federal Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) dollars. In terms of School Aid Fund reductions, the proposal would reduce the following line items:

- Per pupil allocation by \$256 million
- University operations by \$163.7 million
- Community college operations by \$36.3 million
- MPSERS expenditures by \$14.2 million
- State assessments by \$6 million
- CEPI operations by \$400,000
- School Safety Grants by \$10 million
- FIRST Robotics program by \$800,000
- The operating expenditures for schools will be replaced 2 to 1 in COVID Relief Fund dollars (\$512 million).
 - We lose approximately \$170 per pupil in funds that can be spent on any general fund expenditures.
 - We gain approximately \$340 per pupil in funds that have to be spent on COVID related expenses.
- The previously announced deal included \$500 in hazard pay for Michigan's teachers. In committee, Sen. Curtis Hertel (D-East Lansing) offered an amendment to the proposal to express intention that future hazard payments include more school employees. The amendment was adopted with bipartisan support.
- The 2020-2021 State budget has not been addressed at this time.
 - Cuts are estimated to be \$685 per pupil.

Board

- The School Board Candidate filing deadline for the November General Election was July 21, 2020. The following people filed for the 3 open seats: Michelle Heikka, Andrew Cislo, Thomas Faro, and George Elder IV

General

- Superintendent Girbach provided an update regarding the 2020-2021 School Year:
- Updated communication sent to the community on 7-21-20 regarding instructional options
- Survey sent to families regarding instructional options for 2020-2021
- Survey sent to teachers regarding instructional options for 2020-2021
- The administrative team is meeting daily to work on the following:
 - The district's plan for safety protocol implementation when students and staff return to the buildings in person.
 - The instructional model plan for 2020-2021.
 - MAS desire is full face-to-face.
 - Factors are changing daily
 - The reality of full face-to-face occurring is dwindling quickly for the following reasons:
 - COVID data in Michigan and US
 - Protocol requirements when in Phase 4
 - MAS teaching staff survey data
 - MAS family survey data

- General societal attitude in Washtenaw County, Michigan, and the US
 - Plans of surrounding districts
 - Implementation of full virtual instruction
- The Instructional Options Subcommittee is meeting regularly to work on the following:
 - Learning Management System selection
 - Consistent implementation of the Learning Management System
 - Consistency in full virtual instruction

Assistant Superintendent's Comments:

- Assistant Superintendent McMahon offered appreciation on behalf of the administrative team for the leadership provided by Superintendent Girbach during this unprecedented and unpredictable period in education.

Public Comments:

- Tom Taylor of 664 Honeysuckle Dr., asked questions regarding the 2020-2021 School Year.
- Melissa Brown of 7699 Oakville Waltz Rd. directed her questions to the Board regarding the 2020-2021 School Year.
- Krista Grutt of 12335 Wells Rd directed questions to the Board regarding the 2020-2021 School Year.
- Clara Thiry, teacher at Paddock Elementary, spoke of her pride of Milan Area Schools and thanked the Administration for their hard work. Thiry also directed a question to the Board regarding voting on the 2020-2021 School Year.
- Tom Faro of 696 Jefferson Ln. asked questions of the Board regarding the 2020-2021 School Year.
- Jim Brousseau, teacher consultant at Milan High School spoke to the Board about his thoughts for the upcoming 2020-2021 School Year.
- Trisha Lurette of 1202 Daisy Ln. thanked the Administrators, Board of Education, and the teachers and then addressed her questions to the Board regarding the 2020-2021 School Year.
- Sean DeSarbo, Principal of Paddock Elementary, spoke to the Board of his pride of Milan Area Schools and spoke to the Board about making a decision for the 2020-2021 school year and shared his gratitude.
- Shannon Wayne of 1212 Beavertail spoke to the Board of her desire to return to face to face for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Board Member Comments:

- Board Member Moccio thanked Mr. DeSarbo for this comments. Moccio also thanked the Administrative Team for working during their downtime. Moccio also shared her appreciation for the way the Graduation Ceremony was performed.
- Board Member Vershum shared good public feedback on the Graduation Ceremony and thanked the HS and Administration for the hard work that went into planning it. Vershum also addressed the Board on future public Chat's with the Board.
- Board Member Landingham thanked the Administration and Staff for all the work going into planning the 2020-2021 School Year. Landingham thanked the candidates who are running for the open Board slots and also thanked Board President Vershum for all her hard work as Board President
- Board Member Cislo thanked the Administration and Staff for their hard work and also reminded parents to fill out the survey that was sent out.
- Board Member Heikka thanked the Administration and Staff for all of their hard work getting us to this point in the 2020-2021 school year plans and encouraged everyone to call your State Representatives to use your voice and share your opinion. Heikka also spoke to Superintendent Girbach about social media. Heikka thanked President Vershum for all her hard work and shared that Milan Swim ranked 4th in the Country by a national magazine
- Board Member Frait spoke to a fellow Board member and a teacher about a personal family situation and shared her concern. Frait also thanked the Administration and Staff at MHS for all the hard work that went into the Graduation Ceremony. She also asked for patience and grace while decisions were made. Lastly, she requested for infomraiton to be distributed as quickly as possible.

Time of Adjournment: 9:17 p.m.