

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, August 12, 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 August 12, 2021.

Board Members Present: Heikka, Faro, Moccio, Kiger, Cislo

Board Members Absent: Frait, Landingham

Staff Present: Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahan, Lon Smith, Jennifer Barker, Jim Brousseau, Yvette Kashmerm, Chris Schmidt, Melissa Fiederlein, Jennifer Barker

Guests Present: Larry Biederman, Zack Radcliff, Rachel Hobbs, David Kruike, Murphy Payeur, Craig Barker, Hillary Hawker, Gavin Kruike, Brody Lopez, Sydney Smith, Denise Lopez, Kurt DeMars, Gunner Kruike, Egan Kruike, Emmett Cruise, Anthony Lopez, Jayme McElvaney, Josh McElvaney, Mandy Arntson, Tim Arnston, Melissa DeMars, Justin Hobbs, Krista Meggison, Brianna Prete, Noah Allen, Dan Nickels, Dominick Trolian, K J DeMars, Whitney Berger, Andrew Kremski, Zack, Denise Lopez, Lindsey Segrist, Holly Vallade, Debbie Allen, Spencer Riddle, Franklin Barker, Emily Chene, Renee Humes, Stacy Sachs, Larry Beiderman, Mike Rader, April Rader, Kenneth Meyer, Brandy Farris, Madison Farris, Aaron Chatfield, Chanelle Chatfield, George Elder IV, Stephanie Hunt, Bill Gaskell, Justin Hobbs, Sydney Smith, Andrew

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

The following community members spoke to the Board regarding masks:

Larry Biederman
Zack Radcliff
Rachel Hobbs
David Kruike
Murphy Payeur
Craig Barker
Hillary Hawker
Gavin Kruike
Brody Lopez
Sydney Smith
Denise Lopez
Kurt DeMars
Gunner Kruike
Jayme McElvaney
Mandy Arntson
Melissa DeMars
Justin Hobbs

Krista Meggison
Brianna Prete
Noah Allen
Dan Nickels
Dominick Trolian
K J DeMars
Whitney Berger
Andrew Kremski
Denise Lopez
Lindsey Segrist
Holly Vallade

Motion by Faro supported by Kiger to approve the consent agenda that includes the minutes of the workshop meeting of July 28, 2021 and the approval of bills/reimbursement of expenses.
All Ayes. Carried 5-0

The Board heard the Second Reading of the potential Vaping Manufacturers Litigation as provided in Attachment A.

The Board discussed their Board Goal Development plan

Motion by Faro supported by Kiger to support Mask Guidelines option #2 as presented by Superintendent Girbach. All Ayes. Carried 5-0.

- Low
 - Masks Highly Recommended for All Students and Staff
 - Masks Required on Buses
- Moderate
 - Masks Required for Students in Grades 6 and Below (may change as vaccination age changes)
 - Masks Highly Recommended for Students in Grades 7 and Above
 - Masks Required on Buses
- Substantial (*where we are currently*)
 - Masks Required for All Students and Staff
 - Masks Required on Buses
- High
 - Masks Required for All Students and Staff
 - Other Mitigation Strategies Increased
 - Masks Required on Buses

Public Comments:

The following community members spoke to the Board regarding masks:

Rachel Hobbs
Ken Meyer
Hillary Hawker
Spencer Riddle
Franklin Barker

Debbie Allen inquired about concerns with seasonal allergies and quarantine rules.

Superintendent's Comments:

Students

- The district wants to remind our students and families that, throughout the summer, meals continue to be provided for free to all children under the age of 18. A link to place food orders can be found on the main page of 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.
- Kindergarten through Eighth Grade Summer School is going very well. We are glad to have approximately 125 students attending. A big thank you to Dan Adams for being a great Coordinator for the program!
- The Milan High School Credit Recovery program is going well. Students who did not pass courses during 2020-2021 are able to recover some credit towards graduation.
- Our transportation department, like many other transportation departments in the state, is struggling to hire full time and substitute drivers. We experienced 3 retirements and a resignation this summer. We are filling two of the runs and are able to absorb the other two runs. The number of drivers available for athletic trips will be limited and we may need to have students self-transport to some away events. Anyone interested in working for the Milan Transportation Department should call 734-439-5900. Milan Area Schools will pay for and coordinate all required training.

Staff

- Nick Prentice (MS Math) Resigned - Accepted Job at Alma Mater
- Megan Hubbard (Symons Teacher) Resigned - Accepted a Job in Boston
- The district has reached a tentative agreement with the Milan Education Association. The MEA voting will conclude on Monday. The Board will then take action on the tentative agreement.
- The district is in talks with the other union groups. Contracts expire on August 31st.

General

- The 2021-2022 School Calendar is now available at milanareaschools.org
- The Big Red Bundle program is back again for next year. Information regarding methods to make donations to the program are available in the "Current Topics" section of milanareaschools.org.

Communication

- The district currently has 1,041 Twitter followers. This is up 6 from the last meeting.
- The district currently has 2,425 Facebook followers. This is up 11 from the last meeting.

Board Member Comments:

- Board Member Faro thanked the community for their input and comments, thanked the MEA representatives for negotiations and thanked Krista Hendrix for the financial statement updates provided.
- Board Member Heikka thanked the community for coming to the meeting and emailing the board. She feels that the Board's decision is a compromise. Heikka also thanked the MEA for negotiations.
- Board Member Kiger thanked the MEA for negotiations and thanked the staff for getting ready for the upcoming year.
- Board Member Cislo thanked the community for input and explained answers to communication and replies from the Board. Thanked Mrs. Hobbs and Mrs. Allen for attending consistently.
- Board Member Moccio addressed and thanked the community and staff regarding difficult decisions.

Motion by Heikka supported by Faro to enter into closed session as allowed by the Open Meetings Act for Negotiation Strategies. All Ayes. Carried 5-0

Time entered closed session 9:27 p.m.

Time returned to open session 10:13 p.m.

Time of Adjournment: 10:13 p.m.