

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, September 27, 2023**

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 September 27, 2023.

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

Board Members Absent: Faro

Signed in Staff: Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahon, Jeannie Baber, Doug Orr, Julie Shafe, Emily Habitch, Tammy Tessier, Vicki Speelman, Margaret Durkee, Sara Backman, Greg Bodziak, Marilyn Burkeen, Mark Hass, Brenda Nelson

Signed in Guests: George Elder, Andrea Bennink, Beth Vandergrift

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Frait supported by Meray to thank the staff of the Milan Area Schools Transportation Department as recorded in Attachment A. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Public Comments: None

Motion by Rosen-Leacher supported by Gutierrez to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 13, 2023. All Ayes. Carried 5-0 Abstention by Meray

Motion by Gutierrez supported by Rosen-Leacher to approve the minutes of the regular meeting closed session of September 13, 2023. All Ayes. Carried 5-0 Abstention by Meray

Andrea Bennink provided the Board an update on the work of the WISD Parent Action Committee (PAC)

Public Comments: None

Assistant Superintendent Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Assessment Updates
- Student Interventions

Superintendent Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Homecoming
- District Communications Committee
- Reimagining MAS: 2024-2025 and Beyond

Board Member Comments:

- Rosen-Leacher congratulated the Transportation Department for 21 years of no red tags. She also reminded them of their important work of getting all of our kids to and from school and events safely and that our drivers are the first and last staff members students see every day. She also announced that she would be attending the Homecoming Parade.
- Meray apologized for missing the last meeting. Announced her support for the upcoming transition plan and thanked the Administration for their work on the project. She thanked Mrs. Bennink for her update and work on behalf of the students. She also thanked the paraprofessionals who attended the WISD Bootcamp.
- Heikka thanked the Transportation Department for their service to the district. She also provided positive community feedback on the recent zoom sessions regarding the District's transition plans. She also thanked the community members who replaced the flags in front of the High School for their service to the community and for showing such respect for our flag.
- Faro through Michelle provided an audit update and sought information related to the salary review for non-contract employees being conducted by the Administration.
- Gutierrez thanked the Transportation Department for the care they give our students. She thanked Mrs. Bennink for her work for our community. She also informed the Board that several paraprofessionals were grateful for the para-centric training and encouraged the Administration to provide additional para-centric training opportunities.
 - Mr. Girbach provided information on additional para-centric training opportunities.
- Frait stated she was impressed with the Transportation Department and their ability to transport our students regardless of the conditions. She also expressed excitement about the upcoming paraprofessional training. She wished everyone an exciting Homecoming. She wished Avery Powell a happy birthday. She thanked Mrs. Bennink for her work in our community.
- Cislo thanked the Transportation Department for their commitment to our students and relayed a personal story. He also declared "On oh Milan" and hoped for a victory at Homecoming.

Motion by Heikka supported by Rosen-Leacher to appoint Attorney Robert Dietzel of the Thrun Law Firm, P.C. to serve as the Board's Hearing Officer for the student discipline hearing.
All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Motion by Heikka supported by Meray 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 parents/guardians, for the purpose of conducting a hearing to consider the discipline of a student whose identity is known to the Board as student 2023-2024-1. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Time entered closed session 7:41p.m.

Time returned to open session 9:33 p.m..

Motion by Heikka supported by Rosen-Leacher to expel student 2023-2024-1 in accordance with the attached resolution as read by Robert Dietzel. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Motion by Heikka supported by Gutierrez 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 parents/guardians, for

the purpose of conducting a hearing to consider the reinstatement of a student whose identity is known to the Board as student 2021-2022-2. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Time entered closed session 9:39 p.m.

Time returned to open session 11:18 p.m.

Motion by Heikka supported by Rosen-Leacher to deny reinstatement for student 2021-2022-2 in accordance with the attached resolution as read by President Cislo. All Ayes. Carried 6-0

Time of Adjournment 11:22 p.m.