

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORKSHOP MEETING
Wednesday, September 29, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order in the Milan High School Theater located at 200 Big Red Drive, Milan MI, 48160, by President Cislo at 7:00 p.m. on September 8, 2021.

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

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Bryan Girbach, Ryan McMahon, Yvette Kashmer, Jennifer Barker

Guests Present: Vance McCrumb, Debbie Allen, Yo Gabba Gabba, Lisa Sanders, Louise Swoffer, Rachel Hobbs, David Kruse, Annie Kruse, George Elder, Chris Gaffrey, Alecia Powell, Holli Vallade

Motion by Cislo supported by Faro to recess the regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education at 7:01 p.m. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Following a recess, the regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Cislo.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comments:

- Rachel Hobbs commented on the closed session minutes, COVID dollars, and financial documents.
- Vance McCrumb, a representative of the Ann Arbor VFW Post 423, spoke to the Board regarding the National Scholarship Program opportunity for High School and Middle School students.
- Lisa Sanders spoke about dyslexia, shared data on dyslexia, requested staff training on dyslexia, and commented on the topic of student pronouns.
- Annie Kruse thanked the Board for sharing the google doc for the communications committee selection process and asked questions about the survey. She also asked about mask mandates for October 1.
- Debbie Allen thanked the MHS staff and everyone involved with the homecoming event. She also spoke about bullying and harassment concerns.

Motion by Faro supported by Landingham to approve the consent agenda that includes the minutes of the regular meeting of September 8, 2021 and the minutes of the closed session of September 8, 2021. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Heikka supported by Faro to approve the Cafeteria Employee Policies as detailed in Attachment A. Motion Carried 5-1. (No vote by Frait Abstention from Heikka due to a personal conflict of interest)

Motion by Faro supported by Heikka to approve the Board Scorecard as detailed in Attachment B. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

Motion by Frait supported by Landingham to approve the Communication Committee Charter as detailed in Attachment C. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

The Board discussed the Communication Committee Member Selection Process as provided in Attachment D.

Motion by Heikka supported by Faro to approve the MHS Student School Board Representative survey as detailed in Attachment E. All Ayes. Carried 7-0

The Board was updated on the Board Operating Procedures Manual review process.

Public Comments:

- Debbie Allen directed questions to the Board regarding voting and amending documents.
- Rachel Hobbs spoke to the Board regarding the board scorecard and asked for clarification on information regarding the Sexual health Advisor Committee (SHAC).
- George Elder spoke to the Board regarding a concern about pronouns and self identification by students.
- Holli Vallade thanked the Board for involving parents on committees. She also spoke to the Board regarding committees and the selection of the community members involved. She then shared concerns about masks, the district's website, Critical Race Theory (CRT), bullying, transportation, LGBTQ, student enrollment, student achievement, and communication.
- Alicia Powell inquired about committee membership being put on the website. Shea slo voiced a concern about district transportation.
- Annie Kruse spoke about COVID dollars, air filtration system upgrades, and communication scorecard ideas.

Superintendent's Comments:

Students

- The district wants to remind our students and families that, throughout the 2021-2022 school year, full meal equivalent breakfasts and lunches will be free to all students on scheduled school days. Individual milks and other food items will NOT be free.

Staff

- Katie Hicks (Paddock Teacher) mother passed away. Please keep Katie and her family in your thoughts.

General

- The Paddock Early Childhood Center has space remaining in the Great Start Readiness Program. This FREE, full day preschool is for qualified children that turn four by December 1st. For more information please call 734-439-5159 or visit our website at milanareaschools.org.
- Milan COVID data can be viewed by visiting milanareaschools.org and clicking on the COVID Case Data (24 Hour Notifications & Weekly Dashboard) link.
- Last year upon the return of students to in-person instruction, Milan Area Schools upgraded the filters on our HVAC systems. At that time, the district also increased the amount of outside air being pulled into our HVAC systems.

Budget Update

- The Governor signed the non-school related state budgets today. The budget included language regarding mask mandates made by local health departments. At this time, the Washtenaw County Health Department's mask mandate remains in effect. I will keep the community updated if anything changes regarding the county mask mandate. It is important to remember that Milan Area Schools had a mask mandate in place prior to the county mandate being implemented. The district's mask mandate would remain in force if the county rescinds their mask mandate. The language does not affect current quarantine rules.
- The district's annual audit will be presented at the October 13th board meeting.

Assistant Superintendent Comments:

- Assistant Superintendent McMahon updated the Board on the Individual Reading Improvement Plans (IRIPs). In both elementary buildings, the Literacy Team, classroom teachers, and building administrators are working through the assessment and identification process to have plans ready by parent-teacher conferences.
- Assistant Superintendent McMahon updated the Board on the Additional Instructional Time Grant. Our application was submitted ahead of the deadline and was written to provide paraprofessional support and before and after school additional literacy instruction.

Board Member Comments:

- Board Member Moccio spoke about the success of the homecoming events, the parade, and the dance. She also thanked the city for supporting the parade.
- Board Member Landingham asked Assistant Superintendent McMahon about the consolidated application and inquired about a Board book study.
- Board Member Kiger thanked Josephine Forbush, High School Agriscience teacher, for her representation at the Monroe County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. She also shared information from her attendance at the Behind the Scenes event in Lansing. Kiger also

stated that the diversity work being conducted in the district makes her proud to be a part of the Milan Area Schools Board.

- Board Member Faro addressed comments about the budget, bonus dollars, COVID dollars, and COVID quarantines. Faro thanked Robert Hull on supporting the mask mandate at sporting events. He also thanked Kim Jasper on her communications and gave kudos to Aaron Shinn and Chris Gill on the homecoming events. Faro also announced that he had completed the MASB certification requirements for a first year Board Member.
- Board Member Heikka thanked the community, staff, and students who came together for the success of spirit week and the homecoming events. She also thanked the city for supporting the parade. Heikka then stated that she is proud of the work the Board and staff are doing and the time they are putting into work the district's diversity initiatives.
- Board Member Frait attended the FCI graduation ceremony and was thankful for the opportunity to attend such a powerful event. Frait thanked Connie Cox and the Community Ed staff for leading the Adult Education Week and bus event. She also thanked the Equestrian Team for being the Reserved District Champions. Frait congratulated the undefeated Tennis Team. Frait then shared information gained from attending the WISD Legislative Coffee. She also thanked everyone for a successful homecoming.
- Board Member Cislo thanked the transportation department for their dedication. He commented on attending the FCI graduation and shared how it was such a special event. Cislo talked about the Legislative Coffee and his attendance at the Greater Milan Area Community Foundation awards ceremony (where grants were awarded to teachers for programs). Cislo stated that the Board is considering a presentation by the Michigan Organization on Adult Sexual Health in the future.

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

Time entered closed session 9:15 p.m.

Time returned to open session 9:55 p.m.

Time of Adjournment: 9:55 p.m.