



Scoop from the Supt

by Bryan Girbach

Students

- I hope that everyone had a relaxing and safe holiday break and New Year. It is exciting to be back to school in 2023!
- In recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we do not have school on Monday, January 16th.

Staff

- Lisa Mellinger, the Director of Earlier Childhood Programs, resigned in late December. Lisa made the decision to move to the west side of the state to return to her hometown. The interview process for a new Director of Early Childhood Programs is well underway. We hope to recommend a hire to the Board of Education in January or February.

Board

- I want to personally welcome Sara Meray to the Board. I also want to welcome Betty Rosen-Leacher to an elected seat on the Board.
- The next Big Red Chat with the Board of Education is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17th, from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM in the Middle School Librarium. To comply with the Open Meetings Act, the Big Red Chat will be hosted by three members of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education. The main topic for this Big Red Chat is school safety. While each Big Red Chat has a main topic, questions and comments on any school-related topic will be accepted.

Curriculum

- The Milan Area Schools Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB) meets regularly throughout the year. At their recent meetings, the group reviewed new materials for teaching Paddock Elementary students about Body Safety. The new curriculum was developed by and would be presented by the Washtenaw Area Council for Children. The materials include eight 20 minute lessons:

Week 1 - I am the Boss of My Body

- Poison, Fire, and Gun Safety
- Home Alone / Getting Lost
- Car and Street Safety
- Strangers

Week 2 - I am the Boss of my Body

- Private Parts
- Body Safety Rule
- What to do if someone breaks the Body Safety Rule
- No, Go, Tell

SEAB will host the first required open hearing for the community at 6:00 PM on January 23rd, in the Paddock cafeteria. SEAB will host the second required open hearing on February 8th in conjunction with the School Board Meeting. The goal is to seek School Board approval at the second School Board meeting in February. SEAB is making this recommendation to the Board on a unanimous vote. The program will include parent evening events each year prior to the classroom instruction. The organization also provides detailed letters for families. As always, families could opt out of the program.