



Scoop from the Supt

by Bryan Girbach

Students

- I was able to see the opening night MHS production of Alice in Wonderland. Even the opening night performance was spectacular. I was thoroughly impressed with our students' ability to learn such awkward lines! The performers, stage crew, and everyone involved did a great job. We are excited that the same directors will be returning for the musical later this year.
- The Girls Swimming and Diving Team earned 163 points at the state meet, earning the team 4th place in the state! This marks another time the girls team earned a trophy in back to back state meets! They accomplished back to back trophies in 2005 and 2006 as well.
- Our Varsity Volleyball Team had an outstanding season. They earned their way into the State Semi-Finals! This marks the farthest a Milan Varsity Volleyball Team has ever competed in the state tournament. On November 16th, the team played well and lost a hard fought match against West Catholic High School.

Staff

- Milan Area Schools is proud and honored to share that Coach Dan Heikka was named the Michigan Swim Coaches Association Coach of the Year. Coach Heikka has been honored as a regional coach of the year and Monroe News coach of the year in the past. This year's recognition, that is so well deserved, demonstrates an even higher level of honor and respect for Coach Heikka's coaching ability. Congratulations to Dan Heikka.
- Jennifer Bookout, Symons Elementary School Principal, has been appointed as the Milan Middle School Principal effective January 1, 2024. Mrs. Bookout will remain the Symons Principal through the end of 2023, as her new appointment starts on January 1, 2024. I want to thank Mrs. Jasper for her years of service and dedication to the students of Milan Area Schools.
- The posting for the next Principal of Symons Elementary School went out on November 28th. The job was posted on the MAS, MASA, MASSP, MEMSPA, and MASB websites. In addition, the position was posted on Indeed and the National Alliance of Black School Educators (NABSE) Career Center. The posting closes on December 12th.
- I want to thank the Board of Education for approving Cynthia Cialone as the next Payroll and Benefits Manager for Milan Area Schools. Carolyn White, our current Accounts Payable/Receivable Manager, did a tremendous job of processing our November 30th payroll. Carolyn had been cross trained for the task, but had never done a payroll on her own. With support from Krista, Carolyn did great.

Board

- After talking with Mr. Cislo, it is my understanding that the Big Red Chat on Tuesday (11-28-23) went well. Good questions were asked by community members in attendance. Thank you to Mr. Cislo, Mrs. Gutierrez, and Mrs. Prior for being a part of this Big Red Chat.
- We all welcome Cassie Prior to the Milan Area Schools Board of Education. Mr. Cislo and I provided a two hour orientation to the role on Wednesday (11-29-23). Mrs. Prior had great questions during the orientation, and I am excited to have her on the Board of Education.

General

- The Internal Review for MMS was held on November 15th. The review was very valuable to both the building staff and the staff visiting from the other three buildings.
- Milan Area Schools wants to let our parents and students know that we understand the inconvenience that was caused by our recent PowerSchool outage, and we apologize for any issues this might have caused for our stakeholders. The outage was NOT something that was under the control of Milan Area Schools. Powerschool is now functioning again and teachers have access to the system. However, due to a corrupt database (caused by technical difficulties beyond anyone's control), we were forced to revert to an older backup version of our database. Reverting to this backup caused the loss of some student grades that were entered between November 3rd and November 19th. Luckily, we were able to recover the majority of the lost grades; **however, the recovered data has to be hand entered by staff into the system again.**

We appreciate your understanding. We are all working diligently to make sure that every student receives the appropriate credit for each assignment completed. We are also focused on making sure that report cards accurately reflect the performance of every student.

Milan High School

Teachers need time to re-enter grades originally entered between November 3rd and November 19th. This work should be completed by the end of the day on December 8th. As the high school operates on semesters, there was no effect on the delivery of report cards. Powerschool will be opened for parent and student access on December 4th; **however, some assignments may not be re-entered until December 8th.**

Milan Middle School

Teachers need time to re-enter grades originally entered between November 3rd and November 19th. This work should be completed by the end of the day on December 8th. As the middle school functions on trimesters, this will delay the delivery of report cards until the week of December 11th. Powerschool will be opened for parent and student access on December 4th; **however, some assignments may not be re-entered until December 8th.**

Paddock and Symons Elementary Schools

Teachers need time to enter or re-enter report card information. This work should be completed by the end of the day on December 8th. As the elementary schools function on trimesters, this will delay the delivery of report cards until the week of December 11th.