

On Line With the Board

The following actions, comments, or discussions took place at the October 10, 2012 regular meeting of the board of education.

1. Acting President Bushart called the Regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. New staff members Lon Smith, Suzanne Linke, Erica Kovacs, Jennifer Rydman and Kelly Nicholson were all present at the meeting and individually introduced themselves to the board.
3. The Food Service Kitchen Managers and Judy Burgio from Chartwells were presented with Certificates of Appreciation in recognition of National School Lunch Week. Mr. Girbach also congratulated Nelda Pulver and Sarah Stoddard on obtaining a 'no violation' inspection in their Monroe County kitchens. Washtenaw County kitchens will be inspected later in the year.
4. Symons Principal, Tammy Reich, and two of the building's reading teachers, gave a presentation on the data from the NWEA and MEAP testing of students from the 2011-2012 school year.
5. Approval of the minutes from the September meetings and payment of bills/reimbursement of expenses was given.
6. Superintendent Girbach reported on the following:
 - Student Issues
 - Pupil counts are down this year.
 - Students are currently taking the MEAP test and everything is going well.
 - Staff Issues
 - Superintendent Girbach complimented the teachers on their efforts in giving the MEAP test and thanked everyone involved.
 - Payroll Manager Joan Cromer's sister died two weeks ago and her mother passed away on Sunday.
 - General School Issues
 - The Milan Police Department sent a thank you letter to the district for the districts donation to the Police Reserves unit. The Police Reserves is a voluntary unit that works all of the districts athletic events and other community events. The donation will help with equipment purchases for their unit.
 - Bond Updates
 - Blacktop samples have been taken of the tennis courts and results should be coming soon. Once the go ahead is given, the new tennis courts will receive the final rubberized coating.
 - Ground work for grass and plantings has begun around the new MCIS wing.
 - Board Updates
 - The board will be attending the MASB Conference in Detroit, MI in November.
 - The first mascot committee meeting is scheduled for October 11th at 7:00 p.m.
 - Workshop and Policy meetings were scheduled.
7. Assistant Superintendent Peter Kudlak commented on the following:
 - MEAP and NWEA testing is underway and going well. Symons Elementary teacher John Evans along with the other staff in the building put together a video to encourage the students to do well on the MEAP test. Paddock Principal Sean

- DeSarbo also visited the Symons building to encourage the students as they begun to take the test.
- High School Principal Ryan McMahon is continuing a concept in his building called 'walk-about'. He and several teachers during the teacher prep times will visit other teacher's classrooms to observe fellow teachers educational styles. They observe for approximately 10 minutes and then meet to dialogue on what they saw. It is an excellent team building concept.
 - The district is in the planning stages for the use of Title IIA and 31A grant money.
8. Board Member Hovatter commented on the day she spent in the new MCIS wing with the students and staff. She was very impressed with how diligently the students were working and how the instruction for both staff and students has changed. She also commented on how the dynamics of the morning schedule was very different from the afternoon session even though the students were working on the same project.
 9. Student board members were asked to comment on the new project based instruction that they are offered in the MCIS and they shared some of their concerns and their likes.
 10. Vice President Bushart adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.