

On Line with the Board

The following actions, comments, or discussions took place at the October 8, 2014 regular meeting of the Board of Education. The meeting was held in the Board Room at the districts Central Office at 100 Big Red Drive.

1. President Peacock called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM
2. Dave Schmittou, Principal of Milan Middle School and his staff, gave a presentation entitled School Improvement Strategy, Instruction Coaching and Peer Feedback.
3. The Board approved the consent agenda.
4. The Board approved the Washtenaw Futures College Access Network.
5. The Board approved the following people to the teaching positions, Kristina Sartell - MS Teacher Consultant, and Sherry Purkiss – Symons Special Education
6. The Board appointed Matt Bell and Gina Matley as Co-Energy Managers for Milan Area Schools.
7. The Superintendent commented on the following:
 - Superintendent Girbach publicly announced his condolences to the parents, friends and family of Christian Lorinczy who passed away due to an accident at Lincoln Consolidated Schools. Superintendent Girbach has been in touch with the Superintendent of Lincoln Schools to offer his support or help in any way and to let them know Christian and his family are in our thoughts and prayers.
 - Preliminary counts are looking good. This preliminary number actually shows a growth overall of 50 new incoming students for the 2014-2015 school year.
 - Milan Area Schools has had a few cases of Pertussis and a case of Hand Foot and Mouth disease. As mandated by the Health Department Milan Area Schools had reported this outbreak but we have had very few cases and no reports of infectious spreading.
 - Laura Perry, a teacher at the Middle School, had a baby boy and named him James David Perry.
 - Sarah Farmer, a teacher at Symons Elementary, had a baby boy and named him James Mason Farmer.
 - Mark Rodan, a counselor at Milan High School, recently experienced the death of his mother in law, our condolences to Mark and his family.
 - Dorothy Itle, the school Psychologist, recently experienced the death of her mother. Our condolences to Dorothy and her family.
 - Milan Area Schools is implementing new software called New World. The transition has been very successful. Superintendent
 - Girbach would like to personally thank Michelle Cowhy, Lynda Kime and Bari Livsey for all the hard work and countless hours that have been put in to this to make this transition run smoothly and put Milan Area Schools leaps and bounds ahead of every district in the County.
 - Milan Area Schools is working on repairing, repaving, and relining the parking lots. Milan was in need of repairing cracks which could have caused bigger problems for us with the hard winter ahead if they were not prepared now. Aaron Miller has been working very hard at overseeing this project and making sure the job is done right.

- ALICE is a very important lockdown training program implemented by Milan Area Schools. The county has been designing lesson plans to find the best way to roll this program out to our students. Milan has always practiced lockdown drills however we will introduce the new ALICE procedures as ALICE Aware Lessons.
 - October 22 – Board Members Peacock, Vershum, Kiger Assistant Superintendent Kudlak, and Superintendent Girbach will be attending the Michigan Association of School Boards conference entitled Administrator Evaluations.
8. Assistant Superintendent Comments:
- Middle School and Symons have spent their last three days working on the EmPower program. Milan Area School has taken it from conceptual to putting it in practice for real writing.
 - Assessment Literacy- Cohort 2 has started. Milan Middle School staff who are involved in Cohort 2 will be going to the WISD to work with their staff to be able to lead this work at the MMS. At Symons and Milan High School it is year 2 so this year's teachers are being trained by the teachers in those buildings that went through this training last year at the ISD.
 - NWEA testing for this year is web-based thanks for Gina Matley. The new web-based version is not without issues but a good move for Milan Schools. Assistant Superintendent Kudlak stated most of the issues at Paddock Elementary and is due to audio files. Parents will receive reports again this year however the reports will look a little differently.
9. Board Member Comments:
- Board Member Vershum informed the Board that the Ann Arbor Ypsilanti Chamber is hosting an event on October 17, 2014 entitled Where Businesses and Education Meet. The Chamber will also hold an event entitled Coffee Connect, a great opportunity to network and meet Chamber Members, the Chamber Staff, and A2Y Chamber Board Members and let them know what local issues are affecting your business.
 - Board Member Kiger has been in touch with the local townships for an opportunity for a meet and greet. The Board members will give a presentation and have open chats with the different municipalities throughout the upcoming months. The Board will take this opportunity to have informed discussions and will be called Big Reds Board Chats.

Time of Adjournment 8:15 PM