

Milford Board of Education

March 18, 2010

The March Board of Education meeting took place at Seipelt Elementary.

Principal Missy Borger welcomed the board and the audience in attendance. Mrs. Borger shared with the audience that Seipelt received the highest rating on the Local Report Card—Excellent with Distinction. She also reported that the school began a new disciplinary system to keep students focused on their school work. She said the system is proving to be very effective. The school also has a Homework Club in the mornings for students. Teachers volunteer their time before school to give students a chance to get help with their homework. Mrs. Borger also shared information about a project for the 6th grade class involving both the character education program and beatification of the school.

Athletic Director Mark Trout made special presentations to winter sport student athletes who were very successful this past season and advanced all the way to state competition.

In Girls Diving, Margaret Craycraft finished 4th at districts and 20th at the state diving competition. She is a junior, so she has one more year to work with Coach Andrew Campbell to try to advance to the state competition again next year.

Congratulations to Boys Swimming and the success for several swimmers. Student athletes Beau Robinson, Chris Williams, Dan Matulis and David Matulis set school records in the 200 Medley Relay. Cade Williams, Connor Litmer, Beau Robinson and Chris Williams placed 13th in the state in the 200 freestyle relay. Sophomore Beau Robinson was a 5th place finisher in the 100 butterfly and set a new school record. Congratulations also to their Head Coach Gary Tameris.

In wrestling, senior Connor Dietrich placed 4th at districts which qualified him for the state tournament. Congratulations to him and Wrestling Coach Jim Costello.

In Boys Bowling, Jason Ashcraft was the first Milford bowler to advance to state competition. He also helped his team to qualify for districts for the first time ever in the boys program.. The Girls' team also qualified for the districts for the second time. The Bowling squads are coached by Frank Ritzmann, Roger Bussell and Sonji Sittason.

Another exciting accomplishment for all Milford athletics was that Milford received the winter Sportsmanship Award for the FAVC Buckeye Division.

Lyn Blake, Choral Director for Milford High School, congratulated Sarah Pellington for her success in the Overtures competition. It is a scholarship competition for visual and performing arts. Sarah advanced to the Finals in the Vocal competition. It is a great honor for her.

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Kathy Frye presented information about Professional Development. This was a continuation of presentations at each month's meeting to provide details of progress in the district's Long Range Plan. She explained that the district increased the amount of Professional Development (PD) this year as part of the strategy to train teachers in the latest in curriculum and technology. The district conducts PD both in the schools as well as outside venues. The district also utilizes district personnel to provide PD and contracts with consultants from outside. Teachers require training to be able to meet the needs of their students and provide the best possible education.

Athletic Update:

Spring sports teams are practicing and working hard to get ready for the upcoming season. Boys and Girls track teams begin their season on April 1st at Harrison. Milford hosts Eagle Relays on April 6. Boys volleyball begins on April 5th at Princeton. All spring schedules are available at

www.milfordathletics.org Student Representatives:

Later this month, students are having a Talent Show and selling bracelets to raise money for the Dr. Bauer memorial. Students congratulated the sophomore and junior classes for their successful dance.

Vocational Report:

Board member Dave Yockey shared information that district representatives attended a dinner celebration for the Ohio School Boards Association Southwest Region. In the region, five teachers were nominated for the Ohio Teacher of the Year award. Two of those teachers are from Milford—Deborah Johnson from Pattison and Steve Heck from Milford Junior High.

Treasurer's Report:

Approval of financial reports.

The district earned \$67,000 in interest in February thanks to a CD.

The district continues to be on budget for the general fund.

Superintendent's section:

Board approved a resolution to seek a waiver from the state to delay implementation of all-day kindergarten. This will grant a one year delay. The district estimates it could cost as much as \$3 million annually to increase to all day kindergarten.

Board approved an agreement with the Educational Service Center of Clermont County to provide special education services for handicapped students.

Board approved a bid package for furniture for the additions at Milford High School.

This is the second bid for the furniture package. The first bid process was over budget. So the district decided to reject the bids and start over. The work paid off. The original bid was \$738,000 for the furniture for the high school additions and renovations. The new bid is \$499,000 which is \$60,000 under budget!

Board approved administrative contracts for several administrators.

Board approved an Administrative Reduction in Force (RIF) due to realignment of curriculum department in the central office.

Board had a second reading of policies for Business Advisory Council and Credit Flexibility.

The new policy for BAC is a simpler policy with supporting regulations. The Board also voted to approve Jeff Lykins as the Chairperson of the BAC. Mr. Lykins is President of Lykins Companies, based in Milford. He will seek out members to join the committee.

The credit flexibility policy is required by the state. It shifts the focus for credit away from seat time and allows for gaining credit through other means of showing students mastered content.

Board had a first reading of a policy about hazing, bullying to add new sections required by the state concerning violence in a dating relationship.

Human Resources:

Approval of retirement—Pat Tonnis effective 12/31/10. She has been a valued employee in the district for about 40 years.

The board approved resignations, contract recommendations, substitutes, home instruction tutors, summer camp employee, athletic supplemental recommendations.

Curriculum & Instruction:

Approval of out of state trip for Milford Junior Honor Society to Washington, D.C. in April.

The board approved dates for 2010 summer school. Opportunities for summer school are available to students living outside of the district boundaries. Non-residents will pay a higher fee to participate.

Board approved for teachers to write and revise 8th Grade Algebra I curriculum Informational item: March Testing—Gifted testing March 17-23 for grades 2 & 4 Ohio Graduation Test (Grades 10-12) March 15-28 The district is a semi-finalist for the TCLP Chinese grant to bring a Chinese Instructor to Milford High School for possibly next school year.

The district has a committee in place to discuss gender differences. The district invites the community to participate in a survey about this topic. Please go to the district website to access the survey.

Next Board meeting:

Regular Meeting—April 15, 2010 at 7:00 pm at Smith Elementary—1052 Jer-Les Drive, Milford Ohio 45150