

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025 (5:00PM)
AGENDA**

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Communications / Community Engagement

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public meeting. There is one time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda. When addressing the Board, you will be asked to state your name. The Board determines the amount of time granted to individuals or groups to speak. Each person shall be allowed to speak for up to 3 minutes. Board members may question speakers, but are not obligated to answer questions or make statements or commitments in response to issues raised by the public. In general, such items will be referred to the superintendent for advisement, investigation, study, and/or recommendation or designated as future agenda items for Board consideration.

A. Public Comments

IV. Routine Matters for Approval

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 9, 2025

B. Minutes of the Regular Meeting Closed Session of July 9, 2025

V. Milan Area Schools Strategic Plan Business

A. Learning Environment/ Culture

1. Curriculum Purchase - Attachment A

VI. Adjournment

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025 (5:00 PM)
RESOLUTIONS**

I. Call to Order

The special meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order in the District Office Boardroom located at 100 Big Red Drive, Milan MI, 48160, by President Cislo at _____ p.m. on July 24, 2025.

Board Members Present:

Board Members Absent:

Staff Present:

Guests Present:

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Communications / Community Engagement

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public meeting. There are two times for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda. When addressing the Board, you will be asked to state your name. The Board determines the amount of time granted to individuals or groups to speak. Each person shall be allowed to speak for up to 3 minutes. Board members may question speakers, but are not obligated to answer questions or make statements or commitments in response to issues raised by the public. In general, such items will be referred to the superintendent for advisement, investigation, study, and/or recommendation or designated as future agenda items for Board consideration.

A. Public Comments

IV. Routine Matters for Approval

A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 9, 2025

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 9, 2025.

Faro ____ Gutierrez ____ Heikka ____ Meray ____ Prior ____ Cislo ____ Burdette ____
Carried _____.

B. Minutes of the Regular Meeting Closed Session of July 9, 2025

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to approve the minutes of the regular meeting closed session of July 9, 2025.

Gutierrez ____ Heikka ____ Meray ____ Prior ____ Cislo ____ Burdette ____ Faro ____
Carried _____.

V. Milan Area Schools Strategic Plan Business

A. Learning Environment/ Culture - Curriculum Purchase

Motion by _____ supported by _____ to approve the Young 5's-5th Grade ELA Curriculum Purchase as presented in Attachment A.

Heikka _____ Meray _____ Prior _____ Cislo _____ Burdette _____ Faro _____ Gutierrez _____
Carried _____.

VI. Adjournment - Time of Adjournment _____.

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2025
MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Milan Area Schools Board of Education was called to order in the Milan Area Schools District Boardroom located at 100 Big Red Drive, Milan MI, 48160, by President Cislo at 7:00 p.m. on July 9, 2025.

Board Members Present: Cislo, Burdette, Prior and Heikka

Board Members Absent: Faro, Gutierrez and Meray

Signed in Staff: Ryan McMahon, Jen Bookout, Krista Hendrix, Sara Beckman and Dan Douglas

Signed in Guests: Pam Ackerman, Patrick Dunn, Emily Dunn, George Elder, David Middlin, Kim Middlin, Matt Slavicek and Sheena Slavicek

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment:

Dan Douglas – Discussed how he felt he met qualifications for the Building & Grounds Director position. He requested reconsideration of the board vote.

Patrick Dunn – Spoke in support of Dan Douglas to receive reconsideration for the Building & Grounds Director position.

Motion by Burdette supported by Heikka to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 25, 2025. All Ayes. Carried 4-0

Motion by Heikka supported by Burdette to approve the minutes of the regular meeting closed session of June 25, 2025. All Ayes. Carried 4-0

Motion by Prior supported by Burdette to approve the bills/reimbursement of expenses. All Ayes. Carried 4-0

Motion by Heikka supported by Burdette to adopt the following resolutions:

- A. To name JP Morgan Chase/Chase Bank, Fifth Third Bank, US Bank, Michigan School District Liquid Asset Fund, Bank of NY Mellon, First Merchants Bank, and MBIA Michigan Class as depositories for General Fund, Payroll, Debt Retirement, Trust and Agency, Food Service, Athletic, and Internal Accounts for district moneys for the 2024-2025 fiscal year and that the following staff members' signatures be attached to the respective accounts as listed:

- General Fund, Payroll & Invoice, Debt Retirement, Food Service, Trust and Agency, Athletics – Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Finance Director
- High School – MHS Principal, MHS Assistant Principal, and Superintendent
- Middle School – MMS Principal, MMS Assistant Principal, and Superintendent
- Symons Elementary – Symons Principal, Finance Director, and Superintendent
- Paddock Elementary School – Paddock Principal, Finance Director, and Superintendent

Be it further moved that the superintendent or designee is authorized to transfer funds from savings to checking and checking to savings and is authorized to buy time savings certificates and invest district monies in accordance with state and/or federal law and Board Policy.

B. To designate the Superintendent or designee to post notices of meetings.

C. That the law firm of Thrun Law Firm, P.C., be retained as the district's legal counsel for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Further moved that the Superintendent is authorized to extend the retainer relationship with Thrun Law Firm, P.C. for one year upon its anniversary date. Further moved that other legal counsel may be retained for specific purposes, as needed.

D. To approve the appointments listed below:

- Voting Delegates for MASB Fall 2025 Delegate Assembly: Cislo and Prior
- Alternate voting Delegates for MASB Fall 2025 Delegate Assembly: Burdette.

All Ayes. Carried 4-0

Motion by Prior supported by Heikka to approve the Annual Loan Activity Application Resolution to repay the School Loan Revolving Fund as provided in Attachment A. All Ayes. Carried 4-0

Motion by Burdette supported by Prior to approve the Technology Purchase of UPS Devices as detailed in Attachment B. All Ayes. Carried 4-0

Motion by Prior supported by Heikka to approve the purchase of a walk-in cooler for Milan Middle School as detailed in Attachment C. All Ayes. Carried 4-0

Public Hearing on Policy 5207 Anti-Bullying Comments:

Emily Dunn: Commented on the anti-bullying policy that was for consideration in front of the board and shared her own experiences as a student.

Sheena Slavicek: Commented on the anti-bullying policy that was for consideration in front of the board and shared her student's experiences with bullying.

Matt Slavicek: Commented on the anti-bullying policy that was for consideration in front of the board and wanted to see a change in the culture around bullying.

Pam Ackerman: Commented on the anti-bullying policy that was for consideration in front of the board and brought anti-bullying information/tools to share with the board.

Motion by Heikka supported by Burdette to repeal and adopt Board policies as described in Attachment E. All Ayes. Carried 4-0

Motion by Burdette supported by Prior to approve David Middlin as the Milan Middle School Principal effective July 10, 2025. All Ayes. Carried 4-0

Public Comments: None

Assistant Superintendent's Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Appreciation for comments made by families regarding the Anti-Bullying Policy
 - Anti-Bullying Policy is a topic District Administrators will be working on this summer

Superintendent's Comments were heard on the following topics:

- Welcome to all new onboarding employees
- Thank you to Assistant Superintendent Bookout for hard work on MMS Principal process
- Thank you to Krista Hendrix for her work on the RFP process for the MMS walk-in cooler

Board Member Comments:

- Heikka – Welcomed the new employees and thanked those that came forward for public comment about the anti-bullying policy. She restated her position of a no vote on last meetings Building & Grounds candidate explaining that she does not believe the proposed candidate met the qualifications.
- Burdette – Welcomed the new employees and thanked Mr. Morelock for arranging the summer lifting program.
- Prior – Thanked those that spoke about anti-bullying policy and acknowledged Mr. Douglas for speaking about his disagreement with the board decision. Reminded community about the GMACF grant deadline and that new sports physicals are due for this season.
- Cislo – Thanked everyone who came to speak and acknowledged how difficult it could be in this forum. He then discussed the upcoming closed session due to completing a personnel review of Mr. McMahon and that the board's role is to establish goals for the superintendent.

Motion by Heikka supported by Prior to enter into closed session pursuant to Section 8(1)(a) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, and upon the request of the employee, for the purpose of conducting a periodic personnel evaluation. All Ayes. Carried 4-0

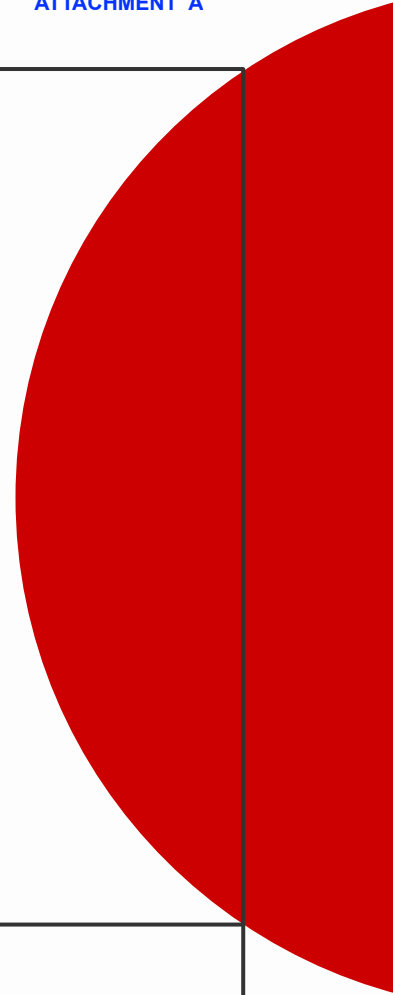
Time entered closed session 8:03 p.m.

Time returned to open session 9:41 p.m.

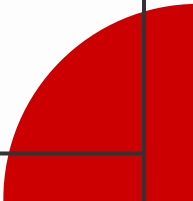
Time of Adjournment 9:41 p.m.

ELA Curriculum Proposal

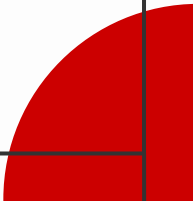
Milan Area Schools
July 2025



Rationale: The Science of Reading

- The Science of Reading has gained significant momentum in recent years as educators, researchers, and policymakers work to align instruction with decades of research on how the brain learns to read.
 - Our current literacy program does not align with these research-based practices and our teachers and literacy coaches were creating supplementary materials to fill the gaps.
 - To ensure stronger reading outcomes we need materials that are evidence-based, comprehensive and consistent across classrooms.
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Rationale: Michigan K-12 Literacy and Dyslexia Law

- The 2024 Michigan K-12 Literacy and Dyslexia Law mandated statewide implementation of Science of Reading practices, including utilizing evidence-based curricular programs.
 - In addition, the state created the 35m Literacy Grant to support districts in adopting approved evidence-based literacy programs.
 - This presented an ideal opportunity to fund a new aligned ELA elementary curriculum.
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Curriculum Review Process

- Our elementary literacy coaches, Tracy Terris and Tonya Saragoza, conducted extensive research to identify programs aligned the Science of Reading and literacy best practices.

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Curriculum Selection Process



Grade Level Presentations

Literacy coaches presented their findings to grade-level teams for review and discussion.



Identification of Finalists

Grade-level teams previewed the programs and selected their top three choices.



Vendor Presentations

Grade level representatives, interventionists, and special education teachers attended vendor presentations



Feedback & Recommendation

Feedback from all participants helped guide the final recommendation.

Top Selection: CKLA

Core Knowledge Language Arts

Why CKLA?

Program Highlights:

- **Comprehensive Curriculum:** covers reading, writing, spelling, speaking, and listening and is fully aligned with the Science of Reading
- **Knowledge-Rich Content:** builds background knowledge in history, science, literature, and the arts
- **Supports for All Learners:** includes built-in scaffolds for English learners, intervention resources, and daily vocabulary support

Teacher-Identified Strengths:

- Strong assessment and progress monitoring tools
- Embedded differentiation and intervention support
- Integration with science and social studies
- Includes morphology, spelling, and handwriting
- Comprehensive teacher materials
- Manageable and realistic for teachers to implement

Professional Development

- CKLA offers a strong professional development program including:
 - **Program Overview for Leaders:** 1/2 Day
 - **Teacher Implementation Training:** Full Day
 - **Implementation Support:** 1/2 Day
 - **Coaching Support:** Full Day
 - **Virtual Support:** 60 minutes
 - **Online Modules:** self-paced

Costs

- Average cost per grade level: **\$13,900**

- Costs include:

- Online Teacher Access
- Online Student Access
- Student Consumables
- Classroom Kit

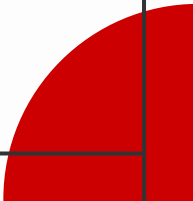
- Professional Development: **\$24,560**

- Cost includes all in-person training and coaching sessions as well as virtual access to self-paced modules.

Total cost:

- \$120,428 (Year 1)
- \$91,290 (Years 2-4)

35m Grant Award

- At this time, final grant award amounts have not been released by the state.
 - We estimate that we will receive at least \$105,000.
 - Placing our order now ensures that teachers have all necessary materials to start the school year.
 - We are confident that this purchase aligns with the requirements of the 35m Literacy Grant and we anticipate that a significant portion of the cost will be reimbursed once allocations are finalized.
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Questions/Comments

