

**MILAN AREA SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, December 17, 2025  
MINUTES**

The regular 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 7:00 p.m. on December 17, 2025.

Board Members Present: Cislo, Burdette, Faro, Heikka, Prior and Gutierrez arrived at 7:08 p.m.

Board Members Absent: Meray

Staff Present: Ryan McMahon, Jennifer Bookout, Krista Hendrix and Margaret Durkee

Guests Present: Scott Morrell

Motion by Heikka supported by Faro to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 10, 2025. All Ayes. Carried 5-0.

Motion by Heikka supported by Burdette to approve the minutes of the regular meeting closed session of December 10, 2025. Carried 5-0.

Public Comments: None

Student Board Member Comments:

- **Heikka:** Exam Cram held on Wednesday, December 17th was a success and we had 20 teachers and over 100 students.

Assistant Superintendent Comments:

- Assistant Superintendent Bookout shared an update on our district's AI Task Force. Over the past three months, teachers and administrators from all four buildings have participated in a program facilitated by Advanced Learning Partnership, focused on the ethical use of AI in education. Today marked the final session of that phase of the work.

As part of the program, each member completed an action research project connected to their role and interests. Today, the group shared their learning and reflected on key takeaways. We also reviewed draft guidelines for staff and students, along with draft family communication related to AI use in our district.

While the formal three-month program has concluded, the work of the AI Task Force will continue. Next steps include finalizing district guidelines, planning a thoughtful rollout, vetting AI tools, and developing plans for ongoing professional development for staff.

Assistant Superintendent Book out will continue to share updates on this work throughout the school year.

#### Superintendent Comments:

- Superintendent McMahon thanked our district stakeholders for their participation in the Milan Holiday Gift Baskets. Each of our buildings conducted a canned food drive and the high school additionally contributed funds raised through Jar Wars that were combined by community donations to provide approximately 75 Holiday Baskets for members of our community.
- Superintendent McMahon shared that he and Gary Cox met with the advisors for the Michigan Statewide School Energy Audit to review our district's analysis of the energy audit that was conducted last year. This information will help us in our work with vendors in upgrading our systems to be more energy efficient.
- Superintendent McMahon shared that he, Gina Matley, and Krista Hendrix met yesterday with members from Spyglass, a company that helps with telephone communication systems. We are looking ahead to replace our phone system to upgrade away from copper lines and to be fully web-based. This work may also include new bell systems, clock management, and fire alarm systems.
- Superintendent McMahon thanked all of our staff for a great first-half of the school year and wished them all an enjoyable and restful break over the next two weeks.

#### Board Member Comments:

- **Prior:** Wished everyone a Happy Holiday.
- **Heikka:** Wished all students good luck on exams and thank you to the teachers who helped prepare students at exam cram. Thank you to the community for donations of snacks. Invited the community to the girls basketball game on January 9th to watch basketball and the dance team who is debuting a new dance.
- **Faro:** Wished a Happy Birthday to Krista Hendrix. Wished everyone a restful break and thanked teachers for help at exam cram and said good luck to students on their exams.
- **Burdette:** Attended the choir and band concerts over the last few weeks and congratulated the students on their performance. He also reminded the community that auditions are currently happening today and tomorrow for the spring musical "Cinderella" if anyone is interested in trying out. Wished everyone a good break.
- **Gutierrez:** Apologized for being late. Wished everyone a good break and hopes they get some rest.
- **Cislo:** Thank Mr. Scott Morell for helping us with the superintendent evaluation we are conducting this evening. Thanked Ms. Durkee for her attendance at board meetings and that we appreciate her attendance. Wishing a safe and happy winter break for all.

Motion by Burdette supported by Faro 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. Carried 6-0.

Time entered closed session 7:14 p.m.

Time returned to open session 8:52 p.m.

Motion by Heikka supported by Gutierrez to rate Superintendent Ryan McMahon as effective for the 2025-2026 school year. Carried 6-0.

Motion by Heikka supported by Burdette to enter into closed session pursuant to Section 8(1)(c) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act for Negotiation Strategies. Carried 6-0.

Time entered closed session 8:54 p.m.

Time returned to open session 11:01 p.m.

Time of Adjournment 11:01 p.m.

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Sara Meray, Secretary