

MILLVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

330 East Main Street
Millville, PA 17846

MINUTES OF THE MILLVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2026

The Millville Area School Board held their regular business meeting on Monday, August 24, 2026 in the Millville Jr./Sr. High School Library beginning at 7:04 pm. Prior to the meeting, the Board held an Executive Session for legal and personnel matters.

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

The following Board members answered roll call: Alex Cavallini, Matthew Diehl, Michael Farrell, Greg Hemsarh, Gena Maize, Jonathan Richards, and Corey Whitmoyer.

Also present were Joseph Rasmus, Superintendent of Schools; Whitney Holloway, Business Manager/Board Secretary; James Meadows, Director of Interventional Support; Matthew McWilliams, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds; Dyson Savage, Director of Technology; and Chelsea Rosenberger, Board Recording Secretary.

2. GUEST RECOGNITION & COMMENTS

Guests present who signed the register were Christopher Sassaman but none requested to comment.

3. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Back-to-School Community Update

- ❖ The Superintendent shared an update outlining the professional development, school safety initiatives, operational changes, and final preparations completed in advance of the opening of the 2026–2027 school year.

New Teacher Induction – August 18

- ❖ New Teacher Induction was held on August 18 for new and returning induction participants. Activities included orientation to the District, prioritized training on District procedures and expectations, and opportunities for mentor/mentee communication and collaboration. New teachers were provided time to become familiar with District practices and prepare for the start of the school year.

Opening In-Service – August 19

- ❖ Dr. Rasmus explained that the District held its Opening In-Service on August 19 for professional and support staff. The program focused on District initiatives and priorities for the upcoming school year, as well as educational services and expectations for staff.
- ❖ Staff participated in Act 80 professional development on August 20 and 21. Training and presentations included:
 - Standard Response Protocol and school safety procedures;
 - Preparation for the District's All Hazards exercise scheduled for September 23;
 - Required compliance training;

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- AIMSweb training; and
- Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) training.
- ❖ Dr. Rasmus explained that the training was intended to ensure staff were prepared for the District's instructional, student support, safety, and operational priorities for the new school year.

Districtwide Priorities

- ❖ Dr. Rasmus reviewed several Districtwide priorities for 2026–2027, including implementation of MTSS across grades K–12, implementation of new K–12 student screeners, continued emphasis on school safety, and improvements to District operating practices. He noted that MTSS will provide a more systematic approach to identifying and responding to student academic, behavioral, attendance, and other needs. New K–12 screening tools will assist staff with identifying students who may require additional support and monitoring student progress throughout the year.
- ❖ Dr. Rasmus thanked the District's custodial staff for their work preparing the buildings for students and also recognized teachers and support staff for their efforts in preparing classrooms and learning environments.

Final Days of Preparation

- ❖ Dr. Rasmus shared that August 24 and 25 were designated as self-directed in-service days. Teachers were provided time to complete final classroom preparations, lesson planning, instructional materials, and other responsibilities in preparation for students returning to school.

School Safety – Weapon Detector Implementation

- ❖ Dr. Rasmus provided an update regarding implementation of the District's new weapon detection systems.
 - The District prepared and distributed a flyer providing initial information regarding the new systems, and additional information will be communicated to students and families as implementation moves forward.
 - Principals will review procedures and expectations directly with students during back-to-school assemblies. The District intends to clearly communicate what students should expect when entering school buildings and how the screening process will operate.

Electronic Devices – Board Policy 237

- ❖ Dr. Rasmus reviewed implementation of Board Policy 237 – Electronic Devices and clarified questions regarding student cell phones and other personal electronic devices.
 - He explained that students will be permitted to bring cell phones to school; however, students will be expected to place their cell phones in their lockers during the school day. Personal electronic devices will not be available for student use during instructional periods, study halls, lunch, or other portions of the school day except when an authorized exception applies.
 - The District will communicate the updated expectations through all available communication channels to ensure students and families understand the policy and its implementation.

Academic Study Hall Expectations

- ❖ Dr. Rasmus discussed new expectations for secondary academic study halls and emphasized that study halls are considered academic periods.
 - Teachers are expected to provide meaningful academic activities and lessons that utilize the full instructional period. The District's goal is to ensure that instructional and academic time is used productively throughout the school day.
 - Consistent with Board Policy 237, students will not be permitted to access cell phones during study halls, lunch periods, or other portions of the school day.

Transportation Updates

- ❖ Dr. Rasmus reminded families to review Sapphire prior to the first day of school for student transportation information, including bus assignments and pickup information.
 - He reported that Bus 60 has been eliminated as a separate bus run as part of the District's efforts to improve transportation efficiency and reduce costs. Students assigned to Bus 60 were incorporated into other existing routes.
 - The administration continues to work with the District's transportation provider to identify additional opportunities for route consolidation and cost efficiencies while minimizing the impact on students and families.
 - Ms. Maize asked whether all families affected by the elimination of Bus 60 had been contacted and notified of the change.
 - Dr. Rasmus answered that yes, all families were notified.
- ❖ Dr. Rasmus concluded the Back-to-School Community Update by encouraging families to attend Meet the Teachers; review Sapphire for current student transportation information; watch for additional communication regarding implementation of Board Policy 237 – Electronic Devices; review information regarding student device insurance; and complete all required beginning-of-year forms.
 - He emphasized the importance of families reviewing District communications as the school year begins and thanked District employees for their work preparing for the return of students.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- ❖ Members of the administration had previously submitted their monthly reports for the consideration of the Board.
 - Mr. Whitmoyer asked about the Advent technology-related service coverage agreement on the agenda that evening.
 - Mr. Savage answered that currently, the district utilizes a ticketing system for issues with the phone system. This agreement would be a service agreement to cover calls for services.
 - Mr. Whitmoyer asked how old the phone system is and if the district was looking to replace it in the near future.
 - Dr. Rasmus explained that replacement of the telephone system is not currently identified as an immediate project. He added that one of the District's goals is to establish more formal multi-year planning for both

facilities and technology. Dr. Rasmus explained that the district intends to develop a multi-year Buildings and Grounds capital improvement plan and a multi-year technology plan. These plans would allow the District to assess the age, condition, utilization, and anticipated replacement cycle of major systems and equipment. He indicated that a Technology Committee could provide an appropriate setting for more detailed discussion of infrastructure needs.

6. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

6.1. August 10, 2026 - Board Meeting Minutes

- ❖ Ms. Maize questioned why certain discussion items were not reflected in the minutes.
 - Ms. Rosenberger explained that the minutes had been prepared with greater emphasis on official Board actions and votes rather than documenting every discussion. She noted that recording extensive discussion is not necessarily required and that the format represented an effort to use a more streamlined approach.
 - Ms. Maize expressed a preference for retaining discussion summaries in the minutes because they provide a historical record showing that a particular issue was discussed and when that discussion occurred.
 - The Board indicated that the matter could be discussed further regarding the preferred level of detail for future minutes.

A motion to approve the August 10, 2026 Millville Area School District Board meeting minutes.

- ❖ This motion, made by Alex Cavallini and seconded by Gena Maize, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Jonathan Richards: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 7, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

7. BUDGET AND FINANCE

- ❖ Mrs. Holloway reported that information from the Music Boosters had been received shortly before the meeting and would therefore be placed on a future agenda.

7.1. Financial Reports

- ❖ The monthly financial reports were submitted for the consideration of the Board and no additional questions were asked.

7.2. Expenditures

A motion to consider and approve the August 24, 2026 general fund expenditures in the amount of \$195,385.18, capital expenditures in the amount of \$11,500.00, and cafeteria expenditures in the amount of \$51.70.

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Alex Cavallini, Carried.

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- Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
- Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

7.3. Pay August/September Expenditures

A motion to consider and approve allowing the Business Manager to pay the remainder of August 2026 and September 2026 expenditures incurred that are due prior to the next scheduled meeting with final approval at the next scheduled meeting.

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Corey Whitmoyer, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

7.4. Berwick Area School District/New Story Meals

A motion to consider and approve Berwick Area School District to provide breakfast at a price of \$2.70 and lunch at a price of \$4.10 to Millville students while in a placement at New Story in Berwick for the 26/27 school year.

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Michael Farrell, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3
- ❖ Ms. Maize asked if this was something previously in place.
 - Dr. Rasmus explained that providing meals to students in certain outside placements has presented logistical challenges. This arrangement was identified under which meals can be provided to the affected students, with the District responsible for the associated charges.
 - Mrs. Holloway anticipated receiving recurring or monthly billing for the service.

7.5. Veteran's Exemption

A motion to consider and approve the Real Estate Tax exemption for disabled veteran, MARVIN HARTZELL .

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Corey Whitmoyer, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

8. POLICY & GOVERNANCE

8.1. Second Reading Updated MASD Policy 237: Electronic Devices

A motion to consider and approve the second and final reading of the updated MASD Policy 237: Electronic Devices as presented.

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Alex Cavallini, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

8.2. PSBA School Leadership Conference Attendance

A motion to consider and approve allowing JESSICA WHITMOYER and ALEX CAVALLINI to attend the Pennsylvania School Board Association School Leadership Conference at Kalahari Resorts & Conventions on October 18-20, 2026 at a total cost for lodging and registration of \$1,838.00.

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Michael Farrell, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

9. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

9.1. Advent Communication Systems Services Agreement

A motion to consider and approve the service agreement with Advent Communication Solutions to provide technical phone system services at the rate of \$160 per month.

- ❖ This motion, made by Alex Cavallini and seconded by Corey Whitmoyer, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

9.2. 2026-2027 Bayada Agreement

A motion to consider and approve the agreement with Bayada Home Health Inc. to provide nursing services to the district in the 2026-2027 school year, as outlined in the agreement. (No change in price from last year).

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Corey Whitmoyer, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3
- ❖ Dr. Rasmus explained that the pricing remained unchanged from the prior year. He clarified that the agreement provides the District with access to appropriately qualified nursing personnel when services are required.

10. CURRICULUM / EDUCATIONAL

10.1. Diversified Occupations (DO) Handbook 2026-2027

A motion to consider and approve the new Diversified Occupations (DO) Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Alex Cavallini, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

10.2. Slippery Rock University Affiliation Agreement

A motion to consider and approve the affiliation agreement with Slippery Rock University for Millville Area School District to provide practicum and internship experiences for students in educational placements, as outlined in the agreement.

- ❖ This motion, made by Michael Farrell and seconded by Corey Whitmoyer, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

10.3. Curricular Excursions & Field Trips 26/27

A motion to consider and approve a field trip to Briar Creek Lake for Water Education Day as presented. The district will sponsor field trip costs up to the \$20 per student threshold, as indicated in the Millville Area School District Administrative Regulation 121-AR-1: Field Trips, Curricular Excursions, and Community Based Instruction.

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Matt Deihl, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

11. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

11.1. Change Order - Lobar Associates

A motion to approve the change order with Lobar Associates to provide panic hardware for doors in the high school, at an additional cost to the district of \$4,445.11.

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Alex Cavallini, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Greg Hemsarth: Nay, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 5, Nay: 1, Absent: 3
Greg Hemsarth: Nay

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11.2. Journey Bank Facility Use - 10/12/26

A motion to consider and approve allowing Journey Bank to use the High School Auditorium and Cafeteria for a State of Bank/Employee Training Day on Monday, October 12, 2026 from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm, with a usage fee of \$200 (\$100 per space) and refundable deposit, consistent with Administrative Regulation 707 AR-3 District Facilities Fee Schedule.

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Corey Whitmoyer, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarh: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

11.3. Disposal Approval

A motion to consider and approve the disposals of Family and Consumer Science books that are obsolete, as presented.

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Matt Deihl, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarh: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

12. PERSONNEL AND ACTIVITIES

12.1. Resignation - K. Ferro

A motion to accept the notice of resignation from KARA FERRO Certified School Nurse, effective August 20, 2026. The district may retain the professional staff member for up to 60 days or until a suitable replacement is identified.

- ❖ This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Michael Farrell, Carried.
 - Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarh: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

Combined Consent (12.2 - 12.7B)

A motion to consider and approve the combined recommended action as presented.

- 12.2. Resignation - K. Bray
 - A motion to accept the notice of resignation from KIMBERLY BRAY as Secondary Designated Building Substitute and Junior High Field Hockey Coach, effective August 18, 2026.
- 12.3. Resignation - S. Welsh
 - A motion to accept the notice of resignation from STEPHINE WELSH as Elementary Head Cook, effective August 18, 2026.

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- 12.4. Secondary Designated Substitute - D. Kurtz
 - A motion to consider and approve the appointment of DAKOTAH KURTZ as the Secondary Designated Building Substitute for the 2026-2027 school year. Clearances on file.
- 12.5. Student Practicum Placement - D. Kurtz
 - A motion to consider and approve the placement of DAKOTAH KURTZ as a practicum student teacher in the Millville Jr./Sr. High School from August 24, 2026 through December 11, 2026.
- 12.6. Substitute Personnel 2026-2027
 - A motion to consider and approve the list of substitute personnel as presented. Pending receipt of all necessary documentation.

Name	Substitute Type
CHRISTY HARRISON	SHORT TERM AGRICULTURE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER (RETROACTIVE TO 8/19)
WENDY FAATZ	PARAPROFESSIONAL, SECRETARY, VAN DRIVER
RACHEL KESSLER	PARAPROFESSIONAL
JODIE WHITMOYER	PARAPROFESSIONAL
SHARON BECK	CSIU GUEST TEACHER (PENDING PERMIT)
KAREN KLOCK	TEACHER
KIRSTIE MAROTTO	CSIU GUEST TEACHER
JUSTIS MILLER	CSIU GUEST TEACHER
ALAINYA SHERWOOD	TEACHER
NAKITA STREM	CSIU GUEST TEACHER
JAMIE JONES	NURSE
KATHLEEN JONES	NURSE
APRIL KARNS	NURSE
LAURA WOLFE	NURSE
LORENA MARQUARDT	TEACHER
DAVID OUTT	TEACHER

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- 12.7. Co-Curricular Personnel 2026-2027
 - A motion to consider and approve the Co-Curricular Personnel recommendations for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.
 - 12.7.A. Appoint Cross Country Volunteer Assistant Coach - B. Evans
 - A motion to consider and approve appointing BLAKE EVANS as a Cross Country Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2026-2027 fall athletic season. Pending receipt of all necessary documentation.
 - 12.7.B. 2026-2027 Additional Security Personnel
 - A motion to consider and approve REGINA SAVAGE, KATIE SICK, and GINGER MCGOWAN as additional Security Personnel for the 2026-2027 year.

This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Alex Cavallini, Carried.

- ❖ Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

13. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion, made by Gena Maize and seconded by Matt Deihl, Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

- ❖ Heather Mausteller: Absent, Jonathan Richards: Absent, Jessica Whitmoyer: Absent, Alex Cavallini: Yea, Matt Deihl: Yea, Michael Farrell: Yea, Greg Hemsarth: Yea, Gena Maize: Yea, Corey Whitmoyer: Yea
 - Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3
- ❖ The Board held an additional Executive Session meeting following the meeting for personnel and legal matters.

Whitney Holloway, Board Secretary

Chelsea Rosenberger, Board Recording Secretary