MILAN AREA SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, October 7, 2026
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 Faro at 7:11 p.m. on October 7, 2026.

Board Members Present: Cislo, Burdette, Meray, Faro, Gutierrez, Heikka and Prior

Board Members Absent: None

Staff: Superintendent McMahon, Assistant Superintendent Bookout, Executive Finance Director Krista Hendrix and Margaret Durkee

Guests: Ash Eichner Pendell

Motion by Gutierrez supported by Cislo to thank the Milan Area Schools Administrators as recorded in Attachment A. All Ayes.Carried 7-0.

Public Comments: None

Motion by Meray supported by Prior to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 30, 2026. All Ayes. Carried 7-0.

Motion by Gutierrez supported by Burdette to approve the minutes of the regular meeting closed session of September 30, 2026. All Ayes. Carried 7-0.

Motion by Burdette supported by Prior to approve the bills/reimbursement of expenses. All Ayes. Carried 7-0.

Motion by Gutierrez supported by Prior to approve the 2027 Resolution to Levy Summer Taxes as included in Attachment B. All Ayes. Carried 7-0.

The Board heard the First Reading of the 2025 Annual Audit from Daniel Clark from Rehmann as included in Attachment C.

Public Comments: None

Assistant Superintendent Comments:

- This week is Safety Week at both Paddock and PECC, with students in both programs participating in activities throughout the week. Students are learning about fire, tornado, and lockdown drills, as well as our Standard Response Protocol, all in an age-appropriate way. They're also welcoming first responders from our community, helping our youngest students become more familiar and comfortable with the people and procedures that help keep them safe.

- Our first DESSA window of the year is also underway. Last week, Assistant Superintendent Bookout spent some time sharing our academic data, but academics are only one part of understanding how our students are doing. DESSA helps give us another piece of that picture by looking at students' social-emotional strengths and needs and how students develop those skills throughout the school year. We use that information alongside our other data to help identify needs and inform supports through our MTSS process.

- We also have a great event happening at Symons on October 9. In partnership with our FFA program and Food Service, students will participate in a Farmers Market where they'll have the opportunity to "shop" for fresh produce to take home. They'll also receive recipe cards with ideas for using the produce, and our high school FFA students will be there to help and share information with our younger students. It's a fun opportunity, but it also connects directly to the goals of our district Health and Wellness Plan and provides another nice connection between our younger and older students.

- Finally, a quick reminder that our teachers and staff will be participating in professional development on Monday, so there will be no school for students. Our principals have a full day of learning prepared to support our teachers and support staff. I want to thank our administrators for the time and effort they've put into making this a valuable day of learning for our staff.

Superintendent Comments:

- Superintendent McMahon thanked our building principals, in honor of School Administrators Appreciation Month. Our building leaders work extremely hard to be present, prepared, and responsive to the needs of our stakeholders and we appreciate all they do. I am also thankful for the support they provide one another.

- Superintendent McMahon thanked the Elementary PTO and all the volunteers that helped coordinate and conduct the Elementary Fall on the Farm event last night. The turn out was awesome and the students seemed to be enjoying themselves throughout the event.

- Superintendent McMahon thanked the Young Adult program for the invitation to judge their annual chili cookoff event. The judging panel also included Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Beckman, Mrs. West, Dr. Phelps, and a recent YA graduate. The students put a lot of effort into this project and always do a great job.

- Superintendent McMahon shared with the Board that Performance Services conducted building visits with the principals today. In conjunction with the audits they have conducted and meetings with district administration, they will use the information gathered today to develop a comprehensive plan, including funding options, to present to the Board. I am requesting the Board conduct a Special Meeting on Monday, November 2, to provide an opportunity for the Board to review the plans in preparation of a formal resolution at the meeting on November 11.

Board Member Comments:

- Heikka: Thanked the Administrative Team for all the extra work. Thanked the Elementary PTO event. Asked the community to share after volunteering opportunities.

- Prior: Thanked Administrative Team for all they do and being approachable.

- Gutierrez: Thanked Administrative Team for doing a thankless job. Thanked Krista Hendrix for the audit. Requested volunteers for MMS holding a trunk or treat October 21 at 5:30 p.m.

- Meray: Thanked the Administrative Team. Thanked Krista Hendrix for the audit. Thanked the facilities team for the sinking fund planning work. Made note of a positive atmosphere at the MHS sporting events. Shared a Communication Committee Update: Items needing to be updated on the website, appreciate the social media feed on the website, Big Red Board Chats ways to be accessible and can one of the Board members post Big Red Board Chats to Milanevents.org

- Burdette: Thanked Administrative Team. Shared experience for participating in the Fall on the Farm event. Shared MMS hosting a Cheer Clinic. MASB Fall conference next week.

- Faro: Thanked Krista Hendrix for the audit. Asked the Board to review policies 5405-5418 for next week. Thanked the Administrative Team. Today was count day and thanked Sara Beckman for social media posts to help promote.

Motion by Prior supported by Heikka to enter into closed session pursuant to Section 8(1)(c) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act for Negotiation Strategies. All Ayes. Carried 7-0.

Time entered closed session 8:30 p.m.

Time returned to open session 9:39 p.m.

Time of Adjournment 9:40 p.m.