

School Board Meeting Minutes
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #912
MILACA, MINNESOTA 56353
Monday, April 21, 2025 6:00 pm
ALC

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 912, Milaca, Minnesota, was held in the ALC on Monday, April 21, 2025, for the purpose of discussing board business.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairperson Aimee Struffert.

Upon roll call, the following members were present: Jennifer Corrow, Jere Day, Caity Eggen, Samantha Lange, Sara Larsen, Nathan Neuhart, Aimee Struffert. The Superintendent, David Wedin, was also present.

Changes to Agenda:

VIII. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

G. First Reading and Approval of Milaca Public Schools Memorial Policy with minor clarifying changes - *addition*

Motion by C. Eggen, second by N. Neuhart, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 7:0.

Public Forum

No one spoke at Public Forum.

Committee Reports

1. *Policy Committee Meeting (3/20) - N. Neuhart*
 - a. *Memorial Policy*
 - b. *Policy 522- Title IX*
 - c. *Policy 614- School District Testing Plan and Procedure*
 - d. *Policy 618- Assessment of Student Achievement*
 - e. *Policy 708- Transportation of Nonpublic School Students*
 - f. *Policy 711- Video Recording on School Buses*
 - g. *Policy 903- Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites*
 - h. *Other*
2. *Building and Grounds Committee Meeting (4/7) - S. Larsen*
 - a. *Summer Building Projects*
 - b. *Other*
3. *Committee of the Whole (4/7) - A. Struffert*
 - a. *Community Coffee Review*
 - b. *Gate Fees for Seniors*
 - c. *Rum River North Building*
 - d. *2025-2026 Staffing*
 - e. *Learning Update*
 - f. *Other*

Presentations

No presentations were given.

Principals/Directors/Coordinators Report

High School Principal: updates were given on staffing for the 2025-2026 school year with the Agriculture Teacher position filled by Ms. Brooke Converse, the School Counselor position filled by Ms. Amanda Otto, and positions still needing to fill for Special Education, Physical Education/Health, and English; information was given on the Resource Training and Solutions CTE Mini-grant; a congratulations was given to Mr. Keith Anderson for being chosen as 96.7 The River's Teacher of the Month; and dates for upcoming end of the year events were shared.

Elementary Principal: updates were given on teaching assignments and building schedules; upcoming grade 3 and grade 4 music concerts; staffing for the 2025-2026 school year with position open for Physical Education, Speech Language Pathology, Art, and Paraprofessionals; and the Happy Tails program which started in Ms. Moscho's third grade classroom in September and involves a therapy dog or puppy sitting with a student while they read and takes place in a designated area.

Activities Director/Dean of Students: gave updates on the beginning of the spring sports season including Track and Field, Baseball, Softball, and Golf.

Community Education Director/Facilities Manager: updates were given for Community Education on summer programming and Summer Kids Town. A facility update was given on summer seasonal positions, the finalizing of summer projects, and preparation for upcoming end of the year events.

Business Manager Report: gave an update on the financial picture of the district.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Motion by N. Neuhart, second by C. Eggen, to approve the consent agenda:

- Approval of the minutes from the March 17, 2025 Regular Board Meeting
- Approval of checks and wires
- Approval of transfers from PMA/MN Trust to First National Bank: \$1,000,000.00 on March 12, 2025, and \$1,000,000.00 on March 27, 2025
- Hire Damian Fish, Interim Girls Junior High Golf Coach (replacing Ellie Schindeldecker), \$2,692.89, effective March 17, 2025
- Accept change in assignment with Leann Pischke, from Food Server to Cook (replacing Christa Duevel), from 28.75 hours per week to 37.5 hours per week, from \$16.89 per hour to \$19.58 per hour, effective March 25, 2025
- Hire Soren Hasselberg, Water Safety Instructor, hours based on need, \$12.50 per hour, effective March 18, 2025
- Hire Aaron Evenson, Interim JV Softball Coach (replacing Ellen Greener), \$3,580.50, effective March 10, 2025
- Hire/accept notice of assignment with Charity Hopkins, Summer Dishwasher/Server, up to 64 total hours, \$16.89 per hour, effective June 2, 2025 - July 31, 2025
- Hire/accept notice of assignment with Trisha Morris, Summer First Cook, up to 160 total hours, \$23.26 per hour, effective June 2, 2025 - July 31, 2025
- Hire/accept notice of assignment with Christa Duevel, Summer First Cook, up to 160 total hours, \$21.82 per hour, effective June 2, 2025 - July 31, 2025
- Hire Bailey Ash, 9th Grade Softball Coach (replacing Allison Herr), \$2,557.50, effective March 10, 2025
- Change in assignment with Lincoln Burroughs, Water Safety Instructor, hours based on need, from \$10.75 per hour to \$12.50 per hour, effective March 25, 2025
- Minimum wage increase for Violet Hjort, Lifeguard, from \$10.85 per hour to \$11.13 per hour, effective March 19, 2025
- Hire Brooke Converse, Agriculture Teacher (replacing Leann Pietrzak), BA, Step 1, 1.0 FTE, \$47,357.00, effective August 19, 2025 - May 26, 2026
- Hire Amanda Otto, High School Counselor (replacing Mary Hastings), MA, Step 2, 1.0 FTE, \$59,470.19, effective August 13, 2025
- Hire Ashley Pool, Elementary Physical Education/DAPE (replacing Derrick Lepper), BA, Step 1, 1.0 FTE, \$47,357.00, effective August 19, 2025
- Hire/accept notice of assignment with Ella Duevel, Summer Dishwasher/Server, hours on as an needed basis, \$16.89 per hour, effective June 2, 2025 - July 31, 2025
- Accept staff leave requests:
 - Lisa Greninger, Paraprofessional, 2025 2026 school year
 - Ellen Greener, JV Softball Coach, beginning March 10, 2025
 - Angela Hart, Paraprofessional, anticipated April 4, 2025 - May 16, 2025
 - Ellen Greener, High School Science Teacher, anticipated April 28, 2025 - May 28, 2025
- Accept the revised resignation of Cherramae Erickson, Paraprofessional, effective date changed from March 28, 2025 to March 25, 2025
- Accept the resignation of Alex Foss, JV Baseball Coach, effective September 7, 2024
- Accept the resignation of Sam Hasz, Head Boys Basketball Coach, effective April 4, 2025
- First Reading and Approval of Policies with minor/legal changes in compliance with legislative updates
 - Policy 614 - School District Testing Plan and Procedure
- Name Steve Voshell as LEA (Local Education Agency) Representative 2025-2026 in Filling Application Under Public Law 107-110
- First Reading and Approval of Milaca Public Schools Memorial Policy with minor clarifying changes

Motion carried, 7:0.

Items on Which Board Discussion and Action is Requested

Motion by J. Day, second by S. Lange, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried, 7:0.

Motion by S. Larsen to approve the following resolution:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GIFTS/DONATIONS

WHEREAS, School Board Policy #706 establishes guidelines for the acceptance of gifts/donations to the District; and WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute 465.03 states the School Board may accept a gift, grant or devise of real or personal property only by the adoption of a resolution approved by two-thirds of its members; and BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board of Independent School District No. 912 accept with appreciation the following gifts/donations and permit their use as designated by the donor(s).

Date	From	Site	Item/Nature of Donation/Gift	Value/Amount
Mar - 2025	American Legion	Milaca High School - Colleen Bell	Donation for Milaca Travels	\$2,000.00
Mar - 2025	Teals	Milaca Elementary School	Rebate	\$1,057.81

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by S. Lange and upon vote being taken thereon the following voted in favor thereof: J. Corrow, J. Day, C. Eggen, S. Lange, S. Larsen, N. Neuhart, A. Struffert, and the following voted against the same: none, whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by C. Eggen, second by N. Neuhart, to rescind 2024 version of Policy 522 - Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy, Grievance Procedure and Process - based on 2024 final rule on Title IX. Motion carried, 7:0.

Motion by N. Neuhart, second by J. Day, to adopt 2022 version of Policy 522 - Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy, Grievance Procedure and Process - based on 2020 final rule on Title IX. Motion carried, 7:0.

Motion by C. Eggen to adopt the resolution to designate an Identified Official with Authority for Education Identity Access Management designating David Wedin, david.wedin@milaca.k12.mn.us, EDIAM user ID: david.wedin, to act as the Identified Official with Authority (IOWA) for Milaca Public Schools (ISD #912). The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by N. Neuhart and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: J. Corrow, J. Day, C. Eggen, S. Lange, S. Larsen, N. Neuhart, A. Struffert, and the following voted against the same: none, whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by N. Neuhart to adopt the resolution relating to the termination and non-renewal of the teacher contract of Derrick Lepper, a probationary teacher. The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by S. Lange and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: J. Corrow, J. Day, C. Eggen, S. Lange, S. Larsen, N. Neuhart, A. Struffert, and the following voted against the same: none, whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by N. Neuhart to adopt the resolution relating to the termination and non-renewal of the teacher contract of Roberta Kightlinger, a probationary teacher. The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by S. Larsen and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: J. Corrow, J. Day, C. Eggen, S. Lange, S. Larsen, N. Neuhart, A. Struffert, and the following voted against the same: none, whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by N. Neuhart to adopt the resolution relating to the termination and non-renewal of the teacher contract of McKayla Bauerly, a probationary teacher. The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by S. Lange and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: J. Corrow, J. Day, C. Eggen, S. Lange, S. Larsen, N. Neuhart, A. Struffert, and the following voted against the same: none, whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by C. Eggen to adopt the resolution relating to the termination and non-renewal of the teacher contract of Jackie Keller, a probationary teacher. The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by N. Neuhart, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: J. Corrow, J. Day, C. Eggen, S. Lange, S. Larsen, N. Neuhart, A. Struffert, and the following voted against the same: none, whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by N. Neuhart to adopt the resolution relating to the termination and non-renewal of the teacher contract of Tesla Gontjes, a probationary teacher. The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by S. Larsen, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: J. Corrow, J. Day, C. Eggen, S. Lange, S. Larsen,

N. Neuhart, A. Struffert, and the following voted against the same: none, whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Motion by C. Eggen to adopt the resolution relating to adoption of a joint powers agreement for the construction and maintenance of a cooperative facility and the financing thereof; approving parameters for the award of a lease purchase agreement and the sale of certificates of participation therein. The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by N. Neuhart, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: J. Corrow, J. Day, C. Eggen, S. Lange, S. Larsen, N. Neuhart, A. Struffert, and the following voted against the same: none, whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Superintendent Items

Superintendent Wedin provided information on a Federal Executive Order from the U.S. Department of Education requiring K-12 school districts to certify compliance with their anti-discrimination obligations in order to continue receiving federal financial assistance. The April 7, 2025 response from the Minnesota Department of Education was also provided. An update was given on the Community Coffee event hosted on April 5, 2025 and the second event scheduled for May 3, 2025. Other updates were given on School Advocating for Fair Funding at the Capitol Visit on April 1, 2025, upcoming graduation events, and Milaca "Paw"sitives.

Board Member Items

Board member, Caity Eggen, inquired about land options for the Rum River Special Education Cooperative building project. Board Treasurer, Jere Day, asked for an update on School Resource Officer funding and options. Board Chairperson, Aimee Struffert, gave an update about the ECMECC meeting that was held in April.

Motion by J. Corrow, second by S. Lange, to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:44 p.m. Motion carried 7:0.

Respectfully submitted,


Chairperson


Clerk

May 19, 2025
Date

May 19, 2025
Date