

School Board Meeting Minutes
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #912
MILACA, MINNESOTA 56353
Tuesday, February 17, 2026 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 Tuesday, February 17, 2026, for the purpose of discussing board business.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chairperson Aimee Struffert.

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

Changes to Agenda:

No revisions were made to the agenda.

Motion by N. Neuhart, second by S. Grieser, to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 7:0.

Public Forum

No one spoke at Public Forum.

Committee Reports

- A. *Paraprofessional Negotiations Committee Meeting (1/8) - N. Neuhart*
 - 1. *Paraprofessional Negotiations*
 - 2. *Other*
- B. *Clerical Negotiations Committee Meeting (1/29) - C. Eggen*
 - 1. *Clerical Negotiations*
 - 2. *Other*
- C. *Committee of the Whole Meeting (2/2) - A. Struffert*
 - 1. *Negotiations Update*
 - 2. *Learning Update*
 - 3. *Policy Update*
 - 4. *Building Update*
 - 5. *Land Update*
 - 6. *Other*
- D. *Custodial Negotiations Committee Meeting (2/4) - S. Larsen*
 - 1. *Custodial Negotiations*
 - 2. *Other*
- E. *Building and Grounds Committee Meeting (2/17) - S. Larsen*
 - 1. *Summer Building Projects*
 - 2. *Custodial Staffing Shortage*
 - 3. *Other*

Presentations

No presentations were given.

Principals/Directors/Coordinators Report

High School Principal: updates were given on the success of Sno Dayz events and an overview of the guest process for school dances, completion of student registration for 2026-2027, upcoming High School Spring Conferences on March 12, 2026, NAEP testing on March 3, 2026, and ACT testing on March 10, 2026.

Elementary Principal: updates were given on PreK and Kindergarten Registration which took place on March 3, 2026, progress on research of Language Arts curriculum, plans and timeline for 2026-2027 school year preparation, and the recent MESPA Winter Institute attended by Mr. Voshell and Mr. Meyer.

Activities Director/Dean of Students: updates were given on Winter Sports including Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, and the wrap up of the season for Boys and Girls Wrestling with a number of boys and girls wrestlers qualifying for state this year; ticket purchasing options through GoFan were highlighted; participation numbers were also reviewed.

Community Education Director/Facilities Manager: an update was given for Community Education on an upcoming switch in software for registration and totals for Winter programming. A facility update was given on the Building and Grounds Committee meeting for discussion of summer projects and the shortage of Custodial staffing.

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

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Motion by S. Larsen, second by C. Eggen, to approve the consent agenda:

- Approval of the minutes from the January 20, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
- Approval of January checks and wires
- Approval of transfer from PMA/MN Trust to First National Bank: \$1,000,000.00 on January 14, 2026
- Approval of transfer from MSDLAF to First National Bank: \$600,000.00 on January 27, 2026
- Hire Owen Barzdis, Custodian Class 1 Cleaner (replacing Jeffery Raczka), 40 hours per week, \$14.63 per hour, effective February 9, 2026
- Samantha Stuckey, Credit Recovery Teacher, up to 67 total hours, \$30.00 per hour, effective September 16, 2025 - May 21, 2026
- Hire Laura Braun, Homebound Teacher, up to 22.5 total hours, \$30.00 per hour, effective January 20, 2026 - March 19, 2026
- Minimum wage/MN Paid Leave increase for Adyson Arens, Lifeguard, from \$11.13 per hour to \$11.46 per hour, effective January 1, 2026
- Minimum wage/MN Paid Leave increase for Emily Arens, Lifeguard, from \$11.13 per hour to \$11.46 per hour, effective January 1, 2026
- Minimum wage/MN Paid Leave increase for Jackson Burroughs, Lifeguard, from \$11.13 per hour to \$11.46 per hour, effective January 1, 2026
- Minimum wage/MN Paid Leave increase for Kennedy Burroughs, Lifeguard, from \$11.13 per hour to \$11.46 per hour, effective January 1, 2026
- Minimum wage/MN Paid Leave increase for Soren Hasselberg, Lifeguard, from \$11.13 per hour to \$11.46 per hour, effective January 1, 2026
- Minimum wage/MN Paid Leave increase for Addison Vivant, Lifeguard, from \$11.13 per hour to \$11.46 per hour, effective January 1, 2026
- Hire Mackenzie Fournier, Paraprofessional Assistance for Bus/Van, 1.25 hours per week or as needed, \$16.33 per hour, effective January 20, 2026 - May 22, 2026
- Accept staff leave requests:
 - Paul Arens, Activities Director/Dean of Students, tentatively January 23, 2026 -January 30, 2026
- Accept the retirement of Belinda Ash, Elementary Special Education Teacher, effective May 27, 2026. Thank you, Belinda, for 32 years of service!
- Accept the retirement of Suzanne Haapala, Paraprofessional, effective June 1, 2026. Thank you, Sue, for nine years of service!
- Accept the retirement of Kirsten Neely, Elementary Special Education Teacher, effective May 27, 2026. Thank you, Kirsten, for 28 years of service!
- Scheduled Review of Policies:
 - Policy 507 - Corporal Punishment and Prone Restraint
 - Policy 508 - Extended School Year for Certain Students with Individualized Education Programs
 - Policy 509 - Enrollment of Nonresident Students
 - Policy 510 - School Activities
 - Policy 511 - Student Fundraising
 - Policy 512 - School-Sponsored Student Publications and Activities
 - Policy 706 - Acceptance of Gifts
 - Policy 708 - Transportation of Nonpublic School Students
 - Policy 710 - Extracurricular Transportation
 - Policy 711 - Video Recording on School Buses
 - Policy 713 - Student Activity Accounting
 - Policy 714 - Fund Balances
- First Reading and Approval of Policies with minor/legal changes in compliance with legislative updates
 - Policy 404 - Employment Background Checks
 - Policy 405 - Veteran's Preference
 - Policy 406 - Public and Private Personnel Data
 - Policy 417 - Chemical Use and Abuse
 - Policy 418 - Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School
 - Policy 420 - Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases and Certain Other Communicable Diseases and Infectious Conditions
 - Policy 427 - Workload Limits for Certain Special Education Teachers
 - Policy 501 - School Weapons Policy
 - Policy 513 - Student Promotion, Retention, and Program Design
 - Policy 516 - Student Medication and Telehealth
 - Policy 516.5 - Overdose Medication
 - Policy 519 - Interviews of Students by Outside Agencies
 - Policy 534 - School Meals Policy
 - Policy 707 - Transportation of Public School Students
 - Policy 709 - Student Transportation Safety Policy

Motion carried, 7:0.

Items on Which Board Discussion and Action is Requested

Motion by J. Corrow, second by N. Neuhart, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried, 7:0.

Motion by C. Eggen 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
January 2026	Mille Lacs Area Health Foundation	Milaca Elementary School - Mary Jo Vickers	I Love to Read Month Rewards	\$1,000.00
January 2026	Virgil Adkins Trust	Milaca High School	Annual Distribution	\$4,837.50

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by S. Grieser and upon vote being taken thereon the following voted in favor thereof: J. Corrow, J. Day, C. Eggen, S. Grieser, 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 J. Day, second by N. Neuhart, to approve the 2025-2027 Paraprofessional Contract. Motion carried, 7:0.

Motion by S. Larsen, second by C. Eggen, to approve the 2025-2027 Custodial Contract. Motion carried, 7:0.

Motion by J. Corrow, second by N. Neuhart, to approve the 2025-2027 Clerical Contract. Motion carried, 7:0.

Superintendent Items

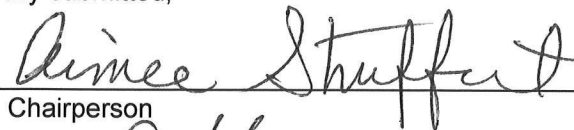
Superintendent Wedin gave an update on Milaca Public Schools hosting the Chamber of Commerce Morning Perk event on February 12, 2026 which included an update on the district and short tour of the Main Gym and Career and Technical Education Department. Information was given on the February 13, 2026 Professional Development day with a thank you to Mille Lacs Health System for coming in to speak with our staff and giving information about services provided at their Milaca Clinic location. Some "paw-sitives" were also shared including School Board Member's recent meeting with student groups, Sno Dayz events with a thank you to everyone who worked to make it successful, I Love to Read month with a thank you to everyone who contributes to make it great for our students, and recognition to Mr. Sumner and the Custodial staff for their hard work during short staffing and the January cold weather.

Board Member Items

Treasurer, Jere Day, brought up discussion on upcoming MSBA Advocacy Day.

Motion by J. Corrow, second by C. Eggen, to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:59 p.m. Motion carried 7:0.

Respectfully submitted,


Chairperson


Clerk

March 16, 2026
Date

March 16, 2026
Date