

April 3, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, April 3, 2025 5:00 PM

Mill Creek Academy Cafeteria, 9039 Old State Hwy 72, Williamsburg, MI 49690

I. CALL TO ORDER: ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board of Education:

President Kwin Morris
Vice President Kaitlyn Pasik
Secretary Kyle Arnold
Treasurer Carey Tafelsky
Trustee Lorraine Berak

Central Staff:

Interim Principal Nate Plum
Executive Assistant Kortni Huron
Director of Finance Laurie McCann

II. CHANGES AND ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

III. CONSENT AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- March 6, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes

IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS

- General Fund - \$19,664.56

V. DONATIONS

None.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ANY TOPIC:

Time limitations: Fifteen minutes per item,
three minutes per speaker per item.

VII. ACTION ITEMS:

VII.A. 29-25 APPROVAL OF MILL CREEK ACADEMY STRATEGIC PLAN

RESOLVED: That the Mill Creek Academy Strategic Plan be approved, as presented.

VII.B. 30-25 APPROVAL OF OPEN ENROLLMENT WINDOW DATES

RESOLVED: That the Open Enrollment Window Dates, be approved as presented:

- May 5 - 16, 2025, for Kindergarten only
- May 27 - June 10, 2025, for Grades 1-5

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Financial Update - Laurie McCann
- Non-Homestead Update - Bryan McKenna & Laurie McCann
- MCA 1-Year Term Board Seat - Bryan McKenna
- Personnel Update - Bryan McKenna
- Summer School Update - Bryan McKenna
- 5th Grade Matriculation to Cherryland Middle School - Bryan McKenna

IX. PRINCIPAL REPORT:

- Kindergarten Update
- State Testing
- Variety Show

X. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

XI. SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES/FUTURE MEETINGS:

- April 8, 2025 - Delayed Start Tuesday for Students
- May 1, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting

XII. ADJOURNMENT:



Mill Creek Academy

Strategic Plan Adopted by MCA Board 3.3.25
2024 - 2029

Mission

Mill Creek Academy equips every student to be an innovative problem-solver who succeeds in diverse communities.

Vision

Exceptional education grounded in academic rigor, relationships, and community.

Board of Education

Kwin Morris - President
Kaitlyn Pasik - Vice-President
Carey Tafelsky – Treasurer
Kyle Arnold – Secretary
Lorraine Berak – Trustee

Head of School/Interim
Principal

Nate Plum

Belief Statements

We believe:

- ³⁵/₁₇ Collaboration among students, staff, parents, and the community builds trust and supports a high-functioning school system.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Connections and relationships foster growth for all.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Support for the whole student enables learning.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Individuals can thrive and make a positive impact.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Excellence is important in all that we do.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Staff are critical to our success.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Safe environments are foundational to effective learning and a positive school culture.
- ³⁵/₁₇ Facilities and resources will be designed to support district goals.

Focus Areas

Academics/
Programs

Learning
Environment &
Culture

Communications &
Community
Engagement

Personnel & Leadership

Operations

[https://millcreekpsa.com/
our-school/strategic-plan/](https://millcreekpsa.com/our-school/strategic-plan/)



Mill Creek Academy

Strategic Plan Goal Summary 2024 - 2029

Academics & Programs

MCA will increase academic and SE growth within all student populations

- Maintain an aligned SEL program throughout the district.
- Continue to research, evaluate, implement, and strategically update curricular resources and best instructional practices.

Learning Environment & Culture

MCA will maintain a safe, inclusive and responsive learning environment throughout the district

- Maintain a high level of safety and security for all stakeholders through proactive safety planning and targeted professional development.

Communications/Community Engagement

MCA will increase family and community involvement through effective communication and marketing opportunities

- Create opportunities for every parent to be engaged and involved.
- Increase engagement with community groups and organizations.
- Create a sustainable marketing plan to increase and stabilize enrollment.

Operations

MCA will ensure facilities are well maintained, safe, and support the needs of the community

- Create, prioritize and share a sequential facility needs plan for the district.

Personnel & Leadership

The District will retain and develop a high-quality staff

- Retain staff by advancing a culture of support, pride, and belonging for all MCA employees.
- Develop staff by creating a staff mentoring and coaching program.



Elk Rapids Schools

Restoration Vote: 4 Mills

PLEASE VOTE MAY 6, 2025!

WHAT IS ON THE BALLOT?

The restoration proposal is for 4 mills and would allow Elk Rapids Schools to restore the district's non-homestead 18-mill state approved operating millage rate through 2028. This proposal only impacts owners of commercial property, vacant land and second homes. It will have no impact on primary homeowners.

1 WHAT?

- *July 1, 2024, Elk Rapids Schools became an out-of-formula district.
- *The majority of district unrestricted funding comes from the non-homestead 18-mill operating millage
- *The 18-mill operating millage supports Elk Rapids Schools' essential educational programs and services.
- *The non-homestead operating millage is **not levied on primary residences (the home in which a homeowner lives)**; it applies only to second homes, businesses, vacant land, and rental properties.

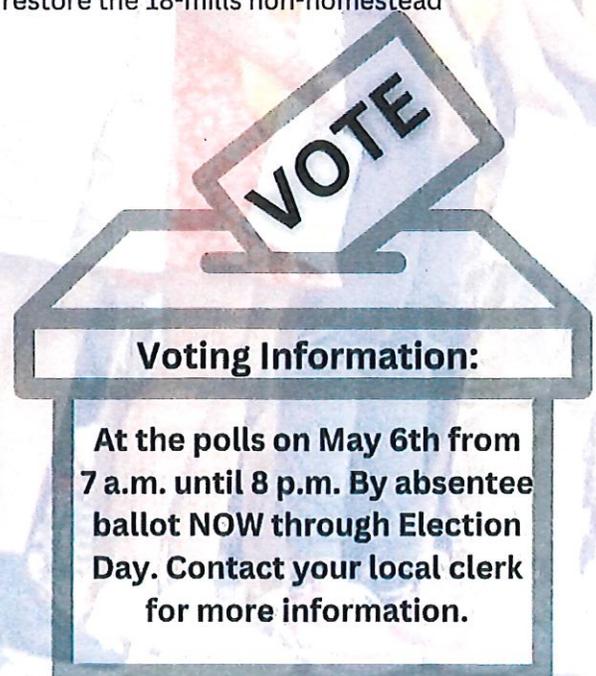
2 WHY?

- *In 2022, area residents approved the 20-mills to support the district operating millage.
- *Due to taxable value increases, Elk Rapids Schools fell below the 18-mills operating millage.
- *The 4-mill restoration would allow Elk Rapids Schools to restore the 18-mills non-homestead operating millage through 2028.

3 HOW?

The non-homestead 18-mills supports all aspects of Elk Rapids Schools programs. Including but not limited to:

- *Staffing for K-12 Programs and Services
- *Building Maintenance and Operations
- *Special Education Programs and Services
- *Extracurricular activities
- *Advanced Placement Courses
- *Art and Music Courses
- *Athletic Programs
- *Transportation Services including buses





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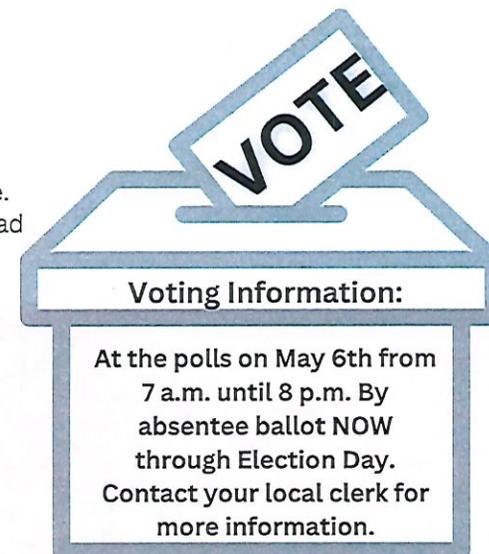
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Elk Rapids Schools

4 mill restoration vote

Please vote May 6, 2025!



Schedule 1B - Method of Selection Resolution

Elk Rapids Public Schools
Antrim County, Michigan

Board Resolution Establishing Method of Selection, Length of Term, and Number of
Members of the Board of Directors of Each Public School Academy Subject to the
District's Jurisdiction

A regular meeting of the Board of Education (the "Board") of Elk Rapids Public Schools (the "District") was held in the Elk Rapids High School on the 16th day of October, 2023, at 6 o'clock p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6 o'clock, p.m., by President Brown.

Present: Members Brown, Morton, Steffen, Antcliff, McGuire, Moore & Kribs.

Absent: Members None.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Morton and supported by Member Moore:

WHEREAS:

1. The Michigan Legislature has provided under Part 6A of the Michigan Revised School Code ("RSC") for the establishment of public school academies as part of the Michigan public school system, MCL 380.501-507; and
2. The board of a school district may act as an authorizing body to issue a contract to organize and operate one more public school academies within the school district's boundaries, MCL 380.502(2)(a); and
3. The District is a general powers school district organized under the provisions of the Revised School Code, MCL 380.1, *et seq.*; and
4. The Board has determined that it would be in the best interests of the District to accept applications, from time to time, from individuals or entities proposing to organize and operate one or more public school academies within the boundaries of the District that, among other things, are compatible

and congruent with the District's mission, and will, in furtherance of that determination, revise and amend Policy 9550 to ensure consistency with current legal requirements; and

5. The Board of Education of the District is not required, as an authorizing body, to issue a public school academy contract to any person or entity but, once having determined to do so, shall issue public school academy contract(s) on a competitive basis taking into consideration the:
 - Resources available for the proposed public school academy;
 - Population to be serviced by the proposed public school academy;
 - Educational Goals to be achieved by the proposed public school academy;
 - The applicant's track record, if any, in organizing public school academies or other public schools;
 - The graduation rate of the District;
 - The District's county population;
 - The numbers of schools in the proximity of the proposed public school academy location that are on the list under Revised School Code Section 380.1280c(1) or Revised School Code Section 380.1280g(3), as applicable, of public schools determined to be among the lowest achieving public schools in this state; and
 - The number of students on waiting lists of public school academies in the proximity of the proposed public school academy's proposed location, MCL 380.503(1); and
6. The Michigan Legislature has mandated that an authorizing body adopt a resolution establishing the method of selection, length of term, and number of members of the board of directors of each public school academy subject to its jurisdiction, MCL 380.503(5).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board declares that the method of selection, length of term, and number of members of the board of directors of each Public School Academy subject to its jurisdiction shall be as follows:

Method of Selection and Appointment

The Board shall prescribe the method of appointment for members of a public school academy's board of directors ("PSA Board") subject to its jurisdiction. The Superintendent is authorized to develop and administer a PSA Board selection and appointment process in accordance with this resolution and the District's Policy on Public School Academies, that shall include at least an Application for Public School Academy Appointment and Annual Conflicts of Interest Disclosure and is in accord with these policies:

- A. The Board shall appoint the initial and subsequent PSA Board by resolution, except as prescribed by subparagraph D. The Superintendent shall recommend qualified individuals to the Board.
- B. The PSA Board, by resolution and majority vote, shall nominate its subsequent members, except as provided otherwise. The PSA Board shall recommend to the Elk Rapids Schools Superintendent at least one nominee for each vacancy. Nominees shall submit the *Application for Charter School Board Appointment* for review by the Elk Rapids School Superintendent. The ERS Superintendent may or may not recommend the appointment of the nominee(s) submitted by the PSA Board. If the ERS Superintendent does not recommend the appointment of a nominee submitted by the PSA Board, s/he may select and recommend another nominee or may request the PSA Board submit a new nominee for consideration.
- C. An individual appointed to fill a vacancy created other than by expiration of a term shall be appointed for the unexpired term of that vacant position.
- D. Under exigent conditions, and with the approval of the Board's President, the ERS Superintendent may appoint a qualified individual to an Academy Board. All appointments made under this provision must be presented to the Board for final determination at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board reserves the right to review, rescind, modify, ratify, or approve any appointments made under this provision.

Length of Term

A PSA Board Director shall serve at the pleasure of the District's Board of Education. Unless terminated earlier, the term of each member of an academy's

board of directors shall be for a period of three (3) years, except the terms of the initial positions on a PSA Board shall be staggered proportionately among one, two and three year terms.

For purposes of this resolution, the term for each position on a PSA Board shall begin on July 1st and end on June 30th of the pertinent year (unless terminated earlier), except the terms of the initial positions which shall begin upon appointment and end on June 30th (unless terminated earlier). A person appointed to serve as a director on a PSA Board may be reappointed to serve additional terms.

Removal and Suspension

If the Board determines that a PSA Board Director's service in office is no longer necessary, then the Board may remove a PSA Board Director with or without cause and shall specify the date when the PSA Board Director's service ends.

With the approval of the Board President, the ERS Superintendent may suspend a PSA Board Director's service, if in the Superintendent's judgment the person's continued presence would constitute a risk to persons or property, or would seriously impair the operation of the PSA. Any suspension made under this provision must be presented to the Board for final determination at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board reserves the right to review, rescind, modify, ratify, or approve any suspensions made under this provision.

Resignation

PSA Board Directors may resign at any time by providing written notice to the PSA Board. Notice of resignation will be effective upon receipt or at a subsequent time designated in the notice. Any PSA Board Director who fails to attend three (3) consecutive PSA Board meetings without prior notification to the PSA's Board President may, at the option of the PSA Board, be deemed to have resigned, effective at a time designated in a written notice sent to the resigning PSA Board Director. A successor shall be appointed as provided by the method of selection adopted by the District's Board of Education.

Board Vacancy

A PSA Board vacancy shall occur when a Board Director's term expires; upon a Board Director's death, resignation, removal, failure to maintain residency in the State of Michigan, or disqualification; or as required by applicable law. Any vacancy shall be filled as provided by the method of selection adopted by the District's Board of Education.

Number of Directors

The number of PSA Board Directors shall be five (5). If the PSA Board fails to maintain its full membership by making appropriate and timely nominations, the Board or its designee may deem that failure an exigent condition.

Qualifications of Academy Board Members

To be qualified to serve on a PSA Board, a person shall, among other things: (1) be a citizen of the United States; (2) be a resident of the state of Michigan; (3) submit all materials required by the Board including, but not limited to, the *Application for Charter School Board Appointment* which must include authorization to process a criminal background check; and (4) annually submit a conflict of interest disclosure as prescribed by the ERS Superintendent.

PSA Board Directors shall not include: (a) employees of the PSA; (b) any director, officer, or employee of a service provider or management company, or an independent contractor, that contracts with the Academy; (c) a District official or employee, as a representative of the District; or (d) any other person prohibited by law from serving.

Oath of Public Office

All members of a PSA Board of Directors shall take and sign the constitutional oath of public office before a justice, judge, clerk of a court, or notary public and sign the *Oath of Public Office* before beginning their service. No appointment shall be effective prior to the filing of the *Oath of Public Office* in the Superintendent's office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT all resolutions and parts of resolutions that conflict with the provisions of this resolution are hereby rescinded.

Ayes: Members Brown, Morton, Steffen, Antcliff, McGuire, Moore & Kribs.

Nays: Members None.

Motion declared adopted.


Secretary Board of Education

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Elk Rapids Public Schools certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a regular meeting held on October 16th, 2023, the original of which resolution is a part of the Board's minutes and further certifies that notice of the meeting was given to the public under the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended.


Secretary, Board of Education

