

December 4, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting

Thursday, December 4, 2025 5:00 PM

Mill Creek Academy Library, 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:

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

- November 6, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes

IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS

- General Fund - \$188,363.64
- Trust - \$403.62

V. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ANY TOPIC:

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

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Enrollment Period
- 31aa

VII. ACTION ITEMS:

VII.A. 07-25 APPROVAL OF 31AA OPT IN RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the 31aa Opt In Resolution A be approved as presented.

VIII. PRINCIPAL REPORT:

- Staffing Update
- NWEA Data
- Winter Concert

IX. AUTHORIZER REPORT:

- Policy Update
- Legal Counsel

X. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

XI. SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES/FUTURE MEETINGS:

- December 18, 2025 - Mill Creek Holiday Concert
- December 20, 2025 - January 4, 2026 - Winter Break
- January 5, 2026 - School Resumes
- January 8, 2026 - Organizational/Regular Board Meetings

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

November 6, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, November 6, 2025 5:00 PM Eastern

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

Kyle Arnold: Present
Lorraine Berak: Present
Kwin Morris: Present
Kaitlyn Pasik: Present
Carey Tafelsky: Present
Present: 5.

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:

Principal Nate Plum

Executive Assistant Kortni Huron

Director of Finance Laurie McCann

II. CHANGES AND ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

To approve the agenda with no changes or additions. This motion, made by Carey Tafelsky and seconded by Kaitlyn Pasik, Carried.

Kyle Arnold: Yea, Lorraine Berak: Yea, Kwin Morris: Yea, Kaitlyn Pasik: Yea, Carey Tafelsky: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

III. CONSENT AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- October 2, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes

APPROVAL OF BILLS

- General Fund - \$ 154,233.71
- Trust & Agency - \$53.19

To approve the Consent Agenda as presented. This motion, made by Lorraine Berak and seconded by Carey Tafelsky, Carried.

Kyle Arnold: Yea, Lorraine Berak: Yea, Kwin Morris: Yea, Kaitlyn Pasik: Yea, Carey Tafelsky:

Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

IV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ANY TOPIC:

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

None.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- MDE Budget Update

Director of Finance, Laurie McCann, discussed the Mill Creek Academy General Fund Budget leading into the Action Item to follow in the agenda.

VI. ACTION ITEMS:

VI.A. 06-25 APPROVAL OF 2025-26 MILL CREEK ACADEMY GENERAL FUND BUDGET

RESOLVED: To approve the 2025-26 Mill Creek Academy General Fund Budget as presented.

To approve the resolution as presented. This motion, made by Carey Tafelsky and seconded by Kyle Arnold, Carried.

Kyle Arnold: Yea, Lorraine Berak: Yea, Kwin Morris: Yea, Kaitlyn Pasik: Yea, Carey Tafelsky: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

VII. PRINCIPAL REPORT:

- NWEA Data
- Teacher Evaluation Process Update
- Professional Development Overview
- Veterans Day
- Parent Teacher Conference Overview

- NWEA Data - Principal Nate Plum projected data for the board to view.
- Teacher Evaluation Process Update - Mr. Plum reported that he is learning the evaluation tool, and it's been good overall.
- Professional Development Overview - The Regional Staff Professional Development held at Traverse City Area Public Schools for teachers was a great day for Mill Creek Academy and Lakeland Elementary teachers to collaborate.
- Veterans Day - This annual recognition celebration will be held on November 11th. The students will begin by raising the flag outside, and then local Veterans will go to the 4th and 5th-grade classrooms.
- Parent Teacher Conference Overview - Principal Plum reported that there was 100% attendance this fall, the most he's ever seen in his professional career!

VIII. AUTHORIZER REPORT:

- 31aa Update

- Assurance Verification Report
- Bryan McKenna notified the board of a 3-year snow plowing contract that was sent out by RFP, and will be on the Elk Rapids School board agenda for consideration to approve. The company that the bid was awarded to is a Mill Creek Family, Oliver and Company.
- Bryan also introduced Beverly Mobley to the board. Beverly is working with the central office as an auditing consultant for both districts.
- Bryan thanked Laurie McCann for passing two audits at Mill Creek Academy now.
- Bryan thanked Nate Plum for taking on this role as the Mill Creek Academy principal, congratulated him on the soccer season, and also appreciated all the principals for stepping up to help Nate in his absence, as he needed to be out for games.
- 31aa Update - Bryan notified the board of a potential resolution coming forth and the likelihood of holding a special board meeting in November to consider adopting it. This 31aa discussion is directly tied to at-risk funding for school districts.
- Assurance Verification Report - document shared by Bryan with the board.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

None.

X. SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES/FUTURE MEETINGS:

- November 11, 2025 - Veterans' Day Assembly
- November 19, 2025 - Way to Grow Tumble Time, 10am
- November 26-28, 2025 - No School, Thanksgiving Break
- December 4, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting, 5pm
- Principal Nate Plum wanted to share that it has just been decided that the Mill Creek Academy Holiday Concert will be held on December 18th, and that more details will follow.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

To adjourn at 6:04 p.m. This motion, made by Lorraine Berak and seconded by Kyle Arnold, Carried.

Kyle Arnold: Yea, Lorraine Berak: Yea, Kwin Morris: Yea, Kaitlyn Pasik: Yea, Carey Tafelsky: Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0



Check Register

Mill Creek Academy

Bank Account AP, From 11/07/2025 to 12/02/2025

Check #	Date	Run	Type	Status	Vendor	Name	Invoice Description	Amount
001128	11/12/2025	Default	Check	Open	000032	Ricoh	MCA Copier	140.20
001129	11/19/2025	Default	Check	Open	000066	Elk Rapids Schools	October 2025	155,342.90
001130	11/19/2025	Default	Check	Open	000004	Jennifer Haggerty	Reimburse Library Books	265.92
001131	11/25/2025	Default	Check	Open	000030	ESS Midwest, Inc.	11/7/25	3,273.72
001132	11/25/2025	Default	Check	Open	000075	UHY LLP	year end 2025.	21,246.00
001133	11/25/2025	Default	Check	Open	000060	Scholastic Book Fairs	10/8/25-10/7/26	2,795.00
001134	11/25/2025	Default	Check	Open	000019	X-Cel Chemical Specialties Nort.	custodial supplies	823.80
001135	12/02/2025	Default	Check	Open	000045	Axium Services	November 2025	4,476.10
Total of All Checks								188,363.64
Less Voids								0.00
Grand Total								188,363.64

Check Summary

Check Status	Count	Amount
Open	8	188,363.64
Cleared	0	0.00
Void	0	0.00
Total	8	188,363.64



Check Register

Mill Creek Academy

Bank Account TRUST, From 11/07/2025 to 12/02/2025

Check #	Date	Run	Type	Status	Vendor	Name	Invoice Description	Amount
000003	11/12/2025	Default	Check	Open	000050	Lisa Zipser	Guinea Pig Food	32.84
000004	11/19/2025	Default	Check	Open	000060	Scholastic Book Fairs	MCA Book Fair	370.78
							Total of All Checks	403.62
							Less Voids	0.00
							Grand Total	403.62

Check Summary

Check Status	Count	Amount
Open	2	403.62
Cleared	0	0.00
Void	0	0.00
Total	2	403.62

**Resolution A:
Opt-In and Waiver**

Mill Creek Academy, Michigan (the “District”)

A Regular meeting of the board of education of the District (the “Board”) was held in the Mill Creek Academy, within the boundaries of the District, on the 4th day of December, 2025, at 5:00 o’clock in the p.m. (the “Meeting”)

The Meeting was called to order by _____, President.

Present: Members

Absent: Members

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member _____ and supported by Member _____:

WHEREAS:

1. Public Act 15 of 2025 amends State School Aid Act Section 31aa, MCL 388.1631aa, to allocate funding for fiscal year 2025/2026 to support school safety and student mental health initiatives, as well as to provide certain competitive grant funding (“31aa Funding”); and

2. To receive 31aa Funding, the District must agree to receive the funding in the form and manner established by the Michigan Department of Education (“MDE”) and either formally opt in or seek a competitive grant; and

3. As a condition of receiving either type of 31aa Funding, the District must agree in advance that, in the event of a “mass casualty event,” as defined in MCL 388.1631aa: (1) the District will be subject to and comply with a comprehensive investigation following such an event, and (2) the District will waive any privilege that may otherwise protect related information from disclosure; and

4. The Board has been advised of and fully informed regarding the legal and practical implications of this waiver requirement, including that it may affect the confidentiality of communications otherwise protected by the attorney-client privilege or other applicable privileges related to a “mass casualty event”; and

5. The Board acknowledges the concerns and implications of the 31aa Funding waiver requirements and has determined that it is in the District’s best interest to make an informed election regarding whether to accept or decline the 31aa Funding; and

6. The Board desires to authorize and direct Bryan McKenna, Superintendent of Schools, or designee, to complete any documentation necessary to implement the Board’s election below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Board hereby resolves to opt in and accept Section 31aa Funding, subject to the conditions provided in MCL 388.1631aa. The Board acknowledges and affirms that it has been advised of the potential risks and consequences associated with waiving the attorney-client or other applicable privileges related to a “mass casualty event”. Subject to Paragraph 2 below, the Board affirmatively waives any privilege that may otherwise protect information from disclosure in the event of a “mass casualty event” and consents to be subject to and comply with a comprehensive investigation following such an event, as described in MCL 388.1631aa, but only to the minimal extent legally required to obtain such funding.

2. To the extent allowed by law, any waiver or consent authorized by Paragraph 1 above shall: (a) be limited in time to State fiscal year 2025/2026 or any shorter duration consistent with applicable law, and (b) not be effective unless or until a “mass casualty event” as described in MCL 388.1631aa occurs, and (c) apply only to information related to that “mass casualty event.”

3. This Board authorizes and directs Bryan McKenna, Superintendent of Schools, or designee, to notify MDE as necessary of the District’s election consistent with this resolution and to take any actions necessary to effectuate the Board’s decision, including the preparation and submission of any opt-in form required by MDE.

4. Nothing within this resolution, nor by the District’s participation in or acceptance of any funding under MCL 388.1631aa, shall be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of the Board’s or the District’s rights to question, dispute, or challenge the validity, legality, or enforceability of any condition, requirement, or limitation imposed by that section or related administrative guidance or the breadth and validity of the related waiver referenced in Paragraph 1 above.

5. In the event the MCL 388.1631aa requirement to waive privilege is modified or removed by the Legislature, or if a court of competent jurisdiction determines that such a requirement is unlawful, it is the Board’s intent that the waiver contained in this resolution will, without action by the Board, be immediately rescinded and no longer have any legal effect.

6. This resolution and waiver do not apply to any “mass casualty event” occurring before the date of this resolution.

7. The Board reserves the right to rescind or modify this resolution prior to a “mass casualty event” to conform to any subsequent change in law or interpretation by a court of competent jurisdiction or MDE.

8. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the provisions of this resolution be and the same are hereby rescinded.

Ayes: Members

Nays: Members

Resolution declared adopted.

Secretary, Board of Education

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Secretary of the Board of Education of Elk Rapids Schools, Michigan, hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at the Meeting, the original of which is part of the Board's minutes. The undersigned further certifies that notice of the Meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the "Open Meetings Act" (Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended).

Secretary, Board of Education

MDF/keh