



Midland School District
Board of Education
Agenda: Regular Board Meeting
Monday, November 17, 2025

7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Midland School District Board of Directors was held on Monday, November 17, 2025 at the Midland High School Board Room.

Members/Administration Present:

Approved

Present	Mr. John McFarland, President Position 5 (2028)	Present	Mr. Austin Passmore Position 6 (2030)
Present	Mr. Nathan Wood, Secretary Position 2 (2030)	Present	Mr. Shawn Conder Position 1 (2030)
Present	Mr. Jeff Moore, Vice President Position 3 (2026)	Present	Mr. Joe Cox, Position 4 (2026)
Present	Mrs. Janet Canard Position 7 (2028)	Present Present Present Present	Toby Crosby, Superintendent Cindy Armstrong, HS Principal Jessica Gilmer, ES Principal Valerie Hibbitts, Early Childhood

I. Call to Order **7:05 PM**

II. Prayer **Shawn Conder**

III. School's Mission and Vision: Educate, Encourage, Inspire

IV. Collective Commitments:

- A. Be Committed to the PLC Process
- B. Be Collaborative
- C. Be Unified in Direction
- D. Continue to Develop and Implement Guaranteed and Viable Standards

V. Celebrations:

- A. Citizen's Bank-"Shine Like a Mustang" is Robbie Moore
- B. We have been officially approved to start construction of our project by the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation Rules Governing the Academic Facilities Partnership program. I will meet with the contractor and construction manager on December 2nd to open the bids. Construction to start mid January.
- C. Student's AP

1. Sharissa Babb-English Literature and Composition \$50

2. Joshua Biggs-English Literature and Composition	
\$50	
3. Cami Carpenter-English Literature and Composition	\$50
4. Noah Conder-English Literature and Composition, Environmental Science, World History-Modern, AP Scholar-has taken a total of 5 AP exams.	\$150
5. Zaylee Cousins-Environmental Science	\$50
6. Nakita Grisham-English Literature and Composition, Environmental Science	\$100
7. Logan Hodge-Environmental Science, US History	
\$100	
8. Reace McClendon-English Literature and Composition, Environmental Science	
\$100	
9. Steven Moore-English Literature and Composition	
\$50	
10. Andee Whitener-English Literature and Composition	\$50
11. Hunter Williford-English Literature and Composition, US History, AP Scholar-has taken a total of 4 AP exams	\$100
Grand Total of	\$850

D. Jason Cole was recognized in the Batesville Guard Newspaper for his work as a School Resource Officer for the Midland School District.

VI. Public Comment Section (3 Minute Time Limit)-(30 Minute Overall Time) No Sign-ups

VII. Approval of Minutes from regular board meeting of October 20, 2025

Motion by Jeff Moore, seconded by Shawn Conder to approve the Minutes from the regular board meeting of October 20, 2025. Motion was adopted by a vote of 7-0.

VIII. Approval of October 2025 Financials

Motion by Joe Cox, seconded by Nathan Wood to approve the October 2025 Financials. Motion was adopted by a vote of 7-0.

IX. Approval of Addendum to the district Bell-to-Bell, No Cell Act-Act 122

A. The policy must include:

A student may use a personal electronic device during the school day if:

- The personal electronic device is required by the student's individual education plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or Individual Health Plan for health reasons
- The use of the personal electronic device is during an emergency as defined by this policy
- The student is enrolled in an endorsed concurrent enrollment course at an institution of higher education, and the use of the personal electronic device is necessary in order to utilize two-factor authentication to access course work and resources for the endorsed

concurrent enrollment course. The use of the personal electronic device shall be limited to the time necessary to complete the two-factor authentication process.

- The use of the personal electronic device is during a special event during the school day

Motion by Jeff Moore, seconded by Austin Passmore to approve the Addendum to the district Bell-to-Bell, No Cell Act of Act 122. Motion was adopted by a vote of 7-0.

X. Approval To adopt the attached Proposed Budget of Expenditures with Tax Levy for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2027 to and including June 30, 2028 and to approve the related Sample Ballot.

Motion by Nathan Wood, seconded by Jeff Moore to approve the adoption of the Proposed Budget of Expenditures with Tax Levy for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2027 to and including June 30, 2028 and to approve the related Sample Ballot. Motion was adopted by a vote of 7-0.

XI. Approval for the Midland School District to apply for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). This program will provide free dinners to students at the end of each day at no cost.

Motion by Joe Cox, seconded by Austin Passmore to approve the Midland School District to apply for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). This program will provide free dinners to students at the end of each day at no cost. Motion was adopted by a vote of 7-0.

XII. Superintendent Report	District Total	<u>397</u>	+2
A. Student Count High School-	192		
1. Twelfth Grade-33			
2. Eleventh Eighth Grade-28			
3. Tenth Grade-38			
4. Ninth Grade-40			
5. Eighth Grade-29			
6. Seventh Grade-24			
B. Student Count Elementary-	205		
1. Sixth Grade-36			
2. Fifth Grade-38			
3. Fourth Grade-32			
4. Third Grade-26			
5. Second Grade-32			
6. First Grade-15			
7. Kindergarten-26			
C. Student Count in Preschool-	96		
1. Student Count in Pre-K-70			
2. Student Count in Tiny Tots-18			
3. Tiny Tots Too-8			

D. Cooperative Enrollment Trends:

1. CFAM Daily Oct. 1 enrollment
 - a) Midland-Down 46
 - b) Southside-Up 21
 - c) Concord-Down 8
 - d) Bradford-Up 1
 - e) Cave City-Down 46
 - f) Batesville-Down 131
 - g) Cedar Ridge-Down 10
 - h) Bald Knob-Down 7
 - i) Pangburn-Down 66 with additional 14 since October 1st.
 - j) Greer's Ferry-Down 24

Mr. Crosby discussed the issues that are being seen all around the state due to the LEARNS Act and the actions of students leaving the public school system in Arkansas to attend homeschool and private schools. In the state of Arkansas as a whole, the number of students that have left public schools is over 10,000 in just one year.

E. Calendar Development

1. Alternative vs. Traditional
2. Number of Days
3. Breaks
4. Letter Grades

Mr. Crosby gave information to the board and asked for guidance on calendar development for the upcoming school year. He asked the board members to send an email with thoughts and suggestions by Friday to take to our PPC before we develop a calendar that will be voted on for the 2026-27 school year.

XIII. Principal's Report

A. High School- Mrs. Armstrong reported:

1. We are extremely proud of our alumni and students who are being honored for their accomplishment on last spring's AP exam.
2. Special Education students have been participating in the Special Olympics. The most recent trip was to Jonesboro on Friday to compete.
3. Students began taking their pre-assessment for Varsity Tutors this week and will begin High Impact Tutoring 3 days per week in math when we return from Thanksgiving.
4. We received our letter grade from DESE recently. High School is rated a "C". Part of our improvement plan is to invite content level specialists from NAESC and DESE to begin coaching cycles with our teachers.
5. Mrs. Gilmer and Mrs. Armstrong are being training in "Leaders of Literacy" in order to best support our teachers.

6. MHS has been intentional with scheduling programs for students regarding risky behavior such as drinking and driving, Vaping, Drugs etc.
7. On November 11th the counselor transported a group of students to UACCB for ACT Prep.
8. The local Christmas Parade will be on December 6th. The high school is working on being well represented in the parade.
9. Choir Concert -December 11th
10. December 13th: Family Bingo Night with Santa or Rudolph available for pictures sponsored by the Student Adventures Group.
11. FCCLA will be hosting a Christmas Pageant on December 22nd with a "Christmas Around the World" theme.
12. FFA is working with the after school program once a month at the elementary. That is going great!
13. FFA is also taking 4 projects to compete in the Farm Bureau Ag Mechanics contest following Thanksgiving break.
14. FFA also has several students (6) competing in Leadership contests at A-State on 12/11!
15. Progress reports were mailed today (Monday, November 17th)
16. Arkansas School of Math and Science sent a representative to come speak with our 9th and 10th grade students this week.
17. Crowley's Ridge College visited 11th and 12th graders this week.
18. The National Guard spoke to our 11th and 12th grade students this week.
19. MHS students were recognized for their participation in [Spring Creek Outfitters](#) Youth Hunt essay challenge. Congratulations to Kason Evans for his essay being chosen as the best. He receives a Youth Hunt compliments of [Keith Gillihan](#) and guide [Clifton Chouamon](#). Congratulations to Kash Reaper for a second place finish and receiving a guided Duck Hunt.
20. Jaden Price received All State Honors and placed 6th in the state in Cross Country.
21. The Gifted and Talented program students competed in the Arkansas Game and Fish Generational Conservation Summit last week. 20 students competed in approximately 15 events. Our students who competed in the Radio Caller Tracking event earned 2nd place overall. Jr. High Division: Harley Davidson, Brent Sample High School: Gaige Gay and Ethan Williford.
22. MHS supported a Food Drive and the Sophomores won by bringing in the most food.
23. The Student Adventures group organized the Karen Wells Legacy 5K recently. Current students, alumni and community members participated.
24. The October Student of the Month recognized at MHS was Ella Gay.

B. Elementary- Mrs. Jessica Gilmer stated:

1. Plan of Action to Improve Student Growth and Performance on State Assessments

a) Literacy Coaching provided by Department of Education:

Division of Elementary and Secondary Education:

(1) K - 3: Alisha Cummins

(2) 4 - 6: Kelly Stone

(3) Literacy Specialists are observing classrooms with the principal. We are working through the observation forms together.

b) Instructional support through co-op Math Specialist, Savannah Youngblood.

(1) Will be providing some curriculum training for our new Math curriculum – Envision

(2) Helping to develop an Intervention schedule.

c) Lexia Literacy (K-6) pilot started last week. Students have been very excited about the program.

2. High Impact Tutoring Grant

a) BookNook kicked off last week. Students in the lowest 25% are working in small groups (no more than 3) on foundational and other missing skills. Teachers will work with the remaining students in small groups to address missing skills or for extension to ensure all students are growing.

b) Quote has been obtained to purchase additional chromebooks as outlined in the grant application.

3. Student of the Month:

a) September:

(1) Pre-K/K:

(2) 1st/2nd:

(3) 3rd/4th:

(4) 5th/6th:

b) October:

(1) Pre-K/K:

(2) 1st/2nd:

(3) 3rd/4th:

(4) 5th/6th:

4. Parent Center

a) The parent center will work with the elementary cafeteria to deliver meals to elderly shut-ins in the community on Thursday, November 20.

b) The Angel Tree program received requests for 144 children. About 40 angels remain to be selected.

c) Preparations are being made for Thanksgiving Food boxes for 30 families in our community.

5. PeeWee Basketball

a) October 25 vs Greers Ferry: 2 wins

- b) November 8 vs Guy-Perkins: 3 wins
- c) November 13 vs Concord: 1 win
- 6. Archery Tournament - November 15, 2025
 - a) Elementary received 2nd Place Overall and received a trophy
 - b) Sadie McCollum placed 4th overall (out of 31). She also received the Bullseye Award for shooting 5 Bullseyes.
 - c) Charleigh Davidson placed 7th overall.
 - d) Randi Bunn placed 8th overall
 - e) Beckett Langle placed 8th (out of 39).
- 7. Special Olympics Bowling
 - a) On October 29, we had 12 students from our elementary school participate in Special Olympics Bowling for Region 16 at Hollywood Bowl in Batesville.
- 8. Upcoming Elementary Events:

a) November 17:	PeeWee Basketball @ Home
b) November 20:	Guiding Coalition
c) December 2:	Talent Show
d) December 6:	Pleasant Plains Christmas Parade
e) December 11:	PeeWee Basketball @ Home
f) December 12:	Breakfast with Santa
g) December 15:	PeeWee Basketball @ Concord
h) December 18:	Class Christmas Parties/Kindergarten Field Trip
i) December 19:	Teacher PD/District Christmas Party

C. Pre-K- Mrs. Valerie Hibbitts stated:

1. Voucher reimbursements have been increased according to Better Beginnings Levels of each facility. As of now, we are only losing \$9.00 per day on infants and toddlers and \$7.00 per day on preschool students. This changes our total loss from October 2025 to May 2026 to \$10,948.00 instead of the original \$27,000.
2. Midland Tiny Tots was gifted \$2800.00 from the Independence Stave Company
3. The children will have their annual stone soup share for lunch on Thursday, November 20.
4. The new pastor from the First Assembly of God, Brother Taylor Foster, will be the preschool Santa this year on December 19.
5. Every class had successful Halloween parties and tons of parent participation.
6. At this time, we have 29 students graduating Pre-k.
7. We were approved for 13 ABC ITS slots this year. ABC ITS is a reimbursement subsidy for children enrolled in the ABC program but it is solely based on income alone. The reimbursement rate is infants-\$7.31 per day, toddlers-\$6.31 per day, and \$4.31 per day for

preschool. These rates are per student. They have not released the official time frame of the reimbursement payments so I have figured for October 2025 through March 2026 because we do know these months will be included in the program. The total for the months will be approximately \$8,403.15. These funds are not allocated at this time and can be used to help replace the decrease in voucher funds.

Executive Session: 8:57-9:15 PM

XIV. Personnel

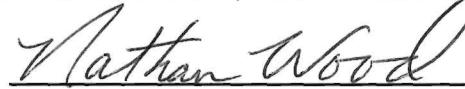
- A. Resignation**
- B. New Hires**

Adjournment

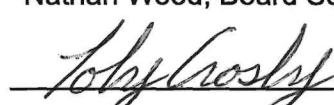
Motion by Jeff Moore, seconded by Janet Canard to adjourn. Motion was adopted by a vote of 7-0.



John McFarland, Board President



Nathan Wood, Board Secretary



Toby Crosby, Ex-Officio Financial Officer

The next School Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 15, 2025 in the Midland School District Board Room at 7:00PM.