

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Monday, December 16, 2024 7:00 PM

Library, 333 S. Pleasant Street, Pickford, MI 49774

I. Call to order

I.A. Roll Call of the Board

I.B. Pledge of Allegiance

I.C. Adoption of the Agenda

II. Staff & Student Recognition

II.A. Staff Spotlight **Speaker (s):** Mrs. Jessica Tibbitts

II.B. Student Recognition

III. Public Comment

IV. Communication and Board Reports

IV.A. Elementary Principal **Speaker (s):** Mr. Rairigh

IV.B. MS/HS Principal **Speaker (s):** Mr. Johnson

IV.C. Athletic Director **Speaker (s):** Mrs. Edington

IV.D. Business Manager **Speaker (s):** Mrs. Bush

IV.E. Superintendent Report **Speaker (s):** Mrs. Nettleton

IV.F. Board Committees

IV.F.a. Finance Committee

IV.F.b. Executive Committee

IV.F.c. Policy Committee

IV.F.d. Negotiations Committee

IV.F.e. Building & Grounds Committee

IV.F.f. Athletics Committee

IV.F.g. Goals & School Improvement Committee

IV.F.h. ISD Committee

IV.F.i. CCSS Committee

IV.G. Correspondence

V. Action Items

V.A. Consent Agenda

V.A.a. **Regular Meeting Minutes -- November 18, 2024**

V.A.b. Special Meeting Minutes -- December 3, 2024

V.A.c. **November 2024 Invoices**

V.A.d. Resignations

V.A.d.i. Kerri Tessmer - JV Volleyball

V.A.d.ii. Susan Edington - 8th Grade Volleyball

V.A.e. New Hires

V.A.e.i. Jon Six - 7th Grade Boys Basketball

V.A.f. Universal FAFSA Policy

V.A.g. ORS Required Administrative Salary Schedules

V.A.h. District Goals

V.A.i. Go into Closed Session

V.A.j. Return to Open Session

VI. Board Comments & Discussion

VII. Future Planning & Adjournment

VII.A. **Next regularly scheduled meeting -- Annual Organizational Meeting January 20, 2025 @ 7:00 pm**

VII.B. **Adjournment**



Universal FAFSA Waiver

The Universal FAFSA Waiver must be completed for graduating students who are opting out of completing the FAFSA using one of the options below. **A copy of the Universal FAFSA Waiver must become part of each student's cumulative school record.**

An incomplete waiver will result in non-compliance for districts participating in the Universal Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Challenge per [Sec. 67f of Public Act 120 of 2024](#).

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student First Name _____ M.I. _____

Last Name _____

Student Date of Birth ____/____/____

OPTION 1: STUDENT OR PARENT CERTIFICATION

I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of the student listed above, or I am the student listed above and I am at least 18 years of age, or I am a legally emancipated minor, or I am an unaccompanied youth and am authorized to decline to complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

I have read the information on page 2 and understand that completing this waiver does not prohibit my student (or myself) from completing and submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at any time in the future.

Parent or Legal Guardian Student age 18+/Emancipated Minor/Unaccompanied Youth

Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____

OPTION 2: DISTRICT CERTIFICATION

I certify that the school administrator of the student's high school demonstrated to the district board that good-faith efforts were made to assist the student or the student's parent/legal guardian in either completing the FAFSA or obtaining a parental waiver.

District Name _____

High School Name _____

School Principal Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID (FAFSA)

WHAT IS THE FAFSA FORM?

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form is the online application that allows a student to apply simultaneously for federal student aid (including the Pell Grant, work-study opportunities, and federal student loans) and state scholarships. Many colleges and universities also use it for their scholarship programs as well.

ISN'T THE APPLICATION TOO LONG AND DIFFICULT TO COMPLETE?

Not at all! Most students and their families complete the FAFSA form in 30 minutes or less. If you have questions, talk to your school counselor or visit fafsa.gov.

DO I NEED TO COMPLETE THE FAFSA FORM TO QUALIFY FOR THE MICHIGAN ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP?

Yes! Recent high school graduates must complete the FAFSA to qualify for the Michigan Achievement Scholarship. No matter your next step after high school, the Michigan Achievement Scholarship can help you earn a skill certificate or college degree and significantly lower your costs. Students are encouraged to learn more about how the scholarship can support their path: Community College Guarantee (free or deeply discounted tuition for recent grads regardless of income), Public or Private/College University (up to \$27,500 for qualifying students), or Career Training (up to \$4,000 for qualifying students). Learn more at: mi.gov/achievement.

IF I WANT TO LEARN A TRADE, CAN THE FAFSA FORM STILL BE OF ASSISTANCE TO ME?

The FAFSA form is not just for associate or bachelor's degree programs. Students may receive need-based Pell grants, federal student loans, other federal student aid or state student aid, including career and technical education programs at community colleges and at many other schools and training programs. Students should check with the school they want to attend to find out if they accept state and federal financial aid.

DOES MY FAMILY MAKE TOO MUCH MONEY TO BENEFIT FROM THE FAFSA?

Financial aid is left on the table every year by students who did not apply because they thought they were ineligible. You really don't know until you apply! Did you know, all recent high school graduates qualify for the Michigan Achievement Scholarship Community College Guarantee (a tuition free path at your local community college), regardless of income! For students from families that do make too much to qualify for need-based grant aid, the FAFSA form may still be helpful, since it's needed for state scholarships and grants, work-study, or a federal student loan. Your college may offer financial aid based on your FAFSA too.

WHAT IF I DON'T WANT A STUDENT LOAN?

Completing the application does not commit you to anything, including a student loan.

HOW IS FAFSA DATA PROTECTED?

By law, your personally identifiable Information (PII) included in the FAFSA form may only be used to award scholarships and grants. Although your high school will know whether you completed the FAFSA form, it will not have access to the information that you provide on your FAFSA form. Your information is not sold.

IF I CHOOSE TO FILE A FAFSA FORM, HOW WILL I KNOW THAT MY FAFSA FORM IS COMPLETE?

Once you submit the FAFSA form, you will receive an email confirming your application was received at the email address you provided in the application.

The Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential is not affiliated with National Merit Scholarship Corporation or its registered trademarks National Achievement®, Achievement Scholarship®, or Achievement Scholar®.

Eastern Upper Peninsula

Mail | Docs | Calendar

Angela Nettleton <angelan@eupschools.org>

MiLEAP Universal FAFSA Challenge Award Notification & Action Needed

1 message

Cardwell, Stacy (MiLEAP) <CardwellS@michigan.gov>
To: "angelan@eupschools.org" <angelan@eupschools.org>
Cc: "jtibbitts@eupschools.org" <jtibbitts@eupschools.org>

Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 1:51 PM

Thank you for submitting your application for the 2024-2025 Universal FAFSA Challenge. We are pleased to inform you that your application has been accepted! Attached you will find a letter containing additional information, including, your total conditional award offer.

Next Steps

- Complete and submit a budget narrative to MiLEAP no later than January 15, 2025.
- After the budget narrative is submitted and approved, funds will be sent to qualifying schools on or before January 31, 2025.
- Qualifying applicants must submit evidence that they have adopted a Universal FAFSA policy no later than August 15, 2025.

Webinar

Join us for a Universal FAFSA Challenge meeting on December 16 at 10 a.m. to ask questions and learn about next steps in the process. Please use the link below to register for the informational meeting. <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYrceyrrDwpGNAV2OKurMfsbTc-4VSUUOFM>

Support

For questions and support regarding the Universal FAFSA Challenge, please contact the MiLEAP Office of Higher Education: Emily Hurtado-Arboleda, mistudentaid@michigan.gov, or 888-447-2687.

Sincerely,

Office of Higher Education

MiLEAP

2 attachments

 **Pickford Public Schools.pdf**
701K



Universal FAFSA Challenge Budget Narrative.pdf

106K

Pickford Public Schools

Universal FAFSA Policy -- DRAFT

In our district, we recognize how critical it is for prospective college students to complete the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid](#), or FAFSA. The FAFSA is needed to access federal scholarships and loans and is required for students to receive up to \$27,500 through the [Michigan Achievement Scholarship](#)—including pathways to earn a skill certificate or associate degree tuition-free at their local community college through the [Community College Guarantee](#).

To best position our graduates for post high school pathways, eliminating potential barriers and ensuring that school and district staff prioritize the support for students and families, beginning with the class of 2026, we are requiring the following:

1. Filing one of the following:
 - (1) a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the U.S. Dept. of Education,
 - (2) a district waiver form indicating that the student and family understand what these aid opportunities are and has chosen not to file an application. If the student is not at least 18 years of age or legally emancipated, the student's parent/guardian must file one of these documents on the student's behalf,
 - (3) school or district exemption.

A district shall exempt a student from the requirement to complete the FAFSA if any of the following are met:

1. The student's parent or legal guardian, or the student if the student is 18 years of age or older, is an emancipated minor, or is an unaccompanied youth, has submitted a parental waiver (obtained by a standard form provided by MiLEAP) to the district exempting the student from completing the FAFSA.
2. The student is unable to complete the FAFSA because of privacy concerns.
3. All of the following are met:
 - a. After a good-faith effort, the student's parent or legal guardian refuses to sign the parental waiver, is unresponsive, or cannot sign the parental waiver.
 - b. The student is unable to complete the FAFSA as an independent student.
 - c. The student agrees to opt out of completing the FAFSA.
 - d. Other than the requirements in subsection (2), the student is on track to graduate.



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL

LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DR. BEVERLY WALKER-GRIFFEA
DIRECTOR

December 9, 2024

Pickford Public Schools
333 S Pleasant St
Pickford, MI 49774

Dear Angela Nettleton,

Congratulations! This letter is to inform you that the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP) – Office of Higher Education has received your school district's application for the 2024-25 Universal FAFSA Challenge ([Sec. 67f of Public Act 120 of 2024](#)). MiLEAP is excited to offer Universal FAFSA Challenge awards to support districts and public school academies like yours in adopting a universal FAFSA policy and implementing FAFSA completion support in their schools and local communities.

The Legislature has appropriated \$10 million for the Universal FAFSA Challenge. Conditional awards for individual qualifying applicants have been calculated based on the total number of 12th grade students at all qualifying applicants. Each qualifying applicant will receive an equal amount per 12th grade student on or before January 31, 2025. MiLEAP has determined the amount per 12th grade student is \$826.50 multiplied by **(35)** 12th grade students (as provided and verified by the Center for Educational Performance and Information 2023-24 11th grade enrollment data) for a **total conditional award in the amount of \$28,927.50**. Qualifying applicants must submit a Budget Narrative to receive their full conditional award amount. In the event a qualifying applicant does not submit the required Budget Narrative as outlined below, the amount per student may increase, resulting in a recalculation of the total award.

To receive your district's award, you must submit a Budget Narrative to MiLEAP no later than January 15, 2025. The Budget Narrative must confirm a plan to spend the Universal FAFSA award on eligible expenses **and** a timeline of when your district will adopt a Universal FAFSA policy. A complete list of the [Universal FAFSA Challenge Required Activities](#) (including a list of eligible expenses, universal FAFSA policy information, reporting requirements, and how to submit completed materials) along with [Universal FAFSA Challenge Questions and Answers](#) are available on our [website](#).

Qualifying applicants must also submit evidence that they have adopted a Universal FAFSA policy no later than August 15, 2025.

Data indicates that a senior who completes the FAFSA is 84% more likely to enroll in postsecondary education, and 90% of high school seniors who complete the FAFSA immediately enroll in postsecondary education programs. Your commitment to increasing FAFSA efforts to students is invaluable.

For questions and support regarding the Universal FAFSA Challenge, please contact the MiLEAP Office of Higher Education: Emily Hurtado-Arboleda, MiStudentAid@Michigan.gov or 888-447-2687.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beverly D. Walker-Griffa". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffa
Executive Director
MiLEAP