

**AUBURN SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
APRIL 9, 2024 AT 6:00 P.M.
AUBURN VILLAGE SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**

These minutes have not been approved.

Alan Villeneuve, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance were members Janice Baker, Derek Berger, Jason Tyburski and Adrian Newton. Also in attendance was Principal Lori Collins, Assistant Principal's Lindsay Murray & Jennifer Barnhill, Math Coordinator, Jenn Bordis, Maintenance Director Scott Dube, Technology Director Adam Hollins, Interim Business Administrator Karen Lessard and Interim Director of Student Services Christine Osborne.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Donna Aubin led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROOF OF POSTING

Becki McCarthy provided proof of posting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to approve the March 12, 2024 Board meeting minutes.

With Jason Tyburski abstaining, all others in favor, the motion carried.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to approve the March 21, 2024 Board meeting minutes.

With Jason Tyburski abstaining, all others in favor, the motion carried.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to approve the March 27, 2024 Board meeting minutes, and the motion carried unanimously.

Alan Villeneuve opened the public hearing to expend the money from the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund and School Construction Expendable Trust Fund.

Alan said there were handouts available for the public and the Board will review and discuss, but no action would be taken until after the public had a chance to address the Board.

REPORTS

Reports of administrators were reviewed.

Lori Collins said that tryouts were held and that there have been no complaints regarding sports. The fields are 'getting there'. Jenn Bordis reported on her visits the Sandown preschool program. She said some classes have more than 12 students in them and that no playground equipment is better than inappropriately age-based equipment. Scott Dube said the fields are ready for fertilizer.

Reports of Sub-committees

-Insurance Claim: Adrian Newton researched this and spoke with a member services representative from Primex who said because the over-expenditure was not due to a crime, it wouldn't be covered. She said negligence or incompetence would not be covered either. She said the district can file and claim and see if by chance it would be granted, but to not expect it. Primex suggested retraining employees so this doesn't happen again.

-Loan Possibilities: Jason Tyburski researched this and said there were a couple options. **Seasonal Short-Term Loan** which is prime plus 1 point, **Construction Loan**, but we have no construction project, **Term Note** which uses 5-year federal rate plus 2.5% plus additional fees and **Tax Exempt Financing** which have legal fees at approximately \$75,000 in addition to .5 to 1 point.

-Operational Analysis: Derek Berger researched this and the Board would need to identify the scope of work and would need to investigate an internal control audit. This would have to take place at an SAU Board meeting. He said the annual financial audit will still take place after the books are closed for the years. Derek said NHSBA is pulling together resources at this point and it would be an ongoing commitment that would be reviewed on a very regular basis. This would cost approximately \$25,000 to \$25,000 depending on the analysis and scope of work.

-Donation Structure: Alan Villeneuve said this part is still in the early stages but that the Auburn Braves Athletic Booster Club has been established. He said that the state law does allow the district to receive donated funds.

OLD BUSINESS

2024/2025 Budget Discussion

Alan Villeneuve said the first meeting solved the cash flow problem for this year. How we pay for the overages will be discussed tonight. Alan said SAU Administration put together a list of opportunities to fund money and each were summarized. Discussion ensued relative to student clubs, athletic stipends, summer school and extended school year as well as virtual learning (Algebra) classes through Pinkerton Academy. Discussion regarding Lexia and Summer School ensued. Karen Lessard thought the use of federal funds may be supplanting, but Chris Osborne and Jenn Bordis said they contacted the NH DOE and were told it was not. Alan asked Lori Collins the logistics of starting a preschool program in the fall of 2024, to which Lori replied the only thing they need is lead time. Furniture is coming from Bedford. The need to find a way to get measure the demand for regular education preschoolers and that a lottery may have to be held if there is a large demand.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC to ADDRESS THE BOARD

Allysa Stanton-Squirrel Dr.-Asked for clarification on advanced algebra/Don't cut co-curricular clubs/Would World Cultures class continue.

Jenn Bordis explained the different types of algebra that are offered and Lori Collins said that World Cultures class would not continue if the cuts on the list were made.

Jennifer Anderson-Lilac-Make sure to not double-count sped students in transportation/An extra person in the Media Center is very helpful, ask for volunteers/Consider waiting on donations, pause so community can have a place to donate to/Not in favor of cutting everything on the list.

Chris Osborne will verify they are not double-counting.

Patrick Kelly-Westford Drive-Has the Board talked to Tiny Tots or other local, private preschools/Don't undercut their tuition/Has SAU cut their budget to cover Auburn's over-expenditure

Alan Villeneuve said he wouldn't expect that from the SAU as Auburn only has an approximately 27% share. He also said he has spoken with the Longmeadow Church officials as they are the sponsors of Tiny Tots.

Sue Handy-Rattlesnake Hill-Why is World Culture salary so large on the spreadsheet/World Cultures incredibly important/Auburn kids need to be taught empathy and to be exposed to diversity/Great value to such a course.

Eddie Plefka-Hooksett Rd-Clarify that the over-expenditure issue is because of 5 special education students/How did 5 students cause such an overage.

Alan Villeneuve stated that special education services in addition to the intensity of need has increased dramatically. The state found 5 students eligible for reimbursement and 3 are expected next year.

Amy Johannet-Lovers Lane-Taking advanced algebra can allow kids to kill it on SATs/Having school clubs is very important for kids who are not into sports/Who is the wage pool for.

Alan Villeneuve said the wage pool if for everyone besides teachers, such as custodians, food service workers, and office staff.

Amy Magnan-Crickett Lane-When were Chromebooks last purchased/How much time is spent on repairs/How will next year look if we are planning on continuing to share a bus with Candia.

Adam Hollins said some Chromebooks are 3 and 4 years old. Alan Villeneuve said the bus with Candia will be the same as this year.

Rachel O' Boyle-Berry Patch-Thanked the Board for looking at a vehicle for private donations/Can we do this legally.

Andrea Robbins-Londonderry Tnpk-How do teachers feel about letting IXL go.

Lori Collins said elementary teachers would really miss it.

Heather Lockwood-Pond View-Pinkerton teachers love Auburn students as they are prepared. The cuts on the handout hurt gifted kids and ones who are just barely there.

Jennifer Aldredge-Pleasant Court-Should go for grant funding/Use next year's money for substitutes for this year/Parents shouldn't hear about budget issues through their kids.

Christine Osborne said there are federal funds available every year. Meg Largy said we go for all available grants, but there are lots of stipulations and rules attached to grants. You can't supplant. Grants come to us; we don't have to seek them. Lori Collins said teachers are aware of the lack of funds for subs and that the administration has covered classes as necessary and so far, so no classes have had to be doubled-up. Lori added that parents were going to be notified, but that talks were just internal up to this point about subs.

Alyssa Stanton-Don't cut clubs and athletic stipends.

Alan Villeneuve said the number one goal was to keep staff. Clubs wouldn't be cut, just funding for the stipends.

Dustin Dulac-Chester Road-How can the Board be confident that there was no criminal activity causing the overage/The budget process was broken/Is this normal timing for overages to show up/Budgets are made by predictions.

Alan Villeneuve said the budget process was not broken, but that there is only so much he can say in a public session about employees who have worked for the district. He said there is no great reporting structure to predicting incoming students, especially preschoolers. He said this year is abnormal as the district has usually returned 4%-5% back to the town.

Jennifer Raspuzzi-Maple Farm-Is the Board ready for the financial impact of the recent special education audit.

Christine Osborne-There are no financial ramifications from the audit. They are done annually on the 14 indicators the district is legally bound to report out. After six years, a deeper look is done using the same indicators.

Rachel O-Boyle-Can the PTA be the donation source for donations.

Alan Villeneuve stated that the PTA has very specific rules in their charter and is not sure their bylaws would allow this.

The Board continued to discuss items on the handout and made the following motions.

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton, to authorize administration to engage in developing and executing a preschool program for next school year, and the motion carried unanimously.

Janice Baker thanked the AVS administration in advance for going above and beyond what they had expected to be doing.

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton, to modify the Auburn School District from a K-8 school to a Pre-K-8 school, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton to reduce the budget by \$88,784 from the Special Education Tuition-Pinkerton line and to reduce the budget by \$146,476 from the Private Tuition line, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton, to reduce the budget by \$10,000 from the Medicaid Service Provider line and to reduce the budget by \$21,000 from the Summer School Stipends line, and the motion carried unanimously. The Summer School stipends will be grant funded.

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton, to reduce the budget by \$9,796 from the School Board Stipends line, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton to reduce the budget by \$8,000 from the Regular Ed Replacement of Furniture line. Derek withdrew his motion.

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton to reduce the budget by \$6,808 from the Information Access line, \$8,000 from the Regular Ed Replacement of Furniture line, and \$2,000 from the Math (All Learners Network) line, and the motion carried unanimously.

Auburn Braves Athletic Booster Club (ABABC)

Heather Lockwood, Laura Eaton, Amy Johannet, Kristen Piascik and Christine Berry were in attendance as the Auburn Braves Athletic Booster Club. Heather Lockwood spoke on their behalf saying that the community support has been amazing and very generous. \$33,483.24 has been raised so far. Some discussion ensued relative to the logistics of having such a club. The ABABC will be the stewards of the donated funds, but the SAU will process the salary piece with Booster money.

Strategic Plan

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to table discussion on the Strategic Plan, and the motion carried unanimously.

Old, Sealed Minutes Review

The Board reviewed old, sealed minutes for compliancy of new laws regarding sealed minutes.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to reseal the minutes of 2/9/26 in perpetuity (c), and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to reseal the minutes of 4/12/16 in perpetuity (a), and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to reseal the minutes of 5/10/16 in perpetuity (c), and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton, to reseal the minutes of 8/9/16 in perpetuity (e). Janice withdrew her motion. It will be before the Board at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Confirm Poll Vote-April 8 Early Release

Motion by Adrian newton, seconded by Derek Berger, to confirm the poll vote to allow for an early release on 4/8/24. With Janice Baker voting no, all others in favor, the motion carried.

2024/2025 Meeting Schedule

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton to approve the 2024/2025 meeting dates as presented, and the motion carried unanimously.

Standing Committee Assignments

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton to the following standing committee assignments, and the motion carried unanimously.

Budget-Member, Alan Villeneuve – Alternate, Janice Baker

Policy-Derek Berger

Sick Leave Bank-Member, Jason
Technology-Jason Tyburski
PTA-Member, Adrian Newton
IBEW Negotiations-Member Alan Villeneuve – Alternate, Janice Baker
Transportation-Derek Berger
Pinkerton Start Time-Derek Berger and Adrian Newton
Pinkerton Facilities-Alan Villeneuve
Manifest-Janice Baker

Set Retreat Date

The Board decided to hold their annual retreat on Friday, May 31, 2024 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

POLICIES

Second Reading/Adoption

Policies GBCD, IJOC, JF, DIE, DM, GA, IHAMA, IHBB and IKB were in the packet for a second reading Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve the second reading/adoption of the policies as presented, and the motion carried unanimously (IHAMA, IHBB and IKB were eliminated with this motion).

First Reading

DJ Purchasing, DB Annual Budget, DI Fiscal Accounting and reporting, DIH Fraud Prevention and Fiscal Management, DA Fiscal Management Plan and KCD Public Gifts-Donations were in the packet for a first reading.

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton to table the first reading of the policies, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jason Tyburski, seconded by Derek Berger, to close the public hearing, and to expend funds from the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund and School Construction Expendable Trust Fund, and the motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL

Expenditure Report

The expenditure report was in the packet for review.

Manifest Approval

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to approve the manifest in the amount of \$1,983,007.23, and the motion carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL

Co-Curricular Nomination

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Derek Berger, to approve the athletic nomination for Girls Lacrosse Coach, but not for the stipend, and the motion carried unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3 Section II (a-l if necessary)

No need.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Enrollments

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Derek Berger, seconded by Adrian Newton, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m., and the motion carried unanimously.

The Auburn School Board's next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Auburn Village School Media Center.

Respectfully submitted.

Rebecca SJ McCarthy
School Board Recording Secretary