

**AUBURN SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2026 6:00 P.M.
AUBURN VILLAGE SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**

These minutes have been approved.

Derek Berger, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Those in attendance were members Janice Baker, Adrian Newton and Michelle Gilbert. Also in attendance was Principal Lori Collins, Assistant Principals' Lindsay Murray & Jennifer Barnhill, Curriculum Coordinator Jaclyn Karabinis, Director of Student Services Meredith Davine, Technology Director Adam Hollins, Director of Maintenance Scott Dube, Superintendent William (Bill) Rearick and Business Administrator Cindy Bourgeault.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meredith Davine led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROOF OF POSTING

Bill Rearick provided proof of posting.

Cooper Morrison, Liaison between Pinkerton Academy and the School Board was unavailable.

SCHOOL DISTRICT MODERATOR AND CLERK

Caitlyn Folia, School District Clerk was in attendance to review the warrant articles and to go over Deliberative Session protocols.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve the December 10, 2025 Board meeting minutes as amended, deleting language and correcting a typographical error, and the motion carried unanimously.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC to ADDRESS THE BOARD

Resident Carol Peterson asked if changes made by the budget committee were reflected in the budget before the Board tonight, to which Cindy Bourgeault stated they were.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Bill Rearick summarized the recent budget committee/School Board meeting, saying much of the discussion revolved around the teachers contract and benefits. He also reported that they went out to bid for special education transportation and received six proposals. This will be before the Board for approval at their February meeting. He said Human Resources Director Kristen Bourgeault has been exploring different companies to manage health care benefits. Bill reported that he and his team met to discuss the Assistant Superintendent position. He said the candidate can only work part-time, which would help to assist with grants and administrative support. The posting for a permanent replacement will be done in February.

REPORTS

Reports of Administrators

Reports of administrator's were reviewed.

Lori Collins reported that she and Adam Hollins are working on a Cyber Security Event on April 9 from 10:00-11:20, to educate the public about cyber fraud, scams and phishing.

Cindy Bourgeault reported that Catastrophic (CAT) Aid came in higher than expected, adding nearly \$52,000 to revenue.

Derek Berger reported that the budget committee cut \$10,000 from the wage pool line and may be discussing cutting the Curriculum Coordinator position at their next meeting.

Adam Hollins stated the Technology committee met in December.

Adrian Newton stated the Start Time committee will meet in February

Derek Berger stated that the Transportation committee will be scheduling a meeting soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve the operating budget for the 2026/2027 school year in the amount of \$21,347,270, and the motion carried unanimously.

Warrant Articles

Bill Rearick said that the Board spoke of funding trust funds at their last meeting, but no action was taken. Some discussion ensued relative to fund balance, retirement stipends, the SchoolCare payment and what qualifies as maintenance items versus construction items. The district will reach out to Barbara Carpenter, Trustee of the Trust Funds, to look at the Capital Improvement Plan to determine what can be funded with the Construction, Renovation and Expansion of School Grounds trust fund as it is currently written.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve Warrant Article #2 as written, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve Warrant Article #4, to raise and appropriate up to \$150,000 for the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund, all other language as written, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton, to raise and appropriate up to \$45,000 for the Accrued Benefits Expendable Trust Fund, all other language as written, and the motion carried unanimously.

It was the consensus of the Board to strike Warrant Article #6.

Strategic Plan Updates

Jaclyn Karabinas presented the Strategic Plan update, summarizing goals and the progression of each. Progress updates and timelines will be presented quarterly.

NEW BUSINESS

NHSAS Results

The NHSAS results were reviewed and discussed.

Considerable discussion ensued relative to the Curriculum Coordinator position. Lori Collins stressed the need for that position as it supports both building administrators and the Strategic Plan.

Manifest Approval

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Janice Baker, to approve the manifest in the amount of \$1,325,928.80, and the motion carried unanimously.

Expenditure Reports and Summary

The expenditure reports for regular education and special education were in the packet for review.

POLICIES

Policies JICJ Unauthorized Use of Electronic Devices and JLCD Administering Medication to Students, JLIA Supervision of Students, JIC Student Conduct, IMAH Daily Physical Activity, DAF Administration of Federal Grants, JLCF Wellness, JFAA Admission of Resident Students, JJF Student Activities Fund, JJG Non-School Sponsored Contests, IHAL Religion, JKB Detention of Students, JJE Student Fundraising Activities and JLA Student Insurance Program were tabled until the February meeting.

Policy KF was discussed and some changes were suggested.

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Michelle Gilbert, to approve policy KF as presented for a first reading, and the motion carried unanimously. The policy committee will be meeting on January 22 and will review Policy KF further at that time.

PERSONNEL

Athletic Nomination

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve the athletic nomination as presented, and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

No participation.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Michelle Gilbert, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m., and the motion carried unanimously.

The Auburn School Board's next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Auburn Village School Media Center.

Respectfully submitted.

Rebecca SJ McCarthy
School Board Recording Secretary