

**AUBURN SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2025 (RESCHEDULED FROM 12/2/25)
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 Anthony Piascik. Also in attendance was Principal Lori Collins, Assistant Principals' Lindsay Murray & Jennifer Barnhill, Technology Director Adam Hollins, Director of Student Services, Meredith Davine, Director of Maintenance Scott Dube, Superintendent William (Bill) Rearick and Business Administrator, Cindy Bourgeault.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Fifth grader, and candidate for Governor for the Day, Benjamin Webb led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROOF OF POSTING

Bill Rearick provided proof of posting.

PINKERTON LIAISON

Cooper Morrison updated the Board with events at Pinkerton Academy, which included:

- Earned six championships
- Pinkerton Players Nutcracker, Christmas with the Celts, and Christmas Carol
- NHS Giving Tree
- Class Office 'adopted' four families in need

When asked about AI instruction at Pinkerton, Cooper said he'd like to learn how to use AI properly with curriculum and how it can help students grow, to not just make AI do the work.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve the November 12, 2025 Board meeting minutes, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Anthony Piascik, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve the minutes of November 12, 2025 Board Budget meeting, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve the non-public sealed minutes of November 12, 2025, and the motion carried unanimously.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC to ADDRESS THE BOARD

Aaron Beaudry of Spruce Lane addressed the Board regarding charging a fee to for-profit organizations who use AVS fields. He said there is a written policy to do so, but it is not being followed, and those revenues would be appreciated by the taxpayers. In addition, the determination of who gets to use the fields is currently a parent. Mr. Beaudry would like the Board to consider having a district employee have this responsibility. He also requested a working calendar to include non-AVS field usage. Derek Berger stated that he and Mr. Beaudry have discussed this topic prior to tonight and that the current policy gives the Principal the ability to determine field usage. Derek has asked the policy committee to review the Use of Facilities policy, to which Bill Rearick said the committee met today. The policy will be before the Board at their January meeting. Derek said the calendar piece could probably be done in phases.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Bill Rearick reported that Pinkerton start time was brought up again at a recent meeting, that negotiations are nearly complete and that he has been working with the town to see if the town and school can combine gas and electric purchases. Bill reported that the Pinkerton tuition rates came in lower than expected and that Pinkerton added 6.5 positions. He visited kindergarten classrooms yesterday. The Assistant Superintendent position has been posted. Bill introduced Jaclyn Karabinas, Direct of Curriculum.

REPORTS

Reports of Administrators

Reports of administrator's were reviewed.

Anthony Piascik updated the Board on the PTA events which included:

- LaBelle Winery fundraiser
- Wrapping paper fundraiser
- No December meeting
- PTA funds are looking good

Adam Hollins said the Technology Committee will meet tomorrow.

Adrian Newton said the Start Time Committee met to discuss the possibility of creating a transportation consortium and related polices. The start time was brought up again and it was again, the consensus of this Board, to not consider changing start times.

OLD BUSINESS

Strategic Plan Updates

Bill Rearick said nothing has changed in the Strategic Plan.

2026/2027 Budget

Bill Rearick said the five drivers of the budget were Pinkerton tuition, hiring a BCBA, Professional contracts, middle school out of district tuition and special education. Lori Collins explained her request for 12 keyboards was to allow each to be used by two students per class. Derek Berger asked the Board if they were interested in building in an annual cost of living adjustment to their stipends. They were not. Considerable discussion ensued relative to Principal and Assistant Principal salaries. Bill Rearick said that the School Care assessment came from their reserves being too low. Auburn's share is \$227,849. He said that School Care recently changed their request regarding timeline and said if 1/3 is paid by December 31, 2025, the remainder could be paid by July 1, 2026 with no interest being charged. Cindy Bourgeault reported that because of unencumbered funds in health , dental, ESY, summer school and a pre-buy of math and maintenance items, she felt financially comfortable with paying 1/3 (\$75,950) by the December 31 deadline.

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Anthony Piascik, to pay 1/3 of the School Care assessment in the amount of \$75,950 by December 31, 2025, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton to approve the proposed operating budget for the 26/27 fiscal year in the amount of \$21,399,270.38.

Motion to amend the motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve the proposed operating budget in the amount of \$21,551,169.38, and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Principal Search

Bill Rearick summarized the principal search process which was in the packet. The position will be posted on February 2, 2026.

Draft Warrant Articles

Warrant articles were discussed as was funding trust funds through the warrant articles. Derek Berger suggested adding \$150,000 to the special education trust fund and \$60,000 to the accrued benefits trust fund. Considerable discussion ensued relative to accessing funds from the Construction, Renovation and Expansion of School Grounds trust fund. These funds cannot be used for general maintenance or repairs and the Board would like options of how to either establish a new fund for maintenance or to change the language of the terms of intent for the Construction trust fund. Bill Rearick will reach out to the district's attorney for their opinion.

Topics for Pinkerton Sending Towns January Meeting

Some discussion ensued relative to items to add to the Sending Town Meeting agenda. The Board would like discussions on the start time to be finalized, intent for sending town's special education placements and many things regarding AI instruction to include but not limited to its current state, teacher instruction and education plan, timeline for a roll-out to student population and ongoing strategies for instruction.

AEA Tentative Agreement

Bill Rearick summarized changes to the collective bargaining agreement.

Manifest Approval

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Janice Baker, to approve the manifest in the amount of \$1,101,903.63, and the motion carried unanimously.

Expenditure Report and Summary

The expenditure report was in the packet for review.

Federal and State Grant Breakdown

Cindy Bourgeault explained the Grant Breakdown that was in the packet for review. She will provide these quarterly.

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, and DAF Administration of Federal Grants were tabled until the January meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

No participation.

Lori Collins will provide NHSAS results at the January meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Janice Baker, seconded by Adrian Newton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m., and the motion carried unanimously.

The Auburn School Board’s next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Auburn Village School Media Center.

Respectfully submitted.

Rebecca SJ McCarthy
School Board Recording Secretary