AUBURN SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 17, 2026 AT 6:00 P.M.
AUBURN VILLAGE SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER

These minutes have been approved.

Derek Berger, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance were members Adrian Newton, Michelle Gilbert, Anthony Piascik and Michelle Dressler. Also in attendance was Principal Rebecca Noe, Assistant Principals' Lindsay Murray & Jennifer Barnhill, Curriculum Coordinator Jaclyn Karabinas, Maintenance Director Scott Dube, Superintendent of Schools William (Bill) Rearick, Assistant Superintendent Heather Cummings and Business Administrator Cindy Bourgeault.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Derek Berger led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROOF OF POSTING
Bill Rearick provided proof of posting.

Derek Berger welcomed Rebecca Noe to her first meeting in her new position as AVS Principal.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Motion by Michelle Dressler, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve the June 4, 2026 Board Retreat meeting minutes as amended, and the motion carried unanimously.
Motion by Michelle Dressler, seconded by Adrian Newton, to approve the June 9, 2026 Board meeting minutes as amended, and the motion carried unanimously.
Motion by Anthony Piascik, seconded by Michelle Gilbert, to approve the June 9, 2026 Non-Public Board meeting minutes, and the motion carried unanimously.
Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Michelle Dressler, to approve the June 18, 2026 Board meeting minutes as amended, and the motion carried unanimously.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC to ADDRESS THE BOARD
No participation.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE
Bill Rearick spoke to NH HB1300 and 1575.
He said both were signed by the Governor. HB1300 is for a local and SAU tax cap and will be on the 2026 and 2028 ballots. If the town passes this bill, it could have signification impact on how much the district can increase the amount that can be requested. He said there are specific calculations which would determine the actual cap, but it is ultimately up to the Department of Revenue to provide data for the calculation formula.
There would be no impact if this bill did not pass.
HB1575 allows the town's budget committee to determine school budgets.

Discussion ensued relative to establishing a trust fund as well as how to address Pinkerton's response time to providing its tuition numbers.

OLD BUSINESS
Strategic Plan Discussion
Bill Rearick stated that at a prior meeting, there was discussion on hiring a facilitator to assist with implementing the Strategic Plan. He said he had since consulted with Rebecca Noe, who agreed with the consensus to reach out to Tom Ledue who assisted in the creation of the Plan. Bill said the cost would be $6,000 from Title II funds.
School Resource Officer (SRO) Discussion
Considerable discussion ensued relative to hiring a school resource officer, and how the position would be funded and staffed. Board members spoke to the advantages of having this position at AVS. Administration will reach out to the Chief Chabot and will report back at the September Board meeting.
PUBLIC INPUT
Susan Handy stated that she appreciated the positive comments from the Board and that having an SRO would be invaluable.

NEW BUSINESS

Instructional Time Schedule

Bill Rearick said policy requires a review of the Instructional Time Schedule and that no changes were made since last year. Michelle Dressler requested that administrators be creative to find more recess time for grades K-2 as it is imperative that children get fresh air, exercise and time to play.

Handbook Changes

Handbook changes were in the packet for review.

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Anthony Piascik, to approve the handbook changes as presented, and the motion carried unanimously.

Correction to 26/27 Calendar

Bill Rearick explained that due to a typo on the prior calendar, there were only 179 days in the calendar.

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Michelle Gilbert, to approve the revised calendar. With Michelle Dressler abstaining, all others in favor, the motion carried.

POLICY JICK- Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention-Bullying

Bill Rearick stated that due to a change in the law, Policy JICK must be reviewed and adopted at the first meeting of each Board, so it can be in place at the start of the school year. Some discussion on the policy changes ensued.

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Anthony Piascik, to waive the first reading and adopt policy JICK as amended, and the motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL

Cindy Bourgeault said the auditors are coming next week and will verify $265,811 will be returned to the town to offset taxes. She said items which were pre-bought were necessary for the beginning of the school year.

Manifest Approval

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Michelle Dressler, to approve the June 10-30, 2026 manifest in the amount of $1,183,717.36, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Anthony Piascik, to approve the July 1-31, 2026 manifest in the amount of $1,472,788.97, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Anthony Piascik, to approve the July 1-August 17, 2026 manifest in the amount of $372,569.68, and the motion carried unanimously.

Expenditure Report

An expenditure report was not provided.

PERSONNEL

Ratification of Superintendent's Nomination

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Anthony Piascik, to approve the Superintendent's nomination of Melissa Gallagher, and the motion carried unanimously.

Co-Curricular/Athletic Assignments

Discussion ensued relative to Athletic and Co-Curricular stipends. Bill Rearick said Rebecca Noe and her team will create a rubric so the stipend amounts are not arbitrary.

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Anthony Piascik, to approve the Athletic and Co-Curricular assignments as amended, and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

No participation

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Adrian Newton, seconded by Michelle Gilbert, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m., and the motion carried unanimously.

The Auburn School Board's next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on September 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Auburn Village School Media Center. There will be a building tour prior to the start of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted.

Rebecca SJ McCarthy
School Board Recording Secretary