

**CANDIA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026
HENRY W. MOORE SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**

These minutes have been approved.

Board Chair, Stephanie Helmig opened the meeting at 6:02 p.m. Those in attendance were Board members, Dana Buckley, Merideth Wilson and Heather Tremblay. Also in attendance was Principal Becky Wing, Director of Student Services Stacey Eaton, Superintendent William (Bill) Rearick, Assistant Superintendent, and Business Administrator, Cindy Bourgeault.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Becky Wing introduced second grader Carson Hanak, who led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROOF OF POSTING

Bill Rearick provided proof of posting.

School District Moderator, Clark Thyng and School District Clerk, Jennifer Maurice were in attendance to review the Warrant Articles with the Board. Stephanie Helmig will move each article, Mark Chalbeck will second. Considerable discussion ensued relative to a citizen's petition warrant article. When asked if it was legal, Bill Rearick stated that a copy was sent to the school district's attorney for their review. He said the attorney found a few items that needed to be corrected for accuracy and clarification, such as the RSA referenced, that it was addressed to the Board of Selectmen (not the School Board), and that it required only a majority vote (per the correct RSA, it would need a 3/5 vote). The petitioner was made aware, but made no attempt was made to change these items before tonight's meeting. The intent of the petition would not change either way.

Dana Buckley asked if the petition warrant article didn't get amended, would it be invalidated as it would not be in line with the law. Clark Thyng stated that as School District Moderator, he would point out these errors to the public body at the Deliberative Session. He said any legal Candia voter could motion to correct the errors at that time.

Motion by Dana Buckley to put forward the petition warrant article. Mr. Buckley withdrew is motion.

Motion by Dana Buckley, seconded by Merideth Wilson, to recommend the petition warrant article as presented. With all four present members voting no, the motion did not carry.

PINKERTON LIAISON

Pinkerton liaison to the Board Rebecca Gill was in attendance and updated the Board as to events at Pinkerton which included:

- 8th grade preview
- No school on Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Mid-terms
- Elective Information Day

MINUTES

Motion by Dana Buckley, seconded by Heather Tremblay, to approve the November 6, 2025 meeting minutes, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Heather Tremblay, seconded by Dana Buckley, to approve the non-public minutes of November 6, 2025 meeting, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Dana Buckley, seconded by Heather Tremblay, to approve the December 8, 2025 meeting minutes. With Merideth Wilson abstaining, all others in favor, the motion carried.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No participation.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATES

Bill Rearick said he and some of the SAU administrators are meeting with a possible interim Assistant Superintendent on Friday, and that a posting for a permanent position will be done in mid-February. The Candia Budget committee will have their last budget meeting on January 14, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Goals

Goals were reviewed.

LiveStream Data

Becky Wing reported that there have been zero views of School Board meetings in real time since February 2025 and there was no one viewing tonight. She said in September, October and November, there were 14, 15, and 16, respectively, after-the-fact views.

Update on Overdue Food Service Balances

Because the amount of the recent donation from Candia's Welfare Department was over \$5,000, there will be a public hearing in February for the School Board to accept that donation.

NEW BUSINESS

Barn/Patriot Plumbing

Bill Rearick said Patriot Plumbing has reported leaks in the leased barn and are willing to make repairs. They will get an estimate of the scope of work for the Board.

New Morning Contract

Bill Rearick stated that the New Morning contract expires at the end of the school year and he would like to enter into negotiations with them.

Topics for Pinkerton's Sending Town's meeting

The Board was asked for suggestions for topics for the Pinkerton Sending Town's meeting. None were noted.

FINANCIAL

Expenditure Report

The expenditure report was reviewed.

Cindy Bourgeault reported that the district received an additional \$40,000 of unanticipated special education aid (formerly Catastrophic Aid (CAT Aid)).

Manifest Approval

Motion by Stephanie Helmig, seconded by Merideth Wilson, to approve manifest in the amount of \$921,178.04, and the motion carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL

Motion by Dana Buckley, seconded by Merideth Wilson, to approve the co-curricular nomination as presented, and the motion carried unanimously.

POLICIES

Motion by Dana Buckley, seconded by Heather Tremblay, to approve the second reading of policies JLCD Administering Medication to Students, JIC Student Conduct, IJ Instructional Resources and Instructional Resources Plan as presented, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Dana Buckley, seconded by Merideth Wilson, to eliminate policy JLIF, Receipt & Use of Sex Offender Registry, and the motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Dana Buckley, seconded by Merideth Wilson, to approve the first reading of policies JFAA Admission of Resident Students, IGAA Therapy Animals, IMAH Daily Physical Activity, JLCF Wellness, JLIA Supervision of Students, EBBB Accident Reports, ECCA Building and Grounds Security, IJO/KA School, Community, and Home Relations, JG Assignment of Students to Classes, JHC Student Release Precautions, JLC School Health Services, JLD School Guidance & Counseling, DJG Vendor Relations and DAF Administration of Federal Grants as presented, and the motion carried unanimously.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No participation.

Stephanie Helmig said that the budget committee came to their recommendation for the school district budget by adding 3% to the current year's budget. This action reduced the default amount by \$370,462.00. Dana Buckley stated that to get to this number would require the Board to make significant cuts. Bill Rearick stated that a way to get to that amount would be to cut an HMS teaching position and to eliminate high school busing. Dana Buckley said he was frustrated with the School Board having to make such large cuts, then being encouraged by budget committee members not to share what cuts would have to be made. Stephanie Helmig shared Mr. Buckley's frustration saying that charging parents for high school bus passes would only net approximately \$10,000, no where near the over \$300,000 needed to get the budget to the budget committee's recommendation.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Dana Buckley, seconded by Stephanie Helmig, to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m., and the motion carried unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled Candia School Board Meeting will be on February 5, 2026 at **5:00 p.m.** at the Henry W. Moore School Media Center, prior to the Deliberative Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca McCarthy
Recording Secretary