

Candia School Board

Thursday October 2, 2025

New Staff Meet and Greet -5:30 pm

Budget Meeting and Board Meeting Immediately Following

Henry W. Moore School Media Center

Approved Minutes

CALL TO ORDER – Stephanie Helmig, Board Chair at 5:59. Those in attendance were Assistant Principal Dorothy Franchini, Director of Student Services Stacey Eaton, Principal Becky Wing, Business Administrator Cindy Bourgeault, Assistant Superintendent Kimberly Sarde, Superintendent William Rearick, and Board members Stephanie Helmig, Merideth Wilson, Dana Buckley, Heather Tremblay, and Mark Chalbeck

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Dorothy Franchini

PROOF OF POSTING provided by Bill Rearick

PINKERTON ACADEMY LIAISON- Rebecca Gill

- Fall activities: Mack plaque (won 5-3), Senior corn roast: September 13th, Football game we won 24-10, Freshman reception (October 9th).
- Upcoming events: No school (October 13th), Sleepy Hollow play (October 17th-19th), Open house for potential students (September 14th), chorus concert (October 29th), jazz ensemble and dance concert (November 5th), professional learning day (November 10th).
- The girls soccer team is undefeated. Field hockey also had a good win of

THERAPY DOG: Discussion Led by Stacey Eaton

Pinkerton currently has three therapy dogs: Luna, Apollo, and Lucy. Therapy dogs are individually trained or certified. Luna has completed testing and one observation and is a K9 good citizen. Therapy dogs are different from service dogs, which are trained to perform specific tasks for a handler with a medical need. Therapy dogs support students with reading. Boonefield Therapy Dog Program is where the dog for Candia would come from. Research shows social-emotional benefits, increased reading and language skills,

improved attendance, positive mood, and social skill development. A University of California study showed a 12% boost in reading proficiency when kids read to dogs.

Ms. Laura Mogavero would be the handler of the dog for Candia, she is in her second year at Candia. A Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), she has experience and family support, and is involved in improving school culture. Laura runs the Lancer Lounge, which provides proactive space for students needing tier 2 and tier 3 support.

Options for funding the dog. School fundraising to offset the cost of the dog and/or training. School district taking on the cost of insurance. Owner Responsible for any remaining costs of the dog.

Next steps for the therapy dog. Seeking approval from the board. Laura would be the handler. Boonfield Labs would help identify the best dog. Determine funding support or fundraising.

Dana Buckley made a motion to authorize fundraising to offset the cost of purchasing the dog, with the owner covering the difference. The district would provide the liability insurance.

Merideth Wilson asked what was the rationale for having a therapy dog. Stacey Eaton responded with: Research shows that dogs in schools can motivate kids to come to school and improve staff morale. Dogs can support positive behavior and create excitement. Luna's handler shared an experience where a dog helped de-escalate a student in the hallway.

Dana Buckley called the motion to approve funding for annual liability insurance and authorize staff to fundraise for the dog. The dog owner will cover all other costs, not the school district.

Heather Tremblay seconded the motion. Four voted in the affirmative. One voted not. The motion passed.

MINUTES

Motion by Dana Buckley, seconded by Mark Chalbeck to approve the September 4, 2025 meeting minutes and four voted yes, one abstained.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No participation

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

School Care reported that our Premium will go up 16%. But we believe that we should be able to cover it without having to raise it next year due to favorability with special ed tuition.

Moved the meeting on Oct 23rd to Oct 30 so some board can go to the Pinkerton Board meeting instead.

REPORTS

Stephanie Helmig: Thanked Mrs. Maurice for her work at the Deerfield fair. Did we get a ribbon for our school at the Deerfield fair?

Only two sign-ups for the Child Find

NEW BUSINESS

CEA Agreement Approval Started meeting with CEA, have had 4 meetings. Proposed language changes included: clarifying maternity leave, adding a day for PD, requiring teachers to join a committee, allowing teachers to put buyout money towards insurance policy. The cost of \$380,000 over three years is a reasonable contract. The motion is needed to accept the tentative agreement.

Stephanie Helmig made motion to approve the tentative agreement to include the following figures: year 1 \$118, 860, year 2 \$129, 860.99, and year 3 \$140, 986.11 for a total increase for the next three years of \$389, 707.10. Mark Chalbeck seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

Schedule Budget Meeting

Budget committee wants it Monday Nov 24 at 7 pm and the School board said yes

Budget committee wants the school budget the Monday before to review.

Discussion over the school deliberative was tabled for next meeting.

December 4 to December 3 meeting

Bill Rearick needs the school board meeting moved to Dec 3. The board agreed.

Technology disposal

Stephanie Helmig asked if we have to pay for it? Dylan said he doesn't believe so. But someone is buying the Chromebooks from us. He is just looking for approval.

Mark Chalbeck made motion to approve the provided list for disposal. Merideth Wilson seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

FINANCIAL

Expenditure Report

The budget committee requested page numbers and percentages on teach page. On the tuition line there are three more students than projected this year.

Cindy Bourgeault talked about the SPED favorability on the second page of \$400,000 in available balance but two additional PO's were put in for psychologist and OT. It equals \$200,000 in contracted positions and will show up in November.

We got a rebate \$32,500 from Eversource and will go in as revenue.

Manifest Approval

Motion made by Merideth Wilson and second by Dana Buckley to approve the September 5 through October 2 in the amount of \$1,899,176.04. All voted in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

PERSONNEL

Retirement: Stephanie Helmig made a motion to regretfully accept the retirement of Juliette Tourville. Mark Chalbeck seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Stephanie Helmig made a motion to accept athletic nominations as written. Mark Chalbeck seconded the motion and all voted in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

POLICIES

Motion by Dana Buckley and seconded by Heather Trembaly to approve the second reading of polices JICJ Communication Devices, AB New Hampshire Parental Bill of Rights, EEBB Private Use of Vehicles to Transport Students as presented. All voted in favor and the motion carried unanimously.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No participation

INFORMATIONAL/UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Need to set the dates for the deliberative

Review the budget

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Heather Tremblay and seconded by Dana Buckley to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 and the motion carried unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled Candia School Board Meeting will be on Thursday November 6, 2025 at 6:00 pm at the Henry W Moore School Media Center.

There will be an SAU Board Meeting on October 30, 2025 at 6:30 at the Henry W Moore School.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Maurice