

**CANDIA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025  
HENRY W. MOORE SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**

**These minutes have been approved.**

Board Chair, Stephanie Helmig opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Those in attendance were Board members, Dana Buckley, Mark Chalbeck and Heather Tremblay. Also in attendance was Principal Becky Wing and School Superintendent William (Bill) Rearick.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Stephanie Helmig led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PROOF OF POSTING**

Bill Rearick provided proof of posting.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

No participation.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**2026/2027 Budget**

Bill Rearick stated the reason for this meeting was for the Board to vote on the operating budget before it is presented to the budget committee later this week. He said Becky Wing was able to find a way to decrease the default budget.

Motion by Stephanie Helmig, seconded by Dana Buckley, to accept the reductions of the default budget by \$12,147.00, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Warrant Articles**

Motion by Stephanie Helmig, seconded by Mark Chalbeck, to recommend the budget committee's operational budget of \$11,446,868.95. With a vote of 0-Yes, and 4-No, the motion did not carry.

Stephanie Helmig stated that the Board received a petition warrant article from William Saffie 'To adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-E, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or Budget Committee) shall not submit a recommended school budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes for the School Budget based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than 3%. (3/5 (handwritten)) Majority vote required. By Citizen petition'.

Stephanie said the Board can't legally accept it as it is, as the validity of the signatures being those of registered Candia voters has not been checked yet by the Supervisors of the Checklist. A copy of the petition was emailed to the Town Clerk, and Stephanie Helmig will bring the original to the Town Hall tomorrow. Mark Chalbeck asked who the document was addressed to, to which Stephanie said it was to the Board of Selectmen. Mark was perplexed as to why it was given to the School Board and not the Select Board by a budget committee member. Dana Buckley asked if this was for one year. The answer was unclear. Stephanie also said that the School District returned over \$200,000 to the town to offset the tax bill, but was disheartened to hear that the town did not do the same with any of their fund balance.

**FINANCIAL**

**Manifest Approval**

Motion by Mark Chalbeck, seconded by Dana Buckley, to approve manifest in the amount of \$395,351.22, and the motion carried unanimously.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Jason Guston of Crowley Road asked for clarification on the default budget, to which Bill Rearick stated the default is to meet any legal and contractual obligations such as, but not limited to, salaries, benefits, contracts, busing, and special education. He said the teacher contract goes into the default, and that this year, that contract is up for renewal for another three years.

Stephanie Helmig stated that to get to the deducted amount given to the Board by the budget committee, high school buses would have to be cut as would a number of teaching positions at the Moore School.

Mr. Guston then asked how losing Title II funding would affect the HMS, to which Bill Rearick stated it would only affect professional development, and that Candia only received \$16,000 from Title IV.

Bill Rearick reported that at the last Pinkerton meeting, discussion on the start time was reintroduced. It is the consensus of the Board to not consider changing the school start time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Dana Buckley, seconded by Heather Tremblay, to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m., and the motion carried unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled Candia School Board Meeting will be on January 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Henry W. Moore School Media Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca McCarthy  
Recording Secretary