

## **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Aurora City Schools Board of Education of September 27, 2021**

### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

All Board members were present.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Kohanski made the following statement:

“I thought it would be worthwhile to explain the Board's motivation behind moving the September meeting to the Aurora Inn. We made this decision to avoid having an unfortunate incident similar to those that have occurred in Nordonia, Cuyahoga Falls, and Barberton where Board meetings either had to be adjourned on the advice of law enforcement, have citizens removed by law officers, or moved hastily into a school parking lot. We thought we could avoid this situation by having our meeting in the outdoor event tent at the Inn. We believe this would allow the views of all taxpaying citizens to be expressed to the Board. I would stress that we still have the mask mandate in all our school buildings to protect our students. I would also explain that the \$300 fee is taken from the \$7,000 Board activity fund is a minuscule amount of the district's over \$45 million annual budget. This fund is set up annually to cover any Board travel expenses or events. I can honestly say the during my time on the Board, this is the first time I can recall any expenditure from this fund. Normally, this fund rolls over to the next fiscal year. Also, per Ohio Revised Code, these funds cannot be used for education expenditures. I would ask that you show some empathy for the difficult position Board members have been placed in due to lack of firm mandates from Federal and State governments and the existence of quarantine requirements from State and County Health Boards.”

### **21-182**

#### Recognize Excellence

#### **RESOLVED THAT**

the Aurora Board of Education is proud to recognize and congratulate the following students for being selected by Rotary International of Aurora as **Students of the Month**:

Lydia Schiopota	Aurora High School
Mason Kacmar	Aurora High School

Moved by: Mr. Sabulsky

Seconded by: Mr. Acomb

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Conner, Mr. Sabulsky, Mrs. Mehallis,  
Mr. Acomb, Mr. Kohanski

No: None: motion carried

### **Acknowledgement of Visitors and Hearing of Public**

Cara Molnar (585 E. Acadia Pointe), Dr. John St. John (455 Normandy Ct.), Jeff Budin (205 Hurd Road), Chris Waroquet (117 Eldridge), Melissa Fontanella (680 Morgan Trail) and Lindsay VanFossen (8145 Carrington Place, Chagrin Falls) all addressed the Board regarding mask wearing for the 2021 – 2022 school year.

### **21-183**

#### Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Special Meeting, of August 12, 2021 and the Regular Meeting of August 23, 2021 were approved.

Moved by: Mrs. Mehallis

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Sabulsky, Mrs. Conner, Mr. Acomb,  
Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Kohanski

No: None: motion carried

## **Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Reports**

*Dr. Milcetic provided the Board with testing data on standardized measures during the COVID year. The report centered on two national high school measures...Advanced Placement Testing and the ACT.*

*To assist with reviewing this data, 2018 would be classified as a commendable year of AP scores with almost 880 tests given and nearly an 80% passage rate. In 2019, 919 tests were taken, while the percentage passing of 75% was solid but with some room for improvement. Hopefully, that lens helps when examining the two COVID year data sets. For further background, the District provided instruction for much of the 2020 year but moved to online instruction in March with students taking ALL tests online in completely different formats than anticipated. Last year, the District had a mix of students in Plan A and Plan B, while offering the test mostly in the typical paper format with some students taking the make-up tests online (small percentage). In 2021, the number of tests (870) was definitely a positive, while the passing percentage and mean were lower than desired. Additionally, it is important to highlight the fact that 591 tests were still passed, translating to potential college credits and saved tuition cost for families. It is also important to note that the Ohio means and passing percentage of each test were almost all down as well, so it is not surprising to see lower achievement scores. Conversely, we'd like to celebrate the fact that five tested areas (Art, Biology, Chemistry, Spanish, and Calculus BC) had 100% passage, while World History was above 90% and three areas had an 8-10% increase in passage from the previous year (Macroeconomics, Spanish and English Language).*

*On a separate but related note, the Junior Class ACT scores are now available (Senior Class Profile report embargoed until 10/14) providing further pieces of the puzzle in terms of learning and achievement. We were pleased to see these levels remain steady. As a reminder, the District has been providing this college entrance test free of charge for the students as required/sponsored by the state. We would expect to see higher scores for the Senior Class, as this initial test is more of a baseline for many students prior to taking the ACT again. As you may notice, there is little cause for concern for our high school students, as our subject area and composite scores held firm or rose, while Ohio scores on this measure continue to decline.*

## **Treasurer's Report/Recommendations**

*For the month of August, revenues exceeded expenditures by \$2,649,089. This increases the general fund cash balance to \$20,393,438 after the second month of the fiscal year. For the month of August, revenues were 4.94% greater than projected while expenditures were 0.95% greater than projected.*

*On the revenue side, the second half 2020 real estate property tax settlement from Portage County along with the Portage County public utility tangible personal property tax receipts were received. The Summit County property tax receipts are expected be received in September.*

*Casino revenue in the amount of \$92,029 was received as a part of the Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid category. Last August, the District received \$41,505 in casino revenue. All Other Financing Sources includes the refund of last fiscal year's general fund expenditure of \$115,369 for Chromebooks from ESSER I funds (Fund 507).*

*On the expenditure side, all of the categories exhibited some variance but at this point there is nothing of any magnitude to be concerned with. The major cause of these variances at this stage is the timing of making payments.*

*Thus far for the fiscal year, revenues are \$314,765 greater than projected and expenditures are \$49,551 greater than projected. Overall, this results in a favorable variance of \$265,214 after the second month of the fiscal year.*

*The total cash balance for all funds is \$23,495,605.54 with the general fund having a cash balance of \$20,393,437.88. This overall cash balance is \$2,763,346.11 greater than that at the end of July which can be accounted for by:*

- *The \$2,649,089 excess of revenues over expenditures in the general fund.*
- *The \$195,504 in revenues in the bond retirement fund (Fund 002) and \$123,052 in the permanent improvement fund (Fund 003) from the Portage County real estate tax receipts.*
- *Expenditures over revenues of \$238,123 in the Federal Program Funds (500 Funds).*

*The Award of Contract for Imaging Services resolution is to award a contract to SC Strategic Solutions LLC to digitize various school records which the District is required to retain for an extended period of time.*

*The Amended Permanent Appropriation Resolution reflects necessary changes to the original permanent appropriations resolution that was passed on June 28, 2021. The first column shows the initial permanent appropriation resolution that was passed for the current fiscal year. The second column shows the additional appropriations that would be approved by this amendment while the last column shows the total approved appropriations once this resolution would be approved. The major increases in the appropriation measure are to appropriate the funds that the District is set to receive through the federal government for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund (Fund 507) and other federal grants.*

## **21-184**

### Approve Financial Statements

WHEREAS the financial statements and reports (including revenues, disbursements, and balances) for the funds herein specified have been presented to the members of the Board at least two days prior to the meeting:

General Fund	Dated: 8/31/21
Student Activity Fund	Dated: 8/31/21
Categorical Funds	Dated: 8/31/21
Investments	Dated: 8/31/21
Debts	Dated: 7/31/21

WHEREAS the members of the Board have had an opportunity to inquire about any revenue, disbursement, balance, or report;

WHEREAS the public may review such documents in the treasurer's office and the annual financial statements and reports are part of the permanent records of this school district; and

WHEREAS disbursements are prohibited by statute from exceeding the amount appropriated by the Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED under the provisions of ORC 3313.18 and ORC 3313.47, the financial statements and reports are approved as presented insofar as the disbursements are legal expenditures within the appropriated amounts

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Moved by Mr. Conner

Seconded by Mr. Kohanski

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb, Mr. Kohanski

Mrs. Conner, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: motion carried

**21-185**

Approve Amended 2021-22 Permanent Appropriations

WHEREAS it is necessary to adopt an amended appropriations measure for the fiscal year 2021-22 and

WHEREAS an accurate certificate of estimated resources has been received from the county auditor,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that under the provisions of ORC 5705.38, the amended appropriations measure as heretofore attached for the current fiscal year is hereby adopted;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this amended appropriations measure shall be prepared and distributed by the Treasurer in such form as the Auditor of State prescribes.

Moved by Mr. Kohanski

Seconded by Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Connor, Mr. Kohanski,

Mr. Sabulsky, Mrs. Mehallis,

No: None: motion carried

**21-186**

Award Contract for Imaging Services

WHEREAS, it is necessary to digitize various school records which the District is required to retain for an extended period of time, and

WHEREAS, a proposal was received from SC Strategic Solutions LLC to digitize approximately 938,490 images at a cost of \$0.08 per record along with an annual software fee of \$5,995 per year, and

WHEREAS, SC Strategic Solutions LLC will digitize the approximately 938,490 images and bill the District for the digitizing services over a five-year period at a total annual approximate cost of \$21,010.84 including the software fee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Aurora City School District that the proposal by SC Strategic Solutions LLC in the approximate cost of \$21,010.84 per year for a five-year period be accepted and the purchase authorized accordingly.

Moved by Mr. Acomb

Seconded by Mrs. Mehallis

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Connor, Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Mehallis,

Mr. Sabulsky, Mr. Kohanski

No: None: motion carried

**21-187**

Accept Gifts and Contributions (ORC 3313.36)

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education accept the following donation(s) and in so doing hereby acknowledges the positive and supportive activities of those listed:

The Elementary PTO donated \$500 to each elementary building (Leighton, Craddock and Miller) for PBIS.

Moved by Mrs. Conner

Seconded by Mrs. Mehallis

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Connor, Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Kohanski, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: motion carried

**21-188**

Accept Resignation

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education accepts the **resignation/retirement** of the following staff members and/or positions.

**Dmitri Kourennyi**  
**Supplemental**  
AHS Science Teacher

**Resignation of Science Olympiad**

Effective August 1, 2021

**Jefferey Olson**  
HMS Custodian

**Resignation effective August 26, 2021**

**Sarah Mohan**  
MES Health Instructional Aid

**Resignation effective September 17, 2021**

Moved by Mr. Kohanski

Seconded by Mrs. Conner

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Conner, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: motion carried

**21-189**

Approve Reclassification

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education approves the **reclassification of licensed staff members** as follows:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Doherty, Alison	MA+10	MA+20
Frye, Katie	MA	MA+10
Gallagher, N. Brendan	BA+20	BA+30
Makee, Lilly	BA+10	BA+20
Miley, Christine	MA+20	MA+MA
Montello, Amanda	BA+20	BA+30
Montello, Justin	MA+10	MA+20
Sferra, Jennifer	MA+10	MA+20
Smith, Mason	MA	MA+10
Tresko, Jessica	MA+10	MA+20

Moved by Mr. Kohanski

Seconded by Mrs. Conner

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Conner, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: motion carried

**21-190**

Employ Specialists for 2021-22

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education approves the employment of the **following specialist for the 2021-2022** school year pending proper licensing and contingent upon full and complete compliance with all State of Ohio and Aurora Board of Education employment eligibility criteria:

<b>Chelsie Langston</b>	Effective: September 14, 2021
LES/CES Literacy Specialist	Amount: \$29.70 per hour
	Funds: Federal Grant / General Fund

Moved by Mr. Kohanski	Seconded by Mrs. Conner
	Roll Call Vote:
	Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Conner, Mr. Sabulsky
	No: None: motion carried

**12-191**

Approve Introductory Appointment of Support Staff

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education appoints the following **support staff member** as indicated for an introductory period of 100 work days contingent upon full and complete compliance with all State of Ohio and Aurora Board of Education employment eligibility criteria:

<b>Dale Geehring</b>	Effective: September 13, 2021
Annex/Stadium/HMS	Amount: Custodian 1, EL10
	Fund: General

<b>Elizabeth Rankin</b>	Effective: August 23, 2021
MES Health Instructional Aide	Amount: H/I Aide, EL0
	Fund: General

<b>John Lebas</b>	Effective: August 23, 2021
MES Paraprofessional	Amount: Paraprofessional, EL1
	Fund: General

<b>Jessica Favitta</b>	Effective: September 14, 2021
MES Health Instructional Aide	Amount: H/I Aide, EL0
	Fund: General

Moved by Mr. Acomb	Seconded by Mrs. Conner
	Roll Call Vote:
	Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Conner, Mr. Sabulsky
	No: None: motion carried

**21-192**

Award Supplemental and Extended Time Contracts (District Personnel)

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education awards **supplemental and extended time contracts** to district personnel for the **2021-22** school year as follows, contingent upon full and complete compliance with all State of Ohio and Aurora Board of Education employment eligibility criteria, and paid from General Fund unless otherwise noted.

<b>Dmitri Kourennyi</b>	AHS Science Olympiad Co-Advisor	Amount: 3%
<b>Dmitri Kourennyi</b>	AHS Engineering Club	Amount: Hrly Intr Rate

<b>Melissa Foster</b>	AHS Z-Club	Amount: Hrly Intr Rate
<b>Kim Ellis</b>	HMS Board Game Club	Amount: Hrly Intr Rate
<b>Maggie Cooke</b>	HMS Animal Lovers Club Co Advisor	Amount: ½ of 2%
<b>Laurie Schofield-Carter</b>	HMS Animal Lovers Club Co Advisor	Amount: ½ of 2%
<b>Jessica McDermitt</b>	HMS Newspaper Club	Amount: 2%
<b>Karen Sunderhaft</b>	HMS Speech & Debate Club	Adjust Contract to: 2%

Moved by Mr. Kohanski

Seconded by Mrs. Conner

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb,  
Mrs. Conner, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: motion carried

### 21-193

#### Employ Long-Term Substitute Teachers for First Semester of 2021-22

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education will employ **the following** long-term substitute teachers for **2021-22** school year contingent upon proper certification and full and complete compliance with all State of Ohio and Aurora Board of Education employment eligibility criteria. Since it is anticipated that this assignment will be longer than sixty (60) days in duration, the Board chooses to exercise its discretion and continue the daily rate of remuneration at \$115.00 per day for the first 60 days, increasing to BA, Step 0 daily rate on the 61<sup>st</sup> day with the applicability of perquisites governed by state statute effective the 61<sup>st</sup> day.

**Megan Vlach**

**Effective:** September 7, 2021

CES 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Teacher

**Erika Bugaj**

**Effective:** September 13, 2021

MES Kindergarten Teacher

Moved by Mr. Kohanski

Seconded by Mrs. Conner

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb,  
Mrs. Conner, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: motion carried

### 21-194

#### Award Supplemental/Pupil Activity Contracts (Non-District Personnel)

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education awards **supplemental/pupil activity contracts** to non-district personnel for **2021-22** school year as follows, contingent upon full and complete compliance with all State of Ohio and Aurora Board of Education employment eligibility criteria, and paid from the General Fund unless otherwise indicated:

<b>Barry Wessels</b>	AHS Science Olympiad Co-Advisor	Amount: 1%
<b>Kasey Walters</b>	Lifeguard (HMS Swim Club)	Amount: Lifeguard Rate
<b>Chase Nessel</b>	Lifeguard (HMS Swim Club)	Amount: Lifeguard Rate

Moved by Mr. Kohanski

Seconded by Mrs. Conner

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb,  
Mrs. Conner, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: motion carried

**21-195**

Employ Support Staff Substitutes

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education approves the employment of the following in Board approved **support staff substitute positions** (bus driver, custodian/maintenance, secretary, paraprofessional, cafeteria/courier, media clerk, health/instructional assistant) for the **2021-22** school year on an as needed as assigned basis contingent upon full and complete compliance with all State of Ohio and Aurora Board of Education employment eligibility criteria.

**Endrai, Alexandria**  
**Favitta, Jessica**  
**Himmel, Magdalena**  
**Kerchenski, Jennifer**  
**Kachur, Lori**  
**Lucas, Priscilla**  
**McGovern, Cheryl**  
**Potts, Thomas**  
**Tolen, Erin**  
**Rankin, Elizabeth**  
**Rouru, Nancy**

Moved by Mr. Kohanski

Seconded by Mrs. Conner

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb,  
Mrs. Conner, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: motion carried

**21-196**

Employ Licensed Substitute Teachers for the 2021-22 School Year

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education approves the employment of licensed **substitute teachers** for the **2021-22** school year as follows, pending proper licensing and contingent upon full and complete compliance with all State of Ohio and Aurora Board of Education employment eligibility criteria:

**Substitute Contract for 2021-22:**

**Bugaj, Erika**  
**Rosengarten, Claire**  
**Favitta, Jessica**  
**Smith, Madison**  
**Massa, Dominic**  
**Keller, Amy**  
**Endrai, Alexandra**  
**Toler, Erin**  
**McGovern, Cheryl**

Moved by Mr. Kohanski

Seconded by Mrs. Conner

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb,  
Mrs. Conner, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: motion carried

**21-197**

Approve the Final Budgets for Activity Accounts for 2020-21

RESOLVED THAT



the Aurora Board of Education approve the budgets for activity accounts, as per the attached, for Aurora High School, Harmon School, Leighton Elementary School, Craddock Elementary School, and Miller Elementary School for 2020-21

Moved by Mr. Acomb

Seconded by: Mrs. Mehallis

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mr. Sabulsky, Mrs. Mehallis, Mrs. Conner, Mr. Acomb

No: None: motion carried

### **21-198**

Approve the Statements of Purpose and Budgets for Activity Accounts for 2021-22

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education approve the "Statements of Purpose" and budgets for activity accounts, as per the attached, for Aurora High School, Harmon School, Leighton Elementary School, Craddock Elementary School, and Miller Elementary School for 2021-22

Moved by Mr. Kohanski

Seconded by: Mrs. Conner

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mr. Sabulsky, Mrs. Mehallis, Mrs. Conner, Mr. Acomb

No: None: motion carried

### **21-199**

Approve Purchase of Ford Model K1Y 8-Passenger Transit Van

WHEREAS, it is necessary to purchase a new 8-passenger transit van to be utilized to transport students to various activities, and

WHEREAS, a proposal was received from Middletown Ford in the amount of \$33,100.00 for a Ford Model K1Y 8-Passenger Transit Van, and

WHEREAS, the purchase is being made through the State of Ohio Department of Administrative Services State Term Contract #RS900421, Index #GDC104.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Aurora City School District that the proposal by Middletown Ford for a Ford Model K1Y 8-Passenger Transit Van in the amount of \$33,100.00 be accepted and the purchase is authorized accordingly. Funds will be from the Permanent Improvement Fund (Fund 003).

Moved by Mr. Kohanski

Seconded by: Mrs. Conner

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Kohanski, Mr. Sabulsky, Mrs. Mehallis, Mrs. Conner, Mr. Acomb

No: None: motion carried

### **Discussion Items**

There were no discussion items.

### **Board Items**

There were no Board items.

### **21-200**

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Moved by Mrs. Mehallis

Seconded by Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Conner, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Sabulsky, Mr. Kohanski, Mr. Acomb

No: None: motion carried