

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
AUDUBON HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025
7:00 P.M.
MINUTES

- I. **Call to Order**: In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act of 1975, the Audubon Board of Education transmitted notice of the meeting, scheduled at 7:00 pm in the Audubon Junior-Senior High School Media Center to the Retrospect newspaper and the Borough Clerk and by postings on the Audubon Public School District website and at the Main and the Pine Street entrances of the Junior-Senior High School.

II. **Flag Salute**

III. **Board Election Results**

District School Election of the Audubon Public School District of Audubon Borough, in the County of Camden in the State of New Jersey was held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 pursuant to the notice given in accordance with state law.

Board Candidates:	Sara Joy Kuhlen	4,169
	Danielle Mitchell DiFrancesco	3,568
	Andrea Robinson	3,309
	Allison Cox	2,909
	Brian Burns	2,584

IV. **Administration of the Oath of Office**

Board Members Elected to Three-Year Term (3 seats):	Danielle Mitchell DiFrancesco
	Andrea Robinson
	Allison Cox

Board Member Elected to One-Year Unexpired Term (1 seat)	Sara Joy Kuhlen
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V. **Roll Call**

SY 2023-2025

<u> X </u> Ammie Davis	<u> X </u> Stephen Wilson	<u> X </u> Sara Kuhlen
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SY 2024-2026

<u> X </u> Alison Lipsky	<u> X </u> Mark Gatti	<u> X </u> Bill Wilson
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SY 2025-2027

X Danielle DiFrancesco

 X Allison Cox

 X Andrea Robinson

SY 2025 Mt. Ephraim Representative

 X Jonathan Maxson

VI. Reorganization of the Board

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 1

Motion by Mr. S. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Lipsky

1. Office of President

Motion to nominate Board President: Steven Wilson nominated Ammie Davis as Board President.

Motion to Approve Item 1: S. Wilson Second: A. Lipsky

Roll Call:

 X Ammie Davis

 X Mark Gatti

 X Bill Wilson

 X Jonathan Maxson

 X Alison Lipsky

 X Allison Cox

 X Andrea Robinson

 X Stephen Wilson

 X Sara Kuhlen

 X Danielle DiFrancesco

VOTE FOR ITEM 1

Motion approved by unanimous roll call (10-0)

The Board Secretary/Business Administrator declares Ammie Davis duly elected as the President of Audubon Board of Education, President assumes chairmanship of meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 2

Motion by Ms. Lipsky and seconded by Mr. Gatti

2. Office of Vice-President

Motion to nominate Board Vice-President: Alison Lipsky nominated Allison Cox as Board Vice President.

Motion to Approve Item 2: A. Lipsky

Second: M. Gatti

Roll Call:

 X Ammie Davis

 X Mark Gatti

 X Bill Wilson

 X Jonathan Maxson

 X Alison Lipsky

 X Allison Cox

 X Andrea Robinson

 X Stephen Wilson

 X Sara Kuhlen

 X Danielle DiFrancesco

VOTE FOR ITEM 2

Motion approved by unanimous roll call (10-0)

The Board Secretary/Business Administrator declares Allison Cox duly elected as the Vice-President of Audubon Board of Education.

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 3

Motion by Ms. Lipsky and seconded by Mr. Maxson

3. Board Meeting Dates

Motion to approve the Board meeting dates for the period of January 8, 2025 through January 7, 2026. Meetings will begin as noted with the Executive Closed Session at 6:30 PM, followed by the Action Meeting at 7:00 PM except for the Re-organization Meeting on January 7, 2026 which will start at 7:00 pm.

[2025 Board Meeting Dates](#)

Motion to Approve Item 3: A. Lipsky

Second: J. Maxson

Roll Call:

X Ammie Davis X Mark Gatti X Bill Wilson X Jonathan Maxson

X Alison Lipsky X Allison Cox X Andrea Robinson

X Stephen Wilson X Sara Kuhlen X Danielle DiFrancesco

VOTE FOR ITEM 3

Motion approved by unanimous roll call (10-0)

VII. Presentation:

School Board Ethics Training, Amy Guerin, Esq.

Board of Education Goals

Through oversight and advocacy in committee meetings, regular monthly meetings, and through a close review of Superintendent recommendations, the Board will

- ❖ continue to provide equitable access to a rigorous curriculum while focusing on improving student achievement and decreasing achievement gaps.
- ❖ work to maintain a cost-effective budget that provides for educational resources, supports a preventative maintenance program, and encourages & facilitates long-range facility improvements while remaining fiscally responsible.
- ❖ foster a safe and positive school climate and culture in order to positively impact student motivation, engagement, and achievement.

VII. GOVERNANCE:

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS 1-2

Motion by Mr. Maxson and seconded by Ms. Lipsky

1. Motion to approve Audubon Board of Education's compliance with the Ethics Act thereby certifying that:
 - i. The School Ethics Act and Code of Ethics for School Board Members have been received and discussed,
 - ii. Policies and Procedures regarding training of district Board of Education members have been adopted, and
 - iii. Each School Board of Education member acknowledges receipt of the Code of Ethics for School Board Members and has become familiar with the Code of Ethics.

Code of Ethics

2. Motion to approve Robert's Rule of Order as the basis for the conduct of all meetings of the Audubon Board of Education.

Motion to Approve items 1 through 2: J. Maxson Second: A. Lipsky

Roll Call:

X Ammie Davis X Mark Gatti X Bill Wilson X Jonathan Maxson
X Alison Lipsky X Allison Cox X Andrea Robinson
X Stephen Wilson X Sara Kuhlen X Danielle DiFrancesco

VOTE FOR ITEMS 1-2

Motion approved by unanimous roll call (10-0)

IX. OPERATIONS:

X. EDUCATION:

XI. HUMAN RESOURCES:

XII. Public Participation: (Open Discussion) - None

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest.

In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board has set aside two portions of this Board meeting for public comment on any school or school district issue that a member of the public feels may be of interest to the residents of the school district.

For the first portion, public comments are invited on matters pertaining only to the agenda for tonight's meeting. For the second portion, public comments are invited on all matters pertaining to the school district.

Participants should announce their name, address, and any group they may represent, if applicable. The Board reserves the right to limit public discussion. Public discussion of a topic will be limited to fifteen (15) minutes, and individual speakers will be limited to three (3) minutes. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard. Reference bylaws #0167 of the Audubon Public Schools Board of Education Policy Manual.

The Board uses the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to citizens. Not all issues brought to a Board meeting will be resolved at that particular meeting. Complaints stated or actions requested by the public may be taken under advisement by the Board for investigation, discussion, actions, or disposition at a later date or time. The public comments sessions are an opportunity for citizens to share their opinions and remarks with the Board; it is not a question and answer session. The Board may or may not respond to public comments at the time they are made and is under no obligation to do so.

The Board does not endorse public comments nor will the Board be held liable for comments made by members of the public. Any individuals who may be the subject of public comments, including district employees, shall retain all rights against defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

1. The next meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 6:30 pm in the Audubon Junior-Senior High School Media Center.
2. Motion by Mr. Maxson seconded by Mr. S. Wilson to adjourn meeting at approximately 8:34pm.
Motion approved by unanimous roll call (10-0)

Motion to Approve: J. Maxson Second: S. Wilson

Roll Call:

X Ammie Davis X Mark Gatti X Bill Wilson X Jonathan Maxson
X Alison Lipsky X Allison Cox X Andrea Robinson
X Stephen Wilson X Sara Kuhlen X Danielle DiFrancesco

The Audubon Board of Education reserves the right to add and/or delete motions or make changes to motions in this agenda up to the time of the meeting and during the actual meeting.

Deborah Roncace
Business Administrator/Board Secretary