

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Aurora City Schools Board of Education of April 28, 2025

Call to Order:

The meeting was held at the Conference Center 119 W. Pioneer Trail and called to order at 7:00 p.m.

All Board members were present.

Special Report/Recognitions

25-100

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**:

Liliana Tomasko Aurora High School

Masen Terrano Aurora High School

Moved by: Mr. Acomb

Seconded by: Mrs. Klich

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Schneider

No: None: Motion carried

Acknowledgement of Visitors and Hearing of Public

There was no public comment.

25-101

Approval of Minutes

RESOLVED THAT

The Aurora Board of Education approved the minutes of the Special Meetings of March 6, 2025 March 10, 2025, and Regular Meeting of March 17, 2025.

Moved by: Mrs. Mehallis

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis, Mrs. Klich,
Mr. Acomb, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent Reports

Mr. Roberto reported that the annual Fill-A-Bag Feed-A-Family community event that the schools participate in each year will take place this coming weekend. A record number of local families and individuals have been visiting local food banks this year, so now more than ever, there is a need. This is another example of the many school/community connections we have nurtured as several of our school groups, such as Interact Club & Service Learning, along with sports teams like Football & Soccer, help with this event.

Mr. Roberto also reported that we have been sharing with the community that on May 6, 2025, while traveling to the polls, they will see that the Aurora City School District has placed a 5.61 Renewal Operating Levy on the ballot. We are reminding folks that the levy has been renewed by the community six times prior to first being placed on the ballot in 1990. Even though the school district receives the same amount of money as it did in 1990, the levy actually costs a taxpayer less than it did in 1990 because there are now more houses in Aurora to spread the cost over. These funds are nonetheless important as they go towards the day-to-day operations of the school, and because this levy is a renewal, it means that it will NOT increase taxes.

Mr. Roberto updated the Board on currently discussions at the state legislature level regarding the next biennium budget and several items have the potential to affect the Aurora City Schools negatively.

House Bill 96 (Budget Bill) Potential Impact

As you know, the ACSD currently receives only 18.6% of its revenue from the state. This puts a heavy burden on our community in the form of property taxes and demonstrates why the way Ohio schools are funded has been ruled unconstitutional by the Ohio Supreme Court.

Unfortunately, the current proposal from the Ohio House of Representatives removes the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan that was designed to allow schools to be funded in line with State Constitution expectations.

In the House version of the budget, the ACSD is slated to receive an increase of \$56,000 from the state in 2025-2026, which is a 1.1% increase, and \$28,000 in 2026-2027, which equates to a 0.6% increase. Neither of these state supports comes close to keeping up with inflation.

At the same time, the House is putting a 30% carryover cap in place that limits the amount of funds public schools can have set aside for future projects and needs. Because we run such a tight budget in Aurora, we currently have a 29% carryover balance, which means we will not have funds taken away by the State for next year. However, we are projected to be over that 30% cap for the following year. This means we will have funds previously collected and approved by the community removed from the school district. This will force Aurora and other school districts to choose between cutting programs and staff or going back to the community more often to ask for financial support in the form of a school levy.

The third concern we have is that funding for public school kids, who make up close to 90% of kids in Ohio, was only increased in this Bill by \$226 million dollars while public funds set aside for universal school vouchers that will go towards 10% of Ohio students who attend private schools was increased by approximately \$500 million dollars in the House Budget.

We are making sure that our State Representative, Steve Demetriou, and State Senator, Kristina Roegner, are aware of how the changes in Columbus are impacting kids in Aurora. Earlier in the year, Paul Milcetic, Mike Hayes, and I shared many of these concerns with Representative Demetriou after he accepted our invitation to visit Aurora High, and last week I, along with a group of superintendents and treasurers from Portage County, met with Senator Roegner.

This is not the end of the budget process. Once the House approves its budget recommendations, it moves to the Senate, where more changes and recommendations will be made; following the Senate recommendations, comes the Conference Committee, where legislators from the House and Senate meet to make final decisions. The budget then goes back to the Governor for final line-item reviews and his signature. The budget would become effective July 1, 2025.

We will continue to advocate for the young people attending the Aurora City Schools in the form of letters, emails, and phone calls. But to be honest, our legislators are tired of hearing from superintendents like me, but they will listen if they hear from our families, so I have also encouraged folks in the community to consider reaching out to Representative Demetriou and Senator Roegner to share their thoughts.

Dr. Milcetic's Curriculum and Instruction report provided a summary of the testing picture in the Aurora Schools throughout the months of March, April, and May. Dr. Milcetic emphasized that we feel confident about our approach of nurturing students' roots through the lens of the competencies of our Strategic Vision aligned with state standards or expected outcomes, but it is still a large commitment in terms of time, energy, and focus. Additionally, it is a limited measure in terms of holistic student development but required nonetheless.

In March/April, our Gifted Coordinator Becky Quinn coordinated CoGAT/Iowa Testing for our 5th and then 2nd grade students to meet the gifted testing requirements in the K-2 and 3-5 grade bands. Additionally, Stacie Levey and Liz Flannery conducted OELPA testing for all of our district students who are eligible for EL Services to gauge their progress and to see if students are able to exit services. Finally, Mike Maglionico and Victor Torres collaborated with Special Education staff to conduct alternative state tests for students eligible for this assessment, which is typically less than 1%. In April, we shift gears to End of Course Testing (EOC) windows in grades 3-11 in multiple subject areas across Leighton, Harmon, and AHS. The image from ODE gives a clear visual representation of mandated testing.

As we turn the calendar to May, the focus moves to Advanced Placement Testing at Aurora High School. This year, we will be giving 1,001 tests in 27 different subject areas from May 5th - 16th with tests each day (typically a half day) but with the date varied depending on the

subject area. AHS Principal Mike Hayes and Counselor April Nenadal take the lead on coordinating this effort.

The coordination and planning involved with the testing season is immense. This process is time consuming each year with our principals, counselors, secretaries, and many other staff members involved with testing (teachers, paraeducators, etc.) Additionally, we have larger numbers of students needing accommodations, which requires extra physical spaces and staff, requiring us to utilize substitutes for support, especially for AP testing, as we need our counselors to fulfill their primary purposes vs. testing all/every day. Previously, we have added WIFI capability, along with adding extra bandwidth needed for us to hold testing, while school is in session in a district with 1:1 capability in terms of devices. Due to these adjustments and system testing in our early April OST Operational Test at Leighton, Harmon, and AHS along with use of diagnostics this year, testing itself has been smooth (except for issues on the state vendor side). Dr. Milcetic officially THANKED all of our ACSD Staff involved with the testing season for their efforts and teamwork in helping us to meet this testing obligation in a coordinated and efficient manner.

Dr. Milcetic also provided a brief refresher about graduation requirements and connection to the state report card with the EOC assessments. Students are required to score in the “competent” range in Algebra I and ELA II for graduation, must take the Geometry test for federal requirements (no impact on graduation), and then use passing scoring in Biology, US History, and US Government in order to earn seals, two of which must be earned for graduation, although more will typically be accrued in their time at AHS. We usually have roughly half of our Sophomores and Juniors in AP US History and AP US Government, meaning they do NOT take the EOC Assessments in those areas and can potentially earn Citizenship Seal in through the AP alternatives. Dr. Milcetic noted that these AP US History and AP US Government scores now impact our State Report Card as of this past year, which tends to be very positive for our Performance Index.

Michelle Nizen, Leighton Elementary School Principal, reported to the Board on the Leighton Elementary School goals for the 2024-25 school year. Leighton’s building theme is “Building Community through making Connections with parents, students and colleagues and being intentional”.

Mrs. Nizen outlined the four main ideas which are aligned to district and curriculum goals:

- Focus on the Whole Child*
- School and Community Connections*
- Ongoing Learning Communities*
- Learning as a Process*

The overall theme and goal of the Leighton Elementary School staff is “Keeping our Kids at the Center of All We Do”.

Treasurer's Report/Recommendations

For the month of March, revenues exceeded expenditures by \$4,671,854. This increases the general fund cash balance to \$23,418,852 after the ninth month of the fiscal year. For the month of March, revenues were 32.79% less than projected while expenditures were 2.87% greater than projected.

On the revenue side, the balance of the first half 2024 real estate tax receipts totaling \$7,212,853 along with the public utility tangible personal property tax receipts for 2025 totaling \$1,034,747 were received from the Portage County Auditor. The real estate tax receipts were \$4,305,296 less than projected, however, last month's tax advances were \$4,644,461 greater than projected. The real estate tax receipts and public utility tangible personal property tax receipts from the Summit County Auditor are expected sometime in April.

All Other Operating Revenue includes \$103,750 in all day kindergarten tuition for next school year along with \$33,752 in regular education tuition from non-resident students and \$35,458 in special education tuition from non-resident students, both of which were received through the state foundation payment.

On the expenditure side, Other Objects includes \$354,599 in tax collection fees from the Portage County Auditor. All of the expenditure categories continue to be within normal variances and typical timing of payments.

Thus far for the fiscal year, revenues are \$205,135 greater than projected and expenditures are \$270,174 greater than projected. Overall, this results in an unfavorable variance of \$65,038 after the ninth month of the fiscal year.

The total cash balance for all funds is \$25,816,736.55 with the general fund having a cash balance of \$23,418,852.26. This overall cash balance is \$5,251,327.10 greater than that at the end of March which can be accounted for by:

- *The \$4,671,854 excess of revenues over expenditures in the general fund.*
- *Real Estate and Tangible Personal Property Tax receipts to the Bond Retirement Fund of \$218,810 and to the Permanent Improvement Fund of \$157,392.*
- *Revenues over expenditures of \$21,037 in the Food Service Fund (Fund 006) and \$183,802 in the Athletic Department Funds (Fund 300).*

The Auditor of State independent accountants' financial report for fiscal year 2024 is presented for approval. The District received an unmodified opinion which is the best report that the District could receive and indicates that the District's financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Aurora City School District in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

The Then and Now Statement resolution is needed to make payment to LLA Therapy for special education costs incurred for which a purchase order had not been processed.

25-102

Approve Financial Statements and Reports

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: 3/31/25
Student Activity Fund	Dated: 3/31/25
Categorical Funds	Dated: 3/31/25
Investments	Dated: 3/31/25
Debts	Dated: 3/31/25

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.

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb,

Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-103

Accept Audit Report for July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

RESOLVED THAT

The Aurora Board of Education accepts the final audit report for July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 as presented

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mrs. Mehallis

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Klich,

Mr. Acomb, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-104

Approve Then and Now Statement

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education approve a then and now statement for the purchase order(s) listed below. The amount necessary to meet these obligations was then (at the time of the order or contract) and is now lawfully appropriated for such purpose and was then and is now in the treasury and free from previous encumbrances.

The Board of Education approves the issuance of a warrant in payment of the amounts due upon these contracts or orders.

<u>Purchase Order #</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
25001996	LLA Therapy	\$ 7,819.00

Moved by: Mrs. Schneider

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Sabulsky, Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich,

No: None: Motion carried

25-105

Accept Gift and Contributions (ORC 3313.26)

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education accept the following donations and in so doing hereby acknowledges the positive and supportive activities of those listed:

JAQ Café LLC donated \$100.00 towards the Gymnastic Program

J&S Packaging donated \$2500.00 to the Aurora Baseball Program

Moved by: Mr. Acomb

Seconded by: Mrs. Klich

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Klich, Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Mehallis
Mrs. Schneider, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-106

Accept Resignations

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education accepts the **resignations/retirements** of the following staff members and/or positions.

Sue Millar
Bus Driver

Retirement effective April 1, 2025
Thirty-seven years of service to the district

Mary Lombardo
Bus Driver

Retirement effective April 1, 2025
Twenty-seven years of service to the district

Lynnette Schoenman
LES Building Secretary

Resignation effective April 4, 2025
Two years of service to the district

Carla Hoover
LES Cafeteria Shrt hr

Resignation of Cafeteria position effective March 28, 2025

Mariah George
LES MD Paraeducator

Resignation of Paraeducator position effective April 2, 2025

Ryan Beaumont
HMS Assistant Principal

Resignation effect at July 31, 2025
Four years of service to the district

Lynne Lewis
AHS Paraeducator

Retirement effective May 31, 2025
Twenty-five years of service to the district

Katherine Bonnette
LES Cafeteria

Resignation effective April 15, 2025

Tim Blados
Bus Paraprofessional

Resignation of Bus Parapro position effective March 31, 2025

Shelly Sapp
LES Paraeducator

Resignation effective April 30, 2024
Seven years of service to the district

Taylor Jayson
MES Teacher

Resignation effective the end of the 2024-2025 school year
Two years of service to the district

Sherri Beresford
HMS Math/STEM

Resignation effective the end of the 2024-25 school year
Five years of service to the District

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-107

Approve Pay and Employ Long-term Substitute Teachers for 2024-25

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education agrees to employ **Isaiah Patton** as a long-term substitute physical education teacher at Harmon Middle School from **April 30, 2025-May 30, 2025** contingent upon full and complete compliance with all State of Ohio and Aurora Board of Education employment eligibility criteria. The Board chooses to establish the rate of remuneration in this specific situation to **Daily Substitute Rate (\$125.00/day) plus \$16.13/hr for any hours worked daily over 7.75.**

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education agrees to employ **Carolyn Renee Benavente** as a long-term substitute teacher at Leighton Elementary School from **March 31, 2025-May 30, 2025** contingent upon full and complete compliance with all State of Ohio and Aurora Board of Education employment eligibility criteria. The Board chooses to establish the rate of remuneration in this specific situation to **Daily Substitute Rate (\$125.00/day) plus \$16.13/hr for any hours worked daily over 7.75.**

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education agrees to employ **Daniel Collis** as a long-term substitute physical education teacher Harmon Middle School **April 28, 2025-May 30, 2025** contingent upon full and complete compliance with all State of Ohio and Aurora Board of Education employment eligibility criteria. The Board chooses to establish the rate of remuneration in this specific situation to **Daily Substitute Rate (\$125.00/day) plus \$16.13/hr for any hours worked daily over 7.75.**

RESOLVED THAT

Effective March 6, 2025 Aurora Board of Education will pay long term substitute **Sarah Filimon \$16.13/hr for any hours worked daily over 7.75.**

RESOLVED THAT

Effective March 6, 2025 Aurora Board of Education will pay long term substitute **Lei Ramos \$16.13/hr for any hours worked daily over 7.75.**

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-108

Employ Long-Term Substitute Teachers for 2024-25

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education **non-renews** the following contracts at the end of the 2024-25 school year:

Kathleen Snitzer

Christina Ezzo

Shannon Tack

Erika Wolford

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-109

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:

Mariah George 100%FTE

LES Building Secretary

Effective: April 3, 2025

Amount: Building Sect, Step 1

Fund: General

Carla Hoover 94% FTE

LES MD Paraeducator

Effective: March 31, 2025

Amount: MD Paraed, Step 1

Fund: General

Susan Bernstein 94% FTE

LES MD Paraeducator

Effective: April 3, 2025

Amount: MD Paraed, Step 1

Fund: General

Thomas Walter 50% FTE

Bus Driver

Effective: April 7, 2025

Amount: Bus Driver, Step 2

Fund: General

Katie Bonnette 50%FTE

LES Cafeteria

Effective: April 14, 2025

Amount: Shrt hr cafe, Step 3

Fund: General

Brad Lancioni 38%FTE
AHS Cafeteria

Effective: April 14, 2025
Amount: Shrt hr cafe, Step 3
Fund: General

John Lebas 25%FTE
Transportation

Effective: April 1, 2025
Amount: Bus Paraprofessional, Step 3
Fund: General

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky
No: None: Motion carried

25-110

Award Teacher Continuing Contract Status

RESOLVED THAT

in accordance with O.R.C. 3319.11 and the negotiated agreement between the Aurora City Schools Board of Education and the Aurora Education Association, the following teachers having completed all service and training requirements be granted **continuing contract status** as indicated **effective with the 2025-26 school year:**

Antol, Alicia	100%
Johnson, Jeremy	100%
Martin, Elaine	100%
Reisner, Christopher	100%

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky
No: None: Motion carried

25-111

Award Teachers One-Year Limited Contracts

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education awards **one-year limited teaching contracts** to the following, pending proper licensing, for the **2025-26** school year:

Butash, Mackenzie	100%
Catalani, Kaitlin	100%
Tuleta, Anne	100%
Kunkel, Claire	100%
Lanese, Caitlin	100%

Roche, Ashley	100%
Mt. Castle, Jillian	100%
Johannisson, Eric	100%
Quinn, Rebecca	100%
Blakey, Jamie	100%
Morrison, Karina	100%

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-112

Award Teachers Two-Year Limited Contracts 2025-26 and 2026-27

the Aurora Board of Education awards **two-year limited teaching contracts** to the following teachers, pending proper certification, having completed all training and service requirements, **effective with the 2025-26 contract year:**

Ambrosia, Lindsey	100%
Best, Tyler	100%
Brasiel, Natalie	100%
Brown, Valerie	100%
Calhoun, Cody	100%
Downing, Ross	100%
Forster, Tessa	100%
Fuentes-Gonzalez J	100%
Griffin, Rosemarie	40%
Hartman, Lilly	100%
Head, Eric	100%
Janosik, Amanda	100%
Jarowski, Kenzie E.	100%
Julien, Lindsay M	100%
Karakostas, Eleni	100%
Keenan, Jane Ann P	100%
Knapp, Andrew J	100%
Krontz, Alan	100%
Mack, Benjamin	100%
Martin, Kara	100%
Mastri, Katie	100%
Morelos, Cara B.	100%
Most, Sarah	100%
Nabring, Edwin A.	100%
Schnur, Claudia	100%
Simmons, Brooke	100%
Smerkar, Julia L	100%
Tierney, Gwenn	100%
Tirpak, Colton	100%
Van Raepenbusch, Eric	100%
Vinkler, Alessandra D	100%
Yaeger, Ranneth	100%
Yusko, Lindsay E.	100%

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-113

Take Notice of Expiration of Supplemental and Extended Time Contracts

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education takes notice that **all supplemental and extended time contracts** awarded for the 2024-25 school year **shall expire** at the end of the 2024-25 school year.

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-114

Employ Specialists for 2025-26

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education approves the employment of the **following Specialists for the 2025-26** 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:

Kathleen A. Christian 97%FTE Effective: August 11, 2025
CES Mathematics Specialist Amount: TBD
Funds: Federal Grant / General Fund

Rachel Gardner 97%FTE Effective: August 11, 2025
LES Literacy Specialist Amount: TBD
Funds: Federal Grant / General Fund

Julie E. Morris 97%FTE Effective: August 11, 2025
CES Mathematics Specialist Amount: TBD
Funds: Federal Grant / General Fund

Stephanie Lancaster 97%FTE Effective: August 11, 2025
LES Mathematics Specialist Amount: TBD
Funds: Federal Grant / General Fund

Michelle Hart 97%FTE Effective: August 11, 2025
LES Mathematics Specialist Amount: TBD
Fund: Federal Grant / General Fund

Chelsie Tackett 50%FTE Effective: August 11, 2025
LES Literacy Specialist Amount: TBD

Funds: Federal Grant / General Fund

Shannon McVay 97%FTE
AHS ARC Specialist

Effective: August 11, 2025
Amount: TBD
Funds: Federal Grant / General Fund

Christina Tartabini 37%FTE
HMS Literacy Specialist

Effective: August 11, 2025
Amount: TBD
Funds: Federal Grant / General Fund

Corrine Mack 97%FTE
HMS Mathematics Specialist

Effective: August 11, 2025
Amount: TBD
Funds: Federal Grant / General Fund

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky
No: None: Motion carried

25-115

Approve Leave of Absence Requests

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education approves the **leave of absence request** as follows:

Ivett Monastero
MES Paraeducator

Medical Leave of Absence
Effective: March 31 – April 25, 2025

Mikayla Hutchins
LES Paraeducator

Medical Leave of Absence
Effective: March 31, 2025-May 30, 2025

Chelsea Russ
HMS Building Secretary

Parental Leave of Absence
Effective for the 2025-26 school year

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky
No: None: Motion carried

25-116

Award Summer Supplemental Contracts

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education awards **summer supplemental contracts** 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.

AHS Summer School Teachers 2025: Amount: 0.001 of BA+20, Step 1 per hour

Shannon McVay	AHS Online Curriculum (for credit)
Michelle Dirda	AHS Online Curriculum (for credit)
Jessica Tresko	AHS Online Curriculum (for credit)
Heidi McKenzie	AHS Personal Finance (for credit)
Jennifer Sferra	AHS Health (for credit)

Elementary Summer School Teachers 2025: Amount: 0.001 of BA+20, Step 1 per hour

Becky Quinn	Elementary Academy – Reading & Math
Laura Arters	Elementary Academy – Reading
Jennifer Bindus	Elementary Academy – Reading
Lindsey Julien	Elementary Academy – Reading
McKenzie Butash	Elementary Academy – Reading
Jodie Roscoe	Elementary Academy – Reading
Julie Morris	Elementary Academy – Math
Valli Stauffer	Elementary Academy – Math
Kathy Christian	Elementary Academy – Math
Dana McNally	Elementary Academy – Math
Lisa Leone	Elementary Academy – Math

Special Education ESY Summer 2025: Amount: 0.001 of BA+20, Step 1 per hour

Nicole Iseman	Jillian Mt. Castle	Kaitlin Catalani
Victor Torres	Megan Halko	Ali Vinkler
Laura Arters	Claire Kunkle	Caitlin Lanese

Para-Educators ESY Summer 2025 Amount: Hourly Step Rate

Addie Schweickert	Mackenzie Ullrich	Jeannie Loferski
Kelly Rentfrow	Janice Bell	Taylor Paugh
Eileen Moran		

Assessment Team Summer 2025 Amount: 0.001 of BA+20, Step 1 per hour

Tyler Best	Erin Bradic	Megan Janzig	Caitlin Lanese
Lauren Barker	Jaime Hood		

K-Camp Summer 2025

Amount: 0.001 of BA+20, Step 1 per hour

Laurie Kidwell Ashley Verhotz

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,

Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-117

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 **2025-26** 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:

Steve VanderSchie

AHS Swimming & Diving Head Coach

Amount: 12%

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,

Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-118

Employ Event Staff Worker

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education approves the employment of the following in Board approved **event staff workers** 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.

District Employees

Kristen Lembo

Effective 3/31/2025

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,

Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-119

Employ Support Staff substitutes for the 2024-25 School Year

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, paraeducator) for the **2024-25** school year effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, 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.

Kathleen Yates
Stacia Crawford
Nicole Funk-Rogers
Audra D'Amato
Nathan Bell

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-120

Award Teachers One-Year Limited Contract

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education awards one-year limited **teaching contracts** to the following for the **2025-26** school year at the rate indicated paid from the General Fund and contingent upon proper certification and full and complete compliance with all State of Ohio and Aurora Board of Education employment eligibility criteria:

Kristen Lembo HMS Science Teacher	100% FTE	Salary: BA+20, Step 4
Melissa Eaton HMS French Teacher	40% FTE	Salary: MA+10, Step 5
Jacqueline Pawlowski District Nurse	100% FTE	Salary: BA, Step 8
Erin McElroy LES 5 th grade Teacher	100% FTE	Salary: MA, Step 5
Sarah Filimon LES Interventionist	100% FTE	Salary: BA, Step 7
Kegan Sheely AHS Science Teacher	100% FTE	Salary: BA, Step 1

Grant Heil
AHS Science Teacher

100% FTE

Salary: MA, Step 5

Katie Beaumont
HMS ELA Teacher

100% FTE

Salary: MA, Step 5

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-121

Award New Administrator Contract

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education approves the **new administrator contracts** as follows:

Ashley K. Pacholewski
AHS Principal

3-Year Limited Contract

August 1, 2025 thru July 31, 2028

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Acomb

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky, Mr. Acomb

No: None: Motion carried

25-122

Terminate Employment of Support Staff Member

WHEREAS, the Board of Education determined its intent to consider the termination of **Heather Rebecchi**, and;

WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Education have reviewed the grounds for termination.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the contract of Heather Rebecchi with the Aurora City School District be and is hereby terminated as of March 18, 2025 on the following grounds: Job Abandonment.

Moved by: Mr. Acomb

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb
Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-123

Approve New Policy DJC Bidding Requirements

Contracts for construction, furnishing, or demolition of buildings, or for any improvements or repairs which will exceed ~~\$25,000~~ **\$75,000 in calendar year 2024 and increasing by 3% per year thereafter in accordance with Section 9.17 of the Ohio Revised Code, or for the purchase (or Lease-purchase) of school buses** will be let only after bids are solicited in accordance with law. However, if the Board enters into a shared savings contract for energy conservation measures, competitive bidding is not required. The Board may also enter into an installment payment contract for the purchase and installation of energy conservation measures and competitive bidding does not need to be utilized if two-thirds of the entire Board adopts a resolution stating that competitive bidding does not apply to the project. **Pursuant to R.C. 9.48, if the Board participates in a joint purchasing program, operated by or through a national or State association of political subdivisions in which the Board is eligible for membership or through the Federal government or another political subdivision, competitive bidding is not required.**

If possible, all purchases over ~~\$10,000~~ **\$50,000** but under ~~\$50,000~~ **\$75,000** will be based on price quotations submitted by at least three vendors, **unless fewer quotations are available, except in cases of emergency or when the materials purchased are of such a nature that price negotiations would not result in savings to the District or when the item is subject to formal bid.** These quotations will be treated confidentially until the deadline for filing is past; thereafter they will be public information.

The ~~Business Manager~~ **Superintendent's Designee** will assemble the proper specifications and make the necessary arrangements for public bidding and price quotations. The Treasurer will receive the bids and price quotations, and record them. The Superintendent will make his/her recommendations to the Board of Education. Upon approval of the Board, he/she will process purchase orders to those bidders awarded contracts and notify the other bidders of the results of the bidding.

Preference for awarding of contracts or bids or purchase orders on price quotations will be based on administrative practices, board policy and Ohio Revised code. However, when a vendor's place of business or residence is within the boundaries of the Aurora City School District, their bid price will be considered the lowest if it does not exceed 5% of the lowest price submitted by a "non-Aurora" bid or quote, with a maximum allowance as per above of \$500, and the product or service is not deemed inferior.

Then and Now Certificate

If the Treasurer can certify that both at the time of the purchase and at the time of certification, sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of the respective fund, properly appropriated and free from previous encumbrance, the expenditure may be authorized. The Board may approve such payment within thirty (30) days from receipt of such certificate.

Amounts of less than \$3,000 may be paid by the Treasurer upon completion of the "then and now" certificate, provided that the expenditure is otherwise lawful.

The Board should be advised of all non-bid purchases when the amount exceeds the amount of the appropriation. The Superintendent is authorized to make emergency purchases, without prior adjustment, of those goods and/or services needed to keep the schools in operation. Such purchases shall be brought to the Board's attention at the next regular meeting.

"Blanket" Certificates

The Treasurer may issue "blanket" purchase orders (certificates) for a sum not exceeding \$5000 against any specific line item account over a period of time, not to extend beyond the end of the fiscal year in which it is issued. Only one (1) "blanket" purchase order (certificate) may be outstanding at any one (1) particular time for any one (1) particular line item appropriation.

"Super Blanket" Certificates

The Treasurer may issue "super blanket" purchase orders (certificates) for any amount for expenditures and contracts from a specific line-item appropriation account in a specified fund for most professional services, fuel, oil, food items, and any other specific recurring and reasonably predictable operating expense. Such a purchase order (certificate) shall not extend beyond the fiscal year.

Contracts for Development and Improvement of Facilities

All contemplated contracts for professional design services such as from an architect or for construction management shall be in accordance with R.C. 9.33 - 9.335, and R.C. 153.65 - 153.71 as applicable, as well as any relevant provisions of the Ohio Administrative Code.

Soliciting of Bids

The Board, by resolution, may award a bid to the lowest responsible bidder. For a bidder to be deemed responsible, the Board may request evidence from the bidder concerning:

A. the experience (type of product or service being purchased, etc.) of the bidder;

B. the financial condition;

C. the conduct and performance on previous contracts (with the District or other agencies);

D. the bidder's facilities;

E. management skills;

F. the ability to execute the contract properly;

G. a signed affidavit affirming that neither the bidder nor any subcontractor has entered into an agreement with any labor organization regarding the public Improvement project.

Awarding of Bids

The Board shall approve all contracts resulting from competitive bids prior to being awarded. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

In situations in which the Board has resolved to award a bid to the lowest responsible bidder and the low bidder does not meet the considerations specified above, the Board shall so notify the bidder, in writing, by certified mail.

Purchase of School Buses and Certain Other Motor Vehicles

The Board shall use competitive bidding to enter into an agreement for the purchase or lease-purchase of a school bus unless an exception to bidding applies. The term "school bus" includes any vehicle designed to carry more than nine (9) passengers excluding the driver. Bids shall indicate that prior to delivery the bus must comply with all applicable State laws and regulations, including the Ohio Pupil Transportation Operation and Safety Rules. No bid bonds will be required unless requested by the Board during the competitive bidding process. The Board is not required to use competitive bidding to rent or lease a school bus as long as the agreement does not include a provision for purchase of the bus.

For the purchase of motor vehicles other than school buses, the Board will follow the adopted procedures to obtain price quotations prior to purchase when applicable. Standardized purchasing procedures of the District shall be followed when purchasing a motor vehicle other than a school bus.

Lease-Purchase Agreements

Lease-purchase agreements entered into by the Board shall be in accordance with R.C. 3313.375. Such agreements shall be a series of one-year renewable lease terms totaling not more than thirty (30) years, after which time ownership is transferred to the Board if all obligations of the Board under the agreement have been satisfied.

Purchases from the State

In accordance with State law (R.C. 4115.31), the Superintendent shall, in accordance with rules of the State committee for the purchase of products and services provided by persons with severe disabilities, procure products or services at the fair market price established by the committee from a qualified nonprofit agency for persons with severe disabilities, if the product or service is on the procurement list and is available within the period required by the District notwithstanding any law requiring the purchase of products and services on a competitive bid basis.

Quantity Purchases/District Warehouse

In order to promote efficiency and economy in the operation of the District, the Board requires that the District Warehouse periodically estimate requirements for standard items or classes of items and make quantity purchases to procure the lowest cost consistent with good quality.

As required by R.C. 5705.41, no orders or contract involving the expenditure of money are to be made unless there is a certificate of the Treasurer that the amount required for the order or contract has been lawfully appropriated and is in the treasury or in the process of collection to the credit of an appropriate fund free from any previous encumbrances. This certificate shall be in the form of a purchase order.

Purchases or expenses which are not incurred for a valid Board-approved or school-related activity, are not for the benefit of the District, or do not serve a valid and proper public purpose, are strictly prohibited.

Requirements

Before the District employee places a purchase order, s/he/they shall check as to whether the proposed purchase is subject to bid, whether sufficient funds exist in the budget, and whether the material might be available elsewhere in the District. All purchase orders shall be numbered consecutively.

In the interests of economy, fairness, and efficiency in its business dealings, the Board requires that:

A. items commonly used in the various schools or units thereof, be standardized whenever consistency with educational goals can be maintained;

B. where the requisitioner has recommended a supplier, the Treasurer's department may make alternate suggestions to the requisitioner if, in his/her/their judgment, better service, delivery, economy, or utility can be achieved by changing the proposed order.

Employees may be held personally responsible for anything purchased without a properly signed purchase order or authorization.

The Board may acquire equipment as defined in law by lease, by installment payments, by entering into lease-purchase agreements, or by lease with an option to purchase, provided the contract sets forth the terms of such a purchase and the purchase complies with applicable law and Board policy.

Reverse Auctions

It is the policy of the Board to permit the use of a reverse auction to purchase services and supplies whenever it is determined that the reverse auction process will be advantageous to the District (e.g., result in a cost savings to the District). To that end, vendors may submit proposals when competing to sell services and/or supplies in an open environment via the

Internet. While the reverse auction process may be used to purchase supplies such as equipment, materials, tangible assets and insurance, the process may not be used to purchase real property or interests in real property. The process may also be used to purchase services such as the furnishing of labor, time, or effort by a person, provided such services do not involve the delivery of a specific end product other than a report, and are not being furnished in connection with an employment agreement or collective bargaining agreement and/or which are not subject to a competitive selection procedure required by law.

The Board will provide notice of the request for proposals and award contracts in accordance with the Superintendent's administrative guidelines.

Procurement-Federal Grants

The Superintendent shall maintain a procurement and contract administration system in accordance with the USDOE requirements (34 CFR 80.36) for the administration and management of Federal grants and Federally funded programs. The District shall maintain a compliance system that requires contractors to perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders. Except as otherwise noted, procurement transactions shall conform to the provisions of this policy and administrative guidelines (AG 6320A). (See Policy 6325)

Adopted August 26, 1985

Last Revised March 20, 2017

Prior Revised Dates 02/28/2000, 09/27/2004

Legal

ORC 9.314, ORC 153.01, ORC 153.12 thru 153.14, ORC 153.50 thru 153.56

ORC 3313.372, ORC 3313.373, ORC 3313.46, ORC 3319.04

2 CFR Part 200

Cross References

DJ - Purchasing

DJF - Purchasing Procedures

ECF - Energy Conservation

FA - Facilities Development Goals

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mrs. Schneider

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Klich,

Mr. Acomb, Mr. Sabulsky

No: None: Motion carried

25-124

Endorsing Observance of Staff Appreciation Week May 5-9

WHEREAS, today's educational staff molds our future citizens through their guidance, education, support and

WHEREAS, today's staff encounter students of widely differing backgrounds and abilities, and

WHEREAS, our society expects public education to provide quality education services to all children, no matter what their backgrounds or abilities, and

WHEREAS, our country's future depends, in large measure, upon the education our youth receive today, and

WHEREAS, our teaching staff spends countless hours preparing lessons, evaluating progress, counseling, and coaching students and

WHEREAS, our support staff provides necessary services such as clerical, food service, custodial and transportation, and

WHEREAS, our school district recognizes that its staff are providing quality educational services to our children.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT the week of May 5-9 2025 is Staff Appreciation Week, in this community.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED THAT the Aurora Board of Education calls on the community to join with it in personally expressing appreciation to our staff for a "job well done."

Moved by: Mrs. Schneider

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mr. Sabulsky, Mrs. Klich, Mrs. Schneider,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Mehallis

No: None: Motion carried

25-125

Released Time for Religious Instruction

The Board permits students to be released from school for religious instruction consistent with law. **The Board collaborates with a sponsoring entity of a released time for religious instruction program to identify a time to offer the course during the school day.** Absence during the school day for religious instruction is permitted, provided:

1. the student's parents or guardians submits a written request to the building principal **and consents to participation in the released time course in religious instruction;**
2. the **private sponsoring** entity providing instruction maintains attendance records and makes them available to the District; ~~and~~
3. **the sponsoring entity makes provisions for and assumes liability for the student and**
4. the student is not absent from core curriculum subject courses.

The District is not responsible for transportation to and from the place of instruction. **Transportation to and from the place of instruction, including transportation for students with disabilities, is the complete responsibility of the sponsoring entity, parent or student.** Regular classroom instruction missed as a result of a student's absence for religious instruction will not be made up and students assume responsibility for any missed schoolwork. Students are not considered absent from school while attending a released time course in religious instruction. The District does not aid, assist or enforce attendance in a religious instruction program. The District does not discriminate against students who participate in such program.

No public funds are expended and no public school personnel are involved in providing religious instruction. This policy **is not intended, and shall not be construed in any way, to associate the District with any faith**

~~or religious denomination~~ does not constitute an endorsement of any particular faith or religious denomination and shall not be interpreted as promoting, favoring or affiliating the District with any religious organization or belief system.

The Board requires the sponsoring entity to provide verification on an annual basis to the District that it has:

1. Requested the superintendent of the Bureau of Criminal Investigation to conduct a criminal records check with respect to any individual who serves as an instructor or volunteer of the sponsoring entity providing the religious instruction. If that individual does not present proof that the individual has been a resident of Ohio for the five-year period immediately prior to the date upon which the criminal records check is requested or does not provide evidence that within a five-year period the Superintendent has requested information about the individual from the FBI in a criminal records check, the sponsoring entity shall request that the Superintendent obtain information from the FBI as a part of the criminal records check for the individual.
2. Not permitted any individual to serve as an instructor or volunteer of the sponsoring entity providing the religious instruction if the individual has previously been convicted of or pleaded guilty to an offense described in Ohio Revised Code (RC) 3319.31(B)(2) or (C) or RC 3319.39(B)(1).

Legal References

U.S. Constitution Amend. I
ORC 3313.20
ORC 3313.47
ORC 3313.6022
ORC 3313.6030
ORC 3321.04

Cross References

IGAC, Teaching About Religion
JED, Student Absences and Excuses
KJA, Distribution of Materials in the Schools

NOTE: House Bill 8 (2024) modifies Ohio Revised Code 3313.6022 now requiring all boards to adopt a policy for released time for religious instruction. If a board wants to require background checks of any individual who serves as an instructor or volunteer of the sponsoring entity providing the religious instruction, language must be included in policy requiring this and defining the parameters. Districts also may choose to add language to this policy authorizing high school students to earn elective credit toward graduation through released time courses, provided statutory requirements are met when evaluating the course for credit. The decision to award credit for a released time course of religious instruction must be neutral to, and cannot involve any test for religious content or denominational affiliation. Districts should work with board counsel to implement such programs.

Districts also should review Ohio Attorney General opinion 2019-015 on released time for religious instruction, which focuses on what a school district's policy may permit or prohibit, and the implementation of these policies.

The opinion analyzes and resolves several specific questions and scenarios. Districts are cautioned to keep in mind that these scenarios and questions are fact-specific and rely on certain assumptions. As the facts change, so may the answer. Districts should work with board counsel to assure legal compliance when implementing these policies.

THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY

Legal References

U.S. Constitution Amend. I

ORC 3313.20 ORC 3313.6022, ORC 3313.6030, ORC 3321.04, ORC 3313.47

Moved by: Mr. Sabulsky

Seconded by: Mrs. Schneider

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Klich, Mr. Sabulsky, Mrs. Mehallis,
Mr. Acomb, Mrs. Schneider

No: None: Motion carried

Discussion Items

There were no discussion items

Board Items

There were no Board Items.

25-126

Adjournment

The Meeting was Adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Mr. Sabulsky

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Mrs. Klich, Mrs. Mehallis, Mr. Acomb
Mr. Sabulsky, Mrs. Schneider

No: None: Motion carried

Board President

Treasurer