Minutes of the September 28, 2026 Regular Meeting of the Aurora City Schools Board of Education

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

Mike Acomb was absent all other Board members were present.

Hearing of Public
None

26-202
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:

Grant Eaton Aurora High School

Shrika Ankati Aurora High School

Moved by: Dr. Schneider

Seconded by: Mrs. Fuller
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Fuller, Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Klich, Mrs. Mehallis
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

26-203
Approval of Minutes
RESOLVED THAT
the Aurora Board of Education approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 24, 2026.

Moved by: Mrs. Klich

Seconded by: Dr, Schneider
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Fuller, Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Klich, Mrs. Mehallis
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Reports

- **Advanced Placement (AP) and *US News & World Report* Overview**

Dr. Milcetich gave an update on the Bond issue Information Sessions. There have been approximately 30 to 40 people attending and there has been very good feedback. There will be an information meeting at Walden on Oct. 1 at 7pm.

Mike Hayes shared the annual reporting series which highlighted our historic Advanced Placement (AP) results and national standing, “Part Two” provides the ACSD Board of Education with a comprehensive analysis of student-performance-data from the 2025-2026 Ohio State Tests (OST).

Aurora’s OST outcomes offer compelling validation that our collective commitment to "The Green Standard" and the deliberate nurturing of the roots associated with our strategic vision continues to yield exceptional student achievement. At the heart of our instructional philosophy is an intentional alignment between district-wide strategic goals, Professional Learning Community (PLC) practices and classroom execution.

At the launch of each of the last two school-years, the district’s administration established clear, data-informed action steps to guide our administrative and instructional teams:

> ***"PLCs, Building Teams, and District Teams will actively embrace, model, uphold, and effectively carry-out the Aurora City School District's Strategic Vision root competencies and design specifications for learning while regularly analyzing student achievement data to strengthen learning environments, particularly in areas identified as lagging. The Aurora City School District's goal is to increase proficiency and advanced/accomplished scores on all 20 state-tested areas: by at least 1% in strong areas (above 60% Advanced/Accomplished and on-par proficiency rates last school year) and by 4% or more in areas not considered strong, while also making incremental improvement towards 'Above grade-level growth' as it relates to state-measured 'value-added' scores in all tested areas leading to the district's Performance Index (PI) remaining in the top 3% statewide***

The results from the 2025-2026 state assessment administration demonstrate that our buildings not only embraced this challenge, but executed it with remarkable passion and precision across all grade levels/subject areas.

Prior to diving in, the visual to the left depicts the last three years of OST-proficiency scores in each tested subject/grade-level and illustrates the many areas where the Aurora City School District can continue to reflect upon, reinforce and refine strategies with the goal of ongoing growth and stability.

performance Index (PI) remaining in the top 3% statewide

Test	2023-2024 (OST)	2024-2025 (OST)	2025-2026 (OST)
Leighton			
3rd ELA	84%	75%	82%
3rd Math	83%	83%	88%
4th ELA	86%	84%	82%
4th Math	89%	90%	86%
5th ELA	91%	89%	88%
5th Math	81%	82%	84%
5th Science	85%	86%	86%
Harmon			
6th ELA	87%	84%	82%
6th Math	75%	68%	78%
7th ELA	92%	95%	91%
7th Math	82%	82%	79%
8th ELA	85%	88%	91%
8th Math	88%	89%	94%
8th Science	92%	90%	92%
Algebra I	100%	100%	100%
Geometry	100%	100%	100%
AHS			
ELA 2	91%	94%	96%
Algebra I	83%	89%	86%
Geometry	82%	86%	84%
Biology	85%	90%	92%
U.S. History	92%	97%	97%
U.S. Govt	96%	94%	96%

Aurora's strategic focus this past year was rooted in identifying areas needing growth and applying targeted, research-backed instructional interventions, strategic staffing-adjustments and team-based data analysis. Moving forward, several key victories stand out as outlined below:

- **Leighton Elementary School:**
  - *3rd Grade ELA:* Benefited from targeted staffing adjustments and refined instructional design, resulting in a 7-percentage-point increase in overall proficiency (75% to 82%) and a 4-percentage-point increase in Advanced/Accelerated scores (58% to 62%).

  - *3rd Grade Math:* Realized a 5-percentage-point increase in overall proficiency (83% to 88%) and a 4-percentage-point increase in Advanced/Accelerated scores (69% to 73%).

  - *4th Grade ELA & Math:* Maintained stable overall proficiency rates (82% ELA, 86% Math), though Advanced/Accelerated scores experienced a slight drop-off. Building PLCs began addressing this area during summer planning to implement targeted enrichment strategies for the 2026–2027 school year.

- *5th Grade ELA:* Advanced/Accelerated scores jumped by 9-percentage points (79% to 88%), while overall proficiency remained strong at 88%.

- *5th Grade Math and Science:* Math Advanced/Accelerated scores increased by 11-percentage points (56% to 67%), with overall proficiency reaching 84% while science maintained a stable proficiency rate of 86%.

- **Harmon Middle School:**
  - *6th Grade Math:* Targeted focus on instructional alignment and intervention blocks yielded a 10-percentage-point increase in overall proficiency (68% to 78%) and a 14-percentage-point increase in Advanced/Accelerated scores (41% to 55%).

  - *6th Grade ELA:* Recorded a 1-percentage-point increase in Advanced/Accelerated performance.

  - *7th Grade ELA & Math:* Performance remained consistent and stable across both sub-disciplines.

  - *8th Grade Math:* Advanced/Accelerated scores rose by 19-percentage points (39% to 58%), propelling overall grade-level proficiency to 94%.

  - *8th Grade Science:* Advanced/Accelerated scores increased by 6-percentage points (71% to 77%), bringing total proficiency to 92%.

  - *8th Grade Algebra I & Geometry:* Maintained a 100% proficiency rate across enrolled middle school cohort students.

- **Aurora High School:**
  - *Freshman Biology:* Continued a multi-year upward trajectory driven by instructional refinements, posting an 8-percentage-point jump in Advanced/Accelerated scores (59% to 67%) and an overall proficiency rate of 92% (up from 85% in 2023–2024 and 90% in 2024–2025).
  - *High School Math (Algebra I & Geometry)*: Both course areas saw 3-to-4 percentage-point increases, bringing Advanced/Accelerated achievement levels to 57%.

  - *American Government:* Advanced/Accelerated scores expanded by 11-percentage points (48% to 59%), elevating overall proficiency to 96%.

  - *ELA II & U.S. History:* While showing minor fluctuations in top-tier Advanced/Accelerated percentages, both subject areas sustained exceptional overall proficiency rates of 96% and 97% respectively.

When evaluating aggregate performance across all 20 state-tested subject areas, every building across the district demonstrated strong positive trajectory relative to their 2024-2025 baselines:

Building	2025-2026 Overall Performance Trend	Key Strategic Focus Areas & Outcomes
Leighton Elementary School	+7 Percentage Points collective gain across all tested areas	Significant gains in 3rd grade foundational literacy/math and 5th grade advanced performance.
Harmon Middle School	+11 Percentage Points collective gain across all tested areas	Marked turnaround in 6th grade math and exceptional upper-grade math growth.
Aurora High School	+1 Percentage Points collective gain across all tested areas	Sustained growth in freshman science and high-level performance across core high school courses.

These building-wide metrics demonstrate that our multi-tiered support systems and collaborative PLC structures are delivering measurable value for students at every developmental stage.

While a comprehensive, itemized breakdown of all components of the State Report Card will be presented in detail during our upcoming ACSD October Board Meeting, initial district calculations confirm a few historic milestones for the Aurora City School District:

- *Five-Star Overall Rating:* The Aurora City School District earned the maximum overall rating of 5 Stars on the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce scale, a distinction reserved for only approximately 13% of the 600+ public school districts across the state. Moreover, this is the fifth year that the state has used this evaluation metric, and the Aurora City School District has earned a 5-Star designation all five years.

- *Highest PI Score in District History:* Aurora achieved a district Performance Index score of 105.4, eclipsing our previous historic record of 104.5 set during the 2024-2025 school year.

- *Statewide Ranking Context:* While our internal district goal aimed for a PI ranking within the top 3% statewide, our final 105.4 PI score placed Aurora in the top 5% statewide (95th percentile) out of all public schools and districts in Ohio (over 600 districts).
- Setting ambitious, "stretch goals" is essential to avoiding complacency. Reaching our highest PI-score in district history while securing a 5-Star rating confirms that our instructional standards remain among the very best in Ohio.

The achievements detailed in this report reflect the hard work, transparency and accountability modeled daily by our kids, colleagues and community. By continuously analyzing data within our PLCs, making targeted resource-allocations and prioritizing learner-centered instruction, the Aurora City School District maintains its commitment to academic excellence and 'The Green Standard!' We look forward to diving deeper into our full State Report Card during our October Board Meeting.

Treasure's Report

1. **General Fund Financial Report**
August represents the second month of Fiscal Year 2027. General Fund revenues totaled $3,650,667 and expenditures totaled $4,314,700 for the month, resulting in a monthly

operating deficit of approximately $664,033. The district ended August with a General Fund cash balance of $11,572,267. Year-to-date expenditures remain essentially flat compared with the prior year, while year-to-date revenues continue to reflect the timing of delayed property tax collections.

Revenues
August revenues totaled $3,650,667, which was approximately $4.49 million lower than August of the prior year. Property tax collections that were delayed in July began to be received in August; however, year-to-date revenues of $4,686,244 remain approximately $15.53 million below the prior year because of the timing of local tax collections. Despite the year-to-date timing difference, the current annual revenue estimate is only $31,353 unfavorable to forecast, indicating that the variance is primarily timing-related rather than a projected full-year shortfall.

Expenditures
August expenditures totaled $4,314,700, a decrease of approximately $59,692 compared with the prior year. Through August, General Fund expenditures totaled $9,153,802, which is $37,639 (0.4%) lower than the prior year. Current expenditure estimates are approximately $279,955 favorable to forecast. Expenditure activity remains consistent with expectations at this early point in the fiscal year. 2. Bank Reconciliation Report for August – The district's total cash balance for all funds at August 31 totaled $13,132,894.29, while the General Fund cash balance totaled $11,572,267.37. The current forecast projects a June 30, 2027 General Fund cash balance of approximately $16.37 million, about $325,000 (2.0%) above the FY2026 year-end balance. Overall, the August financial results continue to support a stable outlook for FY2027.

2. **Bank Reconciliation Report for August**
The district's total cash balance for all funds at August 31 totaled $13,132,894.29, while the General Fund cash balance totaled $11,572,267.37. The current forecast projects a June 30, 2027 General Fund cash balance of approximately $16.37 million, about $325,000 (2.0%) above the FY2026 year-end balance. Overall, the August financial results continue to support a stable outlook for FY2027.

26-204
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: 8/31/26
Student Activity Fund	Dated: 8/31/26
Categorical Funds	Dated: 8/31/26
Investments	Dated: 8/31/26
Debts	Dated: 8/31/26

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: Mrs. Fuller
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Mehallis,
Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Fuller, Mrs. Klich
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

26-205

Approve 2026-27 Permanent Appropriations and Estimated Resources

WHEREAS it is necessary to adopt an appropriations measure for the fiscal year 2026-27; 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 annual appropriations measure as heretofore attached for the current fiscal year is hereby adopted;

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

Moved by: Mrs. Fuller

Seconded by: Dr. Schneider
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Klich, Mrs. Fuller,
Mrs. Mehallis
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

26-206

Accept Gifts and Contributions

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:

George Balog donated $1850.00 to Boys' Golf

Arslanian Brothers Carpet Co. donated $500.00 to Boys' Golf

Mr. & Mrs. Wm Schoaf donated $500 to Boys' Golf

Mr. & Mr. Jim Fisher donated $750 to Boys' Golf

Multiple donations ($2100) to the Special Ed Dept. in memory of Bob Neer

Moved by: Mrs. Fuller

Seconded by: Mrs. Klich
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Klich, Mrs. Mehallis, Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Fuller
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

26-207

Award Supplemental Contracts (District/Non-District Personnel)

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education awards **supplemental contracts** to district personnel for the **2026-27** 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 noted.

Kory Rorabaugh	HMS Media Center AM/PM	Amt: Intramural Rate
Kim Ellis	HMS Media Center AM/PM	Amt: Intramural Rate
Jeff Janzig	AHS Hockey Assistant Coach	Amt: Volunteer
Brian Kennedy	AHS Wrestling Assistant Coach	Amount: 8%
Megan Watt	HMS Cross Country Assistant	Amt: Intramural Rate

Moved by: Dr. Schneider

Seconded by: Mrs. Fuller
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Fuller Mrs. Klich
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

26-208

Approve Reclassification of Licensed Staff Members

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

Name	From	To
Anderson, Caitlin	BA	BA+20
Antol, Alicia	MA	MA+20
Biro, Monica	MA+10	MA+20
Beaumont, Katie	MA	MA+10
Daniels, Shannon	MA+20	MA+MA
Filimon, Sara	BA	BA+20

Gentile, Ashley	MA	MA+20
Heil, Grant	MA	MA+10
Janosik, Amanda	MA+10	MA+20
Johnson, Jeremy	MA+20	MA+MA
Julien, Lindsay	BA+20	MA
Karakostas, Eleni	BA	MA+10
Nabring, Edwin	BA+30	MA
Oberlin, Kalee	MA	MA+10
Tirpak, Colton	MA	MA+10
Vinkler, Alessandra	BA+10	BA+30
Willams, Crystal (eff. 8/2025)	MA+10	MA+20

Moved by: Dr. Schneider

Seconded by: Mrs. Fuller
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Fuller
Mrs. Klich
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

26-209

Employ Licensed Substitute Teachers for the 2026-27 School Year

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education awards **supplemental contracts** to district personnel for the **2026-27** 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 noted.

Isaac Williams	HMS Boys Basketball Assistant Coach	Amount: 8%
Melissa Eaton	HMS Volleyball Assistant Coach	Amount: 6%
Jason Bibza	AHS Boys Soccer Assistant Coach	Amt: Volunteer
Robert Albrecht	HMS Musical Director	Amount: 6%
Josh Rakow	AHS Math Club	Amt: $19.87/hr
Christine Jones	ACSD Bus Driver Field Trip Coordinator	Amount: $3,498.04

Moved by: Dr. Schneider

Seconded by: Mrs. Fuller
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Fuller
Mrs. Klich
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

26-210

Employ Support Staff Substitutes for the 2026-27 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, health/instructional assistant) for the **2026-27** school year effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, 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.

Sara Snider

Moved by: Dr. Schneider

Seconded by: Mrs. Fuller
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Fuller
Mrs. Klich
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

26-211

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:

Traci O'Hara 94% FTE
LES MD Paraeducator

Effective: September 8, 2026
Amount: MD Paraeducator, Step 6
Fund: General

Moved by: Dr. Schneider

Seconded by: Mrs. Fuller
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Fuller
Mrs. Klich
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

26-212

Accept Resignation

RESOLVED THAT

the Aurora Board of Education accepts the **resignation** of the following staff member and/or position

Dalton Monroe
Stadium/AHS Custodian

Resignation effective September 17, 2026

Moved by: Dr. Schneider

Seconded by: Mrs. Fuller
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Fuller

Mrs. Klich
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

26-213
RESOLVED THAT
the Aurora Board of Education approves the new position and job description for Supervisor of Maintenance and Grounds

Moved by: Mrs. Fuller

Seconded by: Mrs. Mehallis
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Mrs. Fuller, Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Klich
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

26-214
The Aurora Board of Education Update the Following Board Policies
BBE, DN, EBBA, EEACC, EEF, EHA, IGD, IGDJ, JECB, JECBB, JECBD, JF, JFC, JFCF, JFCK, JHCA, JP, KKAA

Moved by: Dr. Schneider

Seconded by: Mrs. Klich
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Mrs. Klich, Mrs. Fuller
Dr. Schneider
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

Board Item -None

26-215
Adjournment at 7:44 pm

Moved by: Dr. Schneider

Seconded by: Mrs. Fuller
Roll Call Vote:
Yes: Mrs. Mehallis, Dr. Schneider, Mrs. Fuller, Mrs. Klich
Absent: Mr. Acomb
No: None: motion carried

Board President

Treasurer

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