

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**AUDUBON HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER**  
**WEDNESDAY, May 3, 2023**  
**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 this meeting, scheduled at 7:00 P.M. in the Audubon Junior-Senior High School Library 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 entrance of the Junior-Senior High School.

II. **Roll Call**

SY 2021-2023

AB Joseph Miller  
Absent

X Alison Lipsky

AB Lori Cassidy  
Absent

SY 2022-2024

X James Blumenstein

X Allison Cox

X Andrea Robinson

SY 2023-2025

X Ammie Davis

X Stephen Wilson

X Tara Sullivan-Butrica

SY 2022 Mt. Ephraim Representative

AB Nancy Schiavo  
Absent

III. **Call Meeting to Order**

IV. **Flag Salute**

V. **Presentation(s):** **Presentation of the 2023-2024 Budget – Andy Davis**

VI. **Participation:** (Agenda Items Only) - 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 Manual.

The Board uses the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to citizen. 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.

All motions are voted on by all members unless otherwise marked with a +.

**VII. OPERATIONS: Chairperson: Mrs. Cox – Committee Members: Ms. Butrica, Ms. Davis, Mr. Miller and Alternate: Mr. Wilson**

**Board of Education Goals**

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

**MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 1**

Motion by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Blumenstein

1. Motion to approve the following resolution for the Adoption of the 2023/2024 School Budget:

BE IT RESOLVED that the budget be approved for the 2023/2024 School Year using the 2023/2024 state aid figures

	<b>2023/2024 Budget</b>	<b>Audubon Borough Tax Levy</b>	<b>Audubon Park Tax Levy</b>
General Fund	27,646,809.00	13,083,774.00	327,481.00
Special Revenue Fund	3,774,522.00		
Debt Service Fund	2,417,250.00	1,682,886.00	18,314.00
Total	33,838,581.00	14,766,660.00	345,795.00

**WHEREAS**, the Audubon Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1,1 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of

these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, that the Audubon Board of Education established \$ 44,240.00 as the allotted maximum expenditures for 2022/2023 school year and has expended \$ 16,282.00 as of this date.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Audubon Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursement in accordance with N.J.A.C 6A: 23A-7.3, to a maximum expenditure of \$ 49,490.00 for the 2023-2024 school year.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Audubon Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for banked cap in accordance with N.J.A.C 6A:23A-10.1(b). The district has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority and must increase the base budget in the amount of \$ 120,197.00 for the purpose of adjustment for increase in health care costs. The district intends to complete said purposes by June 2024.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that included in the general fund appropriations, budget line 620 is a withdrawal from Capital Reserve – Excess Costs and Other Capital Projects in the amount \$ 650,000.00 for excess costs of the December 14, 2021 bond Referendum for the various improvements, alterations, renovations, upgrades and additions at Haviland Elementary School, Mansion Elementary School and Audubon Jr./Sr. High School. The total costs of the school facility project are \$ 27,810,551.00 for which \$ 27,321,835.00 was determined as the final eligible cost and within the facilities efficiency standards and the \$ 650,000.00 was determined as excess costs and represent expenditures for construction elements or projects that exceed the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the general fund appropriations include a \$ 250,000.00 withdrawal from the Emergency Reserve Account for the increase health benefits costs.

Motion to Approve Item(s) 1 through 1:  S. Wilson  Second:  J. Blumenstein

**Roll Call**

<u> X </u> Ammie Davis	<u> X </u> Stephen Wilson	<u> X </u> Tara Butrica	<u> AB </u> Nancy Schiavo Absent
<u> AB </u> Joseph Miller Absent	<u> X </u> Alison Lipsky	<u> AB </u> Lori Cassidy Absent	
<u> X </u> JamesBlumenstein	<u> X </u> Allison Cox	<u> X </u> Andrea Robinson	

**VOTE FOR ITEM 1**

Motion approved by unanimous roll call (7-0), Members Miller, Cassidy and Schiavo were absent

**VIII. Public Participation: (Open Discussion)- None**

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**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

1. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the Audubon Junior-Senior High School Media Center.
2. Motion by Mrs. Cox seconded by Ms. Lipsky to adjourn meeting at approximately 7:50pm.  
Motion approved by unanimous roll call (7-0) Members Miller, Cassidy and Schiavo were absent.

Motion to Approve:     A. Cox                          Second:     A. Lipsky    

<u>  X  </u> Ammie Davis	<u>  X  </u> Stephen Wilson	<u>  X  </u> Tara Butrica	<u>  AB  </u> Nancy Schiavo Absent
<u>  AB  </u> Joseph Miller Absent	<u>  X  </u> Alison Lipsky	<u>  AB  </u> Lori Cassidy Absent	
<u>  X  </u> JamesBlumenstein	<u>  X  </u> Allison Cox	<u>  X  </u> Andrea Robinson	

*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.*

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**Deborah Roncace**  
**Business Administrator/Board Secretary**