

Hooksett School Board

Chair's Report

February, 2023



School Deliberative Sessions

On Saturday, February 4, the Hooksett School District held its first School Deliberative Session at David R. Cawley Middle School. The second session will be Tuesday, March 14 – the Hooksett town election. This is the second year the deliberative session was held on a Saturday afternoon instead of Friday night. In addition to those town residents officially part of the event – School Board Members, School Clerk/Moderator, Budget Committee Members, the Supervisors of the Checklist, and school district administrators who live in Hooksett – a dozen residents braved the bitter cold to attend the meeting in person. The meeting was [streamed live on YouTube](#) (at the “Hooksett YouTube” channel) and is available there to be watched at your convenience. As of this writing, 110 people have watched the meeting online.

If you joined us in person or remotely, thank you!

The Deliberative Session Booklet, operating budget, relevant contracts and documents are available online at <https://hooksettschoolboard.sau15.net/> under Documents & Reports or Election Information.

In March, voters will consider seven warrant articles:

1. School district officers
 - a. Three School Board Members
 - b. School District Moderator
 - c. School District Clerk
 - d. School District Treasurer
2. School district operating budget
 - a. Proposed budget: \$38,442,000
 - b. Default budget: \$37,787,587
3. Three-year contract with Hooksett Education Association (HEA)
 - a. \$1.3 million projected cost increases for salary, retirement and taxes
4. Modification to the third year of the contract with the Hooksett Education Support Professionals Association (HESPA)
 - a. \$4.00/hour wage increase for all covered positions
 - b. \$345,482 projected cost for the 2023-2024 fiscal year for salary, retirement and taxes
5. Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund
 - a. \$75,000 from fund balance
6. Special Education Expendable Trust Fund
 - a. \$100,000 from fund balance
7. Technology Expendable Trust Fund
 - a. \$75,000 from additional taxation

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Winter 2023 Community Survey

The latest round of surveys were sent out to the community since our last meeting. If you completed the survey and provided constructive feedback, thank you for participating! Results will be discussed at our February Hooksett School Board meeting.

The survey solicited feedback on:

1. School district communication frequency
2. The bus tracking pilot program
3. Hooksett school safety
4. Trimester assessments
5. Perceived value of NWEA assessments
6. The next budget cycle's focus
7. Anything else!

Pinkerton Academy Presentation on Sleep

Pinkerton Academy's Board of Trustees hosts meetings three times a year for sending school districts, like Hooksett, plus meetings for special projects.

January's meeting presented research into sleep's impact on student health, academic performance, and safety. A large body of research into youth and adolescent development indicates long durations of sleep are crucial for healthy development into adulthood, and that the quality and timing of the sleep are equally important. Adolescents have a later natural start to their sleep schedule, and REM sleep at the end of the period is critical for brain development, consolidating learning, and regulating emotional health and risk-taking behaviors. Later high school start times correlate with lower adolescent driving accident rates.

Pinkerton Academy has the earliest start time of area High Schools, with first bell at 7:15a. Pinkerton's first bus stops in Hooksett occur before 6:00a! Pinkerton's Trustees recognize their schedule is at odds with this sleep research, and are creating a working group to evaluate later alternatives - with consideration of factors like transportation availability, family schedules, and extracurricular activities.

Stay in Touch Online

You can find the School Board online at:

<https://hooksettschoolboard.sau15.net>

<https://facebook.com/hooksett.school.board/>

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wayne Goertel', written in a cursive style.

Wayne Goertel
Hooksett School Board Chair

The mission of the Hooksett School District is to develop a community of learners who are intellectually curious, resourceful, and respectful of self and others. Academic achievement, through constantly improving standards, is the District's highest priority.