

Hooksett School Board

Chair's Report

October 2024



Next Year's School Budgets & Projects Underway

The upcoming School Board meetings on October 15, 5:00p, and October 22, 6:00p are your first opportunities to learn about the proposed operating budgets and facilities projects for 2025-26. Both events are on Tuesdays at the Cawley Middle School Media Center, also streamed online. The first meeting will provide overviews of the draft operating budget presented by School Administration, and the project proposal created by our Facilities Committee this summer. We're eager to hear your input, whether in public comment, a phone call, or via email to the Board via hsb@sau15.net.

Advocacy for School Projects at Old Home Day

Old Home Day was a drizzly day weather-wise, but attendees showed bright enthusiasm for education at our School Board booth. Our booth featured some posters highlighting maintenance project needs at Hooksett Memorial School, staffing losses last year which we'd like to restore, and a Board overview including some of the demographic charts from our annual report.



Bill Rearick and Wayne Goertel kicked off the morning session

Hooksett School Facilities



It has been two decades since the three public schools of the Hooksett School District underwent construction or major renovations.

- **Fred C. Underhill Elementary School** was constructed in 1958, last expanded in 1991, last renovated in 2006. It currently serves 448 students and 61+ staff in 52,000 sq. ft.
 - **Hooksett Memorial School** was constructed in 1962, last renovated in 2003. It currently serves 398 students and 60+ staff in 82,250 sq ft.
 - **David R. Cawley Middle School** was constructed in 2003. It currently serves 424 students and 69+ staff in 126,500 sq. ft.
- + the school district additionally utilizes contract staff

Audits of our three schools were completed in 2023, reviewing HVAC systems (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning), BMS controls (building management systems), the building envelope, windows, roof, electrical systems, fire alarm systems, domestic hot water systems, and kitchen equipment.

Some needed renovations:

- Two schools have 20 year-old roofs showing signs of water infiltration
- Boilers are 15-20 years old, are approaching service end of life, and are approx. 11% less efficient than modern units
- Two schools have issues with their building envelopes
- One school is in need of new windows
- Many ERV's (energy recovery ventilators) are 20 years old at end of service life, and could be replaced with units having dehumidification capabilities
- Two fire alarm systems are approaching recommended replacement age



Hot Water Mixing Valve & Pressure Gauges



Inefficient Boilers



Thank you for stopping by to visit with Jillian, John, Jonah, Wayne, and Superintendent Rearick! We'll be showcasing these posters at upcoming meetings and school events like the Open House events at Underhill Elementary School October 15-17.

Up the hill, supporting education with more of a "splash", was the Hooksett Education Association. They operated a dunking

Hooksett School Board



The 2024-2025 Default Budget left the district with the following staff reductions:

- > **Math instruction and data coordinator** (16 years)
 - > **ELA instruction coordinator** (3 years)
 - > **Middle School Teacher** (21 years)
 - > **Middle School Teacher** (7 years)
 - > **School Psychologist** (7 years)
- Note: We have been using consultants and grad school students.

Additional staff positions are needed in the district, yet the board is unable to accommodate within the current budget:

- > **Social worker**
- > **Additional Classroom teacher at Memorial**

These positions are vital to maintaining the effective operation of our schools. Our goal in the coming years is to restore and support these positions to provide critical services to students.

Hooksett School Board

Chair's Report

p. 2



booth, with proceeds to be donated to the Hooksett School District. We appreciate the school employees who participated, whether as dunk targets or booth operations staff.

Staff Coffee with the Board

School Board Members met with school staff before school during October 2nd and 3rd. We appreciate everyone who stopped by to talk about a variety of topics, ranging from testing, school hours, professional development, cross-grade and cross-school collaboration, wellness, staffing, materials, budgets, facilities, Chromebooks, software learning aids, and... well, you get the idea, we had some pretty robust conversations.

Stay in Touch Online

You can find the School Board online at:

<https://hooksettschoolboard.sau15.net>

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



Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Goertel".

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.