

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5 BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 24, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
6:00 pm, 25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairperson Patricia Cardozo, Christopher Browe, Matthew Giglietti, John Grabowski, Joseph Nuzzo, Dr. Jennifer Turner (arrived 6:05 p.m.)

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dr. Jennifer Byars, Theresa Lumas, Kathleen Kovalik, James Saisa, Anna Mahon, Ernest Goodwin, Kathy Burke, Dr. Marie McPadden, Dr. Richard Dellinger, Shaun DeRosa, Brian Serapiglia, Richard Bourdeau, Thomas Norton

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS PRESENT**

John Belfonti, Carla Eichler, George Howard

**1. Call to Order**

Chairperson Cardozo called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**2. Public Comment**

Comments were made by a public official and two residents.

**3. Discussion and Possible Action on Superintendent's 2020-2021 Proposed Budget**

*MOTION by Christopher Browe, Second by Matthew Giglietti, to approve the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021 in the gross amount of \$50,781,264 and the net amount of \$49,757,544, a 2.49% increase over 2019-2020 budget*

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 5 (Cardozo, Giglietti, Turner, Grabowski, Browe)*

*OPPOSED, 1 (Nuzzo)*

*MOTION CARRIED*

John Grabowski requested that it be recorded in the minutes that his approval was to meet that Amity Finance Committee requirement of forwarding a budget to the Board of Education.

**4. Adjourn**

*Chairperson Cardozo adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Lumas  
Director of Finance & Administration

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5**  
**Bethany Orange Woodbridge**  
**25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525**



---

TO: Dr. Jennifer Byars, Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Theresa Lumas, Director of Finance & Administration

DATE: February 24, 2020

RE: 2020-2021 Budget

The budget request for the 2020-2021 Budget is for \$51,427,192, a 3.79% increase. You have made budget presentations to the Boards of Finance in all three member towns. The Administration has been working with you to reduce the budget based on the feedback from the towns and the Amity Finance Committee.

The bylaws of the Amity Board of Education require the Amity Finance Committee to recommend a budget annually by March 1.

The budget may be reduced to 3.14% by cutting an additional number of items and the use of end-of-year funds (if available). Further reductions present challenges. For example, the cutting of some items has corresponding increases as the plans for curriculum and operations are affected. These include eliminating 1:1 for the 10<sup>th</sup> grade changes the textbook purchase plan, deferring maintenance on facilities may lead to emergency repairs in the future, and reducing staff will likely increase unemployment costs. There is an increasing level of risk in the proposed budget, which reflects savings from five teachers retiring, currently only one is known. The infrastructure bid results are under review and not all proposals hit the budget estimate for next year.

Attached is a range of budget increases and the town allocations changes for each scenario.

***Motions:***

**Amity Finance Committee:**

***Move to approve the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021 in the gross amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ and the net amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.***