

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
JANUARY 11, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
6:30 P.M., 100 Ohman Avenue, Orange, CT

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

John Belfonti, Patricia Cardozo, Steven DeMaio, Patrick Reed, Robyn Berke (remote),  
Shannan Carlson (remote), Paul Davis (remote), Carla Eichler (remote),  
George Howard (remote), Andrea Hubbard (remote), Sheila McCreven (remote),  
Dr. Jennifer Turner (remote)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

Christopher Browe

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT**

Alison Bowler (remote), Caroline Chen (remote)

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dr. Jennifer Byars, Theresa Lumas, Thomas Brant, Kathy Burke, Shaun DeRosa, Anna Mahon,  
Stephen Martoni, Joseph Robinson, Dr. Jason Tracy

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Belfonti called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Recited by those present

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**a. Regular Board of Education Meeting – December 14, 2020**

*MOTION by Steven DeMaio, Second by Patrick Reed, to approve minutes as submitted*  
*VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (Belfonti, Cardozo, Carlson, Davis, DeMaio, Howard, Hubbard, McCreven,*  
*Reed, Turner)*  
*ABSTAINED, 2 (Berke, Eichler)*  
*MOTION CARRIED*

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**4. RECOGNITION OF CAPSS AWARDS**

Presented by Dr. Tracy, Ms. Burke, and Ms. Mahon

**5. STUDENT REPORT**

**a. Monthly Report**

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**7. PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED  
2021-2022 BUDGET**

Presented by Dr. Byars

**8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**a. Personnel Report**

**b. Superintendent Report**

**c. COVID 19 Updates**

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

Carla Eichler reported on correspondence regarding 2021-2022 budget and the old firehouse in Woodbridge.

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**10. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**a. Committee Reports**

- 1. ACES**
- 2. Ad Hoc School Safety**
- 3. CABE**
- 4. Curriculum**
- 5. District Health and Safety**
- 6. District Technology**
  - a. Monthly Report**
- 7. Facilities**
  - a. Monthly Report**
- 8. Finance**
  - a. Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements**
  - b. Director of Finance and Administration Approved Transfers Under \$3,000**

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c. **Discussion and Possible Action on Budget Transfers of  
\$3,000 or More**

*MOTION by Patricia Cardozo, Second by Steven DeMaio, to approve the following budget transfer to cover the private outplaced tuition costs:*

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
04-12-1206-5440	Rentals	\$ 17,000	
04-12-6110-5560	Tuition – Sped Public Out	\$104,500	
04-12-6117-5560	Tuition – Reg Ed Public Out	\$ 18,207	
04-12-1206-5330	Professional & Technical Serv	\$ 2,125	
04-12-6111-5560	Tuition – Reg Ed Public Out	\$ 50,000	
04-12-6130-5561	Tuition – Sped Private Out		\$191,832

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

*MOTION by Patrick Reed, Second by Steven DeMaio, to recommend the Amity Board of Education approve the following budget transfer to cover the public transportation costs:*

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
04-12-6110-5560	Tuition – Sped Public Out	\$4,046	
04-12-2700-5512	Transportation – Public Out		\$4,046

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

*MOTION by Patrick Reed, Second by Steven DeMaio, to recommend the Amity Board of Education approve the following budget transfer to cover the professional development consulting costs:*

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
05-13-2213-5590	Other Purchased Services	\$ 9,000	
05-13-2213-5322	Instructional Program Improvement		\$9,000

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

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**9. Policy**

**a. Second Read**

- 1. Policy 6114.8 Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies**
- 2. Policy 3541.33 Special Education Students**
- 3. Policy 3542 Purpose and Facilities: Food Service**
- 4. Policy 3542.31 Free or Reduced Lunches (National School Lunch Program)**
- 5. Policy 3542.33 Food Sales Other than National School Lunch Program**
- 6. Policy 3542.43 Charging Policy**
- 7. Policy 3543.11 Printing and Duplicating Copyrighted Material**

*MOTION by Paul Davis, Second by Steven DeMaio, to vote on all Second Read policies at once: Policy 6114.8 Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies, Policy 3541.33 Special Education Students, Policy 3542 Purpose and Facilities: Food Service, Policy 3542.31 Free or Reduced Lunches (National School Lunch Program), Policy 3542.33 Food Sales Other than National School Lunch Program, Policy 3542.43 Charging Policy, and Policy 3543.11 Printing and Duplicating Copyrighted Material*  
*VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)*  
*MOTION CARRIED*

*MOTION by Patricia Cardozo, Second by Carla Eichler, to approve all Second Read policies at once: Policy 6114.8 Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies, Policy 3541.33 Special Education Students, Policy 3542 Purpose and Facilities: Food Service, Policy 3542.31 Free or Reduced Lunches (National School Lunch Program), Policy 3542.33 Food Sales Other than National School Lunch Program, Policy 3542.43 Charging Policy, and Policy 3543.11 Printing and Duplicating Copyrighted Material*  
*VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)*  
*MOTION CARRIED*

**10. Personnel**

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**11. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Vaccination schedule for staff and non-staff (ex: coaches)

**12. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA** – Due to Chairperson by January 25, 2021

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

*MOTION by Steven DeMaio, Second by Patrick Reed, to adjourn meeting*

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)*

*MOTION CARRIED*

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Pamela Pero*

Pamela Pero, Recording Secretary



# Amity Regional School District No. 5 2021-2022 Proposed Budget



Superintendent's Budget Proposal  
Jennifer P. Byars, Ed.D., Superintendent  
January 11, 2021





# Amity Regional School District

## MISSION STATEMENT

To enable every Amity student to become a life-long learner and a literate, caring, creative, and effective world citizen.

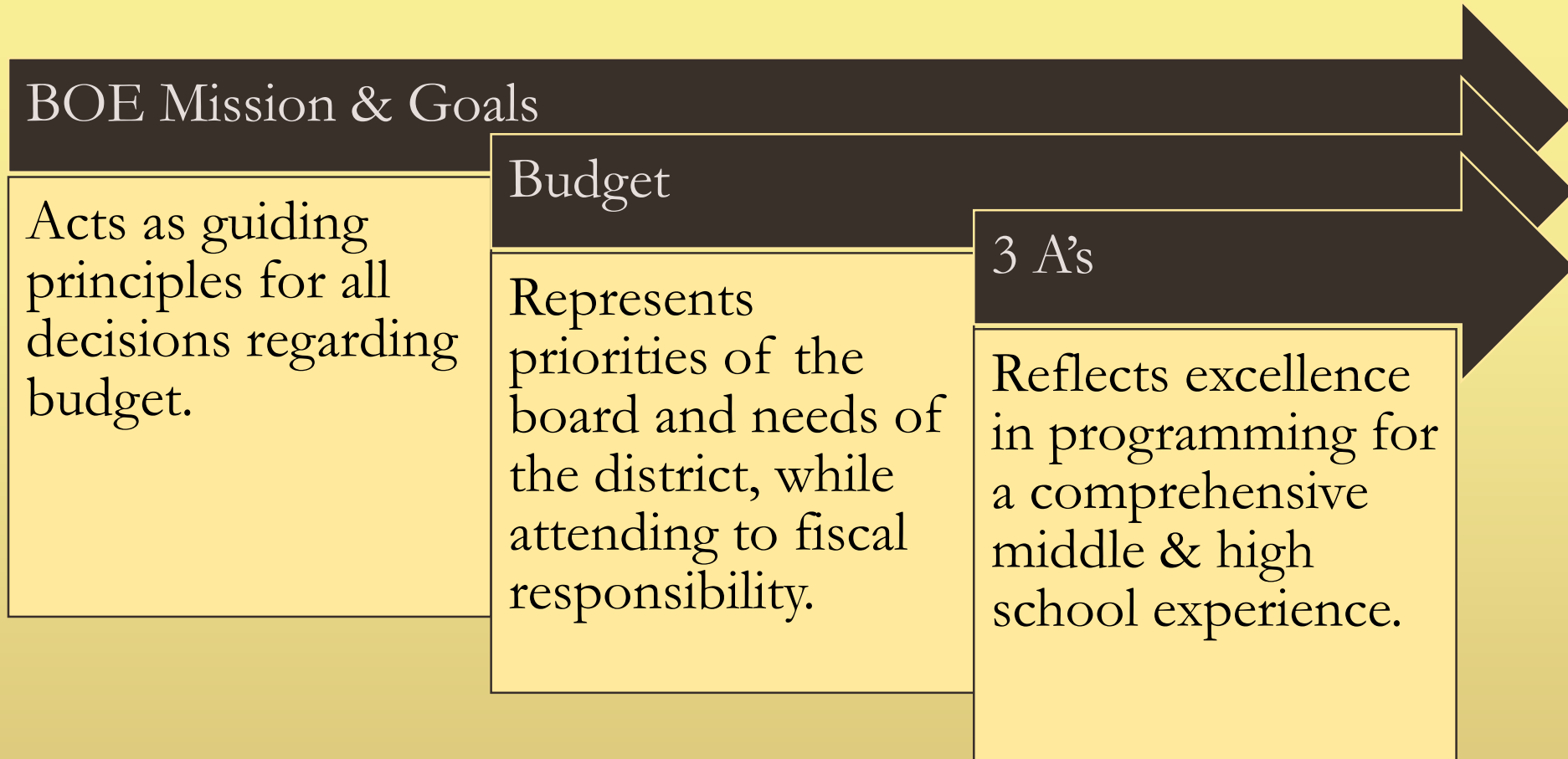
## BOARD OF EDUCATION GOALS

- Continuously improve instruction, cultivate creativity, and enhance student engagement and performance.
- Enhance the efficient and effective use of resources.
- Foster a supportive climate for students and adults.





# Budget Philosophy







# ACADEMICS



# Accolades in the Region

- Amity Regional School District
  - 1<sup>st</sup> New Haven County
  - 6<sup>th</sup> State of Connecticut
  - 14<sup>th</sup> Best Teachers in Connecticut
- Amity Regional High School
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> New Haven County
  - 18<sup>th</sup> State of Connecticut
  - Top 4<sup>0</sup>% of schools ranked in United States
- Amity Middle Schools
  - 1<sup>st</sup> (AMSB) and 2<sup>nd</sup> (AMSO) New Haven
  - 5<sup>th</sup> (AMSB) and 6<sup>th</sup> (AMSO) State of Connecticut



# Exceptional Learning Opportunities

- 25 Advanced Placement (AP) Classes
- 53 AP Sections
- 972 students enrolled in AP classes
- 3 UCONN Early College Experience (ECE) Classes
- 42 students enrolled in ECE classes
- 98 students enrolled in Science Research Project
- It's the Law
- Financial Literacy
- Architectural Drawing
- Construction I and II
- Literature and Music: A Reflection of Culture
- The Science of Food
- Applied Exercise Science
- Impacts and Issues of Science and Technology
- Multicultural Diversity in America
- 3D Design/Sculpture
- Acting and Directing for Film
- Internet Broadcast Radio
- 4 World Languages





# Exceptional Learning Opportunities

- Senior Service Learning Program (SSLP)
- Senior Interest Project (SIP)
- Yale/Southern CT State University Partnership/ Gateway Community College Partnership
- Community Service Program
- Teen Teaching Program
- Independent Study/Academic Program



# Exceptional Learning Opportunities

- 37 Actively Operating (Virtual) Student Organizations & Clubs
  - Student Founded
  - Established with a Faculty Advisor
  - Range in membership size
  - Social Activism/Political/Business
  - Community Outreach/Mental Health
  - STEM
  - Publications
  - Honor Societies
  - Arts/Literature
  - Hobbies

- Examples
  - ARHS Astronomy
  - Sports Debate
  - Science Olympiads
  - One Book One Amity
  - Digital Arts Club
  - New Beginnings
  - Creative Writing Society
  - Diversity in Action
  - PLAHD Club
  - Amity Together
  - Rythymix
  - Paws and Claws



# Career Preparation – Amity Pre-Apprenticeship Program

- 2019-2020 – Pilot Year
  - 12 students received certificates for 200 Pre-Apprenticeship Hours
  - 2020-2021 – 9 candidates
- **Career & Technical Education Courses**
  - Manufacturing 1
  - Manufacturing 2
  - **Two** of the additional CTE Electives:
  - **Math Course**
  - **Science Course**
  - **Senior Service Learning Program (SSLP)**
  - Students must complete work at an approved site related to the manufacturing field.



# College Assessment Performance

OCTOBER 2020 SCHOOL DAY SAT

Test Participants	261
Total Mean Score	1128
Evidence Based Reading and Writing	570
Mathematics	559

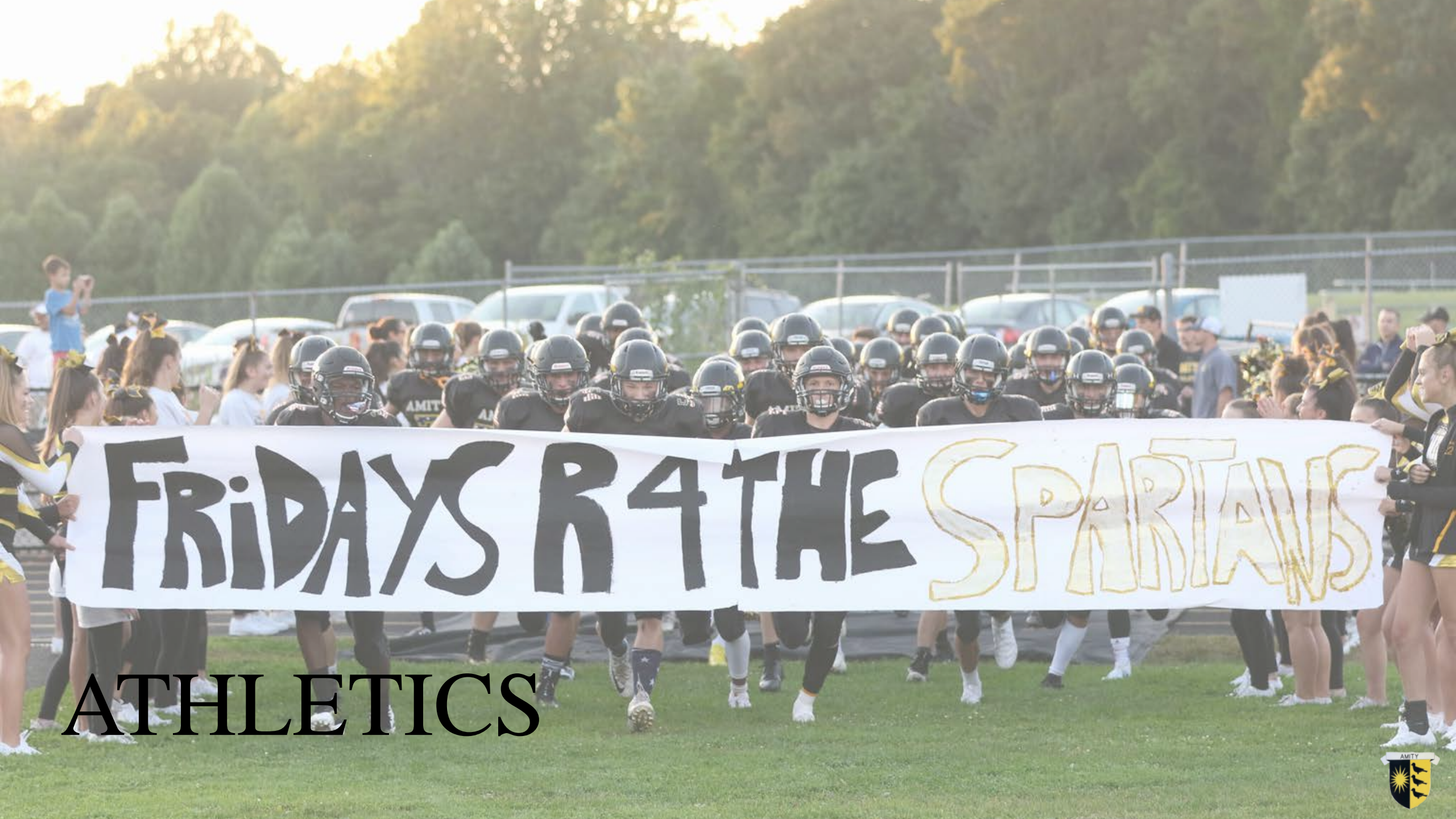




# College Entrance

- 10 National Merit Scholar Semifinalists
  - 26 National Merit Commended Scholars
  - 149 awards scholarships totaling almost \$85,000 to members of the Class of 2020
- 
- 94.7% Students meet 4 year graduation rate
  - 87 % - 4 Year Schools
  - 3% - 2 Year Schools
  - 6% - Military/Work/Gap Year
  - 4% - Undecided





ATHLETICS





# The Teams

## 2019-2020

- Shortened Winter and Cancelled Spring Season
- 6 SCC Divisional Team Champions
- 5 SCC Team Tournament Runner-Ups

## Fall 2020

- Shortened Season, No State Tournaments
- 1 SCC League Championships Runner-Ups
- 2 SCC Team Divisional Titles
- 1 SCC Divisional Runner Up



# The Athletes & Coaches



## 2019-2020

- 10 All-State Student-Athletes
- 33 All-SCC Student-Athletes
- 13 All-Area New Haven Register Athletes
- 1 SCC Player of the Year
- 4 Scholar Athletes
- 1 Academic All-State Athlete
- 1 SCC Coach of the Year

## Fall 2020

- 5 SCC Players of the Year
- 10 All-State Student-Athletes
- 24 All-SCC Student-Athletes
- 2 SCC Coaches of the Year
- 1 New Haven Register All-Area student-athletes









# Musical Arts

## MIDDLE SCHOOLS

- **Southern Regional Auditions 2020**
- 18 AMSB students audition; 15 students accepted
- 17 AMSO students audition; 25 students accepted
- **Adjudication Results** – Cancelled
- **Performance Ensemble**
- 50% of the AMSB student body is enrolled in a performance ensemble (Band/Choir/Strings)
  - [Virtual Ensemble Performances Fall 2020](#)
  - Blue-Ray Performance movie featuring 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade choirs

## HIGH SCHOOL

- **Southern Regional Auditions 2020**
- 29 students audition; 20 students accepted
- **All-State Auditions**
- 13 students audition; 1 students accepted
- **Community Performances** – Fall Music in Motion 10th year anniversary; Winter 2019 Concert Live performance; [Spring Choir Concert Virtually](#); Music in Our Community student performances



# Visual Arts



- **Individuals Scholarships/Awards**
  - iCreate Art Competition at Bruce Museum - 1st Place
  - Celebrating Art 2020 Spring Contest - High Merit and Published Artist
  - Celebrating Art 2020 Winter Contest - High Merit and Published Artist
  - CAS Awards for Visual Arts and Performing Arts
- **Memory Portraits** - 60 Memory Project portraits by Drawing students sent to Russia
- **Scholastic Art Competitions 2020**
  - 2 Gold Key – 1 in Photography, 1 in Ceramics
  - 1 Silver Key in Drawing
  - 1 Honorable Mention in Photography
- **Film Students Honors**
  - *Survivor* – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Documentary Connecticut Skills21 Expo Festival



# Performing Arts

*Dancing at Lughnasa*

*The Drowsy Chaperone*

*It's a Wonderful Life*





# Budget Process

Contractual  
Obligations

Federal & State  
Mandates

School &  
Department Requests

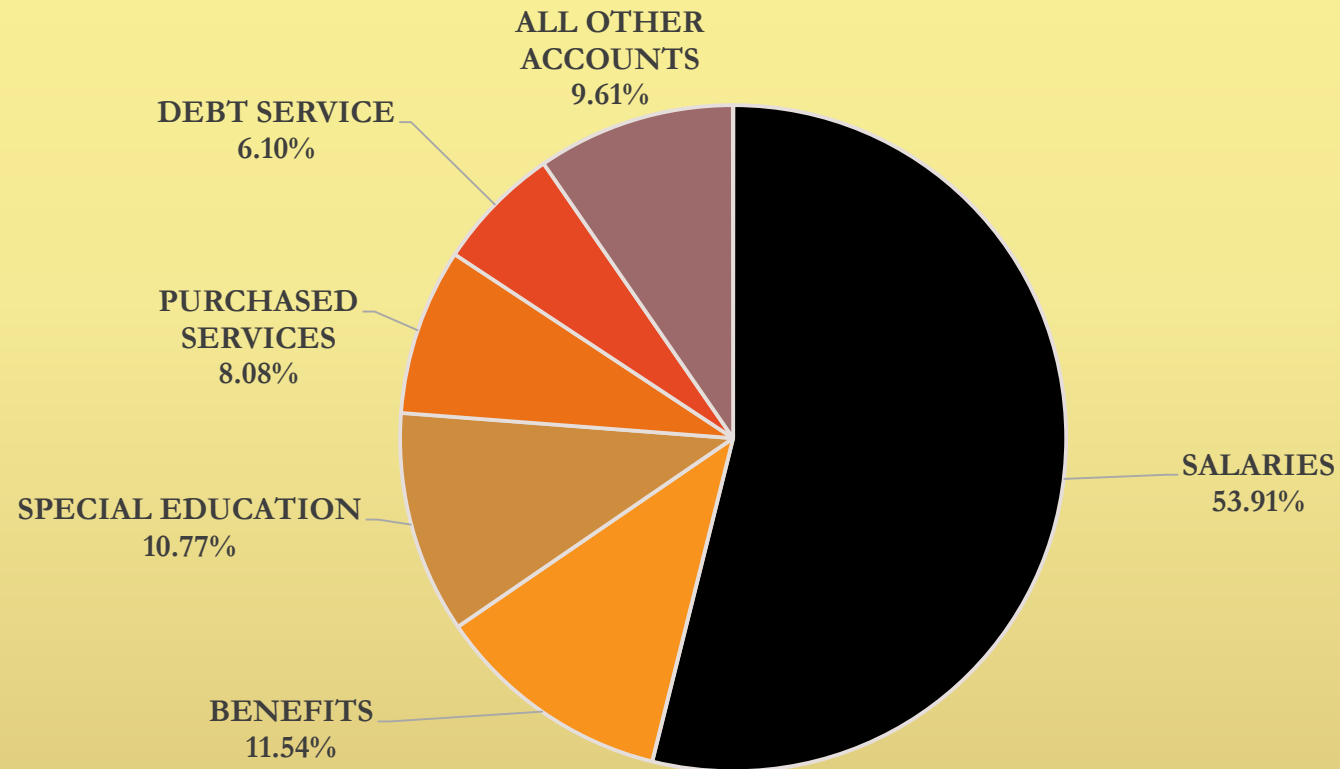
Collaborative process to: 1) find efficiencies & savings; 2) prioritize/eliminate new requests; 3) reduce/combine redundancies

Final Superintendent's Recommended Budget

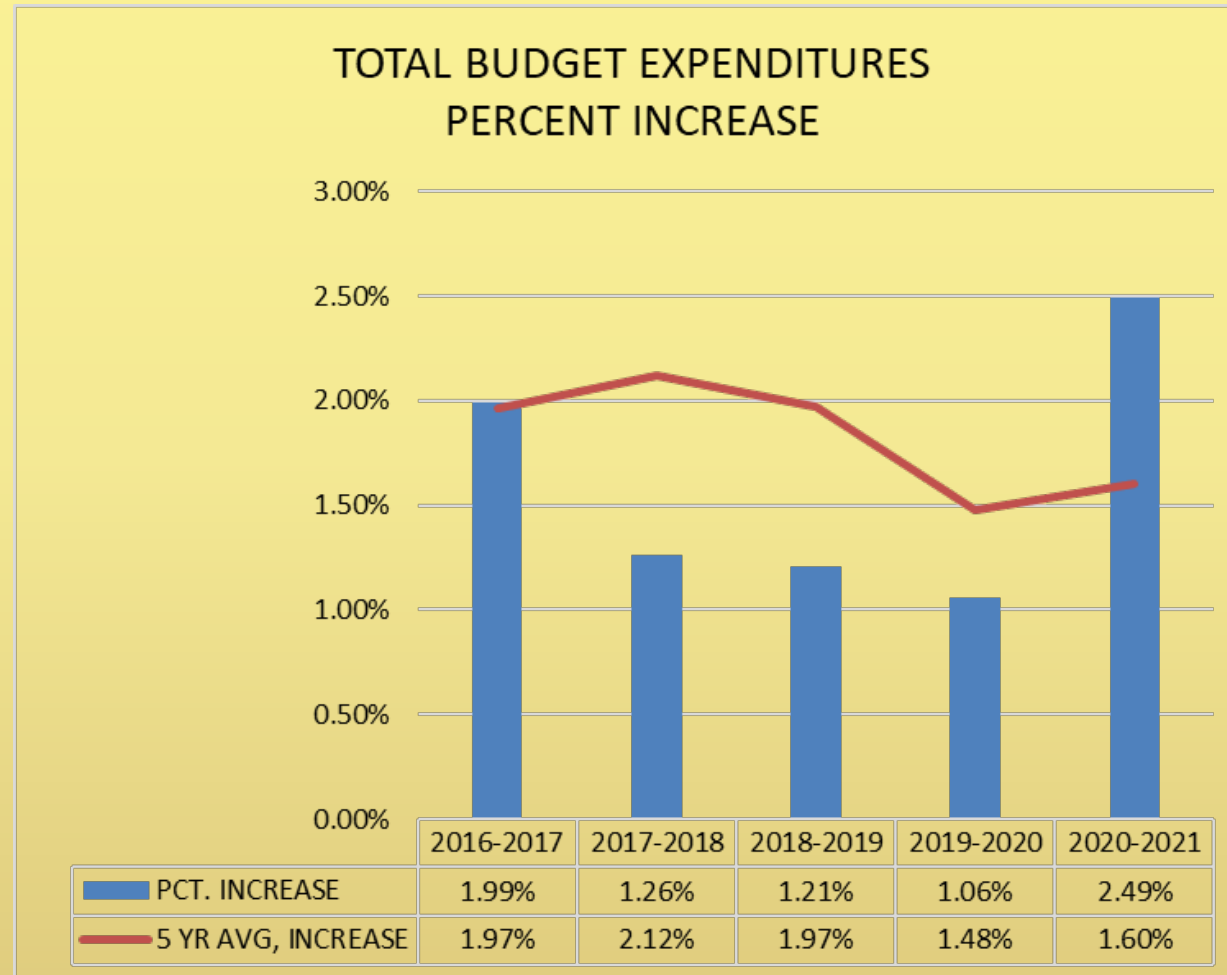
# 2020-2021 Town Allocations

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>	<u>\$ Variance</u>	<u>% Variance</u>
Bethany	\$9,000,731	\$9,250,239	\$249,508	2.77%
Orange	\$25,003,802	\$25,985,005	\$981,203	3.92%
Woodbridge	\$15,756,256	\$16,758,682	\$1,002,426	6.36%
Other Revenue	\$1,023,720	\$1,202,970	\$179,250	17.50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,784,509</b>	<b>\$53,196,896</b>	<b>\$2,412,387</b>	<b>4.75%</b>

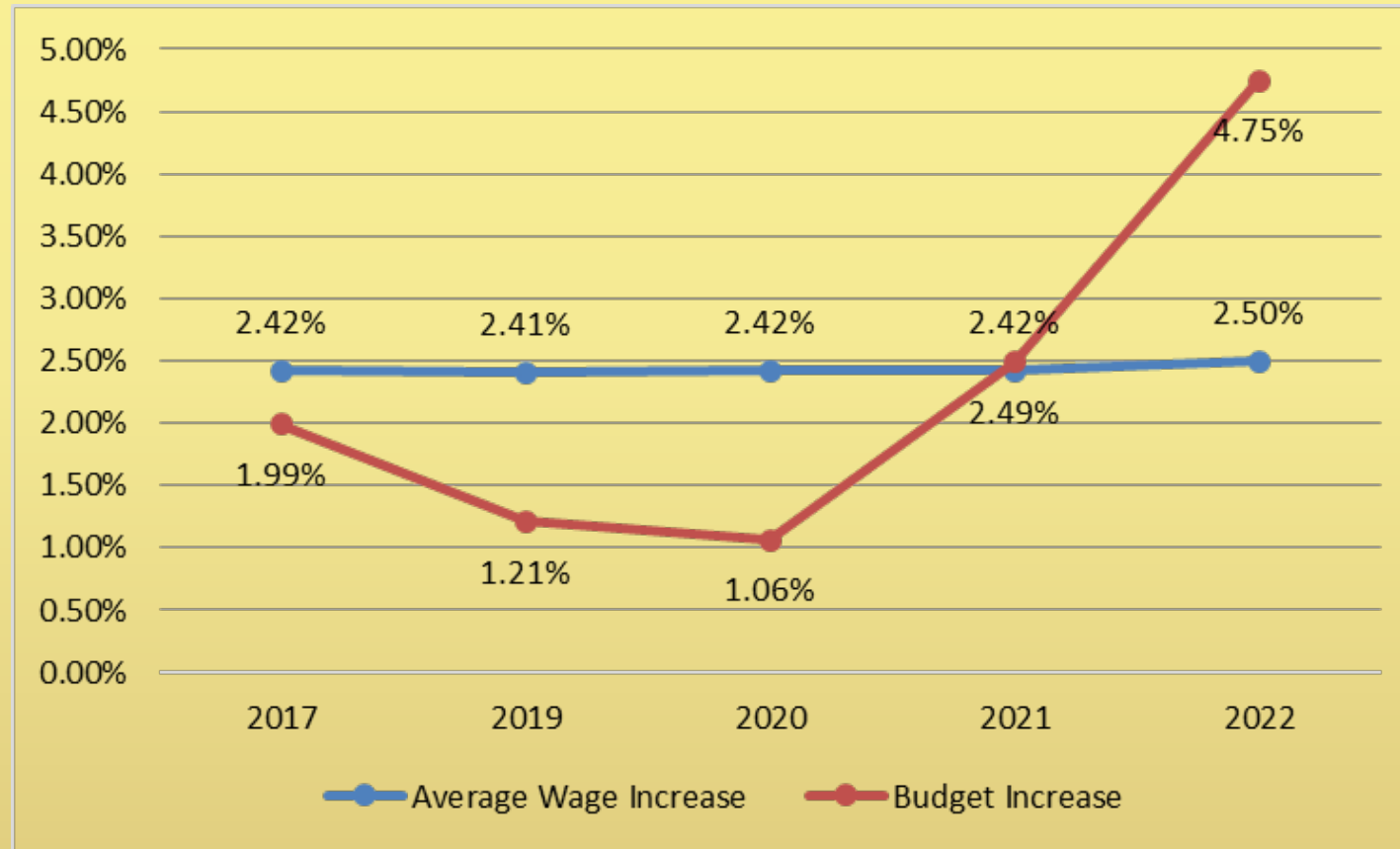
# 2021-2022 Budget



# Historical Budgets



# Contractual Increases vs. Budget Increases





# Budget Drivers

- Pupil Services
- Technology
- Textbooks
- Personnel
- Capital Plan

# Pupil Services Fiscal Impact

<u>Budget Consideration</u>	<u>Fiscal Impact</u>
A.R. vs. State Board of Education	\$535,808.65
Unanticipated Outplacements (2)	\$268,996.00
Rising Outplacement	\$117,000.00
<b>Total Fiscal Impact*</b>	<b>\$921,804.65</b>
Potential Rising Outplacements (2)	\$223,229.36
<b>Potential Total Fiscal Impact*</b>	<b>\$1,145,034.01</b>

# Pupil Services Department: New Program

1.0 Special Education Teacher for New Program

1.0 Mental Health Clinician for New Program

Cost of 3 Out of District Placements	Total Cost of In-District Program
\$343,000	\$167,400



# Technology Fiscal Impact

## One to One (1:1) Digital Learning Environment

- Devices (Grade 7 & 10)
  - Endpoint Protection
  - Peripherals
    - Docking Stations
    - Tablets
  - Repair and Maintenance

## Staff requests

- Software for Teaching in the 1:1 Environment



# Textbook Fiscal Impact

## 2020-2021 Textbooks

- Initial Budget Request - \$269,643
- Purchased with End of Year Funds - \$150,474
- Moved to FY21-22 - \$55,391
- Final Budget Request - \$63,778

## 2021-2022 Textbooks

- Current Request - \$243,902
- Textbook plan forecasted in 2021-2022 - \$240,790
- \$180,124 - Increase from FY19-20 to FY20-21

# Personnel Fiscal Impact

1.0 Special Education Teacher for New Program

1.0 Mental Health Clinician for New Program

0.4 ARHS Math Teacher

-0.45 Job Coach moved to funding by Grant



# Capital Improvement Plan

- AMSO Athletic Field Drainage (postponed from 20-21 budget)
- Protective Window Film
- Siemens Control Upgrade (postponed from 20-21 budget)
- Modular Classrooms at AMSB (postponed from 20-21 budget)
- Docking Stations for Teacher Laptops



# Debt Service

GROSS DEBT SERVICE				PREMIUM CREDIT		NET DEBT SERVICE		
<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b><u>Principal</u></b>	<b><u>Interest</u></b>	<b><u>Principal &amp; Interest</u></b>	<b><u>Principal</u></b>	<b><u>Interest</u></b>	<b><u>Principal</u></b>	<b><u>Interest</u></b>	<b><u>Principal &amp; Interest</u></b>
2021	\$ 3,665,000	\$ 843,797	\$ 4,508,797	\$ -	\$ 54,962	\$ 3,665,000	\$ 788,835	\$ 4,453,835
2022	4,195,000	839,318	5,034,318	-	\$ 580,483	4,195,000	258,835	4,453,835
2023	4,190,000	682,549	4,872,549	-	\$ 386,833	4,190,000	295,716	4,485,716
2024	3,990,000	523,986	4,513,986	-		3,990,000	523,986	4,513,986
2025	3,615,000	368,978	3,983,978	-	-	3,615,000	368,978	3,983,978
2026	2,325,000	235,850	2,560,850			2,325,000	235,850	2,560,850
2027	1,345,000	146,250	1,491,250			1,345,000	146,250	1,491,250
2028-36	3,270,000	287,400	3,557,400			3,270,000	287,400	3,557,400
	\$ 26,595,000	\$ 3,928,127	\$ 30,523,127	\$ -	\$ 1,022,277	\$ 26,595,000	\$ 2,905,850	\$ 29,500,850





# 1% to Reserve

- The **SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS** **RECOMMENDATIONS** below **MAY BE CONSIDERED** by the Amity Finance Committee and Amity Board of Education, at the latest, at the **SEPTEMBER 2020** meetings.
- **CONSIDER** appropriating up to 1% or \$495,483 of the 2019-2020 operating budget to the Capital and Nonrecurring fund for future capital items. This is the maximum amount allowed by State statute.



# Initial Budget Requests

- Initial Budget with all requests totaled \$54,225,694
  - Percent increase of 7.07%
  - Dollar increase of \$3,591,185
- Administrators' Discussion reduced requests
  - Reduced requests by \$584,022 to bring budget request to 5.92% increase
- Superintendent and Finance staff further reduced requests
  - Reduced request by \$594,776 to bring budget request to 4.75% increase
- \$1,178,798 cut from budget requests



# Reductions to Budget Request

CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Benefits - new staff requests reduced, \$150,000 savings estimated on current claims	\$ 195,217
Salaries - Reduced Curriculum Writing, partial math and fine arts positions, clerical and paraeducator support	\$ 193,279
Equipment - reduced requests for cameras, laptops, and printers, Replacement-reduced or cut requests for music instruments, lab replacements, VFD HVAC, smartboards	\$ 372,341
Improvements to Buildings & Sites- Cooling tower repair, field replacement plan, HVAC pipe insulations, concrete repairs	\$ 113,000
Instructional Program Improvement & Supplies -reduced consultants, various supply accounts	\$ 28,070
Maintenance/Custodian Supplies- reduced painting supplies, athletic signage and forms	\$ 8,650
Other Supplies- Software license reduced to 1 yr from 3, meeting refreshments reduced	\$ 99,408
Professional Technical Services - reduced number of interns, copiers and printers	\$ 65,243
Rentals - Land, Bldg, Equipment- reduced field rentals	\$ 2,394
Repairs, Maintenance & Cleaning- various accounts	\$ 13,100
Staff Travel and Dues & Fees-reduced number of conferences and entry fees	\$ 8,295
Texts, Digital Resources- Science, Music & World History books pushed out 1 year	\$ 50,100
Transportation-reduced athletics and co-curricular trips	\$ 14,864
Tuition-new rates received	\$ 14,837
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,178,798</b>



# Average Daily Membership

	<u>2020-2021</u>		<u>2021-2022</u>		<u>Change</u>
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	
Bethany	401	18.088%	393	17.791%	-0.297%
Orange	1114	50.248%	1104	49.977%	-0.271%
Woodbridge	702	31.664%	712	32.232%	+0.568%
Total	<b>2217</b>		<b>2209</b>		<b>-8</b>



# 2020-2021 Town Allocations

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<u>FY20 Return of Funds</u>
\$364,924
\$1,010,114
\$611,196



Thank you  
for  
supporting  
your Amity  
Students

