

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

*Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525*

*Dr. Jennifer P. Byars
Superintendent of Schools*

AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Monday, May 08, 2023, 6:30 pm
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Christopher Browe, Paul Davis, Carla Eichler, Sean Hartshorn, Andrea Hubbard, Christina Levere-D'Addio, Dr. Carol Oladele, Patrick Reed, Donna Schuster, Amy Tirollo, Dr. Jennifer Turner

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Shannan Carlson and Dr. K. Sudhir

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Sam Bae

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Jennifer Byars, Theresa Lumas, Frank Purcaro, Dr. Tracy, Jill LaPlante, Kathy Burke

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Davis called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Board of Education Public Hearing - April 03, 2023

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, *SCECOND* by Patrick Reed, *to approve minutes as submitted*

VOTES IN FAVOR, 7 (Browe, Eichler, Hartshorn, Hubbard, Levere-D'Addio, Dr. Oladele, Reed, Dr. Turner)

ABSTAINED, 4 (Davis, Schuster, Tirollo)

MOTION CARRIED

b. Board of Education Regular Meeting - April 03, 2023

MOTION by Patrick Reed, *SCECOND* Sean Hartshorn *to approve minutes as submitted*

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (Browe, Eichler, Hartshorn, Hubbard, Levere-D'Addio, Dr. Oladele, Reed, Dr. Turner)

ABSTAINED, 3 (Davis, Schuster, Tirollo)

MOTION CARRIED

c. Board of Education Special Meeting - Annual Meeting May 01, 2023

MOTION by Patrick Reed, *SCECOND* Sean Hartshorn *to approve minutes as submitted*

VOTES IN FAVOR, 7 (Browe, Eichler, Hartshorn, Levere-D'Addio, Reed, Tirollo, Dr. Turner)

ABSTAINED, 4 (Davis, Hubbard, Dr. Oladele, Schuster)

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MOTION CARRIED

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4. STUDENT REPORT

- a. Monthly Report

Presented by Sam Bae

5. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS

- a. CABE Student Leadership Awards – 2023

Presented by Dr. Jennifer Byars, Dr. Tracy, Mrs. Jill LaPlante, Mrs. Kathy Burke

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Orange Parent:

Asked the Board and all those present to acknowledge/celebrate Memorial Day and ask for a ten second moment of silence in honor of veterans who have fought. Offered thanks and appreciation and continued confidence in the work that all the teaching staff and support staff at AR5 do and for the leadership team under Dr. Byars and BOE members. Announced the passing of the budget referendum to support education in Amity.

Woodbridge Resident:

Addressed Slides that were shared in preparation for the referendum. Addressed that the policy of the school is not to tell the people how to vote. Suggests that the only information that should have been shared is date, time and location. Addressed the incident of a student lighting a gay pride flag in class and voiced their belief that the incident shows that DEI is not working. Listed the name of several publications containing articles that suggest DEI makes issues persist or grow worse. Stated that mandating DEI causes individuals to be adversarial or resentful toward that mandate.

Orange Parent:

Commended the board on the May 22nd invitation to discuss academics. Asked that the forum include mental health as well. Stated she has not received replies to numerous emails sent. Parent shared data regarding gender identity and gender reassignment. Asks that her statements be shared as facts on the record. Listed seven areas of concern: Privacy, Safety, Equality, Liberty, Family, Bodily integrity, Ideology. Accused the Board of violating all seven on those areas. Accused the Board of lying regarding what DEI. Mr. Davis defended the Board against the accusation of lying and asked parent to sit down; parent concluded by asking for the resignation of every board member who supports DEI.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- a. Personnel Report
b. Superintendent Report

Presented by Amity Region 5 Superintendent of School Dr. Jennifer Byars

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Presented by Amity Board of Education Secretary Mr. Sean Hartshorn

9. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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a. Committee Reports

1. **ACES**
2. **CABE**
3. **Communications**
4. **Curriculum**
5. **District Health and Safety**
6. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Executive Committee**
7. **District Technology**
 - a. Monthly Report
8. **Facilities**
 - a. Monthly Report
9. **Finance**
 - a. **Presentation and Discussion of First Quarter 2023 Executive Summary Review of Amity Pension Fund, Sick and Severance Account and OPEB Trust**

Presented by Fiducient representative Chris Kachmar

b. Discussion and Possible Action on Contracts over \$35,000

c. Renewals:

1. Student Accident

MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Patrick Reed, to award the Student Accident Insurance bid to H.D. Segur Insurance of Wallingford, CT for the third year of the contract for \$34,505 for Interscholastic Sports, including Student Activities and \$2,910 for Catastrophic Accident Coverage.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIED

d. Discussion and Possible Action on Healthy Food Certification

MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Sean Hartshorn, to accept the mandatory state language as presented with respect to the Health Food Program statement for July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024

1. Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the board of education or governing authority certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.
2. The board of education or governing authority will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food sales.

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3. The board of education or governing authority will allow the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. The “school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the beverage sales

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIED

e. Discussion and Possible Action on Building Use Rates

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Donna Schuster, to approve the revised Brady Center fee structure for July 1, 2023 and add to the existing list of rental charges.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIED

f. Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

g. Director of Finance and Administration Approved Transfers Under \$3,000

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

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

MOTION by Christopher Browe, SECOND by Andrea Hubbard to approve the following budget transfer for concrete repair, modular refurbishing at Amity Middle School- Bethnay, IXL software, OPEB Trust and Security cameras.

Without objection all five motions taken together as one.

Mr. Frank Puracro, Amity Region 5 Assistant Superintendent, speaks on the benefit of IXL Math program as opposed to other programs that exists.

Move to approve the following budget transfer for concrete sidewalk repair.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
01-14-2600-5720	Improvements to Sites	\$14,000	
02-14-2600-5720	Improvements to Sites	\$10,000	
03-14-2600-5720	Improvements to Sites		\$24,000

Move to approve the following budget transfer for modular refurbishing at Amity Middle School- Behtany

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ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
05-15-0000-5850	Contingency	\$9,000	
03-14-2600-5410	Utilities	\$24,540	
01-14-2600-5715	Improvements to Bldgs		\$33,540

Move to approve the following budget transfer for IXL Software

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
05-13-2212-5581	Travel-Conferences	\$2,950	
05-13-2213-5581	Travel-Conferences	\$2,950	
05-13-2213-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$2,950	
05-14-2350-5695	Technology Software		8,850

Move to approve the following budget transfer to make the full Actuarial Determined Employer Contribution (ADEC)

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
04-12-6110-5560	Tuition- Sped-Public	\$111,758	
05-15-0000-5860	OPEB Trust		\$111,758

Move to approve the following budget transfer for security cameras at all three schools.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
05-15-0000-5850	Contingency	\$48,769.00	
05-14-2660-5330	Security –Professional/Tech	\$ 99.49	
05-14-2660-5690	Security –Other Supplies	\$ 3.03	
05-14-2660-5695	Security-Tech Supplies/Software	\$2,140.00	
05-14-2660-5715	Security-Improvements to Bldg	\$ 370.22	
05-14-2350-5731	Security -Replacement Equipment		\$51,381.74

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIED

i. Discussion and Possible Action on Standard Year-End Transfers

MOTION by Andrea Hubbard, SECOND by Dr. Turner, to move to authorize the Director of Finance and Administration to make the necessary budget transfer to salary and benefit accounts and to pay other standard charges. These budget transfers may exceed \$3000. The Director of Finance and Administration will report all budget transfers made to the Amity Finance Committee and Amity Board of Education.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIED

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10. **Policy**

a. First Read

1. Policy 5114.21 Conduct Code Participation in Extracurricular Activities
2. Policy 9311 Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies

b. **Discussion and Possible Action on Second Read Policies**

1. Policy 0524 Bias Incidents in Schools

*MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Amy Tirollo, accept Policy 0524 Bias Incidents in Schools as submitted
VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (UNANIMOUS)*

MOTION CARRIED

2. Policy 6144 Controversial Topics

*MOTION by Amy Tirollo, SECOND by Carla Eichler, accept Policy 6144 Controversial Topics as submitted
VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (UNANIMOUS)*

MOTION CARRIED

11. **Personnel**

10. NEW BUSINESS

11. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA – Due to Chairperson by May 31, 2023

12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned, without objection, at 8:33 p.m. by Chairman Davis.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zaleski

Lisa Zaleski

BOE Recording Secretary