

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, November 13 2023, 6:30 pm

25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Christopher Browe, Paul Davis, Carla Eichler, Andrea Hubbard, Christina Levere-D'Addio (left at 8:10 p.m.), Dr. Carol Oladele, Patrick Reed, Donna Schuster (arrived at 7:06 p.m), Amy Tirollo, Dr. Jennifer Turner and Dr. K. Sudhir

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Shannan Carlson, Sean Hartshorn

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Sam Bae and Sophia Messina

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Theresa Lumas, Frank Purcaro

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Davis called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular Meeting – October 23, 2023

MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Amy Tirollo to approve October 23, 2023 minutes as submitted.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

4. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Presented by Amity Board of Education Chair Paul Davis

5. STUDENT REPORT

a. Monthly Report

Presented by Student Representatives Sam Bae and Sophia Messina

b. Student Request on School Calendar Holidays

Presented by Student Government representative Suhail Irshad

6. 3 A's (Academics, Arts, Athletics) AND POG (Portrait of the Graduate) FOCUS PRESENTATION

- a. Digital Photo Preservation Project – Lisa Toto, VPA Teacher, ARHS

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Orange Parent: DEI is an important issue that should continue to be discussed. The speaker asks the Board to consider teacher retention and attracting new teachers, when considering the contract. Speaker shared a picture of the Boston School of medicine 1948. Speaker addresses diversity, or lack thereof, in the picture.

Woodbridge Resident: Addresses the crisis in Gaza. Speaker uses graphic specifics to describe the atrocities taking place in Gaza. Speaker suggests that there is increased anti-semitic rhetoric in the news today. Speaker goes on to suggest that DEI is anti-semitic and that ARHS must stop mainstreaming antisemitism through DEI.

Chairman Davis addresses comments made during public comment regarding ARHS, anti-semitism, and the Israeli/ Hamas conflict.

Dr. Sudhir was moved to say, for the record, that the public comment that was just made was pure hatred and was completely unacceptable for public comment and difficult to listen to.

Orange and Bethany Parents: Thank you to outgoing board members for their service over the years.

Orange Parent: With regard to the teacher contract, be mindful of teacher retention and attracting new teachers. Charges the board with protecting LGBTQ families against bullying and discrimination. Speaker emphasizes that support provides a safe place to learn.

Orange Parent: The speaker thanks the new board members and the outgoing board members. Speaker addresses a past Board of Ed meeting where a public speaker allegedly brought in an image that included a “naked image” of himself. Speaker asks the board to monitor public

comment presentations.

**8. AMITY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION 2024-2027 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT
(Anticipated Executive Session)**

a. Discussion of Negotiated Collective Bargaining Agreement (Executive Session)

MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Christina Levere-D'Addio to enter Executive Session and invite Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas and Amity Region 5 Assistant Superintendent of School Frank Purcaro.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

The Board enters Executive Session at 7:31 p.m.

MOTION by Chris Browe, SECOND by Patrick Reed to exit Executive Session.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

The Board exits Executive Session at 8:07 p.m.

b. Action on AEA Ratified Collective Bargaining Agreement

MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Dr. Sudhir to approve the AEA ratified collective Bargaining Agreement.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (Browe, Eichler, Hubbard, Levere- Daddio, Oladele, Reed, Schuster, Sudhir, Tirollo, Dr. Turner)

RECUSAL, 1 (Davis)

MOTION CARRIES

9. PRESENTATION OF 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON 2024 BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE

MOTION by Amy Tirollo, SECOND by Dr. Oladele to approve the 2024 Board of Education Regular Meeting Schedule.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (enclosures)

- a. Personnel Report
- b. Superintendent Report

12. CORRESPONDENCE

13. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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**
 - b. **Discussion and Possible Action on ARHS Library Media Center Project**

MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Chris Browe to approve the appointment of Silver Petrucelli and Associates at a base price of \$65,000 for the ARHS library media center renovation project.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Chris Browe, SECOND by Carla Eichler to approve the appointment of Mr. Sean Rowland to Amity Regional School District School Building Committee.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Amy Tirollo, SECOND by Andrea Hubbard to approve the appointment of Mr. Patrick Reed as the Amity Regional School District School Building Committee chairperson.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

9. Finance

- a. **Discussion of Third Quarter 2023 Executive Summary Review of Amity Pension Fund, Sick and Severance Account, and OPEB Trust**
- b. **Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements**
- c. **Director of Finance and Administration Approved Transfers Under \$3,000**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

10. Policy

a. First Read

1. **Policy 5141.213 - Administering Medication – Opioid Overdose Prevention**

2. Policy 5141.3 - Health Assessments and Immunizations

11. Personnel

14. NEW BUSINESS

15. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA – Due to Chairperson by November 30, 2023

16. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned, without objection, at 8:58 p.m by Chairperson Davis.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zaleski

Lisa Zaleski

BOE Recording Secretary