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***AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5***

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

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*Dr. Jennifer P. Byars  
Superintendent of Schools*

**AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**Monday, December 11 2023, 6:30 pm  
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cathy Bradley, Paul Davis, Carla Eichler, Sean Hartshorn, Andrea Hubbard, Christina Levere-D'Addio, Dr. Carol Oladele, Patrick Reed, Dana Lombardi, Michael McDonough, Donna Schlank, Donna Schuster (arrived at 6:39), Dr. K. Sudhir

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**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 6:35 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS**

Sean Hartshorn delivers the Oath of Office for newly elected Board members Cathy Bradley, Dr. Sudhir, Paul Davis, Patrick Reed, Dana Lombardi, Michael McDonough and Donna Schlank.

**4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Superintendent of Schools Dr. Byars.

**ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

*MOTION by Dr. Sudhir, SECOND by Dr. Oladele to nominate Paul Davis for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Chairperson.*

*MOTION by Dana Lombardi, SECOND by Michael McDonough to nominate Sean Hartshorn for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Chairperson.*

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<b>BOE Member</b>	<b>Nominee: Davis</b>	<b>Nominee: Hartshorn</b>
Davis	✓	
Bradley		✓
Eichler	✓	
Hubbard	✓	
Hartshorn		✓
Levere-D’Addio		✓
Lombardi		✓
McDonough		✓
Dr. Oladele	✓	
Reed	✓	
Schlank		✓
Schuster	✓	
Dr. K. Sudhir	✓	

VOTE: Davis (7), Hartshorn (6)

RESULT: Paul Davis elected Amity Region 5 Board of Education Chairperson

*Amity Region 5 Board of Education Chairperon Paul Davis facilatates the remaining election of officers*

**ELECTION OF VICE- CHAIRPERSON**

*MOTION by Dana Lombardi, SECOND by Christina Levere-D’Addio to nominate Sean Hartshorn for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Vice- Chairperson.*

*MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Dr. Oladele to nominate Patrick Reed for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Vice –Chairperson.*

<b>BOE Member</b>	<b>Nominee: Hartshorn</b>	<b>Nominee: Reed</b>
Davis		✓
Bradley	✓	
Eichler		✓
Hubbard	✓	
Hartshorn	✓	
Levere-D’Addio	✓	
Lombardi	✓	
McDonough	✓	
Dr. Oladele		✓
Reed		✓
Schlank	✓	
Schuster		✓
Dr. K. Sudhir		✓

VOTE: Hartshorn (7), Reed (6)

RESULT: Sean Hartshorn elected Amity Region 5 Board of Education Vice-Chairperson

**ELECTION OF SECRETARY**

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*MOTION by Christina Levere-D’Addio, SECOND by Michael McDonough to nominate Cathy Bradley for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Secretary.*

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*MOTION by Dr. Sudhir, SECOND by Patrick Reed to nominate Carla Eichler for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Secretary.*

<b>BOE Member</b>	<b>Nominee: Bradley</b>	<b>Nominee: Eichler</b>
Davis		✓
Bradley	✓	
Eichler		✓
Hubbard	✓	
Hartshorn	✓	
Levere-D’Addio	✓	
Lombardi	✓	
McDonough	✓	
Dr. Oladele		✓
Reed		✓
Schlank	✓	
Schuster		✓
Dr. K. Sudhir		✓

VOTE: Bradley (7), Eichler (6)

RESULT: Cathy Bradley elected Amity Region 5 Board of Education Secretary

**ELECTION OF TREASURER**

*MOTION by Paul Davis, SECOND by Carla Eichler to nominate Patrick Reed for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Treasurer.*

*MOTION by Dr. Oladele, SECOND by Christina Levere-D’Addio to nominate Donna Schuster for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Treasurer.*

*MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Dana Lombardi to nominate Michael McDonough for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Treasurer.*

<b>BOE Member</b>	<b>Nominee: Reed</b>	<b>Nominee: Schuster</b>	<b>Nominee: McDonough</b>
Davis		✓	
Bradley			✓
Eichler	✓		
Hubbard			✓
Hartshorn			✓
Levere-D’Addio		✓	
Lombardi			✓
McDonough			✓
Dr. Oladele		✓	
Reed	✓		
Schlank			✓
Schuster	✓		
Dr. K. Sudhir	✓		

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VOTE: Reed (4), Schuster (3), McDonough (6)

RESULT: Schuster eliminated; Revote with Reed and McDonough

<b>BOE Member</b>	<b>Nominee: Reed</b>	<b>Nominee: McDonough</b>
Davis	✓	
Bradley		✓
Eichler	✓	
Hubbard		✓
Hartshorn		✓
Levere-D’Addio		✓
Lombardi		✓
McDonough		✓
Dr. Oladele	✓	
Reed	✓	
Schlank		✓
Schuster	✓	
Dr. K. Sudhir	✓	

VOTE: Reed (6), McDonough (7)

RESULT: Michael McDonough elected Amity Region 5 Board of Education Treasurer

**ELECTION OF DEPUTY- TREASURER**

*MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Dr. Sudhir to nominate Donna Schuster for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Deputy- Treasurer*

VOTE/ RESULT: Donna Schuster unanimously elected

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. Regular Meeting – November 13, 2023

*MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Patrick Reed to approve November 13, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes with edits as requested by Mr. Davis.*

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (Davis, Eichler, Hubbard, Levere- D’Addio, Dr. Oladele, Reed, Schuster, Dr. Sudhir)*

*ABSTAINED, 5 (Bradley, Hartshorn, Lombardi, McDonough, Schlank)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

b. Special Meeting – November 27, 2023

*MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Andrea Hubbard to approve November 27, 2023 Special Meeting minutes as submitted.*

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 6 (Davis, Eichler, Hartshorn, Hubbard, Reed, Dr. Sudhir)*

*ABSTAINED, 7 (Bradley, Levere- D’Addio, Lombardi, McDonough, Dr. Oladele, Schlank, Schuster)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

**6. STUDENT REPORT**

a. Monthly Report

Presented by Student Representatives Sam Bae and Sophia Messina

**7. 3 A's (Academics, Arts, Athletics) AND POG (Portrait of the Graduate) FOCUS PRESENTATION**

- a. Readers Workshop and Portrait of the Graduate Reflection – Andrea Drewry  
[Readers Workshop and POG Reflection BOE.pdf](#)

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Woodbridge Resident:**

Speaker referenced her remarks from the November 2023 BOE public comment regarding DEI being anti-semitic, the immorality of DEI and the necessity of its removal. Speaker goes on to offer a mental health perspective of why DEI must end.

**Orange Parent:**

Speaker addressed the results of the Bethany and Orange elections and the vote of a member of the Board of Education.

*Mr. Davis comments that remarks on votes by members should be done in a respectful manner.*

Speaker ends her public comment.

**Orange parent:**

Speaker states her appreciated for the new members. Speaker states that the public is not happy and continues to voice their displeasure monthly. Speaker states that the public expects a change. Speaker states that the children are why we are all here and states the need to end the party divide and come together for our kids, our communities and our parents. Speaker concludes by encouraging a more open forum of communication.

**Orange Parent:**

Expresses support to the Superintendent, administrators at all schools in the district, teachers and support personnel who help our children learn about DEI (Diversity Equity and inclusion). Speaker states that he truly appreciates the time and dedication that educators provide our students. Speaker offered further insight into his November public comment.

**Woodbridge Resident:**

Speaker offers a word of support for DEI. Speaker addresses white privilege; states that DEI promotes cross racial conversation, learning and illumination. Speaker concludes by stating that we do well to learn from one another.

*At the conclusion of Public Comment Chairperson Davis offers clarification regarding DEI information available on the District website under District Information.*

**9. BOWDAAC SPRING 2023 STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS PRESENTATION – Jessica Simone**

[BOWDAAC 2023 PPT Edit for BOE Final..pptx](#)

**10. AMITY 2023 SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY DATA PRESENTATION –**

Presented by Amity Region 5 DEI Instructional Coach Mr. Peter Downhour

**11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- a. Personnel Report
- b. Superintendent Report

Presented by Amity Region 5 Superintendent of Schools Dr. Byars.

**12. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SETTING 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

*MOTION BY Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Donna Schuster to approve version 1 of the 2024-2025 School Calendar.*

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

**13. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SETTING DATE OF 2024 GRADUATION**

*MOTION BY Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Dr. Oladele to set the 2024 Graduation date to Wednesday June 5, 2023.*

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

**14. CORRESPONDENCE**

Presented by Amity Board of Education Secretary Mr. Sean Hartshorn

**15. 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**

- 9. **Finance**

- a. **Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

- b. **Director of Finance and Administration Approved Transfers Under \$3,000**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

- c. **Discussion and Possible Action on Transfers Over \$3,000**

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*MOTION by Chrstina Levere- D'Addio, SECOND by Dana Lombardi to approve the following budget transfer to cover the cost of two backpack vacuums.*

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
03-14-2600-5613	Custodial Supplies	\$3,700	
05-14-2600-5731	Equipment-Replacement		\$3,700

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)  
MOTION CARRIES*

*MOTION by Andrea Hubbard, SECOND by Dr. Sudhir to approve the following budget transfer for the changes in public and private outplacements tuition and transportation services provided.*

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
04-12-6110-5510	Tuition – Public Out	\$47,700	
04-12-6130-5510	Tuition – Private Out		\$47,700
04-12-6110-5560	Tuition – Public Out	\$26,450	
04-12-6130-5560	Tuition – Private Out		\$26,450

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)  
MOTION CARRIES*

- d. **Update of 2023-24 Budget Process**
  - 1. **Preliminary 2024-2025 Budget Data**
  - 2. **Important Budget Meeting Dates**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT BUDGET DATES\*\*\***

- January 8, 2024 AFC Budget Presentation 5:30 p.m.**
- January 9, 2024 Bethany Board of Finance 7 p.m.**
- January 22, 2024 Orange Board of Finance 7 p.m.**
- January 23, 2024 Woodbridge Board of Finance 6 p.m.**
- February 12, 2024 Amity Board of Education 6:30 p.m.**

**Please note the times listed are meeting start times and may not be presentation start time.**

- 10. **Policy**
  - a. **Second Read**
    - 1. **Bylaw 9160 – Student Government Representatives to the Board of Education**

*MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Christina Levere- D'Addio to accept Bylaw 9160- Student Government Rerrepresentatives to the Board of Education as submitted.*

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VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (Bradley, Davis, Eichler, Hartshorn, Hubbard, Levere-D'Addio, Dr. Oladele, Reed, Lombardi, McDonough, Schlank, Dr. K. Sudhir)

VOTES OPPOSED, 1 (Schuster)

MOTION CARRIES

**2. Policy 5124 – Reporting to Parents**

MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Andrea Hubbard to accept Policy 5124- Reporting to Parents as submitted.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

**3. Discussion and Possible Action on Bylaw 9311 - Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies**

MOTION by Dr. Oladele, SECOND by Donna Schuster to accept Bylaw 9311- Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies as submitted.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

**4. Policy 5141.231 - Administering Medication – Opioid Overdose Prevention**

MOTION by Michael McDonough, SECOND by Carla Eichler to accept Policy 5141.231- Administering Medication- Opioid Overdose Prevention as submitted.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

**5. Policy 5141.3 - Health Assessments and Immunizations**

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Dr. Oladele to accept Policy 5141.3- Health Assessments and Immunizations as submitted.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

**11. Personnel**

**16. NEW BUSINESS**

**17. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA – Due to Chairperson by December 31, 2023**

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Sean Hartshorn, without objection, to adjourn meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa Zaleski*

Lisa Zaleski

BOE Recording Secretary



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