

AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 30, 2024 6:30 pm

25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT

Lecture Hall

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Paul Davis, Carla Eichler, Sean Hartshorn, Andrea Hubbard, Dr. Karunakaran, Dana Lombardi, Michael McDonough, Patrick Reed, and Christina Levere-D'Addio* (arrived at 6:32 P.M.)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Cathy Bradley, Dr. Carol Oladele, Donna Schlank, and Donna Schuster

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Sophia Messina and Janet Fan

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Jennifer Byars, Frank Purcaro, Andre Hauser

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 Regular Meeting – September 09, 2024

MOTION by Dana Lombardi, SECOND by Michael McDonough to approve September 09, 2024 minutes as submitted.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 7 (Davis, Hartshorn, Hubbard, Dr. Karunakaran, Lombardi, McDonough, Reed)

ABSTAIN, 1 (Eichler)

MOTION CARRIES

4. STUDENT REPORT

- a. Monthly Report

Presented by Board of Education student representatives Sophia Messina and Janet Fan

5. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS

- a. 2024-2025 National Merit Scholarship Commended Scholars and Semi-Finalists

Presented by Amity Regional High School Principal Andre Hauser and Amity Region 5 Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jennifer Byars

6:43 p.m. Short recess for pictures with students and families.

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

- a. [Visual and Performing Arts](#) – Jessica Zamachaj, Department Chair, Lisa Serio, Music Teacher
Violinists Benjamin Wang (grade 12) and Victoria Pelton (grade 10) played the Concerto for 2
Violins in d minor by Johann Sebastian Bach.

7. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

a. Superintendent Report

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

8. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

a. Committee Reports

1. Curriculum

a. [Connecticut State Assessment Data Presentation – Frank Purcaro](#)

Presented by Amity Region 5 Assistant Superintendent of Schools Frank Purcaro

9. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public Comment will be limited to those items noticed in this agenda

Woodbridge Parent

Parent addresses tutoring opportunities in district, in-school intervention opportunities, and questions who do the top tier students go to for support.

Board Member McDonough asked a series of questions regarding “The Rock” located at the Newton Road entrance to ARHS. Responses to his questions were provided by a variety of attendees, including Student Representative Messina, Superintendent Byars, and Principal Hauser. It was clarified that there is no policy related to the painting of the rock; this is an entirely student driven process, organized independently by student clubs, Classes, student organizations, and athletic teams. Administration would only intervene if something inappropriate was painted on the rock.

10. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – Due to Chairperson by September 30, 2024

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Christina Levere-D’Addio SECOND by Sean Hartshorn to adjourn meeting at 8:25 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned, without objection, at 8:25 p.m by Chairperson Davis.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zaleski

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BOE Recording Secretary