

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman William Blake, Mr. John Belfonti, Mr. Christopher Browe, Ms. Sue Cohen, Ms. Amy Esposito, Mr. Thomas Hurley, Ms. Sheila McCreven, Ms. Tracey Russo, Mr. James Stirling and Ms. Diane Urbano.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Ms. Robyn Berke, Ms. Patricia Cardozo and Mr. Steven DeMaio.

Staff members present: Dr. Charles Dumais, Ms. Theresa Lumas, Mr. Scott Cleary, Dr. Richard Dellinger, Mr. Ernie Goodwin, Ms. Anna Mahon, Dr. Marie McPadden, Ms. Mary Raiola, and Mr. Jim Saisa,

Also present: Mrs. Ruth Natzel, Ms. Ananya Kachru and other members of the public.

A regular meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education (BOE) was held on Monday, August 08, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the John J. Brady Center at Amity Regional High School.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman William Blake called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.

3. **Recognition of 2016 State Champion Amity Regional High School Baseball Team**

Mr. Goodwin introduced Mr. Sal Coppola, head coach of the baseball team and informed those present that Mr. Coppola was named Connecticut Coach of the year and has been nominated for National Coach of the Year. He also stated that the team was named the Connecticut Team of the Year, they were named the number one team in the Northeast and named the top team by the New Haven Register. Coach Coppola called the team members that were present up to receive their state championship plaque and to be congratulated by the administration and Board and Education members.

4. **Approval of minutes.**

A. **Regular BOE meeting, June 13, 2016 (enclosure)**

Motion by Mr. Stirling, 2nd by Mr. Hurley to accept the minutes of June 13, 2016 as submitted.

Ms. Esposito pointed out a correction that needed to be made on page 2 and page 6 regarding Tarrantino Landscaping.

Vote unanimous (Ms. Cohen abstained)

Motion carried

(minutes corrected and re-submitted)

B. **Special BOE meeting, July 25, 2016 (enclosure)**

Motion by Mr. Hurley, 2nd by Ms. Cohen to accept the minutes of the July 25, 2016 meeting as submitted

Vote unanimous (Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Russo and Ms. Urbano abstained)

Motion carried

5. **Public Comment**

Ms. Jennifer Christie-Jump, parent of Amity students, read a statement regarding Amity’s 504 compliance. She also had a handout for the Board members (attachment).

6. **Acceptance of gift – Donation of a piano to Amity Middle School, Bethany Campus**

Motion by Mr. Hurley, 2nd by Ms. Cohen that the Amity Board of Education accept the donation of a 1985/1986 Kawai piano, valued at approximately \$4,500, from Cornell Bialicki for use at the Amity Middle School in Bethany.

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

Mr. Blake thanked Mr. Bialicki for his previous teaching within the Amity District and gratefully accepted his generous gift.

7. Student Report

Ms. Ananya Kachru gave the Board an update on events at Amity High School, Amity Middle School Bethany Campus and Amity Middle School Orange Campus over the past month, as well as informing the Board of upcoming events.

8. Correspondence - none

9. Superintendent's Report

- A. Personnel Report – (enclosure)
- B. Other

10. Chairman's Report -

A. Committee Reports

- 1. ACES - no report.
- 2. CABE - A resolution regarding student testing was submitted and will be voted on in November. There was discussion regarding whether or not the Board would favor supporting this, or any of the proposed resolutions. Mr. Blake requested that Ms. McCreven sent all the proposals to all the BOE members and put this on the agenda for the next meeting.
- 3. Curriculum – The Curriculum Committee has not met, next meeting is September 1st.
- 4. Facilities – The Facilities Committee has not met.
 - A. Facilities Department monthly report, 2016 (enclosure)
- 5. Finance
 - A. Presentation and discussion of 2017-2018 budget calendar

Mr. Hurley mentioned that the Curriculum Committee might need to meet in December rather than January to address curriculum needs in the upcoming budget.

- B. Presentation of Annual Report on Reserve Fund for Capital and Non-recurring Expenses.
- C. Discussion and possible action on authorized signers for school lunch program.

Motion by Ms. Russo, second by Mr. Browe to designate Dr. Charles Dumais, Superintendent of Schools, the authorized representative to sign the agreement for child nutrition programs and to sign claims for reimbursement; further, to designate Theresa Lumas, Director of Finance and Administration as an authorized signer of claims for reimbursement in the school lunch program.

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

D. Update on Financial Audit

Ms. Lumas reported that the auditors arrived and began their work in July and that they would be returning after Labor Day for the next phase.

E. Discussion and possible action on recommended uses of 2015-2016 year-end available funds.

Ms. Lumas detailed the options available in her memo enclosed.

Mr. Stirling informed the Board that the Finance Committee unanimously recommended option #3, which was to eliminate the payment to the State of Connecticut and to make a payment to fully fund the OPEB Trust.

Consensus on the Board, after discussion, was to go with the Finance Committee's recommendation.

Motion by Mr. Browe, 2nd by Mr. Belfonti to return to the member towns the audited fund balance net of the OPEB Trust contribution of \$152,104. The unaudited amount that would be returned is \$740,049.

There was further lengthy discussion regarding the motion. Ms. Russo asked that the question be called to end the debate. Mr. Blake called for a vote to end the debate.

Vote 7 in favor, 2 opposed (Mr. Browe and Ms. Urbano)

Motion carried

With debate ended the motion on the floor was called.

Vote 8 in favor, 1 against (Ms. Cohen)

Motion carried

F. Discussion of monthly financial statements

1. Fiscal year 2015-2016
2. Fiscal year 2016-2017

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

1. Fiscal year 2015-2016

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

1. Fiscal year 2016-2017

Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2nd by Ms. Urbano that the following budget transfers into the Theater/Film Production line for Amity High School and the Principal Services line be made to properly align budget and expenditures with current State and Federal accounting structure:

Account number	Account name	From	To
03-13-2220-5111	Certified salaries	\$94,395	
03-11-1017-5111	Certified salaries		\$94,395
01-13-2220-5112	Classified salaries	\$21,366	
03-13-2400-5112	Classified salaries		\$21,366
03-13-2220-5611	Instructional supplies	\$ 1,000	
03-11-1017-5611	Instructional supplies		\$ 1,000

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

I. Discussion and Possible Action on New Funding Requests

1. Fiscal year 2015-2016

Ms. Lumas outlined 4 new funding requests in her memo to Dr. Dumais of June 30, 2016.

Motion by _____, 2nd by _____ to transfer the following into the Repair and Maintenance Account for Bethany Middle School for Expenditures to pay for replacement of the hot water boiler at Bethany Middle School:

Account number	Account name	From	To
01-11-1006-5111	Salary Account	\$29,000	
01-14-2600-5731	Replacement equipment		\$29,000

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Stirling, 2nd by Ms. Russo to transfer the following into the Texts and Digital Resources account for Bethany Middle School and Orange Middle School for math texts and digital subscriptions:

Account number	Account name	From	To
02-13-2400-5330	Professional technical services	\$19,964	
01-11-1009-5641	Texts and Digital Resources		\$9,983
02-11-1009-5641	Texts and Digital Recourses		\$9,982

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Browe, 2nd by Mr. Belfonti to transfer the following to Equipment, New for a line-stripping machine to stripe the parking lots and curbs.

<i>Account number</i>	<i>Account name</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
02-14-2600-5613	Maintenance/Custodial supplies	\$5,662	
03-14-2600-5730	Equipment – New		\$5,663

Vote 8 in favor, 1 opposed (Ms. Urbano)

Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Hurley, 2nd by Mr. Browe to transfer the following into OPEB Trust to fully fund the 2015-2016 annual required contribution:

<i>Account number</i>	<i>Account name</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>
04-12-6130-5510	Pupil transportation – private	\$100,000	
03-14-2600-5410	Utilities excluding heat	52,104	
05-15-0000-5860	OPEB Trust		\$152,104

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

6. Policy

A. Second reading of the following:

1. 6142.101 – Student Nutrition and Physical Activity

Motion by Ms. Russo, 2nd by Mr. Hurley to approve the changes to policy 6142.101.

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

7. Personnel

A. Discussion of custodian contract (executive session)

Motion by Mr. Hurley, 2nd by Mr. Belfonti to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussion of the custodian contract and to invite Dr. Dumais to join the session.

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

The Board adjourned to executive session at 8:02 pm

The Board returned from executive session at 8:17 pm and Mr. Blake called the meeting back to order

B. Possible action on custodian contract

Motion by Mr. Hurley, 2nd by Mr. Browe to approved the custodian contract.

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

11. Items for next agenda – please forward any items to Dr. Dumais or Mr. Blake.

12. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Hurley, 2nd by Ms. Esposito to adjourn at 8:21 pm.

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth E. Natzel, Recording Clerk

Thomas Hurley, Secretary