

MINUTES

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman William Blake, Mr. John Belfonti (departed 9:05 pm), Ms. Robyn Berke, Mr. Christopher Browe, Ms. Patricia Cardozo, Ms. Sue Cohen, Mr. Steven DeMaio, Ms. Amy Esposito, Mr. Thomas Hurley, Ms. Tracey Russo, Ms. Sheila McCreven, Mr. James Stirling and Ms. Diane Urbano.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**Staff members present:** Dr. Charles Dumais, Ms. Theresa Lumas, Mr. Scott Cleary, Dr. Richard Dellinger, Mr. Peter Downhour, Ms. Kathleen Fuller-Cutler, Mr. Ernie Goodwin, Ms. Anna Mahon, Dr. E. Marie McPadden, Ms. Mary Raiola, Mr. Jim Saisa, and Ms. Karen Waterman.

**Also present:** Other members of the public.

A regular meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education (BOE) was held on Monday,, 2017 at 6:30 pm in the presentation room at the District Offices.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman William Blake called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.
3. **Recognition of Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) Student Leadership Awardees**

Dr. Dumais listed the qualifications for this award, which include: a willingness to take on challenges ,capability to make difficult decisions, concern for others, ability to work with others, willingness to commit to a project, diplomacy, ability to understand issues clearly, and ability to honor a commitment. Dr. Dumais introduced Ms. Cutler, Dr. Dellinger and Ms. Mahon, principals of the District schools, to announce the awardees.

Amity Regional Middle School, Orange – Philip (PJ) London and Lauren Ronai

Amity Regional Middle School, Bethany – Kevin Liu and Wendy Zhang

Amity Regional High School – Ian Carpenter and Jessica Foster

Mr. Blake congratulated the award recipients and their families on their achievements. Mr. Blake announced a break in the meeting (6:45 pm) to allow parents and students to depart. The Board reconvened at 6:53 pm.

**4. Presentation of Amity Regional High School Senior Service Learning Project (SSLP)**

Dr. Dumais introduced the SSLP project and Ms. Mahon. Ms. Mahon gave an overview of the program and introduced Ms. Karen Waterman, College and Career counselor at Amity High School. Ms. Waterman presented the details of the program including requirements to participate (grade point average of 2.0 or higher, attitude, etc.) The students must complete 114 hours interning in four weeks time. She then introduced students Audrey Regan, Caitlyn Schultz, and Maggie Reames, who spoke briefly about why they had decided to participate in SSLP, where they would be going and how this factored in to helping them decide on a college major and/or career path. Ms. Waterman and Ms. Mahon answered questions regarding the current program and spoke about their vision for expanding the program in the future.

**5. Approval of minutes.**

- A. **Regular BOE meeting, January 09,2017 (enclosure)**

*Motion by Ms. Cohen, second by Mr. Stirling to approve the minutes of January 09, 2017 as submitted.*

**Vote in favor, 11-0 (abstention, Ms. Cardozo)**

**Motion carried**

**B. Regular BOE meeting, February 13, 2017 (enclosure)**

*Motion by Mr. Hurley, second by Ms. Cohen, to approve the minutes of February 13, 2017 as submitted.*

Vote in favor, 11-0 (abstention, Ms. Cardozo)

Motion carried

**C. Regular BOE meeting, March 13, 2017 (enclosure)**

*Motion by Mr. Stirling, second by Ms. Russo, to approve the minutes of March 13, 2017 as submitted.*

Vote in favor, 12-0

Motion carried

**D. Regular BOE meeting, April 17, 2017 (enclosure)**

*Motion by Ms. Cohen, second by Ms. Russo, to approve the minutes of April 17, 2017 as submitted.*

Ms. Berke requested one correction on page 3 of the minutes, item 8.A.5. A. 5., "bid price \$2,20 per square foot"; comma in the dollar figure should be a period.

Mr. Blake called for a vote to accept the minutes as amended.

Vote in favor, 10-0 (abstentions Ms. Berke and Ms. Urbano)

Motion carried

[minutes were amended and re-submitted]

**E. Annual District meeting on the budget, May 02, 2017 (enclosure)**

*Motion by Ms. Russo, second by Mr. Hurley to approve the minutes of May 02, 2017 as submitted*

Vote in favor, 8-0 (abstentions Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Berke, Ms. Cohen and Ms. Esposito)

Motion carried

**F. Special BOE meeting, May 02, 2017 (enclosure)**

*{Mr. Browe raised a point of order regarding a Board member's ability to vote on minutes of a meeting that he or she did not attend.}*

Mr. Blake asked Mr. Hurley to check Robert's Rules on this subject and report back to the Board.

**6. Public Comment – none.****7. Student Report**

Ms. Ananya Kachru gave 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 at this especially busy time at the end of the school year.

**8. Correspondence – none.****7. Superintendent's Report****A. Personnel Report – (enclosure)**

**B. Other**

Dr. Dumais highlighted some items in his written monthly report including: Amity Regional Schools recognition as Red, White and Blue Schools; STEAM Day; Amity Enterprise; records storage project.

**8. Chairman's Report****A. Committee Reports**

1. **ACES** - Ms. Cohen reported that the summer ACES program will be held at Amity once again this summer.
2. **CABE** - Ms. McCreven made the Board aware of upcoming CABE events, May 25<sup>th</sup> and June 13<sup>th</sup>. May 19<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to apply to have a robotics team from Amity at the CABE Convention .
3. **Curriculum** – Mr. Browe had nothing to report from the Curriculum Committee.
4. **Facilities** - Ms. Russo reported that the Facilities Committee did not meet as scheduled. Dr. Dumais noted that there is information included in the packet regarding some facility items.
  - A. **Facilities Department monthly report, April 2017 (enclosure)**

**5. Finance****A. First quarter 2017 Executive Summary Review of Amity Pension Fund, Sick and Severance Account and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust (enclosure)**

Mr. Stirling reported that the Finance Committee heard a report from Mr. Mike Goss from Fiduciary Investment Advisors; Mr. Goss stated that the benchmarks for each fund were met or exceeded and the the Finance Committee was very satisfied with the investments.

**B. Discussion and possible action on the Healthy Food Certification Statement for July 01, 2017 through June 30, 2018**

Discussion began.

{Mr. Blake raised a point of order and called for a motion to be made prior to discussion}

***Motion by Mr. Stirling, second by Ms. Cohen, to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to sign Form ED-099 indicating that Amity Regional School District No. 5 will exclude from certification food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards, provided that (1) such food is sold in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, (2) such sale is at the location of the event, and (3) such food is not sold from a vending machine or school store.***

There was discussion regarding whether or not Amity should stay in the program and what other options might be considered in terms of food and finances should Amity decide to discontinue their participation.

Vote in favor, 12-0

Motion carried

***Motion by Ms. Cardozo, second by Ms. Cohen, to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to sign Form ED-099 indicating that Amity Regional School District No. 5 will certify that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under our jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education will meet said standards during the period of July 01, 2017 through June 20, 2018.***

There was further discussion regarding Amity's participation in this program and concern about the amount of food wasted and the cost. Ms. Lumas stated that if Amity were to opt out, there would be an approximately \$100,000 "hole" in the financing that would have to be made up because opting out would mean a loss of State and Federal grant monies.

***Motion by Mr. Browe, second by Ms. Esposito, to table this motion.***

**Vote in favor, 8 (Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Berke, Mr. Browe, Mr. Demaio, Ms. Esposito, Mr. Hurley, Ms. McCreven, and Ms. Russo)**

**Vote opposed, 4 (Ms. Cardozo, Ms. Cohen, Mr. Stirling and Ms. Urbano)**

**Motion tabled.**

**C. Discussion and possible action on the tuition rate for 2018-2019**

***Motion by Ms. Cohen, second by Ms. Cardozo, to approve the non-resident tuition rate for the 2017-2018 school year at \$17,692.00***

There was discussion; questions were answered by Dr. Dumais. The proposed tuition rate is 100% of the actual cost per student.

**Vote in favor, 12-0**

**Motion carried**

**D. Discussion and possible action on contracts of \$35,000 or more**

Mr. Stirling reported that all ten of these items were passed by the Finance Committee after discussion and questions without dissent.

**1. Snow removal, ice control and sanding services**

***Motion by Ms. Urbano, second by Mr. Hurley, to award the snow removal, ice control and sanding services to Denny Landscaping, Ltd. Of Orange, Connecticut, for July 02, 107 to June 30, 2018.***

There was discussion with questions answered by Ms. Lumas.

**Vote in favor, 10-0 (abstentions, Mr. Browe and Ms. Russo)**

**Motion carried**

**2. District chiller maintenance contract**

***Motion by Mr. Belfonti, second by Mr. Stirling, to award the district chiller maintenance contract to Trane Building Services (local Trane office in Rocky Hill, Connecticut) for the first year of a three-year contract commencing June 2017, through May 2018, for \$13,110. The total of the three-year contract is \$40,524. This is the current year pricing that is being first year of the contract. This is a sole source vendor for the District's Trane equipment, and thereby, the sealed bid requirements are not required. The Board reserves the right to cancel the contract if Trane Building Services fails to perform in a satisfactory manner.***

Discussion and questions followed.

**Vote in favor, 11-0 (abstention, Mr. Hurley)**

**Motion carried**

**3. Siemens building controls**

*Motion by Ms. Cohen, second by Mr. Belfonti, to award the building controls contract to Siemens Industry, Inc. for the first fiscal year of a three-year contract at the price of \$25,528.00. The Board reserves the right to cancel the contract if Siemens Industry, Inc. fails to perform in a satisfactory manner.*

Discussion was held.

Vote in favor, 11-0; opposed, 1 (Mr. Hurley)

Motion carried

**4. Septic systems and grease pit services**

*Motion by Mr. Browe, second by Ms. Cohen, to award the septic systems and great pit services to Country Septic Service of North Haven, Connecticut for the second year of a three-year contract at the bid price of \$11,840.00.*

Vote in favor, 12-0

Motion carried

**5. Site-based grounds maintenance program**

*Motion by Ms. Russo, second by Ms. Cardozo to award the site-based grounds maintenance program for July 01, 2017 to June 20, 2018 to Sports Turf of Connecticut of Orange, Connecticut, at the bid price of \$218,000 for the second year of a three-year contract. The Board reserves the right to cancel the contract if Sports Turf of Connecticut of Orange, Connecticut fails to perform in a satisfactory manner.*

Vote in favor, 12-0

Motion carried

**6. Trash and recycling removal services**

*Motion by Mr. Browe, second by Ms. Cohen, to award the trash and recycling removal service to All American Waste LLC of New Haven, Connecticut for the third year of a three-year contract at the bid price of \$115,844.94, not including extra charges for additional pick-ups. The annual payment will be \$38,614.98, not including extra charges for additional pick-ups. The Board reserves the right to cancel the contract if All American Waste of New Haven, Connecticut fails to perform in a satisfactory manner.*

Discussion followed.

*Ms. Russo made a motion for a friendly amendment to the wording of the motion, second by Ms. Cohen, to read...to award the trash and recycling removal service to All American Waste LLC of New Haven, Connecticut for the third year of a three-year contract at an annual cost of \$38,614.98, not including extra charges for additional pick-ups. The Board reserves the right to cancel the contract if All American Waste of New Haven, Connecticut fails to perform in a satisfactory manner.*

Vote in favor, 12-0

Motion carried

**7. Athletic training contract**

*Motion by Mr. Hurley, second by Mr. Belfonti to authorize the Director of Finance and Administration to award the contract for all of the services of a certified athletic trainer to Rehabilitation Associates, Inc., of Fairfield, Connecticut for the 2017-2018 academic year at the annual fee of \$59,091. The Board waives bidding this contracted service. The Board reserves the right to cancel the contract if Rehabilitation Associates, Inc., of Fairfield, Connecticut fails to perform in a satisfactory manner.*

There was discussion regarding the hours and duties of the trainer and his/her supervision, and questions regarding entering into a contract directly versus using Rehabilitation Associates. Questions were answered by Ms. Lumas and Dr. Dumais.

Vote in favor, 12-0

Motion carried

**8. Workers' compensation and liability, automotive, property insurances.**

*Motion by Mr. Stirling, second by Mr. Browe to award the workers' compensation insurance for July 01, 2017 to June 30, 2018 to Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) of New Haven, Connecticut, at a maximum rate increase of 6.0% plus the payroll audit; award the liability, automobile and property insurance for July 01, 2017 to June 30, 2018, to Connecticut Interlock Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) of New Haven, Connecticut, at a maximum rate increase of 6.0% plus any additional exposure changes.*

Discussion followed, with questions answered by Ms. Lumas.

Vote in favor, 11-0 (Mr. Hurley recused himself)

Motion carried

**9. Health and welfare benefits consultant for medical and dental insurance**

*Motion by Mr. Browe, second by Mr. Demaio to award the health and welfare benefits consultant at the bid price of \$29,000 for July 01, 2017 to June 30, 2018. The Board reserves the right to cancel the contract if USI Insurance Services, LLC, fails to perform in a satisfactory manner, as determined by the Superintendent of Schools.*

*Mr. Browe amended his motion to add the name (USI Insurance Services, LLC to the motion as it was inadvertently left out of the first line in the motion written in the packet). Amended motion reads:*

*to award the health and welfare benefits consultant to USI Insurance Services, LLC, in Meriden, Connecticut, at a the bid price of \$29,000 for July 01, 2017 to June 30, 2018. The Board reserves the right to cancel the contract if USI Insurance Services, LLC, fails to perform in a satisfactory manner, as determined by the Superintendent of Schools.*

Vote in favor to amend, 11-0 (Mr. Hurley recused himself)

Motion carried

Vote on the motion, in favor 9-0 (Mr. Hurley recused himself) (abstentions, Mr. Stirling, Ms. Urbano) Motion carried

**10. Investment consulting services**

*Motion by Ms. Cohen, second by Mr. Browe to award the investment consulting services for the 2017-2018 school year to Fiduciary Investment Advisors, LLC, of Windsor, Connecticut, for the bid price of \$19,000. This is the first year of a three-year contract. The Board reserves the right to cancel the contract if Fiduciary Investment Advisors, LLC, of Windsor, Connecticut, fails to perform in a satisfactory manner.*

Vote in favor, 10-0 (Mr. Hurley recused himself) (abstention, Mr. Stirling)

Motion carried

E. Discussion of monthly financial statements

F. Director of Finance and Administration approved transfers under \$3,000

**G. Discussion and possible action on budget transfers of \$3,000 or more**

*Motion by Mr. Hurley, second by Mr. Stirling to authorize the Director of Finance and Administration to make the necessary budget transfers to salary and benefit accounts, and to pay other standard charges. These budget transfers may exceed \$3,000. The Director of Finance and Administration will report all budget transfers that are made to the Amity Finance Committee and the Amity Board of Education.*

Vote in favor, 12-0

Motion carried

**H. Other****1. Update on results from budget referendum of May 03, 2017**

Mr. Blake noted that the budget passed in all three towns and he thanked the citizens of Bethany, Orange and Woodbridge for their continued support.

**2. Update on electricity pricing**

Ms. Lumas stated that the Superintendent signed a contract on Thursday, May 04, 2017 at a rate of 0.7925 per kilowatt hour for 24 months.

**3. Update on capital projects**

Ms. Lumas' memo of April 24<sup>th</sup> to Dr. Dumais details the projects that are currently being managed, those that are getting underway and possible use of the fund balance in the capital fund.

**4. Other****6. Policy****A. First read of the following policy recommendation****1. 1000 (enclosure)****B. Second read of the following policy recommendation****1. 0050 (recommended for deletion)****2. 5142.4**

*Motion by Ms. Urbano, second by Ms. Cohen to approve policy 5142.4*

Vote in favor, 10; opposed, 2 (Mr. Browe and Ms. Russo)

Motion carried

*Motion by Mr. Browe, second by Ms. Cohen to delete policy 0050.*

Vote in favor, 12-0

Motion carried

*Motion by Mr. Hurley, second by Ms. Cardozo to move into Executive Session and invite Dr. Dumais to join the session at 9:03 pm.*

Vote in favor, 12-0

Motion carried

**C. Discussion of School Resource Officer (SRO) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) [Executive Session]**

The Board returned from Executive session at 10:05 pm

**D. Possible action on SRO MOU.**

*Motion by Mr. Hurley, second by Ms. Urbano, to approve the MOU between the Amity Board of Education and the Woodbridge Police Department.*

*Motion by Mr. DeMaio, second by Ms. McCreven to table.*

**Vote to table**

In favor, 5 (Mr. Browe, Ms. Cohen, Mr. DeMaio, Ms. Esposito, Ms. McCreven)

Opposed, 5 (Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Berke, Ms. Cardozo, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Stirling, Ms. Urbano)

Abstention, 2 (Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Russo)

Mr. Blake voted in favor break the tie

**Motion failed**

**Vote on motion**

In favor, 5 (Ms. Berke, Ms. Cardozo, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Stirling, Ms. Urbano)

Opposed, 4 (Mr. Browe, Ms. Esposito, Ms. McCreven, Ms. Russo)

Abstention,3 (Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Cohen, Mr. DeMaio)

**Motion carried**

**7. Personnel**

Dr. Dumais stated that there would be a review of contracts later this month.

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

**10. Adjournment**

*Motion by Mr. Stirling , second by Mr. Browe to adjourn at 10:08 pm.*

**Vote unanimous**

**Motion carried**

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth E. Natzel, Recording Clerk

Thomas Hurley, Secretary