

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman William Blake, Ms. Robyn Berke, Mr. Christopher Browe, Ms. Patricia Cardozo, Ms. Sue Cohen, Ms. Amy Esposito, Mr. Thomas Hurley, Ms. Tracey Russo, Ms. Sheila McCreven and Ms. Diane Urbano.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. John Belfonti, Mr. Steven DeMaio and Mr. James Stirling.

Staff members present: : Dr. Charles Dumais, Ms. Theresa Lumas, Mr. Scott Cleary, Dr. Richard Dellinger, Ms. Kathi Fuller-Cutler, Ms. Anna Mahon, Dr. Marie McPadden and Ms. Mary Raiola.

Also present: Ms. Ananya Kachru, Mr. Cornell Bialicki, Jason Benard, Riku Korenaga, and other members of the public.

A regular meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education (BOE) was held on Monday, October 17, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the auditorium at Amity Middle School, Bethany Campus.

- 1. **Call to Order:** Chairman William Blake called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.
- 2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.
- 3. **Approval of minutes.**
 - A. **Regular BOE meeting, September 12, 2016 (enclosure)**

Motion by Mr. Hurley, 2nd by Ms. Russo to accept the minutes as submitted

Ms. Cohen noted one typographical error, page 5, item 5.F.1., "Fun" should be "Fund"

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

Minutes from September 12, 2016 were corrected and re-submitted

- B. **District Meeting/Public Hearing, September 26, 2016 (enclosure)**

Motion by Ms.Cohen, 2nd by Ms. Urbano to accept the minutes as submitted

Vote unanimous with Mr. Hurley and Ms. Berke abstaining

Motion carried

- C. **Special BOE meeting, September 26, 2016 (enclosure)**

Motion by Ms. Russo, 2nd by Ms. Cardozo accept the minutes as submitted

Vote unanimous with Mr. Hurley abstaining

Motion carried

- D. **Special BOE meeting, September 27, 2016 (enclosure)**

Motion by Mr. Hurley, 2nd by Ms. Russo to accept the minutes as submitted

Vote unanimous with Ms. Urbano abstaining

Motion carried

- 4. **Public Comment - none**

- 5. **Student Report**

Ms. Ananya Kachru gave the Board a report 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.

6. Presentation by Dr. Richard Dellinger, Principal, Amity Middle School, Bethany Campus (attachment)

Dr. Dellinger gave a brief history of the school and the organizational structure as well as information about staff structure and the team concept for students. Several Board members asked questions regarding the process of placing students on the teams and how the school works with the sending elementary schools. Mr. Blake asked Dr. Dellinger what would be on his wishlist for the school and he stated that additional technology would be a priority.

7. Presentation by Mr. Cornell Bialicki – piano performances by 8th grade students Jason Benard and Riku Korenaga.

Dr. Dellinger introduced Mr. Bialicki, who made it possible for Amity Middle School, Bethany Campus, to obtain a baby grand piano for the PTO-allotted budget of \$2,500 and also donated an upright Kawai piano to the school. Mr. Bialicki then introduced the students who would play. Jason Benard played The Entertainer by Scott Joplin on the baby grand and Riku Korenaga played English Suite No. 2 by J. S. Bach on the upright. The performances were excellent and the students and Mr. Bialicki were commended and thanked by the Board and all those present.

8. Discussion and possible action on the 2017 Board of Education meeting calendar

Motion by Mr. Hurley, 2nd by Ms. Russo to accept the calendar as presented.

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

9. Report on 2016 testing results (attachment) – Dr. McPadden presented the test results for 2016 for Grade 10 CAPT/CMT Science, SBA and SAT.

Board members asked questions and had discussion regarding the test results as compared to other towns in the DRG, what needs to improve and how any remedial help will be implemented. Dr. McPadden and Dr. Dumais answered all the questions in detail. Mr. Blake asked that the Curriculum Committee work with Dr. Dumais and Dr. McPadden to further digest this testing information and come back to the Board with further recommendations.

10. Correspondence – Dr. Dumais stated that he sent a note out to all of Amity regarding Amity policies and asked for feedback; he has received some responses.

11. Superintendent's Report**A. Personnel Report – (enclosure)****B. Superintendent's Monthly Report (enclosure)**

Dr. Dumais highlighted items in his monthly report. As an addendum to his report, he announced that Ms. Mahon received an award from the Connecticut Association of Schools for achievements of a First Year Principal. Ms. Mahon was recognized and thanked for all she has done at Amity High School in her first year as principal.

C. Other – none**12. Chairman's Report -****A. Committee Reports****1. ACES**

A. Draft, ACES calendar - Ms. Cohen noted the draft of the ACES calendar for 2017-2018 enclosed in the packet and asked for any feedback regarding, in particular, the start date of school. Dr. Dumais explained the requirements from the State of Connecticut as it pertains to regional school associations.

2. CABA - Ms. McCreven attended a legal session sponsored by CABA and reminded the Board of the CABA conference coming up in November. Ms. McCreven has notes from the legal meeting that she will submit to Dr. Dumais for review before making them part of the permanent record via attachment to the minutes.

3. Curriculum – The Curriculum Committee will meet on October 27th at 6:30 pm

4. Facilities – The Facilities Committee met in September and had a facility tour at the high school which included the fuel cell project; that project is ahead of schedule.

A. Facilities Department monthly report, September 2016 (enclosure)

5. Finance

A. October enrollment report – Dr. Dumais presented the enrollment report and highlighted the difference between enrollment versus average daily membership as well as detailing the changes in member allocation for each town.

B. ICMA-RC appointment as defined contribution retirement plan administrator. - International City Management Association Retirement Corporation (ICMA-RC) has been selected to administer the plan as noted on page 26 of the Board packet, memo from Ms. Lumas to Dr. Dumais.

C. Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements

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

E. Discussion and possible action on new funding requests

Mr. Hurley recused himself from the discussion on this item.

Ms. Lumas noted that the name of account number 05-15-2512-5281 as noted in her memo should be Defined Contribution Retirement Plan rather than Defined Benefit Pension Plan.

Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2nd by Ms. Cardozo to make the following budget transfer into the Defined Contribution Retirement Plan account to cover the District's contribution on behalf of employees:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
05-00-0000-5850	Contingency	\$41,074	
05-15-2512-5281	Defined Contribution Retirement Plan		\$41,074

Vote unanimous with Mr. Hurley abstaining

Motion carried

F. Other

1. Audit update – Ms. Lumas stated that the audit is complete, there were no issues, and a draft of the report for Federal and State grants has been received. The draft of the full report should be received soon.

6. Policy – The Policy Committee will meet on October 24th. There will be a presentation by CABE at that meeting regarding how to best attack policy changes. A memorandum of understanding will be addressed.

7. Personnel – The Personnel Committee will meet on November 7th.

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

10. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Cohen , 2nd by Mr. Hurley to adjourn at 9:05 pm.

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth E. Natzel, Recording Clerk

Thomas Hurley, Secretary

Attachments (2)

Presentation, Amity Middle School, Bethany Campus – Dr. Richard Dellinger

Presentation, Testing results – Dr. Marie McPadden