

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman William Blake, Mr. John Belfonti, Ms. Robyn Berke (arrived 6:45 pm), Mr. Christopher Browe, Ms. Patricia Cardozo, Ms. Sue Cohen, Mr. Steven DeMaio, Ms. Amy Esposito, Mr. Thomas Hurley, Ms. Tracey Russo, Ms. Sheila McCreven (departed 7:25 pm), and Mr. James Stirling.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Ms. Diane Urbano.

Staff members present: Dr. Charles Dumais, Ms. Theresa Lumas, Mr. Scott Cleary, Mr. Kevin Berean, Dr. Richard Dellinger, Mr. Shaun DeRosa, Mr. Peter Downhour, Ms. Kathleen Fuller-Cutler, Ms. Lisa Lassen, Ms. Anna Mahon, Dr. E. Marie McPadden, Ms. Mary Raiola,.

Also present: Other members of the public.

A regular meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education (BOE) was held on Monday, April 17, 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 6:35 pm.

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

3. **Public Comment – none.**

4. 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.

5. Presentation of Amity Middle School Bethany Social Robotics Program

Dr. Dellinger introduced Mr. Kevin Berean from Amity Middle School Bethany, noting that Mr. Berean is the Amity Teacher of the Year for 2017. Mr. Berean presented an overview of the Social Robotics Program that was begun in 2012 as an after-school club which has now become an elective class with 28 students enrolled. This is an advanced Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program where theory and practice are connected as the students Research, write, and create their projects while developing skills as leaders. Mr. Berean introduced 8th grade student Shyam Viswanathan, who then presented his Vision Shoe project to those present.

Board members asked questions about the class which were answered by Mr. Berean and Mr. Viswanathan. Mr. Blake commended Mr. Berean and Mr. Viswanathan on their achievements and congratulated them on behalf of the Board.

6. Discussion and possible action on setting graduation date of June 14, 2017

Dr. Dumais recommended that graduation for Amity Regional High School be set for June 14, 2017, which is the last day of school.

Motion by Mr. Hurley, 2nd by Mr. Stirling, to set the date of graduation for Amity Regional High School on June 14, 2017.

Vote unanimous 11-0

Motion carried

7. Presentation of the Next Generation Accountability Report

Dr. Dumais introduced Dr. McPadden and Ms. Lassen presented the detailed results of the Next Generation Accountability Report.

There was lengthy discussion, questions and answers regarding the report and its implications.

Mr. Blake thanked Dr. McPadden and Ms. Lassen for their presentation. It was noted that this report is on the agenda for the Curriculum Committee meeting to take place this Thursday, April 20th at 6:30.

8. Correspondence - None

7. Superintendent's Report

A. Personnel Report – (enclosure)

Dr. Dumais stated that there were no new hires and that 3 retirements have been announced.

B. Superintendent's Monthly Report (enclosure)

Dr. Dumais highlighted several items in his monthly report.

C. Other

Dr. Dumais stated that Parent University would be held on Tuesday evening, April 18th to present the results of the recent student surveys.

8. Chairman's Report -

A. Committee Reports

1. ACES

2. CABE

3. Curriculum – Mr. Browe noted that the Curriculum Committee will meet this Thursday, April 20th at 6:30 pm.

4. Facilities – Ms. Russo noted that the Facilities Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 25th at 5:30 pm.

A. Facilities Department monthly report, March 2017 (enclosure)

5. Finance

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

1. Professional Auditing Services

Motion by Mr. Browe, 2nd by Ms. Esposito approve MahoneySabol for a three-year contract at the bid price of year 1: \$31,000, year 2: \$31,000, and year 3: \$31,000 for auditing services commencing July 1, 2017, with a recommendation for a change in engagement partners.

Discussion followed. Mr. Stirling noted that all 8 contracts on the agenda were approved by the Finance Committee without dissent.

Vote unanimous 10-0

Motion carried

2. Substitute Services

Motion by Mr. Stirling, 2nd by Ms. Cohen to award the substitute teacher service contract to Kelly Educational Services for July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. This is a sole source vendor for the Substitute Teacher Services, and therefore, the sealed bid requirements are not required. The Board reserves the right to cancel the contract if Kelly Educational Services fails to perform in a satisfactory manner. If services exceed \$60,000, the Amity Finance Committee and the Board of Education will be notified.

Discussion and questions followed which were answered by Ms. Lumas and Dr. Dumais.

Vote unanimous 10-0

Motion carried

3. Internet Connection

Motion by Mr. Stirling, 2nd by Ms. Cohen to award the internet connection contract for the District to State of Connecticut: Connecticut Education Network (CEN) for July 01, 2017 to June 30, 2022 at the price of \$45,600 per year.

Discussion followed. Questions were answered by Dr. Dumais and Mr. DeRosa.

Vote unanimous 10-0

Motion carried

4. Extension of electricity rate.

Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2nd by Ms. Russo to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to lock in a set price and term for electricity if he deems it in the best interest of the District. The Director of Finance and Administration will report the set price and term at the next Board meeting.

Ms. Lumas noted that the current rate for electricity is locked in through December 2017.

Vote unanimous 10-0

Motion carried

5. Amity High School parking lot

Motion by Ms. Russo, 2nd by Ms. Esposito to award the parking lot replacement contract for Amity Regional High School to Greenway Industries, Inc. of Danbury, CT for the bid price of \$2,20 per square foot, not to exceed the budget of \$350,000.

Discussion followed. It was noted by Ms. Lumas that the financing for this project is from the bond.

Vote 9 in favor, 1 opposed (Mr. Browe)

Motion carried

6. Amity High School tennis court replacement

Motion by Mr. Hurley, 2nd by Ms. Berke to award the tennis court replacement contract for Amity Regional High School to Classic Turf Company LLC of Woodbury, CT for the base bid price of \$370,000 and sidewalk, curbing and windscreen options not to exceed \$30,000.

Discussion followed. Questions were answered by Dr. Dumais.

Vote 9 in favor, 1 opposed (Mr. Browe)

Motion carried

7. Amity High School classroom renovation

Motion by Mr. Belfonti, 2nd by Mr. Stirling to award the classroom renovation contract at Amity Regional High School to John L. Simpson Company, Inc. of Bridgeport, CT for the bid price of \$193,686.

Discussion followed. Questions were answered by Ms. Lumas.

Vote 5 in favor (Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Cardozo, Ms. Cohen, Mr. Hurley, and Mr. Stirling)

Vote 4 opposed (Ms. Berke, Mr. Browe, Mr. Demaio, and Ms. Esposito)

Abstain (Ms. Russo)

Motion carried

8. Air handler

Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2nd by Mr. Belfonti to award the air handler replacement contract at Amity Regional High School to Sav-Mor Heating and Cooling, Inc., of Southington, CT, for the bid price of \$514,900.

Discussion followed.

Vote unanimous 10-0

Motion carried

- B. Discussion of monthly financial statements
- C. Director of Finance and Administration approved transfers under \$3,000
- D. Discussion and possible action on budget transfers of \$3,000 or more

Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2nd by Mr. Browe to make the following budget transfer to cover the cost of occupational therapy and physical therapy medical services:

<u>Account number</u>	<u>Account name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
04-12-6117-5560	Tuition – Public out	\$12,000	
04-14-2130-5330	Medical services		\$12,000

Vote unanimous 10-0

Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Browe, 2nd by Ms. Esposito to make the following budget transfer to cover the cost of sanding and snow removal through March 2017.

<u>Account number</u>	<u>Account name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
05-14-2600-5715	Improvements to buildings – contingency	\$9,775	
01-14-2600-5420	Repair and maintenance		\$2,900
03-14-2600-5420	Repair and maintenance		\$6,875

Vote unanimous 10-0

Motion carried

G. Other

6. Policy

- A. First read of the following policy recommendations: (separate enclosure)
 - 1. 0050 (recommended for deletion)
 - 2. New: 5142.4

Mr. Hurley stated the reason for the recommended deletion of policy 0050 and went over the edits that have been made to policy 5142.4.

Discussion and questions followed regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the School Resource Officer pertinent to policy 5142.4. Dr. Dumais stated that the Police Commission of Woodbridge has approved the draft of the MOU. This will be discussed at the Policy Committee meeting on Monday April 24th at 5:30 pm.

- B. Second read of the following policy recommendations: (separate enclosure)
 - 1. New: 5131.111

Mr. Hurley outlined the video surveillance policy and the one change that was made.

Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2nd by Mr. Hurley to accept policy 5131.111

There was lengthy discussion regarding changes in the policy that some Board members felt needed to be made. Mr. Hurley pointed out that the policy as it stands could be sent back to the Policy Committee for further revision.

Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2nd by Ms. Esposito to amend the motion and insert “the Districts” in #2, #3 and #4 in the policy.

Vote 9 in favor, abstain 1 (Ms. Berke)

Motion carried

Motion by Mr. Stirling, 2nd by Mr. Demaio to table the vote on policy 5131.111.

Vote unanimous 10-0

Motion carried

2. Accepted: 0050.1, 0100, 0200, 0521, 0521.1, and 0521.2

Mr. Hurley stated that these 6 existing policies had no changes made.

Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2nd by Ms. Cardozo to accept policies 0050.1, 0100, 0200, 0521, 0521.1 and 0521.2.

Vote unanimous 10-0

Motion carried

3. Rejected: 0210, 0210.1, 0210.2, and 0211

Mr. Hurley explained that no action is necessary for these rejected policies, this is for information only.

4. Edited: 0000, and 0300

Mr. Hurley went over the changes to policy 0000 (consistent capitalization and minor changes to a few sentences) and policy 0300 (references to policies that do not exist were removed).

Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2nd by Ms. Russo to accept policies 0000 and 0300 as edited.

Vote unanimous 10-0

Motion carried

7. Personnel

Goals meeting is coming up in May. Negotiations will take place this summer. Dr. Dumais will send out a review and reminder of the upcoming dates as set forth in the meeting schedule.

9. Items for next agenda – please forward any items to Dr. Dumais or Mr. Blake. Ms. Esposito requested that security at the middle schools be placed on a future agenda for discussion as discussed at the Facilities Committee meeting.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Cohen, 2nd by Mr. Browe to adjourn at 9:24 pm.

Vote unanimous 10-0

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth E. Natzel, Recording Clerk

Thomas Hurley, Secretary