

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

Bethany Orange Woodbridge

25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525

(203) 397-4811

Dr. John J. Brady

Superintendent of Schools

PLEASE POST

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AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

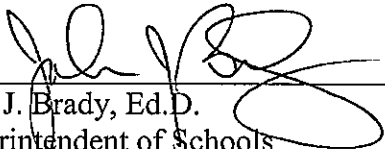
February 13, 2012

A regular meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education will be held on Monday, February 13, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., in the cafeteria at Amity High School.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Regular BOE Meeting, January 9, 2012 (Enclosure)
 - b. Special BOE Meeting, January 25, 2012 (Enclosure)
4. Recognition of Student – Zizi Yu, INTEL Science Competition Semifinalist
5. Superintendent Search – Leadership Profile
6. Discussion and Possible Action to Switch from Fully Insured to Self Funded Medical, Dental and Vision Benefits
7. Discussion and Possible Actions Regarding the Superintendent’s Proposed 2012-2013 Budget
8. Discussion and Possible Action on 2012-2013 School Calendar (Enclosure)
9. Student Report
10. Public Comment
11. Announcements from the Board and Administration
12. Correspondence
13. Superintendent’s Report
 - a. Personnel Report (Enclosure)
 - b. ESEA Waiver Flexibility (Enclosure)
 - c. CABA’s Day On The Hill (Enclosure)
 - d. PEAC Agreement (Enclosure)

14. Chairman's Report
- a. Committee Reports
 - 1. ACES
 - 2. CABA
 - 3. Curriculum
 - 4. Facilities
 - 5. Finance
 - a. Discussion and Possible Action on Healthy Food Certification Statement for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013
 - b. Discussion and Possible Action on Award of Contract over \$35,000
 - c. Discussion and Possible Action on Amity High School Roof Restoration Project
 - d. Discussion and Possible Action on Establishment of Special Revenue Fund for Turf Field
 - 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
 - h. Discussion and Possible Action on New Funding Requests
 - 6. Policy
 - 7. Personnel
15. Items for the Next Agenda
16. Adjournment



John J. Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

JJB/kfw

pc: Town Clerks: Bethany
Orange
Woodbridge

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If you require accommodations to participate because of a disability, please contact the office of the Superintendent of Schools in advance at 397-4811.

MINUTES

AMITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Blake, Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

AMITY BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Julie Altman, Steven DeMaio

Staff Members Present: John Brady, Charles Britton, Kathleen Fuller Cutler, Richard Dellinger, Kevin Keller, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Terry Lumas, Paul Mengold, Rocco Palmieri, Jim Saisa, Sheila Wycinowski

Also Present: Les Burns, Thomas Falcigno, Jeff Kwolek; members of the Public; members of the Press

A regular meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education was held on Monday, January 9, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in the Presentation Room at the District Offices.

1. **Call to Order:** William Blake called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **Regular Board of Education Meeting, December 12, 2011**

Motion to approve these minutes as presented (Mr. Hurley, 2d Ms. Gedansky).
Discussion: A few corrections were noted.
Vote in favor of approving the minutes as amended: Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling
Vote opposed: none
Abstain: James Horwitz

Motion passed.

Motion to move the Student Report from Item #9 to Item #4 (Ms. Cohen, 2d Ms. Crocco).
Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

4. Student Report

Thomas Falcigno reported that auditions for the musical *Legally Blonde* were taking place during the week. The High School's Link Crew is planning activities. On behalf of the students, Thomas expressed support for the turf field being proposed. He thanked the Board for supporting athletics at Amity.

5. Discussion and Possible Action to Accept Audit of Year Ending June 30, 2011

Motion to accept the audit (Mr. Hurley, 2d Mr. Stirling).

Discussion:

Ron Howard of CCR gave a brief report. In regard to financial compliance, Mr. Howard said that the audit was clean all around. He said management at Amity was very helpful and efficient, making CCR's job easy.

Mr. Stirling said that he noticed that there were no internal control weaknesses. He asked if many districts have this.

Mr. Howard said that it is not the norm to have such a clean report.

Mr. Hurley said that the Board should thank Finance Manager Terry Lumas and Director of Finance and Administration Jack Levine.

Mr. Blake said that he agreed with Mr. Hurley's sentiments.

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

6. Discussion and Possible Action to Support Community Fund Raising Efforts to Purchase and Install an Artificial Turf Field at Amity High School

A Facilities Committee meeting took place last week. The possibility of purchasing and installing a turf field was discussed. Jeff Kwolek said that he was approached by coaches and parents about the condition of fields at Amity.

Realizing that there is no financial support through the schools, a group has formed for the purpose of raising money for a turf field. The group would like to officially form a financial subcommittee, but Board approval is needed.

Mr. Mengold said that a feasibility survey was done five years ago. The field would be beneficial. Claims that the materials used for turf fields may be carcinogenic aren't proven. The current football field is quite muddy. Soccer teams can't use the field and physical education classes also have difficulty using the field. There are many positives associated with a turf field. The field could be rented and the maintenance savings would be about \$35,000 a year.

Dr. Brady noted that another benefit discussed would be a reduction in orthopedic injuries.

Mr. Blake asked if Mr. Kwolek is willing to undertake the fundraising, what the financial commitment would be. He noted that the Board would not be soliciting funds.

Ms. Russo questioned what the signs might look like if corporate sponsorships are secured.

Mr. Kwolek said that bronze plaques would be preferable. Nothing gaudy would be used.

Mr. Horwitz asked about the size of the turf field. He asked whether there are different quality fields and which is less likely to create risk.

Mr. Kwolek said that there is sufficient space for an appropriate sized football field.

Mr. Mengold said that some people feel that a sand/rubber combination results in fewer injuries than simply rubber. Mr. Mengold said that the field would have an eight-year warranty.

Motion to support fundraising activities and accept funds raised from such activities for the sole purpose of construction and installation of a turf athletic field at Amity Regional High School (Ms. Cohen, 2d Ms. Gedansky).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

7. Discussion and Possible Action to Amend the Budget Calendar

Dr. Brady noted that changes are being proposed because the Orange Board of Finance would like to review, comment, and provide input on the budget. The Amity Finance Committee vote will now take place on February 13, 2012.

Motion to amend the Budget Calendar (Mr. Stirling, 2d Mr. Hurley).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

8. Information on Enrollment Through 2017-2018

Dr. Brady noted that trends in student enrollment show a loss of over 300 students. A comprehensive enrollment study should take place, as these are fairly significant changes. A plan should be put in place going forward. The study would be the basis for future decisions regarding the District. A study should be conducted that would provide comprehensive and accurate data.

9. Principal's Reports

a. Orange middle school: Ms. Fuller Cutler said that students gave a heartfelt performance at the Winter Concert. Students took part in character education and learned about taking control of their actions. The students were very engaged in the subject matter. They gained an understanding about why words matter.

b. Bethany middle school: Dr. Dellinger said that the school recently held the annual Three Kings celebration featuring Spanish food. Students learned

about work going on in Rwanda. Funds are being collected for a trip to China and the school plans to Skype with students and teachers there. The iPad pilot is going well and a science teacher showed students how the lab work could be captured in iMovie. The Nature's Classroom parent meeting will take place tomorrow night. Students will be signing up for high school electives this week. An upcoming assembly is entitled, "Let's Get Real." Bullying is being discussed and kids are taking steps to report problems.

- c. High school: Dr. Britton said that work is being done on the accreditation study. Follow-up reports must be submitted to NEASC. An event is planned for juniors to teach about life after high school. A special PTSA meeting will take place to acquaint more parents about the association. A transition resource fair will be offered to parents of special needs students. The fair will be important for addressing the transition from high school to life after high school.

10. Student Report

Discussed in #4 above.

11. Public Comment

None.

12. Announcements from the Board and Administration

- a. CNN Program on Indoor Air Quality

Dr. Brady was approached to participate in a story for CNN. The network was looking for a district that had overcome problems. Dr. Brady participated in interviews for the program. The reporters traveled to Woodbridge and Bethany. A school in Pennsylvania experiencing significant water and air quality problems will be shown. Amity would be featured as a district that overcame problems. The programs will air on Saturday, January 14th and Sunday, January 15th at 8 p.m. and again at 11 p.m.

Mr. Hurley said that he would like to see if a copy of the program could be brought to the next meeting of the Board.

- b. Budget Presentation to Amity Finance Committee – January 23, 2012, 5:30 p.m.

Dr. Brady will present the budget to the Amity Finance Committee in two weeks.

- c. Budget Presentation to Board of Education – January 30, 2012, 6:30 p.m.

The planned presentation will take place on a Monday night.

13. Correspondence

John Grasso, Jr. mentioned that there was a letter from Philip Grande. Mr. Blake said that the Board was copied on the letter already and it will be attached to the minutes.

14. Superintendent's Report

a. Personnel Report

The report shows Constandino Gizzi was hired as a Building Equipment Maintainer – Electrician.

b. Discussion of District Meeting vs. Referendum for 2012-2013 Budget Vote

At a previous meeting, Dr. Brady proposed discussing with the three First Selectmen the possibility of holding a District Meeting rather than a referendum vote on the 2012-2013 Amity budget. Further information was requested about how other regional districts vote on budgets and what the voting patterns were in the three towns in terms of time. All but one of the regional districts use a referendum. The percentage of voters casting ballots in the 2011 Amity referendum was approximately 10 percent of registered voters in all three towns. There was no information on who votes at what times. While the voter turnout was low, conducting the vote at a District Meeting would almost certainly result in even lower participation. Dr. Brady said that he feels that the District should continue use of referendum voting.

15. Chairman's Report

a. Committee Reports

1. ACES: Ms. Cohen said that ACES has a new autism program that will be welcome in the area.
2. CABE: Mr. Blake said that the Board of Education will serve as the selection committee for the new superintendent. CABE was chosen after a number of search firms were interviewed. The first step in the process of choosing a new superintendent will be to gather community input through focus groups to determine what qualities community members would like to see in the next leader. Information gathered will be shared on the District website, since not everyone in the community can attend focus groups. Materials will also be available elsewhere. For information about the search, people can go to www.amityregion5.org and look for the superintendent search. The goal is to have a new superintendent in place at the start of the next school year. Mr. Blake noted that there is a lot going on with CABE at the state level. Mr. Stirling said that if anyone on the Board isn't getting information and e-mails from CABE to let him know.

3. Curriculum

a. Discussion and Possible Action on Chinese V / AP Chinese / Chinese Honors

Mr. Hurley noted that there was no quorum at the last meeting of the Curriculum Committee. Chinese has become a popular offering. Chinese V must be approved by the Board.

Motion to approve Chinese V (Mr. Browe, 2d Ms. Cardozo).

Discussion: Mr. Horwitz asked if it is possible to have an honors class that isn't locked into the AP.

Dr. Brady said that the advanced program is recognized by colleges nationwide. Data that colleges look for includes advanced placement coursework and SAT scores.

Mr. Horwitz mentioned that there appear to be disadvantages to the AP program. Mr. Horwitz said that the requirements are rigid, involving a 12-month cycle, rather than nine or 10-month cycle.

Dr. Brady said that he supports the program, as it is very rigorous. Students take AP courses for different reasons. Some use it to advance into new courses; others are able to be waived out of languages. The courses are voluntary.

Ms. Wycinowski said that AP courses involve national exams. The coursework prepared students for fall by having them do some work over the summer.

Vote in favor: Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

Vote opposed: James Horwitz

Motion passed.

Mr. Horwitz said that he is not opposed to offering Chinese V, just to making it an AP offering.

Dr. Brady said that he believes that AP courses help students get into colleges.

4. Facilities: Ms. Cardozo reported that another Facilities Committee meeting will be planned, as the Five-Year Capital Forecast needs to be discussed further.

5. Finance

- a. Discussion and Possible Action to Redesignate Funds from the Capital & Nonrecurring Account for Specified Capital Projects

Mr. Blake said that money was designated for the roof at the High School. Dr. Brady is asking the Board to reconsider, as there are a number of needs facing the District and the budget for next year already includes a 2.1 percent increase.

No action was taken. A number of questions have been raised. The concerns will be addressed through the budget process.

- b. Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements

There were no questions.

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

- d. Discussion and Possible Action on Budget Transfers

This budget request re-allocates funds to offset the cost of two bench subs for 50 days. These bench subs will be used to staff the Math CAPT Lab and Science CAPT Lab while the interns complete their student teaching. Staffing these labs with additional bench subs will allow the District to maintain tutoring, which is being used as part of RTI programming and CAPT prep remediation efforts. This tutoring

will be maintained during the critical January and February timeframe in the lead-up to the March CAPT administration.

Motion to make the following budget transfer of \$7,000 to pay two bench subs \$70 per day each for 50 days (Ms. Cardozo, 2d Mr. Horwitz):

Account Number	Account Name	From	To
03-11-1001-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$500	
03-11-1008-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$300	
03-11-1009-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$900	
03-11-1010-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$400	
03-11-1013-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$900	
03-11-1014-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$150	
03-13-2120-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$1,000	
03-14-2219-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$1,000	
03-13-2220-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$350	
03-11-2400-5550	Communications	\$1,500	
05-15-1026-5111	Certified Salaries		\$7,000

Discussion: Dr. Brady noted that the tutoring is working. Shifting funds is necessary in order to staff the labs.

Mr. Hurley noted that instructional supplies are being used.

Dr. Brady said that the teachers were not using these funds.

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

A final payment to Day Pitney LLP of \$6,014 UNF needs to be made for professional services rendered in connection with the IRS audit of \$20,000,000 General Obligation Bonds and \$8,190,000 Bond Anticipation Notes. The IRS has notified the District of a “No-Change Determination” after completing their examination of Amity’s bonds.

Motion to make the following budget transfer of \$6,014 to pay Day Pitney LLP for professional services rendered in connection with an IRS audit of General Obligation Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes (Ms. Cohen, 2d Ms. Crocco):

Account Number	Account Name	From	To
05-14-2510-5521	General Liability Insurance	\$6,014	
05-14-2310-5330	Other Professional & Tech. Svcs.		\$6,014

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

e. Update on Financial Operations

6. Policy

7. Personnel: The Committee has been primarily involved with negotiations with teachers.

16. Update on Negotiations – Executive Session

Motion to enter Executive Session at 8:12 p.m. (Ms. Cohen, 2d Ms. Cardozo).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

The Board left Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.

17. Discussion and Possible Action on Agreement Between the Amity Regional Board of Education and the Amity Teacher’s Association

Motion to accept agreement between the Amity Regional Board of Education and the Amity Teacher’s Association (Mr. Hurley, 2d Mr. Browe).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

18. Items for the Next Agenda

19. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. (Mr. Hurley, 2d Ms. Cardozo).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Gedansky, secretary
Marianne Lippard, recording clerk

Attachments/References

- Minutes: Regular Board Meeting (12/12/11)
- Letters/Memos: John J. Brady to Amity Board of Education and Amity Finance Committee (1/4/12) re...Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 6/30/11
John J. Brady to Amity Board of Education (1/5/12) re...Community Fund Raising for Turf Field
John J. Brady to Amity Finance Committee and Board of Education (1/3/12) re...Proposal to Amend Budget Calendar
John J. Brady to Board of Education (11/14/10) re...Projected Enrollment through 2017-2018
John J. Brady to Board of Education (1/9/12) re...Personnel Report
John Brady to Amity Finance Committee and Amity Board of Education (1/4/12) re...Information on Budget Referendum Voting
John J. Brady to Amity Board of Education and Finance Committee (1/5/12) re...Redesignate Funds from the Capital & Nonrecurring Expenditures Account for Specified Capital Projects
Jack B. Levine to John J. Brady (1/4/12) re...Budget Transfers of \$3,000 or More for Fiscal Year 2011-2012
Philip Grande to Amity Finance Committee (1/9/12) re...Capital Projects
- Proposal: New Course / Unit or Course Modification: Chinese V
- Reports: Amity Regional District No. 5 Revenues and Expenditures for FY 2011-2012
Amity Regional District No. 5 – Budget Transfers 2011-2012

MINUTES

AMITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Julie Altman, William Blake, Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

AMITY BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Diane Crocco, John A. Grasso, Jr.,

Also Present: John Brady, Charles Britton, Sue Cohen, Kathleen Fuller Cutler, Richard Dellinger, Deb DeMeo, Kevin Keller, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Terry Lumas, Paul Mengold, Rocco Palmieri, Mary Raiola, Jim Saisa, Sheila Wycinowski, James Zeoli

A special meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education was held on Wednesday, January 25, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in the Presentation Room of District Offices.

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Blake called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.
3. **Presentation and Discussion of Superintendent's Proposed 2012-2013 Budget**

Dr. Brady welcomed new Board members John A. Grasso, Jr., Christopher Browe and Tracey Lane Russo to the budget presentation, the first of such presentations that they will be a part of. He noted that this information was presented to the Amity Finance Committee on Monday, January 23rd.

Dr. Brady asked the Board to consider this budget to be a work in progress. It is not a complete document at this point. There will be time between this presentation and the District hearing to make changes. There are a number of variables that the administration is in the process of determining.

He noted that developing a budget for the District is a painstaking process, beginning with requests from the administrative team and paring the budget down along the way. The goal throughout the process is to deliver the highest quality education for the money, while also taking into account economic conditions, Dr. Brady said. Work has been done to provide this balance.

There have been many accomplishments at Amity during the last year in the areas of academics, arts, and athletics. Dr. Brady noted that a new school website will be up soon showcasing the District in a more appealing format.

One of the goals at Amity has been to increase Advanced Placement offerings and also to see that students take and pass AP exams. Results have been shown in this area to the point where it can be said that this goal has been accomplished, the Superintendent said. The AP results show that Amity students ranked #6 in the state for 2011.

Highlighting other academic results, Dr. Brady noted that CMT results showed strong performances in both the seventh and eighth grade. The eighth grade had the highest percentage of students attaining goal or advanced stature in Amity history.

He added that CAPT tests results showed significant improvement. Amity is in DRG 2, along with Madison, Guilford, Monroe and a number of other towns, and the reading scores produced at Amity last year were #1 in the DRG. Math scores were #4 in the DRG, a significant improvement after Amity previously scored second to last in the reference group in 2010. Science scores were #6 in the DRG in 2011, a substantial achievement, after Amity students scored #14 in the DRG in 2010. Dr. Brady noted that the scores are important and a remediation program has helped. At the advanced level, Amity finished #2 in the DRG with 95 students attaining advanced status.

The District also has another INTEL finalist. One of Amity's students has achieved the honor. She is studying allergies and is one of only 40 INTEL finalists in the country.

With programs in automotive, manufacturing, computer design, computer programming, and more, Amity has something for everyone, Dr. Brady said. Last year, Amity was #1 in the state in Computer Information Systems and the Nutrition, Food Production and Sciences on the Comprehensive Technical Education Assessment. Overall, the District scored #7 on this assessment.

Ninety percent of the Class of 2011 continued on to higher education. A total of 1,085 college acceptances were offered to the Class of 2011; 34 percent were to the Most Selective or Highly Selective colleges, as listed by The Barron's College Guidebook.

In the arts, Dr. Brady noted that Amity students are performing extremely well at the High School and middle schools. Students are learning, performing, and enjoying themselves. In May, the musical *Legally Blonde* will be performed at the High School. There have been numerous awards for music, art and drama at Amity. Dr. Brady said that he has every expectation that the program will continue to grow.

Athletic programs at Amity also have been very successful, receiving recognition in a number of sports. Recently, Athletic Director Paul Mengold received national recognition for his work.

Dr. Brady noted that Amity is a caring, giving community. This sense of service is seen in all areas. One notable accomplishment in community service was a donation to the Petit Family Foundation, which was collected from proceeds of a production of *Bang, Bang You're Dead*.

In operations, Amity was one of 21 “benchmark” districts identified as fully efficient by the UCONN publication, *Connecticut Economy*, Winter 2010. The District also has undertaken green initiatives and an audit firm found the District’s financial operations adhered to “best practices” for the third consecutive year.

This year, there are a number of issues facing Amity. A major budget driver is the additional \$1 million tuition cost for seven students entering Amity with highly specialized needs. Another factor affecting the budget increase includes the elimination of \$101,000 in funding from the Federal Education Jobs Fund Program, the Superintendent said.

In order to keep pace with technology, some improvements are needed. Dr. Brady said that the District at this point should replace 105 computers and three servers.

Amity is also looking at increases for medical and dental insurance. The insurance consultant has said that a self-funded plan could offer significant savings, based on an analysis of claims over the last few years. Approximately \$268,000 may be available to create an insurance reserve account.

There are some options available that could help the District save money, Dr. Brady said. One proposal is to convert from fuel oil to natural gas at the High School. Dr. Brady said that he recommends pursuing this project using funds currently available. The heating cost could be cut in half if this change is made, although in 2012-2013 the savings won’t be apparent due to the expense of the conversion.

Negotiations with teachers resulted in a zero percent “hard freeze” wage. This means that there is no step, or general wage increase, for teachers for 2012-2013, saving approximately \$700,000. Dr. Brady thanked Deb DeMeo for helping to reach that agreement.

Statewide, the reports show that the average superintendent’s proposed budget involved an increase of 3.21 percent. Amity’s is now at 2.88 percent.

Enrollment is declining somewhat at this point, but no restructuring is needed right now. Dr. Brady recommended the Board initiate a study committee to look at enrollment projections.

The Superintendent noted that page 26 of the report shows the changes that the District is experiencing. The school population is higher in Orange in part because numbers in Woodbridge are declining. A summary of revenues by category appears on page 27 and 28.

Discussion:

Special education costs are increasing because there are a number of students entering Amity next year. Ms. Cohen questioned whether there are any special education students leaving the District.

Dr. Brady said that the increase discussed was a net increase, factoring in those students that are leaving as well as those coming into the District.

Regarding the money available for the insurance reserve account, Ms. Cohen questioned why the District gets that money. She thought that people who are sick get that money.

Dr. Brady noted that the Board and taxpayer may use that money. Self-funded insurance is a real possibility. There will be time to look at this in detail.

Several Board members questioned the financial impact tuition students have on the budget.

Dr. Brady said that tuition students are evaluated and can be added if the numbers are appropriate.

Mr. Hurley asked if the number of tuition students could be increased.

Ms. Altman questioned whether Amity has to transport tuition students.

Dr. Brady said that Amity has encouraged students at one school to check out Amity as an option. Amity does not have to transport these students; however, the parents can choose to bring their children to an Amity bus stop.

Ms. Altman questioned that with special education costs having such a large impact on the budget, should the Board be doing anything to get support.

Ms. Raiola said that Connecticut does things differently than other states. People are starting to look at the cost and who bears that cost.

Ms. Cohen asked if Amity is funded the same way as New Haven and Bridgeport.

Dr. Brady said that the District is. Amity will get \$465,000 back. It is returned in February and May.

Mr. Blake said that new students are coming from the feeder schools. Local communities will see a parallel decrease.

Dr. Brady noted that some of Amity's classes are at maximum size. A number of areas were considered for savings. A retirement incentive plan was explored, but there aren't enough teachers at Amity that are at retirement age. A computer teacher is retiring and will not be replaced. Another teacher will fill the vacancy by traveling between schools.

Ms. Russo asked about planned computer replacements.

Dr. Brady noted that replacement has been put off for two years now. Mr. Palmieri said that memory is more expensive for older computers than new computers.

Regarding the visitor bleachers, Dr. Brady said that Mr. Saisa got three quotes. The building official and fire marshal from Woodbridge examined the bleachers to check for safety. The bleachers need to be disposed of or Amity will be fined.

Ms. Cohen noted that she has concerns about the Facilities Five Year Capital Improvement Forecast/Preventative Maintenance. She does not want to see items pushed out that will cause greater expense in the future.

4. Public Comment

Orange First Selectman James Zeoli said that he wanted to be clear that he does not dislike Dr. Brady or Amity. A number of Amity students work on his farm and he enjoys the students and hears praise for Amity.

He attended the Amity Finance Committee on Monday night and two weeks ago. Things have changed and things are getting better. He has changed his position on the bleachers. He had questioned Dr. Brady about the bond for the roof and whether anything else was being added. Dr. Brady said nothing else was being added. He suggested putting the bleachers on the bond, rather than taking money set aside for the roof.

He said that last year he begged the Board not to roll money forward, but to send it back to the towns. Now there is a million dollar hole. He fully understands the demands of special needs.

Orange is self-insured. Looking into this change is a step in the right direction. The increases in Bethany and Orange are a big problem. There are competing needs. He wants to work with the Board. There are Orange residents receiving fuel assistance.

A lot of storefronts are being filled. Over 2,000 jobs are being added in the Marsh Hill Road area. Mr. Scinto is in negotiations for the Stew Leonard's property. Pez is increasing employees. The town of Orange is working hard.

5. Adjourn

*Motion to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. (Mr. Stirling, 2d Ms. Gedansky).
Vote in favor unanimous; meeting adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Lippard, recording clerk



AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

BETHANY * ORANGE * WOODBRIDGE

John J. Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Phone: (203) 392-2106
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To: Amity Board of Education and Amity Finance Committee Members
From: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
Re: Potential Revisions to Superintendent's Proposed 2012-2013 Budget
Date: February 10, 2012

In January, I presented my proposed 2012-2013 budget with an increase of 2.88 percent. It included technology equipment and facilities projects totaling \$344,000 and a fully funded medical, dental and vision benefits insurance program.

The enclosed revised 2012-2013 budget eliminates the facilities and technology items of \$344,000 and reduces medical insurance by \$525,000 with the assumption the District will switch from a fully insured to a self funded medical, dental and vision benefits program. This is partially offset by \$18,000 for a non-union, part-time employee (15 hours per week at \$20 per hour) with no benefits to handle the work related to the self funded program. In the event the Amity Finance Committee and Amity Board of Education act favorably to these changes, the chart below shows the impact on the Member Town Allocations from the 2.88 percent budget to a revised budget of 0.92 percent.

**2012-2013 Budget Scenarios
Member Town Allocations
Budget-to-Budget Increase / (Decrease)**

Scenarios	Bethany	Orange	Woodbridge
Budget at 2.88 Percent	\$386,413	\$1,308,046	(\$92,299)
Budget at 0.92 Percent	\$210,929	\$885,499 (A)	(\$345,268)

Note A: \$521,870, or 59 percent, due to the enrollment shift

Enclosure

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED 2012-2013 BUDGET

LINE	CATEGORY	COLUMN 1 2010-2011		COLUMN 2 2010-2011		COLUMN 3 2011-2012		COLUMN 4 2011-2012		COLUMN 5 2012-2013		COLUMN 6 VAR. \$ TO		COLUMN 7 VAR. % TO	
		BUDGET		ACTUAL	BUDGET	BUDGET	FORECAST	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	BUDGET	
1	MEMBER TOWN ALLOCATIONS	40,645,362		40,645,362	41,199,830	41,199,830	41,199,830	41,199,830	41,950,990	751,160	1.82%				
2	MEMBER TOWN ALLOCATIONS PCT. CHG.	-0.17%		-0.17%	1.36%	1.36%	1.36%	1.36%	1.82%						
3	OTHER REVENUE	217,363		252,290	196,397	196,397	204,327	195,549	(848)						
4	OTHER STATE GRANTS	293,405		653,539	552,122	552,122	599,009	967,575	415,453						
5	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	1,102,000		1,182,495	982,148	982,148	1,016,828	409,182	(572,966)						
6	BUILDING RENOVATION GRANTS	499,267		488,111	478,124	478,124	478,124	286,347	(191,777)						
7	TOTAL REVENUES	42,757,397		43,221,797	43,408,621	43,408,621	43,498,118	43,809,643	401,022						
8	SALARIES	22,452,191		21,952,932	22,831,870	22,831,870	22,810,196	22,926,055	94,185						
9	BENEFITS	4,991,381		5,039,066	5,371,399	5,371,399	5,452,592	5,035,918	(335,481)						
10	PURCHASED SERVICES	5,886,537		5,444,161	6,050,445	6,050,445	5,743,225	7,073,720	1,023,275						
11	DEBT SERVICE	5,789,534		5,789,534	5,562,444	5,562,444	5,562,444	5,364,858	(197,586)						
12	SUPPLIES (INCLUDING UTILITIES)	3,231,734		3,187,994	3,158,195	3,158,195	3,027,718	3,086,674	(71,521)						
13	EQUIPMENT	128,557		257,996	108,196	108,196	152,627	56,887	(51,309)						
14	IMPROVEMENTS / CONTINGENCY	164,400		29,249	207,000	207,000	115,425	150,000	(57,000)						
15	DUES AND FEES	113,063		90,903	119,072	119,072	119,072	115,531	(3,541)						
16	TRANSFER ACCOUNT	0		728,868	0	0	200,000	0	0						
17	ESTIMATED UNSPENT BUDGETS	0		0	0	0	0	0	0						
18	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	42,757,397		42,520,703	43,408,621	43,408,621	43,183,299	43,809,643	401,022						
19	TOTAL EXPENDITURES PCT. CHG.	1.48%		0.91%	1.52%	1.52%	1.00%	0.92%							
20	SUBTOTAL	0		701,094	0	0	314,819	0	(0)						
21	PLUS: CANCELLATION OF PRIOR YEAR'S ENCUMBRANCES	0		37,940	0	0	0	0	0						
22	DESIGNATED FOR SUBSEQUENT YEAR'S BUDGET:														
23	LESS: ASSIGNED TO NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET	0		(675,000)	0	0	(300,000)	0	0						
24	LESS: COMMITTED TO ERRP	0		(64,034)	0	0	0	0	0						
25	NET BALANCE / (DEFICIT)	0		0	0	0	14,819	0	(0)						
26	AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP	2,537		2,514	2,477	2,477	2,449	2,449	(28)						
27	PER PUPIL EXPENDITURE	13,673		13,841	14,354	14,354	14,472	14,647	293						

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED 2012-2013 BUDGET

LINE	CATEGORY	COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 3	COLUMN 4	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 6	COLUMN 7
		2010-2011 BUDGET	2010-2011 ACTUAL	2011-2012 BUDGET	2011-2012 FORECAST	2012-2013 BUDGET	VAR. \$ TO BUDGET	VAR. % TO BUDGET
1	BETHANY ALLOCATION	8,607,468	8,607,468	8,439,785	8,439,785	8,650,714	210,929	2.50%
2	BETHANY ALLOCATION PCT. CHG.	-0.55%	-0.55%	-1.95%	-1.95%	2.50%		
3	ORANGE ALLOCATION	19,302,889	19,302,889	19,944,426	19,944,426	20,829,925	885,499	4.44%
4	ORANGE ALLOCATION PCT. CHG.	1.39%	1.39%	3.32%	3.32%	4.44%		
5	WOODBRIIDGE ALLOCATION	12,735,005	12,735,005	12,815,619	12,815,619	12,470,351	(345,268)	-2.69%
6	WOODBRIIDGE ALLOCATION PCT. CHG.	-2.19%	-2.19%	0.63%	0.63%	-2.69%		
7	MEMBER TOWN ALLOCATIONS	40,645,362	40,645,362	41,199,830	41,199,830	41,950,990	751,160	1.82%
8	MEMBER TOWN ALLOCATION PCT. CHG.	-0.17%	0.17%	1.36%	1.36%	1.82%		
9	ADULT EDUCATION	2,598	3,170	3,130	3,240	3,307	177	5.65%
10	PARKING INCOME	37,200	30,435	31,745	30,435	30,000	(1,745)	-5.50%
11	INVESTMENT INCOME	10,000	2,509	7,500	1,000	2,500	(5,000)	-66.67%
12	ATHLETICS	18,000	22,054	20,000	20,000	22,000	2,000	10.00%
13	TUITION REVENUE	31,960	72,747	62,072	79,152	62,072	0	0.00%
14	TRANSPORTATION INCOME	117,605	121,375	71,950	70,500	75,670	3,720	5.17%
15	TRANSPORTATION BOWA AGREEMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
16	OTHER REVENUE	217,363	252,290	196,397	204,327	195,549	(848)	-0.43%
17	BESB GRANT	2,797	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
18	SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANTS	290,608	653,539	552,122	599,009	967,575	415,453	75.25%
19	OTHER STATE GRANTS	293,405	653,539	552,122	599,009	967,575	415,453	75.25%
20	RENTAL INCOME	27,000	34,690	29,000	25,407	29,000	0	0.00%
21	CAPITAL RESERVE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
22	CONSTRUCTION SINKING DEBT FUND	255,000	255,000	262,000	262,000	0	(262,000)	-100.00%
23	DESIGNATED FROM PRIOR YEAR	800,000	800,000	675,000	675,000	300,000	(375,000)	-55.56%
24	EARLY RETIREE REINSURANCE PROGRAM	0	64,034	0	0	64,034	64,034	100.00%
25	OTHER REVENUE	20,000	28,771	16,148	54,421	16,148	0	0.00%
26	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	1,102,000	1,182,495	982,148	1,016,828	409,182	(572,966)	-58.34%
27	BUILDING RENOVATION GRANTS	499,267	488,111	478,124	478,124	286,347	(191,777)	-40.11%
28	TOTAL REVENUES	42,757,397	43,221,797	43,408,621	43,498,118	43,809,643	401,022	0.92%

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED 2012-2013 BUDGET

LINE	CATEGORY	COLUMN 1		COLUMN 2		COLUMN 3		COLUMN 4		COLUMN 5		COLUMN 6		COLUMN 7	
		2010-2011	BUDGET	2010-2011	ACTUAL	2011-2012	BUDGET	2011-2012	FORECAST	2012-2013	BUDGET	VAR. \$ TO	BUDGET	VAR. % TO	BUDGET
1	5111-CERTIFIED SALARIES	19,094,309		18,621,650		19,352,371		19,290,431		19,326,825	(25,546)				-0.13%
2	5112-CLASSIFIED SALARIES	3,357,882		3,331,282		3,479,499		3,519,765		3,599,230	119,731				3.44%
3	SALARIES	22,452,191		21,952,932		22,831,870		22,810,196		22,926,055	94,185				0.41%
4	5200-MEDICARE - ER	269,757		283,691		280,907		294,788		298,468	17,561				6.25%
5	5210-FICA - ER	220,489		214,362		223,673		222,747		229,591	5,918				2.66%
6	5220-WORKERS' COMPENSATION	182,730		112,508		127,340		119,070		134,184	6,844				5.37%
7	5231-BLUE CROSS DENTAL	257,887		257,059		229,450		257,358		247,121	17,671				7.70%
8	5251-MEDICAL INSURANCE	2,771,158		2,881,555		3,199,158		3,219,600		2,799,458	(399,700)				-12.49%
9	5860-OPEB TRUST	367,549		373,757		376,753		376,753		394,346	17,593				4.67%
10	5260-LIFE INSURANCE	42,170		42,150		43,838		45,246		44,438	600				1.37%
11	5275-DISABILITY INSURANCE	9,580		9,773		10,103		9,349		9,582	(521)				-5.16%
12	5280-PENSION PLAN - CLASSIFIED	525,437		525,437		599,032		599,032		663,791	64,759				10.81%
13	5282-RETIREMENT SICK LEAVE - CERT	119,117		133,554		113,827		113,827		87,264	(26,563)				-23.34%
14	5283-RETIREMENT SICK LEAVE - CLASS	26,602		12,165		24,093		24,093		8,118	(15,975)				-66.31%
15	5284-SERVERANCE PAY - CERTIFIED	162,905		162,905		131,225		131,225		107,557	(23,668)				-18.04%
16	5290-UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	36,000		30,150		12,000		39,504		12,000	0				0.00%
17	BENEFITS	4,991,381		5,039,066		5,371,399		5,452,592		5,035,918	(335,481)				-6.25%
18	5322-INSTRUCTIONAL PROG IMPROVEMENT	11,200		7,510		10,683		10,683		11,564	881				8.25%
19	5327-DATA PROCESSING	61,746		64,297		60,458		60,958		69,140	8,682				14.36%
20	5330-OTHER PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL SRVC	913,714		890,141		916,434		984,933		930,829	14,395				1.57%
21	5440-RENTALS - LAND, BLDG, EQUIPMENT	86,460		68,932		64,359		64,359		71,487	7,128				11.08%
22	5510-PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	2,280,300		1,934,035		2,291,704		2,180,003		2,574,305	282,601				12.33%
23	5521-GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE	160,370		152,144		173,133		155,689		166,770	(6,363)				-3.68%
24	5550-COMMUNICATIONS: TEL, POST, ETC.	85,124		79,989		74,026		72,526		73,748	(278)				-0.38%
25	5560-TUITION EXPENSE	2,201,648		2,185,134		2,380,616		2,135,042		3,084,225	703,609				29.56%
26	5590-OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	85,975		61,979		79,032		79,032		91,652	12,620				15.97%
27	PURCHASED SERVICES	5,886,537		5,444,161		6,050,445		5,743,225		7,073,720	1,023,275				16.91%

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525



John J. Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

john.brady@reg5.k12.ct.us
Phone: (203) 392-2106

February 6, 2012

To: Members of the Board of Education
From: John Brady, Superintendent
Re: 2012-2013 School Calendar

The enclosed calendar is the result of discussions with the BOWA superintendents, Amity administrators, AEA leadership and parent leadership. I also had a meeting with Larry Czajkowski (the gentleman who addressed the Board in November regarding recognition of Veterans' Day) because the draft calendar includes holding school on Veterans' Day in 2012.

Alterations from previous school calendars include holding a professional development day prior to the start of school for teachers only. This will give the District the opportunity to orient staff to the new school year in a manner befitting the many initiatives in which we are currently engaged. This day would be in addition to the traditional teacher only day.

School would be held on Election Day and on the Monday Veterans' Day will be observed. In discussing Veterans' Day with the committee it was felt that all three schools could engage in appropriate recognition activities. All were in agreement. This approach would give us 4 snow days which would be added to the end of the year.

One reason for requesting school on Election Day and Veterans' Day is that both of the two Jewish Holidays which occur in the fall will be celebrated on days school would otherwise be in session.

Amity Regional School District No. 5
2012-2013 School Calendar **– BEFORE Labor Day**

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER					20 Days
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
(27)	X	29	30	31	
A	4	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	
B	18	19	20	21	
24	25	C	27	28	

OCTOBER					22 Days
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
1	2	3	4	5	
D	9	10	11	12	
15	16	17	18	19	
22	23	24	25	26	
29	30	31			

NOVEMBER					20 Days
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
			1	2	
-5-	6	7	8	9	
12	13	14	15	16	
19	20	21/	E	E	
26	27	28	29	30	

DECEMBER					15 Days
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
3	4	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	
17	18	19	20	21/	
F	F	F	F	F	
F					

JANUARY					21 Days
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
	G	2	3	4	
7	8	9	10	11	
14	15	16	17	-18-	
H	22	23	24	25	
28	29	30	31		

FEBRUARY					15 Days
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
				1	
4	5	6	7	8	
11	12	13	14	15	
I	J	J	J	J	
25	26	27	28		

MARCH					19 Days
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
				1	
4	5	6	7	8	
11	12	13	14	15	
18	19	20	21	X	
25	26	27	28	K	

APRIL					17 Days
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
1	2	3	4	-5-	
8	9	10	11	12	
L	L	L	L	L	
22	23	24	25	26	
29	30				

MAY					22 Days
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
		1	2	3	
6	7	8	9	10	
13	14	15	16	17	
20	21	22	23	24	
M	28	29	30	31	

JUNE					11 Days
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
3	4	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	
17	SD	SD	SD	SD	
24	25	26	27	28	

- August (27) Teachers Only No School/Teachers Only
- X August 28 Full Day Staff Development No School/Teachers Only
- August 29 Orientation 7th & 9th Grades 7:34 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
- Opening Day-All Students 9:30 a.m. – 2:18 p.m.
- A September 3 Labor Day No School/Offices Closed
- September 4 Back to School Night 9 & 12 High School
- September 12 Back to School Night 10 & 11 High School
- September 13 Back to School Night Middle Schools
- B September 17 Rosh Hashanah No School/Offices Closed
- C September 26 Yom Kippur No School/Offices Closed
- October 3 Mid Marking Period
- D October 8 Columbus Day No School/Offices Closed
- November -5- End of Marking Period
- November 9 Report Cards Issued Middle & High Schools
- November 14 Parent Conferences High School
- November 15 Parent Conferences Middle Schools
- / November 21 Minimum Day Dismissal 12:14p.m.
- E November 22-23 Thanksgiving Recess No School/Offices Closed
- December 4 Parent Conferences High School
- December 5 Parent Confs – Min. Day – MS Only Middle Schools - Afternoon
- December 10 Mid Marking Period
- / December 21 Minimum Day Dismissal 12:14p.m.
- F December 26 – Dec. 31 Holiday Recess No School
- G January 1 New Year's Day No School/Offices Closed
- January 2 School Resumes
- January -18- End of Marking Period
- H January 21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day No School/Offices Closed
- January 30 Report Cards Issued Middle & High Schools
- February 5 Parent Conferences High School
- February 6 Parent Conferences Middle Schools
- February 13 Parent Conferences Middle Schools
- I February 18 Presidents' Day No School/Offices Closed
- J February 19-22 Winter Recess No School
- March 4 Mid Marking Period
- X March 22 Full Day Staff Development No School/Teachers Only
- K March 29 Good Friday No School/Offices Closed
- April -5- End of Marking Period Middle & High Schools
- L April 15-19 Spring Recess No School
- April 22 Report Cards Issued
- May 15 Mid Marking Period
- M May 27 Memorial Day No School/Offices Closed
- June 17 Last Day of School (formal) *Student Days 182*
- June 18-21 Snow Days (SD) *Teacher Days 185*

Amity Regional School District No. 5
 District Offices (203) 397-4811
 Amity Regional High School (203) 397-4830

Amity Regional Middle School
 Bethany Campus (203) 393-3102
 Orange Campus (203) 392-3200

CMT/CAPT Testing Window -

BOE Approved _____

**If emergency closings exceed 4, then any additional days will be taken from April vacation.*

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525



John J. Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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phone: (203) 392-2106
Fax: (203) 397-4864

February 13, 2012

To: Members of the Board of Education
From: John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
Re: Personnel Report

New Hire(s):

Amity Reg. High School – Woodbridge – None

Amity Reg. Middle Schools – Orange – None

Amity Reg. Middle School – Bethany – None

Coaches:

Amity Reg. High School – Woodbridge

Kevin Benzing – Freshmen Boys' Lacrosse

JiMin (Jason) Moon – Asst. Varsity Boys' Track

Amity Reg. Middle Schools – Bethany / Orange - None

Resignation(s):

Coach – Christopher Zovinka – Asst. Boys' Track – Woodbridge

Coach – Nate Gallow – Asst. Football - Woodbridge

Retirement(s):

Robert Cole – Asst. Principal – Amity Regional High School – Woodbridge

Eugene Feldman – Physics (p/t) – Amity Regional High School - Woodbridge

JJB/pfc



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION



TO: Superintendents of Schools
Charter School Leaders

FROM: Stefan Pryor
Commissioner of Education

DATE: January 18, 2012

SUBJECT: ESEA Waiver Flexibility

The U.S. Department of Education (USDE) is inviting each State Educational Agency (SEA) to request flexibility regarding specific requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act, 2001(NCLB) on behalf of itself, its local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools, in order to better focus on improving student learning and increasing the quality of instruction. This voluntary opportunity will provide Connecticut with flexibility related to Section 9401 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) and the specific requirements of NCLB in exchange for a state-developed, rigorous and comprehensive plan designed to improve educational outcomes for all students, close achievement gaps, increase equity and improve the quality of instruction. Information about ESEA Flexibility can be found at <http://www.ed.gov/esea/flexibility>.

Connecticut will be applying to receive this ESEA flexibility waiver and must submit the request by February 21, 2012. This flexibility waiver is intended to build on and support the significant state and local reform efforts already under way in critical areas (discussed in further detail below) such as (1) transitioning to college- and career-ready standards and assessments; (2) developing systems of differentiated recognition, accountability, and support; and (3) evaluating and supporting teacher and principal effectiveness; and (4) reducing duplication and unnecessary burden. If granted this request, the USDE will waive, with certain exceptions, any statutory or regulatory requirement of the ESEA for Connecticut through the 2013–2014 school year. Further details about Connecticut’s waiver application will be shared shortly through collaboration with CAPSS.

I. Waiver Flexibility

Connecticut will apply for the following ESEA waivers:

1. The requirements in ESEA section 1111(b) (2) (E)-(H) that prescribe how an SEA must establish annual measurable objectives (AMOs) for determining adequate yearly progress (AYP) to ensure that all students meet or exceed the State’s proficient level of academic achievement on the State’s assessments in reading/language arts and mathematics no later than the end of the 2013–2014 school year.

The CSDE will be requesting this waiver to develop new AMOs in order to provide schools and districts with meaningful goals that are used to guide support and improvement efforts for the State, LEAs, schools, and student subgroups.

2. The requirements in ESEA section 1116(b) for an LEA to identify for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring, as appropriate, a Title I school that fails, for two consecutive years or more, to make AYP, and for a school so identified and its LEA to take certain improvement actions.

The CSDE will be requesting this waiver so that an LEA and its Title I schools need not comply with these requirements.

3. The requirements in ESEA section 1116(c) for an SEA to identify for improvement or corrective action, as appropriate, an LEA that, for two consecutive years or more, fails to make AYP, and for an LEA so identified and its SEA to take certain improvement actions.

The CSDE will be requesting this waiver so that it need not comply with these requirements with respect to its LEAs.

4. The requirements in ESEA sections 6213(b) and 6224(e) that limit participation in, and use of funds under the Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA) and Rural and Low-Income School (RLIS) programs based on whether an LEA has made AYP and is complying with the requirements in ESEA section 1116.

The CSDE will be requesting this waiver so that an LEA that receives SRSA or RLIS funds may use those funds for any authorized purpose regardless of whether the LEA makes AYP.

5. The requirement in ESEA section 1114(a) (1) that a school have a poverty percentage of 40 percent or more in order to operate a school-wide program.

The CSDE will be requesting this waiver so that an LEA may implement interventions in its priority and focus schools that are based on the needs of students and designed to enhance the entire educational program, even if those schools do not have a poverty percentage of 40 percent or more.

6. The requirement in ESEA section 1003(a) for an SEA to distribute funds reserved under that section only to LEAs with schools identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring.

The CSDE will be requesting this waiver so that it may allocate section 1003(a) funds to its LEAs in order to serve priority and focus schools.

7. The provision in ESEA section 1117(c)(2)(A) that authorizes an SEA to reserve Title I, Part A funds to reward a Title I school that (1) significantly closed the achievement gap between subgroups in the school; or (2) has exceeded AYP for two or more consecutive years.

The CSDE will be requesting this waiver so that it may use funds reserved under ESEA section 1117(c) (2)(A) for any of the State's reward schools.

8. The requirements in ESEA section 2141(a), (b), and (c) for an LEA and SEA to comply with certain requirements for improvement plans regarding highly qualified teachers.

The CSDE will be requesting this waiver to allow the SEA and its LEAs to focus on developing and implementing more meaningful evaluation and support systems.

9. The limitations in ESEA section 6123 that limit the amount of funds an SEA or LEA may transfer from certain ESEA programs to other ESEA programs.

The CSDE will be requesting this waiver so that it and its LEAs may transfer up to 100 percent of the funds it receives under the authorized programs among those programs and into Title I, Part A.

10. The requirements in ESEA section 1003(g) (4) and the definition of a Tier I school in Section I.A.3 of the School Improvement Grants (SIG) final requirements.

The CSDE will be requesting this waiver so that it may award SIG funds to an LEA to implement one of the four SIG models in any of the State's priority schools.

11. The requirements in ESEA sections 4201(b)(1)(A) and 4204(b)(2)(A) that restrict the activities provided by a community learning center under the Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) program to activities provided only during non-school hours or periods when school is not in session (*i.e.*, before and after school or during summer recess).

The CSDE will be requesting this waiver so that 21st CCLC funds may be used to support expanded learning time during the school day in addition to activities during non-school hours or periods when school is not in session.

Prior to applying for waivers, the CSDE must have a notice and comment period for all interested parties and must submit all comments it receives to the USDE in its application for waivers. A required notice and comment period for all interested parties regarding the ESEA waiver will take place until February 15, 2012. Districts are invited to submit comments to title1waivers@ct.gov.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Michelle Rosado, Education Consultant, at michellerosado@ct.gov or 860-713-6748.

SP:mr

For over a century CAFE has been the collective voice of more than 1,300 board of education members across the State. As CAFE has grown, so has our prominence as a leader in shaping public education programs — helping Connecticut prepare for the increasingly competitive 21st Century.

CAFE's positions reflect the commitment of board of education members to promote public participation through local lay control of public education, to promote equal opportunity and a high quality education for all Connecticut's public school children, and increase public awareness of education issues.



Connecticut Association of Boards of Education
81 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109
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Email: gheath@cabe.org • www.cabe.org

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AMITY REGION #5
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Save the Date and Plan on Attending

CABE's Day on the Hill

March 14, 2012

8:30 a.m.

The Bushnell, Hartford

**An opportunity for board members and legislators
to discuss critical education issues.**

For more information, contact Gail Heath at 860-571-7446 or email gheath@cabe.org



Guiding Principles

CABE urges Legislators to analyze each piece of legislation by asking “How will this legislation promote student achievement?” and “What is the fiscal and administrative impact on local communities?”

Strong school districts, urban, suburban and rural, are critical to Connecticut’s economic future. Each child must have equal access to effective free public education.

Local and regional boards of education play a key role in promoting public education as a public policy priority.

2012 Legislative Priorities

Funding

➤ Establish and maintain a funding system that supports equity and adequacy, including funding mandates. The immediate need is to maintain the Education Cost Sharing grant at least at its current level and to fund the Special Education excess cost grant.

Achievement Gap

➤ Support a system where achievement is the constant, and time the variable

➤ Increase access to early childhood programs and kindergarten

➤ Align educator evaluation and placement systems with multiple measures of student achievement and school district reform needs

➤ Provide support to low performing students, utilizing research based best practices

Maximize Resources

➤ Reduce constraints on the delivery of education and remove mandates that fail to promote student achievement

➤ Place the burden of proof in special education due process hearings on the party challenging the placement

➤ Raise the dollar threshold for school construction projects subject to prevailing wage

➤ Enhance local capacity to manage labor expense through modification of collective bargaining statutes

➤ Include performance based pay in the teacher retirement board calculations for purposes of retirement

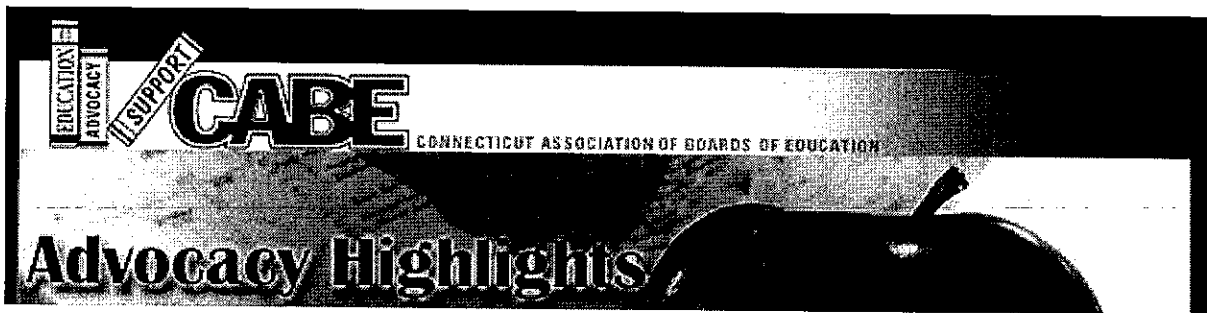
➤ Refocus the State Department of Education resources on support to local districts rather than enforcement of instructional mandates

Cofrancesco, Paula

From: Brady, John
Sent: Monday, February 06, 2012 9:42 AM
To: Cofrancesco, Paula
Subject: FW: PEAC Agreement

Please print

From: Gail Heath [mailto:gheath@cabe.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2012 10:40 AM
To: Brady, John
Subject: PEAC Agreement



February 1, 2012

Patrice McCarthy, Deputy Director and General Counsel

Sheila McKay, Senior Staff Associate for Government Relations

The Professional Educators Assessment Committee (PEAC), which has been meeting for two years, finally came up with up with components of a new teacher and principal evaluation system. It was done by consensus(!) with no negative votes. While the many details must be worked out in committees that will be meeting soon, we felt that it was a good first step—and probably the hardest one. Below is the [Hartford Courant](#) article on this.

At this point, we are waiting to hear the next steps and are already starting to push for the funding for professional development that is critical if this new plan is to be successful. We will keep you up-to-date as there are things to report.

Breakthrough On Teacher Evaluations

Student Achievement 'At Heart' Of Proposed Job Assessments

By KATHLEEN MEGAN, kmegan@courant.com The Hartford Courant

9:43 p.m. EST, January 25, 2012

After about two years of wrangling, a group representing teachers, school administrators and school boards agreed Wednesday on a new way to evaluate teachers that places a strong emphasis on student achievement.

Members of the state Performance Evaluation Advisory Council said the breakthrough in their discussions on the contentious issue occurred in the past few months under the leadership of Education Commissioner Stefan Pryor.

"Two or three years ago, there would have been disagreement over whether student learning should even be part of the evaluation," said Joseph Cirusuolo, executive director of the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents and a member of the panel.

Teachers have long raised questions about whether test scores can provide fair assessments of their performance. Some feared that an overly rigid system based solely on test scores to measure their effectiveness would miss the nuances of their work and put their jobs in jeopardy.

In the past, Cirusuolo said, evaluations were largely based on observing teachers in action in the classroom.

He called the agreement, which the State Board of Education is likely to consider next month, "a major step forward."

"It speaks well for the leadership of the commissioner ... and the cooperative and collaborative spirit that was displayed around the table," Cirusuolo said.

Diane Ullman, superintendent of Simsbury schools and a panel member, said, "What's so exciting is that student achievement is at the heart of what will be the new teacher ... evaluation plan."

Gov. Dannel P. Malloy, who was in Switzerland to attend the World Economic Forum, sent his congratulations to the committee and the state education agency.

"Connecticut has taken a major step toward a meaningful teacher evaluation system," the governor said in a prepared statement. "Today's consensus proposal has real potential to increase teacher effectiveness — and as a result, to elevate student achievement."

But one national expert said it's too soon to tell how effective the evaluation system will be.

"On its face it sounds very promising," said Sandi Jacobs, vice president of the National Council on Teacher Quality, "but certainly there is enough wiggle room

there to see how it could not turn out as strong."

The new system gives specific weights to various elements in a teacher evaluation. Forty-five percent of an evaluation would be based on various measures of student achievement, with about half based on standardized test scores. Other indicators of student learning could include portfolios of student work.

Fifteen percent of an evaluation would derive from feedback from peers, students and parents; at least a third of that would come from how well an entire school is performing and on student feedback. The panel's members noted that this 15 percent also is closely tied to student performance.

Finally, the remaining 40 percent would be based on observing teachers at work. Ullman said the proposal contains a "nice blend of some clear guidelines and yet some flexibility."

Patrick Riccards, chief executive officer with ConnCAN, a New Haven-based education reform group that is often critical of the state, praised the proposal for recognizing "that we need to evaluate our teachers and we need to do so in a smart, yet fair, yet rigorous way."

He added: "We've always said we need multiple measures. ... Student performance is the primary driver on the evaluation."

If Connecticut adopts the proposed framework for evaluating teachers, it will join 17 other states that include student achievement "in a significant way" as part of the process, Jacobs said.

She said her primary concern with the proposal is the extent to which the measurement of student performance is not based on test results.

"If a lot of 'mooshy' stuff is allowed in that other half, it could really weaken and soften the measures," Jacobs said. "We've certainly seen examples of that over time."

In some other states, for instance, teachers were allowed to choose which students' portfolios would represent them.

The key thing, Jacobs said, is to make sure that objective evidence of student achievement is the predominant criterion.

"Here, Connecticut might benefit from the fact that there are states that are a good year ahead," Jacobs said. "Rhode Island, Delaware, Tennessee."

Several committee members seemed surprised at how swiftly and smoothly the panel reached the agreement on the new evaluation system.

"We've been trying to find a way to do this for a good two years now, and we really got bogged down in philosophical points of view," said Sharon Palmer, who leads the state's chapter of the American Federation of Teachers. "This new commissioner and the folks he's brought with him have been able to focus on the things we have in common. That has enabled us to make a lot more progress than we thought we

might be able to."

Pryor — who said Wednesday that he was "very pleased" with "the enormous progress" the panel made — attended all of its meetings in recent months and brought in a consultant from Illinois, John Luczak with Education First, to help.

In past discussions of teacher evaluations, Palmer said, "we had conventional roles that we played in labor management relations. Finally we are breaking through and finding ways of collaborating. And I think it makes all the difference. ... We know the reform work absolutely has to be done for the sake of the kids and the future of education."

In an email, Mary Loftus Levine, executive director of the state's largest teachers union, the Connecticut Education Association, said: "It was a compromise by consensus, which was reached after many months of long, tough conversations. What the positive consensus shows is that all education stakeholders want the same results. ... Student achievement is the overarching goal."

Robert Rader, executive director of the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, said the last couple of months under Pryor's leadership "was not the usual — the land of steady and slow habits. It was really more like: 'Let's study the issue, but let's move quickly.' Everyone was willing to give."

[Click here to Visit the CABE's Legislative Action Center Now](#)

The username and password are as follows (all lower case):

Username: `cabe2008`

Password: `cabe2008`

Note: You may also email your legislators directly from this site.

Websites of Interest

www.ctn.state.ct.us - videotaped coverage of legislative activities, including sessions. Live coverage as well as archived.

www.cga.ct.gov - legislative home page, education committee site.

www.state.ct.us/sde - state department of education site.

www.whatwillourchildrenlose.com - What Will Our Children Lose

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AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

*Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525*



*Jack B. Levine
Director of Finance and Administration
jack.levine@reg5.k12.ct.us*

*Phone (203) 397-4813
Fax (203) 397-4864*

To: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
From: Jack B. Levine, Director of Finance and Administration
Re: Healthy Food Certification Statement for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013
Date: February 1, 2012

Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) requires that each local board of education or governing authority for Connecticut public school districts participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) must **take action annually** to certify whether all food items sold to students **will or will not** meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards. This includes all regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical High School System, charter schools, inter-district magnet schools and endowed academies.

We are providing healthy foods, while not being restricted by the limitations imposed by the Healthy Food Certification Statement. The Amity Board of Education previously agreed to not participate. I am recommending we continue to do so.

For Amity Finance Committee:

Motion to recommend to the Amity Board of Education that Amity Regional School District No. 5 will not 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 not meet said standards during the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

For Board of Education:

Motion to authorize the Director of Finance and Administration to sign Form ED-099 indicating that Amity Regional School District No. 5 will not 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 not meet said standards during the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525



Jack B. Levine
Director of Finance and Administration
jack.levine@reg5.k12.ct.us

Phone (203) 397-4813
Fax (203) 397-4864

To: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
From: Jack B. Levine, Director of Finance and Administration
Re: Award of Contracts over \$35,000
Date: February 9, 2012

I recommend the following contract over \$35,000 be awarded by the Amity Board of Education in accordance with the Board's Policy on purchasing procedures:

Financial Accounting Systems:

We have been successfully using the MUNIS Financial Accounting Systems. The current lease ends on June 30, 2012. We can send out a Request for Proposals or extend the contract for an additional three years. Tyler Technologies has provided me with a quote of \$181,470, or \$60,490 per year. We are currently paying \$58,539 for this fiscal year. The annual maintenance fee for Tyler Content Manager will be \$3,086 for the first year and will not increase more than 5% per annum. We have a good system and the school district staff is use to it.

I recommend we extend the contract with MUNIS for a three year period. The Amity Board of Education would need to waive the bid requirement, which was done for the prior three-year term.

Recommended Motion:

Move that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to sign a three-year extension of the current lease with Tyler Technologies for the MUNIS Financial Accounting Systems for a total cost of \$181,470, or \$60,490 per year. The annual maintenance fee for Tyler Content Manager shall be \$3,086 for the first year and may not increase more than 5% per annum for the annual terms commencing in 2013 and 2014. The Amity Board of Education waives the bid requirement.



AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

*BETHANY * ORANGE * WOODBRIDGE*

*John J. Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools*

*25 Newton Road
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john.brady@reg5.k12.ct.us
Phone: (203) 392-2106
Fax: (203) 397-4864*

To: Amity Board of Education and Amity Finance Committee Members
From: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
Re: Amity High School Roof Restoration or Replacement
Date: February 8, 2012

The Facilities Committee met on January 25, 2012. All three committee members unanimously agreed that the best course of action is to restore approximately 200,000 square feet of the Amity High School roof at a cost of approximately \$1,400,000 (excluding cost of issuance of about \$75,000) rather than a full roof replacement for about \$4,000,000. We need to have an infrared analysis to identify any trapped moisture, core tests for tensile strength, and asbestos testing at a cost of \$11,750. A budget request to take funds from the Contingency Account to do the infrared analysis is on the agenda for your consideration.

The cost for this project would be bonded. The Board needs to take action to decide whether or not to proceed to restore or replace approximately 200,000 square feet of roof.

The Administration and Facilities Committee recommend the restoration project.

If the Board wants to proceed with this project, the following resolution should be adopted:

**“RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
February 13, 2012**

RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is directed to request the District’s Bond Counsel to prepare necessary documents in connection with an appropriation, and the issuance of bonds and notes to finance such appropriation, for costs related to the restoration of a portion of the roof of Amity High School and the financing thereof.”

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525



Jack B. Levine
Director of Finance and Administration
jack.levine@reg5.k12.ct.us

Phone (203) 397-4813
Fax (203) 397-4864

To: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
From: Jack B. Levine, Director of Finance and Administration
Re: Establishment of Special Revenue Fund for Turf Field
Date: February 8, 2012

Special Revenue Fund for Turf Field:

At the January 9, 2012 Board meeting, a motion was passed to support fundraising activities and accept funds raised from such activities for the sole purpose of construction and installation of a turf athletic field at Amity Regional High School. To keep these funds separate, I recommend the Board establish a new bank account. When the turf project is completed, we would use this separate bank account for other special projects.

Motion to authorize the Director of Finance and Administration to open a new bank account for a fund to be called "Amity Regional School District No. 5 – Special Projects". This fund shall be used to hold funds for the purpose of construction and installation of a turf athletic field at Amity Regional High School. Further, funds for the turf athletic field at Amity Regional High School shall not be comingled with funds for any other purpose. All expenditures from the Amity Regional School District No. 5 – Special Projects fund to be authorized by the Superintendent of Schools and Director of Finance and Administration.

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR FY 2011-2012**

LINE	CATEGORY	COLUMN 1 2010-2011 ACTUAL	COLUMN 2 2011-2012 BUDGET	COLUMN 3 DEC '11 FORECAST	COLUMN 4 CHANGE INCR./(DECR.)	COLUMN 5 JAN '12 FORECAST	COLUMN 6 VARIANCE OVER/(UNDER)	COLUMN 7 FAV UNF
1	MEMBER TOWN ALLOCATIONS	40,645,362	41,199,830	41,199,830	0	41,199,830	0	FAV
2	OTHER REVENUE	252,290	196,397	205,827	(1,500)	204,327	7,930	FAV
3	OTHER STATE GRANTS	653,539	552,122	599,009	0	599,009	46,887	FAV
4	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	1,182,495	982,148	1,016,032	796	1,016,828	34,680	FAV
5	BUILDING RENOVATION GRANTS	488,111	478,124	478,124	0	478,124	0	FAV
6	TOTAL REVENUES	43,221,797	43,408,621	43,498,822	(704)	43,498,118	89,497	FAV
7	SALARIES	21,952,932	22,831,870	22,812,230	(2,034)	22,810,196	(21,674)	FAV
8	BENEFITS	5,039,066	5,371,399	5,459,597	(7,005)	5,452,592	81,193	UNF
9	PURCHASED SERVICES	5,444,161	6,050,445	5,847,988	(104,763)	5,743,225	(307,220)	FAV
10	DEBT SERVICE	5,789,534	5,562,444	5,562,444	0	5,562,444	0	FAV
11	SUPPLIES (INCLUDING UTILITIES)	3,187,994	3,158,195	3,061,172	(33,454)	3,027,718	(130,477)	FAV
12	EQUIPMENT	257,996	108,196	127,953	24,674	152,627	44,431	UNF
13	IMPROVEMENTS / CONTINGENCY	29,249	207,000	127,175	(6,325)	120,850	(86,150)	FAV
14	DUES AND FEES	90,903	119,072	119,072	0	119,072	0	FAV
15	TRANSFER ACCOUNT	728,868	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
16	ESTIMATED UNSPENT BUDGETS	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
17	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	42,520,703	43,408,621	43,117,631	(128,907)	42,988,724	(419,897)	FAV
18	SUBTOTAL	701,094	0	381,191	128,203	509,394	509,394	FAV
19	PLUS: CANCELLATION OF PRIOR YEAR'S ENCUMBRANCES	37,940						
20	<u>DESIGNATED FOR SUBSEQUENT YEAR'S BUDGET:</u>							
21	LESS: ASSIGNED TO NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET	(675,000)				(300,000)	(300,000)	UNF
22	LESS: COMMITTED TO ERRP	(64,034)						
23	NET BALANCE / (DEFICIT)	0	0	381,191	128,203	209,394	209,394	FAV

Column 7: FAV=Favorable Variance
Revenues: At or OVER budget
Expenditures: At or UNDER budget

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR FY 2011-2012**

LINE	CATEGORY	COLUMN 1 2010-2011 ACTUAL	COLUMN 2 2011-2012 BUDGET	COLUMN 3 DEC '11 FORECAST	COLUMN 4 CHANGE INCR./(DECR.)	COLUMN 5 JAN '12 FORECAST	COLUMN 6 VARIANCE OVER/(UNDER)	COLUMN 7 COL 7 FAV UNF
1	BETHANY ALLOCATION	8,607,468	8,439,785	8,439,785	0	8,439,785	0	FAV
2	ORANGE ALLOCATION	19,302,889	19,944,426	19,944,426	0	19,944,426	0	FAV
3	WOODBRIIDGE ALLOCATION	12,735,005	12,815,619	12,815,619	0	12,815,619	0	FAV
4	MEMBER TOWN ALLOCATIONS	40,645,362	41,199,830	41,199,830	0	41,199,830	0	FAV
5	ADULT EDUCATION	3,170	3,130	3,240	0	3,240	110	FAV
6	PARKING INCOME	30,435	31,745	30,435	0	30,435	(1,310)	UNF
7	INVESTMENT INCOME	2,509	7,500	2,500	(1,500)	1,000	(6,500)	UNF
8	ATHLETICS	22,054	20,000	20,000	0	20,000	0	FAV
9	TUITION REVENUE	72,747	62,072	79,152	0	79,152	17,080	FAV
10	TRANSPORTATION INCOME	121,375	71,950	70,500	0	70,500	(1,450)	UNF
11	TRANSPORTATION BOWA AGREEMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
12	OTHER REVENUE	252,290	196,397	205,827	(1,500)	204,327	7,930	FAV
13	BESB GRANT	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
14	SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANTS	653,539	552,122	599,009	0	599,009	46,887	FAV
15	OTHER STATE GRANTS	653,539	552,122	599,009	0	599,009	46,887	FAV
16	RENTAL INCOME	34,690	29,000	25,407	0	25,407	(3,593)	UNF
17	CAPITAL RESERVE	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
18	CONSTRUCTION SINKING DEBT FUND	255,000	262,000	262,000	0	262,000	0	FAV
19	DESIGNATED FROM PRIOR YEAR	800,000	675,000	675,000	0	675,000	0	FAV
20	EARLY RETIREE REINSURANCE PROGRAM	64,034	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
21	OTHER REVENUE	28,771	16,148	53,625	796	54,421	38,273	FAV
22	TRANSFER IN	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
23	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	1,182,495	982,148	1,016,032	796	1,016,828	34,680	FAV
24	BUILDING RENOVATION GRANTS	488,111	478,124	478,124	0	478,124	0	FAV
25	TOTAL REVENUES	43,221,797	43,408,621	43,498,822	(704)	43,498,118	89,497	FAV

Column 7: FAV=Favorable Variance
Revenues: At or OVER budget
Expenditures: At or UNDER budget

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR FY 2011-2012**

LINE	CATEGORY	COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 3	COLUMN 4	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 6	COLUMN 7
		2010-2011 ACTUAL	2011-2012 BUDGET	DEC '11 FORECAST	CHANGE INCR./(DECR.)	JAN '12 FORECAST	VARIANCE OVER/(UNDER)	FAV UNF
1	5111-CERTIFIED SALARIES	18,621,650	19,352,371	19,309,336	(18,905)	19,290,431	(61,940)	FAV
2	5112-CLASSIFIED SALARIES	3,331,282	3,479,499	3,502,894	16,871	3,519,765	40,266	UNF
3	SALARIES	21,952,932	22,831,870	22,812,230	(2,034)	22,810,196	(21,674)	FAV
4	5200-MEDICARE - ER	283,691	280,907	294,815	(27)	294,788	13,881	UNF
5	5210-FICA - ER	214,362	223,673	222,767	(20)	222,747	(926)	FAV
6	5220-WORKERS' COMPENSATION	112,508	127,340	119,070	0	119,070	(8,270)	FAV
7	5231-BLUE CROSS DENTAL	257,059	229,450	257,872	(514)	257,358	27,908	UNF
8	5251-MEDICAL INSURANCE	2,881,555	3,199,158	3,225,588	(5,988)	3,219,600	20,442	UNF
9	5860-OPEB TRUST	373,757	376,753	376,753	0	376,753	0	FAV
10	5260-LIFE INSURANCE	42,150	43,838	45,496	(250)	45,246	1,408	UNF
11	5275-DISABILITY INSURANCE	9,773	10,103	9,555	(206)	9,349	(754)	FAV
12	5280-PENSION PLAN - CLASSIFIED	525,437	599,032	599,032	0	599,032	0	FAV
13	5282-RETIREMENT SICK LEAVE - CERT	133,554	113,827	113,827	0	113,827	0	FAV
14	5283-RETIREMENT SICK LEAVE - CLASS	12,165	24,093	24,093	0	24,093	0	FAV
15	5284-SEVERANCE PAY - CERTIFIED	162,905	131,225	131,225	0	131,225	0	FAV
16	5290-UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	30,150	12,000	39,504	0	39,504	27,504	UNF
17	BENEFITS	5,039,066	5,371,399	5,459,597	(7,005)	5,452,592	81,193	UNF
18	5322-INSTRUCTIONAL PROG IMPROVEMENT	7,510	10,683	10,683	0	10,683	0	FAV
19	5327-DATA PROCESSING	64,297	60,458	60,958	0	60,958	500	UNF
20	5330-OTHER PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL SRVC	890,141	916,434	963,183	21,750	984,933	68,499	UNF
21	5440-RENTALS - LAND, BLDG, EQUIPMENT	68,932	64,359	64,359	0	64,359	0	FAV
22	5510-PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	1,934,035	2,291,704	2,211,501	(31,498)	2,180,003	(111,701)	FAV
23	5521-GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE	152,144	173,133	155,689	0	155,689	(17,444)	FAV
24	5550-COMMUNICATIONS: TEL, POST, ETC.	79,989	74,026	72,526	0	72,526	(1,500)	FAV
25	5560-TUITION EXPENSE	2,185,134	2,380,616	2,230,057	(95,015)	2,135,042	(245,574)	FAV
26	5590-OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	61,979	79,032	79,032	0	79,032	0	FAV
27	PURCHASED SERVICES	5,444,161	6,050,445	5,847,988	(104,763)	5,743,225	(307,220)	FAV

Column 7: FAV=Favorable Variance
Revenues: At or OVER budget
Expenditures: At or UNDER budget

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR FY 2011-2012**

LINE	CATEGORY	COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 3	COLUMN 4	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 6	COLUMN 7
		2010-2011 ACTUAL	2011-2012 BUDGET	DEC '11 FORECAST	CHANGE INCR./(DECR.)	JAN '12 FORECAST	VARIANCE OVER/(UNDER)	FAV UNF
28	5830-INTEREST	2,014,534	1,832,444	1,832,444	0	1,832,444	0	FAV
29	5910-REDEMPTION OF PRINCIPAL	3,775,000	3,730,000	3,730,000	0	3,730,000	0	FAV
30	DEBT SERVICE	5,789,534	5,562,444	5,562,444	0	5,562,444	0	FAV
31	5410-UTILITIES, EXCLUDING HEAT	846,082	922,583	843,167	(8,780)	834,387	(88,196)	FAV
32	5420-REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE & CLEANING	832,855	667,994	667,994	0	667,994	0	FAV
33	5611-INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES	356,040	337,893	332,393	0	332,393	(5,500)	FAV
34	5613-MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	170,586	172,207	172,207	0	172,207	0	FAV
35	5620-OIL USED FOR HEATING	231,179	329,994	330,636	0	330,636	642	UNF
36	5627-TRANSPORTATION SUPPLIES	126,466	159,127	159,127	0	159,127	0	FAV
37	5641-TEXTBOOKS	120,543	72,379	72,379	0	72,379	0	FAV
38	5642-LIBRARY BOOKS & PERIODICALS	23,997	23,925	23,925	0	23,925	0	FAV
39	5690-OTHER SUPPLIES	480,246	472,093	459,344	(24,674)	434,670	(37,423)	FAV
40	SUPPLIES (INCLUDING UTILITIES)	3,187,994	3,158,195	3,061,172	(33,454)	3,027,718	(130,477)	FAV
41	5730-EQUIPMENT - NEW	87,590	42,423	49,530	(7,326)	42,204	(219)	FAV
42	5731-EQUIPMENT - REPLACEMENT	170,406	65,773	78,423	32,000	110,423	44,650	UNF
43	EQUIPMENT	257,996	108,196	127,953	24,674	152,627	44,431	UNF
44	5715-IMPROVEMENTS TO BUILDING	26,049	9,000	9,000	0	9,000	0	FAV
45	5720-IMPROVEMENTS TO SITES	3,200	48,000	48,000	0	48,000	0	FAV
46	5850-CONTINGENCY	0	150,000	150,000	0	150,000	0	FAV
46A	TRSF. FROM CONTINGENCY TO OTHER ACCTS.	0	0	(79,825)	(6,325)	(86,150)	(86,150)	FAV
47	5855-CAPITAL RESERVE	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
48	IMPROVEMENTS / CONTINGENCY	29,249	207,000	127,175	(6,325)	120,850	(86,150)	FAV
49	5580-STAFF TRAVEL	13,488	19,546	19,546	0	19,546	0	FAV
50	5581-TRAVEL - CONFERENCES	16,036	16,449	16,449	0	16,449	0	FAV
51	5810-DUES & FEES	61,379	83,077	83,077	0	83,077	0	FAV
52	DUES AND FEES	90,903	119,072	119,072	0	119,072	0	FAV
53	5856-TRANSFER ACCOUNT	728,868	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
54	ESTIMATED UNSPENT BUDGETS	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
55	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	42,520,703	43,408,621	43,117,631	(128,907)	42,988,724	(419,897)	FAV

Column 7: FAV=Favorable Variance
Revenues: At or OVER budget
Expenditures: At or UNDER budget

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES & EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY
FINANCIAL ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012**

JANUARY 2012

OVERALL

NOTE: The following documentation standards are provided:

- ✓ New comments are noted in boldface, italic print; and
- ✓ Each reference to a line number is accompanied by the page number of the excel spreadsheet.

2010-2011 ACTUAL

Post-closing adjustments reduced expenditures by **\$15,785.22 FAV** due to unspent encumbrances. These additional funds were transferred to Reserve Fund for Capital and Nonrecurring Expenditures and designated for the Amity High School roof restoration project. The Amity Finance Committee and Amity Board of Education had authorized the use of any unused balance for this purpose.

The cancellation of prior year's encumbrances added **\$37,940**, as shown on page 1, column 1, line 19.

The Adopted 2011-2012 Budget designates **\$675,000** of unspent funds on page 1, column 1, line 21. There is **\$64,034** committed to the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (ERRP) under the Federal Affordable Care Act on page 1, column 1, line 22.

The net balance is **\$0** on page 1, column 1, line 23. No funds will be returned to the Member Towns.

2011-2012 FORECAST

The projected net balance of revenues and expenditures for this fiscal year is ***\$509,394 FAV under budget (previously \$381,191 FAV under budget)***, which appears on page 1, column 6, line 18. ***The proposed 2012-2013 budget assigns \$300,000 of the projected net balance from this fiscal year to lower Member Town Allocations, which appears on page 1, column 6, line 21. Projected Net Balance is \$209,394 FAV, which appears on page 1, column 6, line 23.***

REVENUES BY CATEGORY

The projected yearend balance of revenues is ***\$89,497 FAV over budget (previously \$90,201 FAV over budget)***, which appears on page 2, column 6, line 25.

LINE 5 on Page 2: ADULT EDUCATION:

The forecast is based on the current State award.

LINE 6 on Page 2: PARKING INCOME:

The forecast assumes the same revenue as received in 2010-2011.

LINE 7 on Page 2: INVESTMENT INCOME:

The budget assumes an interest rate of 1.00 percent. The average interest rates by month for the State Treasurer's Investment Fund (STIF) are shown below:

Average Interest Rates by Month

<u>Month</u>	<u>Rate</u>
June	0.21%
July	0.18%
August	0.17%
September	0.18%
October	0.32%
November	0.16%
December	0.16%
<i>January</i>	<i>0.11%</i>

Actual interest income earned in 2010-2011 is \$2,508.66. Based on the current low interest rates, the forecast of interest income is **\$1,000 (previously \$2,500)**. The budget is \$7,500.

LINE 9 on Page 2: TUITION REVENUE:

Six tuition students are anticipated compared to the budget of four tuition students.

LINE 10 on Page 2: TRANSPORTATION INCOME:

The forecast is based on the most current information from the State.

LINE 14 on page 2: SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANTS:

The forecast is based on the most current information from the State.

LINE 16 on Page 2: RENTAL INCOME:

The forecast is based on a historical analysis and year-to-date receipts.

LINE 21 on Page 2: OTHER REVENUE:

The forecast includes an incentive award of **\$25,725 FAV** from Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) for installing a solar-based water heating system with a tankless back-up for the Field House. The forecast includes **\$6,000 FAV** reimbursement from FEMA related to the January snow storm and **\$4,000 FAV** from a legal settlement with a company who illegally sold items with the Amity logo. *Other miscellaneous revenues received to-date is included in the forecast.*

EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY

The projected yearend balance of expenditures is *\$419,897 FAV under budget (previously \$290,990 FAV under budget)*, which appears on page 4, column 6, line 55.

LINE 1 on Page 3: 5111-CERTIFIED SALARIES:

‘Turnover savings’ from replacing teachers, who retired or resigned, and the savings from hiring lower costing certified substitutes for teachers on a leave-of-absence, were approximately **\$84,000 FAV** over the budgeted savings. This is partially offset by the higher pay to some teachers due to degree changes, which is about **\$38,000 UNF** higher than budgeted. Long-term coverage expense was increased by **\$2,527 UNF** over the previous forecast. An additional **\$7,000 FAV** in savings is projected based on a long-term leave-of-absence. The forecast includes **\$7,000 UNF** to pay two bench subs \$70 per day each for 50 days to allow us to maintain the tutoring which we are using as part of RTI programming and CAPT prep remediation efforts. *The forecast includes \$11,000 FAV of savings due to several unpaid leaves of absence. The forecast was updated based on the current staffing.*

LINE 2 on Page 3: 5112-CLASSIFIED SALARIES:

Estimated overtime was increased by **\$3,028 UNF** from the prior forecast. *Projected substitute and overtime costs are estimated to be higher by \$26,000 UNF as a result of three custodians out on long-term absences and overtime for the technology staff to implement a server upgrade. The forecast was updated based on current staffing.*

LINE 4 on Page 3: 5200-MEDICARE – ER:

The forecast for this account is based on projected salaries.

LINE 5 on Page 3: 5210-FICA – ER:

The forecast for this account is based on projected salaries.

LINE 6 on Page 3: 5220-WORKERS’ COMPENSATION:

Workers’ compensation insurance budget was based on information from our carrier in December 2010. Due to the District’s excellent accident loss ratio over the past five years, the actual bid from Trident Insurance of \$117,440 was under budget by **\$900 FAV**. The audit premium is budgeted at \$9,000. The audit premium was \$1,630, or under budget by **\$7,370 FAV**.

LINE 7 on Page 3: 5231-BLUE CROSS DENTAL:

The forecast is based on current staffing.

LINE 8 on Page 3: 5251-MEDICAL INSURANCE:

The forecast is based on current staffing.

LINE 10 on Page 3: 5260-LIFE INSURANCE:

The forecast for this account is based on the current staffing.

LINE 11 on Page 3: 5275-DISABILITY INSURANCE:

The forecast for this account is based on the current staffing.

LINE 16 on Page 3: 5290-UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION:

The District received an invoice for \$17,504.00 from the State of Connecticut Department of Labor for the month ending September 30, 2011. A budget transfer of \$17,504 UNF was approved to pay for this. The forecast assumes an additional \$10,000 UNF will be incurred during the remainder of the fiscal year.

LINE 19 on Page 3: DATA PROCESSING:

A fee of \$500 UNF was paid to change the signatures for Accounts Payable and Payroll checks due to the change of the Board Treasurer.

LINE 20 on Page 3: OTHER PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL SERVICES:

The Health and Welfare Benefits Consultants were selected from several bidders. Marsh & McLennan Agency was awarded the bid for \$25,000. The 2011-2012 budget for this service is \$40,000, or a favorable variance of \$15,000 FAV. The forecast includes \$20,735 UNF to pay for a Speech and Language Pathologist substitute to cover for a teacher on a leave-of-absence. Legal expenditures are anticipated to be \$30,000 UNF (previously \$20,000 UNF) over budget due to the upcoming negotiations in the spring with the secretaries, paraprofessionals, custodians and nurses unions. The forecast includes \$15,000 UNF (previously \$20,000 UNF) for consulting services to assist the Board of Education in the selection of a new Superintendent of Schools. In addition, a final payment to Day Pitney LLP of \$6,014 UNF was made for professional services rendered in connection with the IRS audit of \$20,000,000 General Obligation Bonds and \$8,190,000 Bond Anticipation Notes. The IRS has notified us of a "No-Change Determination" after completing their examination of our bonds. *A budget transfer of \$11,750 UNF from the Contingency Account is requested to pay for an infrared analysis to identify any trapped moisture, core tests for tensile strength, and asbestos testing on a portion of the Amity High School roof.*

LINE 22 on Page 3: 5510-PUPIL TRANSPORTATION:

The forecast projects special education transportation to be \$111,701 FAV under budget (previously \$80,203 FAV under budget).

LINE 23 on Page 3: 5521-GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE:

The budget was based on an estimate provided by our insurance carrier for liability-automobile-property (LAP) insurance in December 2010. The LAP insurance was \$142,060, or \$16,073 FAV under budget. Student Accident Insurance premium was \$10,629, or \$1,371 FAV under budget. The forecast assumes 'LAP reimbursements' will be the same as the budget of \$3,000.

LINE 24 on Page 3: 5550-COMMUNICATIONS: TELEPHONE, POSTAGE:

The forecast includes a budget transfer of \$1,500 FAV from this account to certified salaries to pay two bench subs \$70 per day each for 50 days to allow us to maintain the tutoring which we are using as part of RTI programming and CAPT prep remediation efforts.

LINE 25 on Page 3: 5560-TUITION EXPENSE:

These figures are subject to change on a monthly basis.

Tuition for the vo-ag schools is projected at \$67,007 FAV under budget.

	FY07-08 ACTUAL	FY08-09 ACTUAL	FY09-10 ACTUAL	FY10-11 ACTUAL	FY11-12 BUDGET	FY11-12 ENROLLED
Sound	5	9	9	7	7	6
Trumbull	1	1	2	4	4	3
Nonnewaug	2	4	5	5	6	3
Totals	8	14	16	16	17	12

Public (ACES) and private out-of-district placements are projected at \$237,967 FAV under budget (previously \$142,952 FAV under budget).

	FY07-08 ACTUAL	FY08-09 ACTUAL	FY09-10 ACTUAL	FY10-11 ACTUAL	FY11-12 BUDGET	FY11-12 ENROLLED
Public SPED	8.25	9	7	6	7	6(5)
Private SPED	18	21	20.5	21	22	26(25)
Totals	26.25	30	27.5	27	29	32(30)

Note: 0.5 is a part-time student.

The forecast includes 25 students at ACES Educational Center for the Arts. The projected tuition is \$59,400 UNF over budget.

LINE 31 on Page 4: 5410-UTILITIES, EXCLUDING HEAT:

Electricity usage is projected at 4,733,252 kilowatt hours based on a three-year average compared to a budgeted usage of 4,771,558 kilowatt hours. (Last fiscal year's usage was 4,656,641 kilowatt hours.) The forecasted price is \$0.181 per kilowatt hour compared to a budgeted price of \$0.1767 per kilowatt hour. The distribution side was increased by DPUC. (Last fiscal year's price was \$0.177 per kilowatt hour.) The Amity High School lighting retrofit project is forecasted to lower the kilowatt hour usage by 20 percent, or a savings (net of loan payment) of approximately \$52,000 FAV under budget (previously \$45,000 FAV under budget).

The load shed numbers from participating in the program during last fiscal year is \$23,916 FAV.

Propane usage is estimated at *7,000 gallons (previously 8,000 gallons)* at *\$2.96 per gallon (previously \$3.00 per gallon)*. The budget is 11,000 gallons at \$3.00 per gallon. (Last fiscal year's usage was 8,346 gallons.) We anticipate the new, more efficient Field House hot water system will lower our usage. This will be partially offset by the extra lunch wave at the high school due to the eight-period schedule. The projected savings for this fiscal year is *\$12,280 FAV (previously \$10,500 FAV)*.

LINE 32 on page 4: 5420-REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE & CLEANING:

A lightning strike occurred on July 31, 2011 at Bethany Middle School. Multiple vendors were needed to repair extensive damage to the Building Management and Life Safety systems. We have been paying vendors out of the Bethany Middle School repair account. The insurance company paid \$44,955.55 (total cost of \$45,955.55 less \$1,000 deductible), which was credited to the expense account.

Total expenditures related to Tropical Storm Irene were \$7,182.49. Our insurance agent informed us that only \$1,155 for roof repairs qualifies for insurance coverage. With a \$1,000 deductible, we expect an insurance check for \$155. The insurance company paid \$731.00 related to wind damage caused by the storm, which has been credited to the expense account.

LINE 33 on Page 4: 5611-INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES:

The forecast includes a budget transfer of **\$5,500 FAV** from this account to certified salaries to pay two bench subs \$70 per day each for 50 days to allow us to maintain the tutoring which we are using as part of RTI programming and CAPT prep remediation efforts.

LINE 35 on Page 4: 5620-OIL USED FOR HEATING:

Fuel was purchased for the generator at Bethany Middle School during Tropical Storm Irene. The unbudgeted expense was \$398 UNF. Additional fuel was purchased for the generator at Bethany Middle School during the power outage. The unbudgeted expense was \$244 UNF. *The number of degree days to-date is 2,318 with a normal of 2,787.*

LINE 39 on Page 4: 5690-OTHER SUPPLIES:

The Microsoft licensing fee is \$12,749 FAV under budget. *The District has problems with its wireless infrastructure. We want to purchase a M6000 wireless controller and 8 high density access points for \$32,000. To pay for this, we have found savings of \$24,674 FAV in the Technology Department budget. A budget transfer request has been made to move these funds to the Equipment – Replacement account.*

LINE 40 on Page 4: 5730-EQUIPMENT-NEW:

Budget transfers under \$3,000 were approved in October to purchase an ADA compliant cafeteria table and some iPads / iPods. *The District has problems with its wireless infrastructure. We want to purchase a M6000 wireless controller and 8 high density access points for \$32,000. To pay for this, we have found savings of \$7,326 FAV in the Technology Department budget. A budget transfer request has been made to move these funds to the Equipment – Replacement account.*

LINE 42 on Page 4: 5731-EQUIPMENT-REPLACEMENT:

The forecast includes the purchase of a replacement server for \$12,650 UNF. *The District has problems with its wireless infrastructure. We want to purchase a M6000 wireless controller and 8 high density access points for \$32,000 UNF. A budget transfer request has been made to pay for these items.*

LINE 46 and LINE 46A on Page 4: 5850-CONTINGENCY:

The forecast assumes the entire Contingency Account of \$150,000 will be spent by year end. The Contingency Account has a balance of \$75,600. *If the budget transfer of \$11,750 is approved, the balance will be \$63,850.*

July (voted in June): \$67,411 UNF – Pay the full tuition for 27 students at ACES Educational Center for the Arts. All Superintendents of Schools were informed of the requirement to pay for the full tuition costs, less any applicable grants, for all students enrolled in the inter-district magnet school program. The ACES Governing Board has set the tuition at \$8,746.00. After subtracting the anticipated funding from each student from the CSDE Inter-district Magnet School grant, the remaining balance of tuition to be paid would be approximately \$3,793.00 per student. Boards of Education in Connecticut are required to pay tuition for the three-year average student enrollment, which is 27 students for Amity. We must pay \$102,411. The 2011-2012 Adopted Budget has \$35,000 for ECA tuition payments. Thus, we have a shortfall of \$67,411 is being covered by using the Contingency Account.

October: \$3,793 FAV - Actual enrollment is 26 students at ACES Educational Center for the Arts. A budget transfer of \$3,793 from Tuition to Contingency Account was approved.

December: \$15,000 UNF – (The budget transfer request of \$20,000 was changed by the Amity Board of Education to \$15,000.) A budget transfer was made to pay for consulting services to assist the Board of Education in the selection of a new Superintendent of Schools.

December: \$4,218 FAV – A budget transfer of \$4,218 from Tuition to Contingency Account was made based on the actual enrollment of 25 students at ACES Educational Center for the Arts and the actual tuition of \$3,776 per student.

February: \$11,750 UNF – An infrared analysis is needed to identify any trapped moisture, core test for tensile strength, and asbestos testing on a portion of the Amity High School roof.

Amity Regional School District No. 5 - Budget Transfers 2011-2012

<u>MONTH/YR</u>	<u>JNL#</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NUMBER & DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
2011-JUL	15	01-04-12-6117-5560 TUITION EXPENSE	67,411.00	ECA TUITION MAND
2011-JUL	15	01-05-15-0000-5850 CONTINGENCY	(67,411.00)	ECA TUITION MAND
2011-JUL	28	01-03-11-1010-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	1,700.00	ALLSTATE&NE SOUND
2011-JUL	28	01-03-11-1010-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(1,700.00)	ALLSTATE&NE SOUND
2011-AUG	13	01-02-111014-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	920.00	ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES NEEDED
2011-AUG	13	01-02-111014-5641 TEXTBOOKS	(920.00)	ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES NEEDED
2011-AUG	16	01-02-142219-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(78.00)	PRICE INCREASE
2011-AUG	16	01-02-111007-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	78.00	PRICE INCREASE
2011-AUG	25	01-02-111014-5810 DUES&FEES	(94.00)	PRICE INCREASE
2011-AUG	25	01-02-111014-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	94.00	PRICE INCREASE
2011-AUG	39	01-02111001-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(100.00)	SHIPPING CHARGE
2011-AUG	39	01-02-111001-5731 EQUIPMENT-REPLACE	150.00	SHIPPING CHARGE
2011-AUG	39	01-02-142219-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(50.00)	SHIPPING CHARGE
2011-AUG	57	01-03-111006-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(2,907.00)	INC ENROLLMENT
2011-AUG	57	01-03-111006-5641 TEXTBOOKS	2,907.00	INC ENROLLMENT
2011-AUG	161	01-01-132220-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	500.00	AUTHOR VISIT FOR SCHOOL
2011-AUG	161	01-01-132220-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(500.00)	AUTHOR VISIT FOR SCHOOL
2011-AUG	118	01-05-142350-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	1,423.00	APPS-PAGES,NOTES,KEYNOTE
2011-AUG	118	01-05-142320-5810 DUES &FEES	(1,423.00)	APPS-PAGES,NOTES,KEYNOTE
2011-AUG	136	01-05152512-5220 WORKERS COMPENS	(2,801.00)	CAPSS MEMBERSHIP
2011-AUG	136	01-05142310-5810 DUES&FEES	2,801.00	CAPSS MEMBERSHIP
2011-SEPT	65	01-01132400-5590 OTHER PURCHASED SVC	(116.00)	RETURN OF ITEMS SHIPPED
2011-SEPT	65	01-01132400-5420 REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE	116.00	RETURN OF ITEMS SHIPPED
2011-SEPT	65	01-01132400-5590 OTHER PURCHASED SVC	(315.00)	POSTAGE METER SHORTAGE
2011-SEPT	65	01-01132400-5550 COMMUNICATIONS	315.00	POSTAGE METER SHORTAGE
2011-SEPT	88	01-03111013-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(2,200.00)	ADDITIONAL TEXTS NEEDED
2011-SEPT	88	01-03111013-5641 TEXTBOOKS	2,200.00	ADDITIONAL TEXTS NEEDED
2011-SEPT	89	01-03132220-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(750.00)	PURCHASE WHITEBOARD
2011-SEPT	89	01-0313220-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	750.00	PURCHASE WHITEBOARD
2011-SEPT	133	01-03111008-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(51.00)	TEXTBOOKS/INC ENROLL
2011-SEPT	133	01-03111008-5641 TEXTBOOKS	51.00	TEXTBOOKS/INC ENROLL
2011-SEPT	159	01-01142600-5620 OIL USED FOR HEATING	398.00	GENERATOR FUEL-HURRICANE
2011-SEPT	159	01-05152512-5220 WORKERS COMPENS	(398.00)	GENERATOR FUEL-HURRICANE
2011-SEPT	210	01-03111013-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(120.00)	INCR COST OF TEXTBOOK
2011-SEPT	210	01-03111013-5641 TEXTBOOKS	120.00	INCR COST OF TEXTBOOK
2011-SEPT	227	01-01111006-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(140.00)	LANGUAGE TEACHER WORKSHOP
2011-SEPT	227	01-01111006-5810 DUES&FEES	140.00	LANGUAGE TEACHER WORKSHOP
2011-SEPT	273	01-01132220-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(100.00)	AUTHOR VISIT
2011-SEPT	273	01-01132220-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	100.00	AUTHOR VISIT
2011-OCT	2	01-01111011-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(155.00)	ATTEND CONFERENCE
2011-OCT	2	01-01132400-5581 TRAVEL-CONFERENCES	155.00	ATTEND CONFERENCE
2011-OCT	16	01-05142510-5521 GENERAL LIAB INSUR	(937.00)	APPLE CONFERENCE
2011-OCT	16	01-04121200-5581 TRAVEL-CONFERENCES	469.00	APPLE CONFERENCE
2011-OCT	16	01-05132212-5581 TRAVEL-CONFERENCES	468.00	APPLE CONFERENCE
2011-OCT	22	01-01111013-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(150.00)	APPLE CONFERENCE
2011-OCT	22	01-01132400-5581 TRAVEL-CONFERENCES	150.00	APPLE CONFERENCE
2011-OCT	26	01-04121200-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(210.00)	CONFERENCE FEE
2011-OCT	26	01-04132190-5581 TRAVEL-CONFERENCES	210.00	CONFERENCE FEE
2011-OCT	54	01-02111005-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(1,732.00)	PURCHASE IPAD/IPODS
2011-OCT	54	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	1,732.00	PURCHASE IPAD/IPODS
2011-OCT	56	01-05152512-5220 WORKERS COMPENS	(1,570.00)	CAFÉ TABLE,ADA
2011-OCT	56	01-03132400-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	1,570.00	CAFÉ TABLE,ADA
2011-OCT	130	01-04122150-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	20,735.00	LOA FOR SPEECH TEACHER
2011-OCT	130	01-05151026-5111 CERTIFIED SALARIES	(20,735.00)	LOA FOR SPEECH TEACHER
2011-OCT	130	01-05150000-5850 CONTINGENCY	3,793.00	ECA ENROLLMENT
2011-OCT	130	01-04126117-5560 TUITION EXPENSE	(3,793.00)	ECA ENROLLMENT
2011-OCT	160	01-01111010-5440 RENTALS-LAND,BLDG,	(2,805.00)	PURCHASE STEP RISERS
2011-OCT	160	01-01111010-5730 EQUIPMENT - NEW	2,805.00	PURCHASE STEP RISERS
2011-OCT	165	01-01111010-5440 RENTALS-LAND,BLDG,	(421.00)	BUY TEXTBOOKS

2011-OCT	165	01-01111010-5641 TEXTBOOKS	421.00	BUY TEXTBOOKS
2011-OCT	167	01-02142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(483.50)	REPLACE BULBS OUTSIDE
2011-OCT	167	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	483.50	REPLACE BULBS OUTSIDE
2011-OCT	196	01-02142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(550.00)	CONCRETE REPAIR
2011-OCT	196	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	550.00	CONCRETE REPAIR
2011-OCT	208	01-02142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(1,071.00)	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-OCT	208	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	1,071.00	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-NOV	38	01-02142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(350.00)	FIRE PUMP PIT FLOODED
2011-NOV	38	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	350.00	FIRE PUMP PIT FLOODED
2011-NOV	64	01-02142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(310.00)	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-NOV	64	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	310.00	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-NOV	106	01-05152512-5220 WORKERS COMPENS	(244.00)	GENERATOR FUEL-BETHANY
2011-NOV	106	01-01142600-5620 OIL USED FOR HEATING	244.00	GENERATOR FUEL-BETHANY
2011-NOV	111	01-03142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(13,000.00)	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-NOV	111	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	13,000.00	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-NOV	117	01-02111006-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(500.00)	IPAD PURCHASE
2011-NOV	117	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	500.00	IPAD PURCHASE
2011-NOV	126	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	500.00	IPAD DIRECTOR FINANCE
2011-NOV	126	01-05142350-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	(500.00)	IPAD DIRECTOR FINANCE
2011-DEC	3	01-03142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	13,000.00	REVERSE NOV TSF
2011-DEC	3	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(13,000.00)	REVERSE NOV TSF
2011-DEC	68	01-05142310-5810 DUES&FEES	45.00	BOE CONF MEMBERS
2011-DEC	68	01-05142310-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(45.00)	BOE CONF MEMBERS
2011-DEC	81	01-05142350-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	(500.00)	IPAD BACKUP
2011-DEC	81	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	500.00	IPAD BACKUP
2011-DEC	82	01-05142350-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	(2,000.00)	AMAZON FIRE TRIAL
2011-DEC	82	01-05142350-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	2,000.00	AMAZON FIRE TRIAL
2011-DEC	103	01-05152512-5290 UNEMPLOYMENT COMP	17,504.00	INCR UNEMPLOY COST
2011-DEC	103	01-03142600-5410 UTILITIES,EXCLUDING HEAT	(17,504.00)	INCR UNEMPLOY COST
2011-DEC	103	01-05142310-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	15,000.00	SUPERINTEND SEARCH
2011-DEC	103	01-05150000-5850 CONTINGENCY	(15,000.00)	SUPERINTEND SEARCH
2011-DEC	103	01-05150000-5860 OPEB TRUST	4,218.00	ECA DECREASE
2011-DEC	103	01-04126117-5560 TUITION EXPENSE	(4,218.00)	ECA DECREASE
2012-JAN	7	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	1,000.00	IPAD PURCHASE
2012-JAN	7	01-05142510-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(1,000.00)	IPAD PURCHASE
2012-JAN	36	01-03142600-5613 MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIA	(726.00)	GENERATOR FUEL
2012-JAN	36	01-03142600-5620 OIL USED FOR HEATING	726.00	GENERATOR FUEL
2012-JAN	59	01-05151026-5111 CERTIFIED SALARIES	7,000.00	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111001-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPL	(500.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111008-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(300.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111009-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(900.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111010-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(400.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111013-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(900.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111014-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(150.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03132120-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(1,000.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03142219-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(1,000.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03132220-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(350.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03132400-5550 COMMUNICATIONS	(1,500.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-05142310-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	6,014.00	IRS AUDIT
2012-JAN	59	01-05142510-5521 GENERAL LIAB INSUR	(6,014.00)	IRS AUDIT
2012-JAN	61	01-02111008-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(500.00)	IPAD PURCHASE
2012-JAN	61	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	500.00	IPAD PURCHASE
2012-JAN	82	01-03111001-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	1,000.00	KILN REPAIR
2012-JAN	82	01-05142320-5580 STAFF TRAVEL	(1,000.00)	KILN REPAIR
2012-JAN	123	01-01132130-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(438.00)	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	123	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	438.00	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	123	01-01111011-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(416.00)	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	123	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	416.00	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	123	01-01132400-5590 OTHER PURCHASED SVC	(196.00)	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	123	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	196.00	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	151	01-01132220-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(47.00)	BOOK COVERS
2012-JAN	151	01-01132220-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	47.00	INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP

2012-JAN	207	01-01111010-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	(1,273.00)	REPAIR STAGE CURTAIN
2012-JAN	207	01-01111010-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	1,273.00	REPAIR STAGE CURTAIN
2012-JAN	207	01-01111010-5440 RENTALS-LAND,BLDG,	(809.00)	REPAIR STAGE CURTAIN
2012-JAN	207	01-01111010-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	809.00	REPAIR STAGE CURTAIN
2012-JAN	225	01-05142510-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	606.00	COPIER CHARGE
2012-JAN	225	01-05142510-5521 GENERAL LIAB INSUR	(606.00)	COPIER CHARGE
2012-JAN	264	01-01142600-5730 EQUIPMENT - NEW	(915.00)	STRADDLER PURCH
2012-JAN	264	01-03142600-5730 EQUIPMENT - NEW	915.00	STRADDLER PURCH
2012-JAN	264	01-03142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(1,400.00)	STRADDLER PURCH
2012-JAN	264	01-03142600-5730 EQUIPMENT - NEW	1,400.00	STRADDLER PURCH

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525



Jack B. Levine
Director of Finance and Administration
jack.levine@reg5.k12.ct.us

Phone (203) 397-4813
Fax (203) 397-4864

To: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
From: Jack B. Levine, Director of Finance and Administration
Re: Budget Transfers of \$3,000 or More for Fiscal Year 2011-2012
Date: February 9, 2012

I recommend the Amity Finance Committee and Board of Education approve the following budget transfer(s) of over \$3,000:

Legal Expenditures:

A budget transfer is requested to cover legal expenditures, which have been forecasted to exceed budget. It is anticipated further budget transfers will be needed by the end of the fiscal year.

#1- Motion to make the following budget transfer of \$10,000 to pay legal expenditures:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
05-14-2510-5521	General Liability Insurance	\$10,000	
05-14-2310-5330	Other Professional & Tech. Svcs.		\$10,000

Wireless Network:

We are currently having problems with our wireless infrastructure. The wireless access points are randomly dropping connections. Also, when more than 10 mobile devices are connected to the same access point simultaneously, the network communication through the access point slows down significantly. In order to resolve our connectivity issues, Technology Coordinator Rocco Palmieri recommends transitioning our wireless infrastructure to the Aruba Wireless Network. The recommended configuration involves purchasing a M6000 wireless controller and 210 wireless access points, 100 at the high school and 55 at each middle school. In the areas we are piloting the iPad project, Mr. Palmieri recommends using high density access points that support 50 simultaneous connections. We have looked at several other school districts which are currently using the Aruba Wireless Network and they all highly recommend this particular wireless network. The initial purchase will be the M6000 controller and 10 high density access points for \$32,000.

We will eventually need to purchase 200 additional access points to bring the wireless network design to the recommended configuration for approximately \$60,000. This has been added to the Technology Five-Year Capital Improvement Forecast for 2013-2014.

Budget Transfers of \$3,000 or More for Fiscal Year 2011-2012

February 9, 2012

Page 2

We have identified \$32,000 in the Technology Department budget, which can be used to cover this expenditure. Mr. Palmieri believes the current replacement parts inventory is sufficient for the remainder of the fiscal year and he can 'free up' \$7,790 by holding off on purchases of repair parts. We saved money by converting our anti-virus protection software from Symntec to Microsoft Forefront (\$6,340). In addition, we purchased 19 computers at a reduced bid price (\$7,326). Also, we have encouraged employees to make copies off a copier rather than a printer which has resulted in savings (\$5,454). The budget included the purchase of rails for Smartboards; however, Mr. Palmieri felt it is more important to improve the wireless infrastructure than purchase the rails at this time (\$4,400). Also, there were some miscellaneous items which will not be purchased (\$690).

Mr. Palmieri reviewed wireless networks used by other school districts and determined this particular product is superior. Nine school districts were surveyed and seven use the Aruba wireless network (Ridgefield; Meriden; Wallingford; Region 16; Hamden; Cheshire; Torrington) and two use the Cisco wireless network (Seymour; Naugatuck). Wallingford School District migrated from Cisco to Aruba. The biggest reason for the conversion in Wallingford School District was the centralized management (deployment and maintenance) of their access points.

We would be purchasing the items directly from the manufacturer rather than a vendor. This will save the profit the vendor would add to the price. The manufacturer has told Mr. Palmieri that they would not participate in a bidding process. I recommend the Board approve the purchase directly from the manufacturer rather than bidding these items.

#2- Motion to make the following budget transfer to pay Aruba Network, Inc. of Sunnyvale, California, \$32,000 for a M6000 wireless controller and 10 wireless access points. The Board of Education authorizes the Director of Finance and Administration to purchase these items directly from the manufacturer rather than bidding these items:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
05-14-2350-5690	Other Supplies	\$24,674	
05-14-2350-5730	Equipment - New	\$7,326	
05-14-2350-5731	Equipment - Replacement		\$32,000

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525



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Phone (203) 397-4813
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To: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
From: Jack B. Levine, Director of Finance and Administration
Re: New Funding Requests for Fiscal Year 2011-2012
Date: January 27, 2012

I would like to recommend the Amity Finance Committee and Board of Education approve the following new funding request(s):

Amity High School Roof Restoration Project:

The gravel surfaced built up roofs at Amity High School are twenty years old and in need of attention. Because the roofs are in fair condition, showing only minor blistering and flashing deficiencies that have been properly and efficiently repaired and maintained, the condition of these roofs afford the opportunity for a restoration of the roof system as opposed to full replacement. Tremco estimates a cost of \$1,400,000 for a restoration project as opposed to \$4,000,000 for a full roof replacement. The restoration project would result in a new 10-year warranty on the roofing system. A restoration project is also the environmentally preferred choice as we will not be disposing of 200,000 square feet of roofing materials in the local landfills.

Being that our gravel surfaced built up roofs are a good candidate for restoration instead of replacement, Facilities Director Jim Saisa recommends that we proceed with the research testing and ultimately complete the roof restoration project. Provided we continue to meticulously maintain our roofs, this process can potentially be renewed several more times in the future.

A few research items need to be completed prior to the restoration project. An infrared analysis to identify any trapped moisture, core tests for tensile strength, and asbestos testing need to be done at an approximate cost of \$11,750. A budget transfer is requested to pay for this work.

#1 – Motion to make the following budget transfer of \$11,750 to pay for an infrared analysis to identify any trapped moisture, core tests for tensile strength, and asbestos testing on a portion of the Amity High School roof:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
05-15-0000-5850	Contingency Account	\$11,750	
05-14-2310-5330	Other Professional & Tech. Svcs.		\$11,750

CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT RECAP

Budget		\$150,000
July:	Additional ECA Tuition	\$ 67,411
October:	Restore Unused Additional ECA Tuition	+ \$ 3,793
December:	Restore Unused Additional ECA Tuition	+ \$ 4,218
December:	Consulting services to assist Board of Education in selection of a new Superintendent of Schools	<u>\$ 15,000</u>
Subtotal		\$ 75,600
February:	Infrared analysis on portion of high school roof	<u>\$ 11,750</u>
Balance		<u>\$ 63,850</u>

Attached are the minutes from the following Board of Education Sub-Committee meetings:

Facilities Committee	1/4/12
Curriculum Committee	1/5/12
Finance Committee	1/9/12
Finance Committee	1/23/12
Facilities Committee	1/25/12

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Cardozo, Steven DeMaio

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: John A. Grasso

Also Present: Laura Adair, Russell Adair, William Blake, John Brady, Charles Britton, Les Burns, Rob Kennedy, Jeff Kwolek, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Paul Mengold, Jim Saisa, Joe Velardi

A meeting of the Facilities Committee was held on Wednesday, January 4, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

1. **Call to Order:** Patricia Cardozo called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. Agenda Item #5, Discussion of Possible Fund Raising Activities for Turf Field, was moved to be discussed earlier in the meeting so that guests could participate in the discussion.
2. **Discussion and Possible Action on Naming Seats in the High School Auditorium**

Dr. Brady said that parents would like to present an interesting idea to raise money for Amity's theater program. Two parents came to the meeting.

Rob Kennedy, theater arts teacher at the High School, said the idea of naming seats is a common practice and has been done successfully at other schools. By naming seats, funds can be raised to help the theater program. Those interested in naming a seat would pay \$100 for a four-inch by two-inch plaque. Plaques would be attached to arm rests. The proposal is similar to the concept of sponsoring by purchasing and engraving a brick. Plaques could accommodate up to thirty characters. The plaques are actually printed, not engraved.

Parent Russell Adair said that the plaques would be permanent; however, the sponsor would not own the chair. Tickets to performances would still need to be purchased.

Mr. Kennedy said that the fundraiser would probably be ongoing. It would raise money for the Blackbox Theatre and equipment.

Mr. DeMaio said that one of his concerns is that there would be a seat with someone's name on it and the sponsor might expect to sit in that seat during a performance.

Ms. Cardozo asked if the funds would be payable to the High School. Mr. Kennedy said that they would go into the department's account. She asked what other schools are naming seats. Mr. Kennedy said Hamden High School, Staples, and others.

Mr. Adair said that he has checked the quality of the plaques to ensure that they can't be easily damaged. To prevent damage, they could be set in wood. The product is guaranteed for 25 years. There has been interest in the project and there are already 10 potential sponsors. The plaques could be in place by the time of the *Legally Blonde* production.

Mr. Blake said that naming District facilities has been a hot button issue at Amity. There have been requests to name facilities following tragic incidences where someone died. Some people will question why this is okay, when other naming opportunities have been difficult. There are also concerns about fundraising that benefits only a few students.

Mr. Rob said that bricks have been sold before at Amity.

Dr. Brady said that students going to Edinburgh, Scotland would benefit from this activity, but others will also benefit.

Ms. Cardozo said that more detailed information, including financial information, would be helpful. It would be good to know how many students are traveling to Edinburgh and how much money has been raised through other means.

Dr. Brady said that he has seen how the plaques at Staples have weathered over time and they are in good shape. There is very little vandalism. Those plaques are raised and screwed into the backs of the seats. So far, he has noticed very little vandalism in the auditorium at Amity. There will probably be some resistance to this idea.

Ms. Adair said that if the money doesn't go toward the trip to Scotland, she still considers the idea worthwhile because it is a great way to raise money. It should continue to be pursued.

Ms. Cardozo and Mr. DeMaio said that the idea could be presented to the full Board. Mr. DeMaio said that more information and research would be helpful. It would be good to have a letter from other schools that have done this, including their feelings on how the fundraiser went.

Mr. Blake asked Mr. and Mrs. Adair if they would be able to present the idea to the Board. They said that they would. The topic can be addressed at the next meeting of the Facilities Committee.

3. Discussion of Possible Fund Raising Activities for Turf Field

Dr. Brady said that he met with Jeff Kwolek and Les Burns to discuss fundraising activities for a turf field. The field could be used for multiple sports besides football.

Mr. Kwolek said that the field being proposed is not a football field. He said that the fundraising is being considered because the condition of the field is embarrassing. Joe Velardi, athletic director at Pomperaug High School in Southbury, lives in the District and has experience overseeing a turf field installation. Money is being sought through corporate sponsorships. Mr. Kwolek said that he understands that the maintenance cost for the current field is about \$50,000 a year. It may be possible to get a Stepp grant.

Mr. Velardi said that since a turf field was installed at Pomperaug High School in 2004, it has been a great value. People aren't being inconvenienced due to muddy conditions. The field was folded into a construction project when additional classrooms were needed. As part of the referendum, if bids were favorable, some money would be used to improve the athletic facilities. The first step was to invite turf companies to consider the project. The cost was mainly for the extensive work needed underneath the field to provide proper drainage. The work underground took about four months. Rolling the turf was accomplished quickly. In the past, there had been concerns about fumes and scares about bacteria. There are fewer orthopedic injuries. Divots in fields cause ankle and knee turns. The fields are actually easy to disinfect with a solution of hydrogen peroxide and water. This is typically done once a year. A sand and rubber combination feels more like a natural field. The fields are tested and are easy to maintain. He noted that if Amity is spending \$50,000 per year for maintenance on the current field, money can be made back. While saving the field and increasing its use, other fields take less wear. Pomperaug was able to secure donations from local leagues. The field has an eight-year warranty and is in good shape, showing no signs of wear. When stitching comes up, a phone call is made and the repair is done quickly. Herringbone drainage was installed and the field drains like a sieve. A Stepp grant might be applied for through the town. When it came time to get bleachers, naming opportunities helped lower the cost, Mr. Velardi said.

Dr. Brady said that the safety of turf fields had been in question, but they aren't as controversial now.

Mr. Kwolek said donors have expressed interest, but would like to make sure that the project has Board support. There are a lot of people interested in fundraising for this field. There are signatures from some people who are interested. The field will not cost the towns money.

Mr. Burns said that he coaches lacrosse and sees the chance to raise funds for the field.

Steven DeMaio said that he supports the project, but doesn't know if the taxpayers can help, since there are more immediate needs facing the District. Also, the track was just resurfaced last year and he wants to be sure that it won't be damaged. He would recommend the rubber turf be used and the area be properly drained. Regarding naming the complex, corporations usually want something in return for their sponsorship. There are concerns about signs around the field. He does not want to make promises that there will be plaques and signs, but he would like to help.

Mr. Velardi said people can be told that signs are up for a limited number of years. Businesses with children involved in sports are attracted to these opportunities.

Mr. Mengold said that there is no interest in renaming the facilities. Bronze plaques could be used. The field would save on Amity renting indoor facilities for lacrosse tryouts (\$5,000). Currently, Amity is one of only two schools in their conference without a turf field.

Ms. Cardozo questioned how much rental income is possible. She said that there are competing expenses in the District, which is why a turf field hasn't been pursued.

Mr. Velardi said that Pop Warner rents the field at Pomperaug and athletic camps may rent the space. There is no time pressure for the project. The key is finding parents who are willing to sit on a committee. There will be a period when the High School will be without a field during construction. Another nice feature is that the field could be painted for different sports for different seasons.

Dr. Brady said that the Stepp grant presents an interesting opportunity. He added that \$215,000 is currently spent to maintain outdoor space in the District. There should be support for the grant.

Mr. Blake said that if there is significant support and donors, the field could become a reality. Those interested in supporting the field should be able to answer questions.

Mr. Burns asked if a prospectus should be sent. Dr. Brady said that would be a question for the turf field committee.

Mr. Saisa and Dr. Britton expressed support.

Mr. Kwolek said that he would like to advertise the fundraising effort and wondered whether ads should be placed.

Dr. Brady said that meetings are covered by reporters from area newspapers.

Mr. DeMaio said that the more support shown by the community, the better.

Ms. Cardozo said that the topic will be brought up at the next Board of Education meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 9, 2012.

4. Discussion and Possible Action on High School Roof Project

Dr. Brady said that it would make sense to borrow the money for the roof project.

Mr. DeMaio questioned whether more should be bonded. It would be better to pay now.

Mr. Levine said that it is worthwhile to bond for something of value.

Mr. Levine said that it is necessary and financially prudent to proceed in this manner. A lot of decisions had to be made to keep the budget down. He added that the District has been fortunate under Dr. Brady's leadership to have the budget pass the first time, every time. Dr. Brady has a clear vision for the District.

Dr. Brady said that he can't find a way to take anything else out that wouldn't start eroding what Amity is. The way to get things taken care of that need to be done is to bond for the roof. Dr. Brady said that the Facilities Committee doesn't need to vote on this now. He said that the Board can consider this.

Mr. DeMaio said that he would rather pay now and not accumulate interest.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Five Year Capital Facilities Forecast

Dr. Brady said that the gas company is committed to bringing natural gas into Woodbridge. Natural gas is about half the cost of oil. In the budget proposal for next year, there are no plans to bid on oil.

Mr. DeMaio asked if it is possible not to convert stoves.

Dr. Brady said that the gas company does not want to go forward unless there is a commitment.

Mr. Saisa said that the District could be back charged for items that were on the initial commitment list. The proposed savings for one year is \$120,000.

Dr. Brady said that there are a number of upcoming projects. The football field needs to be re-sodded. Sidewalk repairs and asphalt repairs are needed at the High School. The visitor bleachers at the High School don't meet code and are a liability. Funds are needed to pay for these projects. This year's budget is

difficult. There are increases in population and the number of special education students is rising.

Mr. DeMaio asked if there is any way to raise money for technology.

Dr. Brady said that technology is considered more of an operational expense. Apple doesn't discount prices. The vision is that multiple platforms will be needed.

Dr. Brady said that he is particularly concerned about the bleachers. There is money in an account now. Mr. Levine said that the bleachers are a priority. Five projects have been identified that are necessary.

Mr. DeMaio asked whether the projects could be added to the operating budget.

Dr. Brady said that Mr. DeMaio's suggestion is beyond the scope of the Facilities Committee

6. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m. (Patricia Cardozo, 2d Steven DeMaio).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Lippard, recording clerk

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Julie Altman, Diane Crocco, Thomas Hurley

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Rita Gedansky, James Horwitz

Also Present: Charles Britton, Richard Dellinger, Sarah Dowling, Jonathan Furst, Warren Gohsler, Ali Grasson, Marianne Lippard, Lisa Meyer, Mary Raiola, Sheila Wycinowski, Natasha Zannelli

A meeting of the Curriculum Committee was held in the Presentation Room of District Offices at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 5, 2011.

1. Call to Order: Julie Altman called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

2. Discussion of District Technology Plan

Sheila Wycinowski said that the District is about to write the technology plan. One of the tasks is to create a new needs assessment. An idea put forward is to expand the Technology Committee to include more parents. Connectivity is a priority. Teachers creating lessons need to be able to be sure their lessons will be accessible. Plans are to Skype with other districts. A think tank will be created at Amity. There will be pieces that will need to be approved. The plan will be brought to ACES, the Curriculum Committee, and then the full Board.

One piece of the plan is 21st Century Skills. Students need to learn how to use sources properly and it is necessary to ensure that students are using multiple resources. Students are expected to research, collect resources, collaborate with other students, and create their own responses. They should have the skills to persuade using research.

By sixth grade, pupils at Beecher Road School are expected to be able to do digital story telling. If all of the elementary schools are doing this, then Amity can take this skill to the next level. This can be discussed in the BOWA.

Teachers are encouraged to use Skype and students are learning how to structure conversations and problem solve. Teachers have been discussing Voice Thread. With more iPads and other tools in the classroom, resources could spread out for students to use in groups.

Four teachers attended the meeting to talk about the iPad pilot. Lisa Meyer, an eighth grade special education teacher, co-teaches English, math, and social studies in Bethany. Sara Dowling teaches eighth grade math in Bethany.

Ms. Dowling said that she uses the iPad each day in class and created a Google site for the class to use. The site allows students to easily get right on and she had the students save the address as a bookmark. She tells students which items to download. Files are

opened in Notability. With the technology, she is able to create PDF files of worksheets she developed. Work did not have to be recreated.

One benefit to students is that they can e-mail a completed worksheet. If a student is absent, work can be sent this way. Students can write on the worksheets and they can color code to highlight facts as needed. It is particularly nice because textbooks can't be written on. The system makes it very easy for students to organize data and find what they need.

Ms. Meyer said that the iPads have helped with student skills. Instead of students having five two-inch binders, they can use their iPad. The students involved in the pilot get to bring the iPads home. A \$3.00 app was given to all students and it is helpful for those who can't write well. The technology is also helpful for PPTs.

Ms. Altman asked if the teachers still use a password protected environment.

Ms. Dowling said that the Google site is not password protected. No student information is available on the site.

Ms. Altman asked if there is a benefit compared with Moodle and whether there are concerns with putting worksheets there. There isn't integration.

Ms. Dowling said there were features of Moodle that weren't being used. She isn't concerned about the worksheets. Ms. Meyer said that a Google site is easier to use.

Ms. Wycinowski said that the iPads are particularly useful for organization.

District Digital Facilitator Jonathan Furst said that it is important to recognize that students are learning the basic skills of using the iPads right now. The devices were distributed in October.

Ms. Meyer said that with iPads, teachers can more easily give students different assignments so that students can work on different skills if necessary. The students are picking up a lot of skills with the devices.

Natasha Zannelli and Ali Grasson, teachers at the High School, used the iPad with students reading the Odyssey. Ms. Zannelli said that she can control the iPad with her iPhone, which is useful when moving around the classroom. Most of the students had tablet technology prior to taking part in the pilot. Since many students were using their own iPads, free apps were downloaded.

Benefits of the technology include increased student engagement, an increased ability to accommodate different learners, and enhanced interaction with the text. The teachers found the technology increased motivation, as students could look up unknown words. If a student wanted to hear a book read, they had that option.

There have been some challenges. When students had to share devices, they had to highlight text using different colors. E-mail was problematic for those sharing devices. Connectivity was slow and Wi-Fi really needs to be working if students are being asked to download apps.

The teachers reported that after using the technology to read the Odyssey, students were asked to rank their understanding of the novel and about their experience using iPads. Most students provided positive feedback.

Thomas Hurley asked if there was any negative feedback.

The teachers reported that a student commented that there was a preference for books that allowed pages to be turned. There was also some negative feedback about the Wi-Fi.

Ms. Zannelli said that some free apps that teachers use include Dictionary.com, iTranslate, Zite, Schoology, and SidebySide.

Ms. Altman said that a small percentage of students didn't have their own devices. She questioned how that was handled.

The teachers said that while it was noticed, the students seemed happy to get to use the new iPads that the school provided. Shared devices couldn't be brought home.

Mr. Furst said that the school is fortunate to have teachers creating this type of work. Wireless capability is needed and mobile devices should be in the hands of every student.

The District is working on a survey to get an idea of how many students already have their own devices. What is being addressed at the meeting is the starting point of what can be accomplished with the technology. Currently, iPads offer more in this area than similar technology in the marketplace. With the Kindle Fire, students can read and access the Internet, but are not able to do get creative, as with the iPad. This is a year for data gathering, learning, exploring, and evaluating the technology.

Amity must examine what is going on with textbooks. With iTunes University, there are over 500,000 free lectures available. While working with Apple last summer, he worked with groups to create content. It isn't yet clear exactly what device should be put in a student's hand. More and more universities are putting lectures on-line.

Ms. Altman questioned whether the teacher's union has discussed how this will change what is going on in the classroom. With the changes taking place, their role would be as more of a facilitator.

Mr. Furst said that if students have iPhones they can use technology. This empowers the student.

Mr. Hurley praised the staff. With the speed at which technology is becoming available, the Committee needs to gather useful information. Taxpayers don't always understand the potential applications for new technology. They understand purchasing a textbook, but not an iPad.

Ms. Wycinowski said that Orange has been getting SMART Boards in classrooms, but Woodbridge has had a different focus. The community needs to support the technology.

Ms. Altman asked if there are any students on the Technology Committee. Student perspectives would be important. Bobby Brown, the student representative to the Board of Education, had been on the committee, but graduated last year.

Ms. Meyer said that technology makes more sense once the community sees what we can be accomplished.

Mr. Hurley said that there should be some way to go out into the community and educate the public about the applications of technology in the classroom.

3. Discussion and Possible Action – AP Chinese

Ms. Wycinowski said that students are requesting Chinese 5. She wanted to address the Committee to present the concept. It would be nice to offer students this option. The concept must be approved, not the staffing, which will be addressed in the budget. Chinese 5 is sophomore college level.

There was no vote due to lack of quorum. The item was tabled. Mr. Hurley said that the topic could be brought before the full Board.

4. Approval of Minutes – November 17, 2011

There was no vote due to a lack of quorum.

5. Other

No other business was discussed.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne Lippard, recording clerk

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Janet Brunwin, Matthew Giglietti, John Grasso, Jr., James Horwitz, Joseph Nuzzo, James Stirling

Also Present: John Brady, Glen Ketchian, James Leahy, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Terry Lumas, Rocco Palmieri, James Zeoli

A meeting of the Finance Committee of the Amity Regional Board of Education was held on Monday, January 9, 2012, at 4:30 p.m. in the Presentation Room of the District Offices.

1. **Call to Order:** James Stirling called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.
3. **Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes**
 - A. Finance Committee Meeting – December 12, 2011
Motion to approve the minutes as presented (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Mr. Grasso).
Vote in favor unanimous. ***Motion passed.***

4. Public Comment

James Leahy of the Orange Board of Finance shared the schedule of meetings for that board. He highlighted a concern that there must be sufficient time for the Orange Board of Finance to review and comment on the Superintendent's budget before the Amity Finance Committee votes on the budget request.

First Selectman James Zeoli spoke to the Committee about a projected \$1.1 million budget increase in Orange. He noted that he just does not see that as sustainable. Mr. Zeoli cautioned the Committee to look at wants versus needs. He mentioned that he was pleased that the Board last spring set aside money for the upcoming High School roof project. He views this as good planning, even though the interest cost over is only \$38,000. He reinforced his belief that Amity should stick to its plan.

Mr. Zeoli further stated that he supports staying with a referendum, but would like to see it start at noon, 9:00 a.m., or something later than 6:00 a.m.

Thomas Falcigno, student representative, commented that if the District moved to a District Meeting, most of the senior class would not vote. He recommended continuation of a budget referendum versus District Meeting.

Glen Ketchian, a member of the Orange Board of Finance, questioned how average daily membership is calculated. Dr. Brady described how Connecticut General Statutes govern this process.

5. Discussion and Possible Action to Accept Audit of Year Ending June 30, 2011

A. Review of Audited Financial Statements by Auditors

Mr. Stirling called upon Jack Levine, Director of Finance and Administration, to introduce Rob Howard of CCR to present the audit findings.

Mr. Howard noted that Governmental Activities General Fund, Capital Project funds, and Reserve Fund for Capital and Non-Recurring were all found to be “clean”.

CCR found no internal control weaknesses. For the federal single audit, the District received “unqualified ‘clean’ opinions on compliance.

Mr. Howard noted that it is uncommon to have “clean” audits across the board, which is the case with Amity’s 2010-2011 audit. He said that with implementation to GASB new special revenue account can only be created by the Board of Education, not the administration.

Mr. Levine asked Mr. Howard to point out that Amity has developed a written policy for management of risk.

B. Discussion and Possible Action to Accept Audit

Move the Amity Board of Education accept the audit of year ending June 30, 2011 as presented. (Ms. Brunwin, 2d Mr. Horwitz).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

6. Discussion and Possible Revisions to 2012-2013 Budget Calendar

The calendar adjustments will allow the Committee to vote on the budget at their February meeting.

Motion to accept adjustments to the Budget Calendar (Mr. Nuzzo, 2d Mr. Giglietti).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on District Meeting vs. Referendum for 2012-2013 Budget Vote

At a previous meeting, Dr. Brady proposed discussing with the three First Selectmen the possibility of holding a District Meeting rather than a referendum vote on the 2012-2013 Amity budget. All but one of the regional districts use a referendum. The percentage of voters casting ballots in the 2011 Amity

referendum was approximately 10 percent of registered voters in all three towns. While the voter turnout was low, conducting the vote at a District Meeting would almost certainly result in even lower participation. Dr. Brady said that he feels that the District should continue use of referendum voting.

Mr. Giglietti stated that the Selectmen should make the decision on this. Ms. Brunwin stated that she favored a referendum. Mr. Horwitz stated his support for a referendum.

Mr. Zeoli recommended that Amity pay for the ballots.

The Committee's sense was to stay with a referendum and seek ways to help towns with the costs associated with ballots.

8. Discussion and Possible Action to Redesignate Funds from the Capital & Nonrecurring Account for Specified Capital Projects

In a memo to the Amity Board of Education and Amity Finance Committee dated January 5, 2012, Dr. Brady asked that \$344,000 be redesignated from the Capital & Nonrecurring Expenditures Account for specified Capital projects.

Dr. Brady noted that several highly needed facilities and technology items were removed from his 2012-2013 budget proposal out of the necessity to bring operating expenditures down. The items should not be deferred. He is recommending that funds be re-appropriated from the Amity High School roof restoration project. The District's financial investment advisor said that the additional cost over 10 years of bonding \$350,000 (i.e., difference between bonding the full \$1,400,000 and \$1,050,000 and using the \$350,000 in the capital reserve) would be about \$38,500. The current bond interest rate is two percent.

Dr. Brady is recommending using \$344,000 now designated for the Amity High School roof restoration project, as follows:

1. Natural gas conversion at the High School, \$120,000
The estimated costs of conversion will be paid back in energy savings after the first year. The long-term potential energy savings would be significant.
2. Re-sod crown of football field at High School, \$15,000
The crown of the football field has been destroyed by wet weather. Re-sodding the field is necessary to restore a safe playing surface next year.
3. Asphalt sealing and repairs and sidewalk repairs at the High School, \$27,000
Deteriorating areas must be repaired to ensure safety.
4. New visitor bleachers for Stadium Field, \$74,000
Visitor bleachers at the football stadium do not meet present code.

5. Replacement of 105 computers, \$84,000
The cost to repair and upgrade these computers is generally more than half the cost of replacement. The obsolete computers have become slow and non-responsive and, in some cases, do not support the requirements of updated software.
6. Replacement of three servers, \$24,000
These servers have reached their end-of-life and the hard drives are at or near capacity.

Mr. Saisa proceeded to describe each item listed in Dr. Brady's memo of January 5, 2012.

Mr. Ketchian asked if the gas company would pay for the conversion if Amity paid double the price of natural gas for the first year.

Mr. Palmieri described his request to replace 105 computers and three servers.

Mr. Grasso asked if corporate sponsors could be addressed to raise funds.

Mr. Stirling asked for a motion.

Mr. Grasso asked for a motion to separate items.

Mr. Nuzzo requested that a letter from Philip Grande, a former member of the Board of Education, be made part of the meeting record.

Mr. Giglietti said that this discussion could take place at a later date.

Dr. Brady said that this topic could be put on the agenda for the February meeting.

Mr. Stirling said that a special meeting could be held to consider these items.

Mr. Horwitz suggested tabling the motion because of the gravity of redesignating funds from the Capital Non-Recurring Account.

Mr. Grasso rescinded his motion in favor of a motion to table.

*Motion to table (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Mr. Nuzzo).
Vote in favor unanimous.*

Motion passed.

9. Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements

There were no questions.

Motion to accept the Monthly Financial Statements (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Ms. Brunwin).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

10. Director of Finance and Administration Approved Transfers Under \$3,000**11. Discussion and Possible Action on Budget Transfers****Bench Subs:**

This budget request re-allocates funds to offset the cost of two bench subs for 50 days. These bench subs will be used to staff the Math CAPT Lab and Science CAPT Lab while the interns complete their student teaching. Staffing these labs with additional bench subs will allow the District to maintain tutoring, which is being used as part of RTI programming and CAPT prep remediation efforts. This tutoring will be maintained during the critical January and February timeframe in the lead-up to the March CAPT administration.

Mr. Levine said that this transfer would allow the District to reallocate funds as described. Dr. Brady said that the staffing will help students who need to work on math and science problem solving skills.

Motion to make the following budget transfer of \$7,000 to pay two bench subs \$70 per day each for 50 days (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Ms. Brunwin):

Account Number	Account Name	From	To
03-11-1001-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$500	
03-11-1008-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$300	
03-11-1009-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$900	
03-11-1010-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$400	
03-11-1013-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$900	
03-11-1014-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$150	
03-13-2120-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$1,000	
03-14-2219-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$1,000	
03-13-2220-5611	Instructional Supplies	\$350	
03-11-2400-5550	Communications	\$1,500	
05-15-1026-5111	Certified Salaries		\$7,000

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

Professional Services Due to Tax Audit:

A final payment to Day Pitney LLP of \$6,014 UNF needs to be made for professional services rendered in connection with the IRS audit of \$20,000,000 General Obligation Bonds and \$8,190,000 Bond Anticipation Notes. The IRS has notified the District of a "No-Change Determination" after completing their examination of Amity's bonds.

Motion to make the following budget transfer of \$6,014 to pay Day Pitney LLP for professional services rendered in connection with an IRS audit of General

Obligation Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Ms. Brunwin):

Account Number	Account Name	From	To
05-14-2510-5521	General Liability Insurance	\$6,014	
05-14-2310-5330	Other Professional & Tech. Svcs.		\$6,014

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

12. Update on Financial Operations

13. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:46 p.m. (Mr. Nuzzo, 2d Ms. Brunwin)

Motion passed; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Lippard, recording clerk

Dear Joe:

I am writing in order to share my opinion about a pending matter of fiscal importance which may come before you at the January 9, 2012 Amity Board of Education meeting. Specifically, the request for reallocation of Fund 17, the capital reserve fund.

A few short months ago, while serving as a member of the Amity Board, my colleagues and I pondered the use of excess funds from the previous fiscal year's budget. Generally speaking, the direction of these excess funds can either:

- a) Be returned to the 3 towns as a refund; or
- b) Be designated for future capital use, depending on certain criteria.

Considering the current economic landscape coupled with the age of the Amity High School facilities, the previous board discussed and decided to sequester funds for the sole purpose of future capital improvements regarding the Amity High School roof.

The aforementioned decision was based on a variety of factors, including preliminary project estimates (which are likely to be well understated), the scope of the project, and the protection of the physical asset. Furthermore, the decision to offset future costs associated with the roof project was made well in advance of the annual audit.

Personally, it was my intention to save taxpayer dollars in anticipation of this project in order to borrow less money when the time comes for action.

To this end, the facilities committee was very aware of additional district requests, yet chose to save taxpayer dollars for the inevitable capital expense of addressing the roof. How this decision has been seemingly derailed should be the focus of your upcoming meeting. The use of existing, designated money from the capital reserve fund may be allowed, but will certainly demonstrate a lack of discipline to the taxpayers. The injection of close to \$400,000.00 from the capital account would essentially be a 1% increase to the current budget which was already approved by taxpayers in the three towns.

I urge you to explore alternate means of action for the items on your agenda which truly warrant immediate decisions. I would also ask that you request a more reasonable amount of time to consider such actions rather than respond to a rather sudden sense of urgency. I hardly think a few days' notice on an agenda is ample time for you to consider other options or make an informed decision. You have several months remaining in your current budget season and can choose to spend or save your excess funds in a manner which the current board sees fit.

Considering the time and energies that my colleagues and I expended on this issue, I will be disappointed if this designated money is spent and ultimately borrowed later to replenish what was once in savings.

I appreciate your time and efforts and would be willing to share more ideas on the matter should you wish to discuss it further. You can reach me via cell phone 203-996-4901.

Cordially,

Philip W. Grande

Cc: ABOE, Dr. Brady, Jim Zeoli, Matt Giglietti

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Janet Brunwin, Matthew Giglietti, John A. Grasso, Jr., James Horwitz, Joseph Nuzzo, James Stirling

Also Present: William Blake, John Brady, Charles Britton, Sue Cohen, Kathleen Fuller-Cutler, Richard Dellinger, James Leahy, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Terry Lumas, Paul Mengold, Rocco Palmieri, Mary Raiola, Charlie Rose, Jim Saisa, Sheila Wycinowski, James Zeoli

A meeting of the Finance Committee of the Amity Regional Board of Education was held on Monday, January 23, 2012, at 5:30 p.m. in the Presentation Room of the District Offices.

- 1. Call to Order:** James Stirling called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.
- 3. Presentation and Discussion of Superintendent's Proposed 2012-2013 Budget**
A copy of the *Amity Regional School District No. 5 Superintendent's Proposed 2012-2013 Budget* was distributed to the Committee. Dr. Brady said that he will be giving a more detailed budget presentation at the Board of Education meeting on Wednesday, January 25, 2012. Tonight's presentation will highlight some of the main points that will be addressed in depth at that meeting.

The Superintendent noted that Amity is facing a reduction in revenue and increases in the cost of special education. There will be seven additional children in special education, at a cost of approximately \$965,000. Additional expenses associated with educating these students will create a total budget increase of over \$1 million for this alone. Dr. Brady mentioned that he noted last year that the District will start 2012-2013 at a financial disadvantage.

Dr. Brady noted that Amity offers a very high quality education, as evidenced by numerous achievements. A few years ago, the Board of Education focused attention on Advanced Placement courses. Amity students recently scored sixth highest in the state in this area, a significant achievement, he said.

The Amity Regional School District No. 5 Superintendent's Proposed 2012-2013 Budget (p. 4) shows that Amity has made significant progress on state mandated tests. In 2011, eighth graders achieved the highest scores in Amity history. The science scores provide another example of success, Dr. Brady said. Comparing results on standardized tests, the Superintendent noted, scores for seventh graders showed noticeable progress compared with the sixth grade results.

With respect to the CAPT scores, there is a program in place at the High School that is helping to improve scores. While performance in science and math had been erratic, significant improvement has been shown.

Amity is proud to offer something for everyone, he said. Dr. Brady pointed out that page 6 of the proposed budget report lists accomplishments in a number of diverse areas, demonstrating the breadth of success seen at Amity.

The administrative team, particularly Jack Levine, director of finance and administration, and Terry Lumas, finance manager, worked extensively on the budget. There are a number of expenses facing the District, including bleacher replacement and computer upgrades, while federal money is being eliminated.

Dr. Brady noted that there is some good news, including reductions in debt service and a proposed switch over to natural gas. The change from fuel oil to natural gas is expected to produce savings of \$120,000. The District has seen real savings in electricity from a lighting retrofit project at the High School.

At this point, the District is aware of only one retirement. The employee will not be replaced. Instead, another teacher will travel between schools, saving the District approximately \$100,000. The teachers took a freeze that will save the District about \$700,000. Most teachers will get no increase.

With special education in the past, there had been surpluses, but new students have come in and the money will be used. In Orange, a \$1.3 million increase is proposed. The share in Woodbridge is declining (\$92,000), while Bethany's share is up somewhat.

At this point, the administration feels that \$300,000 can be generated from this fiscal year to designate for the 2012-2013 budget. Total expenditures are up by 2.88 percent (page xiv). Dr. Brady pointed out that purchased services and equipment are higher.

There may be some savings through self-funding insurance. Dr. Brady said that he supports using money set aside for the roof restoration for more urgent facilities projects.

Charlie Rose said that an insurance analysis was performed and there was a big difference between claims paid out versus how much was actually paid by the District. For every dollar the District paid, 60 cents was paid out. It would be financially favorable to self-fund the insurance plan.

Janet Brunwin questioned whether reinsurance was built in. Mr. Rose said that it was.

James Stirling said that when a special education student coming from one of the member towns enters Amity, there is some savings for that town due to shared costs.

John Grasso said that the school population seems to be going down. He questioned how the District can plan for this change.

Dr. Brady said that the numbers that have been seen thus far don't require more restructuring than has already been accomplished. A company, NESDEC, will provide a comprehensive view of enrollment projects for the three member towns. The new superintendent and Board would be involved with this process.

4. Public Comment

Orange First Selectman James Zeoli questioned the need to replace the visitor's bleachers and whether anyone from the state had come down to assess the situation.

Facilities Director Jim Saisa said that some professional bleacher companies came to the school to assess the situation. He has not found an engineer that will certify the bleachers as safe.

Mr. Zeoli said that the state might be contacted to make a determination.

Dr. Brady said that the idea sounded good. He asked if Mr. Zeoli knew anyone who should be contacted.

Mr. Zeoli said that he does not have any names, but suggested Consumer Protection or another state agency. He added that he met with the other first selectmen and the budget for Bethany, in particular, is more than the first selectman is comfortable with, given the other needs of the town.

Mr. Zeoli questioned whether there are other building projects that the District is planning to bond in the next couple of years. Dr. Brady said no.

Mr. Zeoli noted that the savings on natural gas involves expenses, so there are no savings in the next budget. Mr. Zeoli said that a hole was created when money was rolled forward. The increase for Orange is equal to one mill. The number is too high. Amity does a great job, but the funding is not sustainable. The bleachers haven't been determined to be unacceptable. He does not want to see anyone hurt, but the situation should be reviewed.

Matthew Giglietti said that the increases are minimal for teacher salaries. Special education costs are a problem. The bleachers are almost 40 years old.

James Leahy of the Orange Board of Finance said that more and more people are having financial difficulties.

Dr. Brady said that if there were a zero increase at Amity, Orange would still have to pay significantly more. The average budget increase in the last few years has been less than two percent. It's necessary to find a way that doesn't erode what Amity is.

Mr. Stirling questioned whether more money will be coming from the state for special education. Dr. Brady said that information about the reimbursement rate isn't available early enough. The state is dealing with financial issues and a conservative approach is necessary.

Mr. Giglietti said that it is important to be careful about reducing technology. Cutting the budget would involve staff reductions. It's a tough budget.

Dr. Brady said that class sizes are already high. A study has been done in this area, but it hasn't yet been presented to the Board of Education.

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 p.m. (Mr. Grasso, 2d Mr. Nuzzo).

Motion passed; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Lippard, recording clerk

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Cardozo, Steven DeMaio, John J. Grasso, Jr.

Also Present: Dr. John Brady, Jack Levine, Jim Saisa, Paul Mengold, Terry Lumis

A meeting of the Facilities Committee was held on Wednesday, January 25, 2012, at 8:00 a.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

Mrs. Cardozo called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Dr. John Brady thanked members of the Facilities Committee for convening for an early morning meeting.

1. Discussion and Possible Action on High School Roof Restoration

Dr. Brady stated that the old portion of the high school roof has exceeded its 20 year life expectancy.

The two options for dealing with this problem were discussed.

The first option is total replacement of this portion of the roof, at a cost of \$4 million dollars. A new roof would come with a 20 year warranty.

The second option would be restoration of this portion of the roof, at a cost of \$1.4 million dollars. The restoration will come with a 10 year warranty. With proper maintenance, restoration can extend, by 2-3 times, the life of the roof.

Dr. Brady made a recommendation to the committee for restoration of the roof.

Jim Saisa added that the existing roof is an excellent candidate for restoration, if maintained in a meticulous manner, as the membranes on the roof are in good condition and can last up to 50 years. The warranty can be renewed after the original 10 years.

Steve DeMaio asked what portion is considered the "old roof". Jim Saisa explained that this would be any portion of the roof not affected by the previous renovation project.

Patricia Cardozo stated that, at less than half the price of a new roof, she is 100% in favor of restoration, along with the proper maintenance.

John Grasso and Steve DeMaio stated that they are also in favor of restoration.

Dr. Brady said that recommendation for restoration of the existing roof will be brought to the full Board of Education at its February 13th meeting. He asked that Jim Saisa prepare a presentation for the Board.

2. Discussion and Possible Action on Five Year Capital Plan

Dr. Brady explained that the role of the Facilities Committee is to decide which projects, on the **Facilities Five Year Capital Improvement Forecast**, to recommend to the Finance Committee and the Board of Education. The decision to use funds from the Capital Reserve Fund will be made by the Board.

Jim Saisa explained why #10 on the **Facilities Five Year Capital Improvement Forecast** "Air Handler Replacement" was classified under "for movement to 2013-2014 Budget". The Air Handlers were installed between 1992-1995, and their life expectancy is 15 years. The Air Handlers have been evaluated, and Jim is confident that they will last another year. Coil leaks have been soldered. Jim also explained that the 5 Year Capital Plan is a working plan, and the items on it are evaluated and updated.

Bleachers on Stadium Field

A more current issue is the unsafe condition of the visitor bleachers on Stadium Field. The District now has 3 estimates, one in the amount of \$76,000, and two additional estimates of \$70,000 and \$74,000. When asked if the bleachers could be refurbished, Jim said no, renovation is not an option. The bleachers will be inspected by the Fire Marshall later today, and Jim feels certain that they will be certified as unsafe.

Paul Mengold stated that the bleachers are not functional, as people sitting in the first few rows cannot see the field. Also, since they were installed, the codes have changed and they are not considered structurally sound. It is not an option to put planking on the riser section, as the structure is not designed to hold this. The bleachers are also used during graduations, and, being in the league Amity is now in, we play the biggest schools in the area and attract bigger crowds. Since fans of both teams sit on the same side, fights have broken out. Paul also stated that with Clayton Bleacher Co., a ramp will be on one side, and additional sections can be added to expand capacity.

John Grasso asked, if there is room, how much more can the bleachers be expanded?

Jim Saisa said that he will get this information.

Steve DeMaio asked how long the bleachers have been out of code, and why this was not addressed since 1999, when they were installed.

Jim Saisa said that this item has been on the Capital Plan for years.

Paul Mengold stated that since the project was completed in 1999, the codes have changed, and, if anything at all is done to them, they must be brought up to code.

Jim Saisa noted that the Woodbridge Fire Marshall and Building Inspector would evaluate the bleachers for safety today. Mr. Grasso cautioned against use of the Fire Marshall's expertise in this regard, since Fire Marshalls are not trained in bleacher safety.

Patricia Cardozo said that the time to address this is now, and she would like to recommend to the Board to look into the costs involved.

John Grasso said that he is in favor of the project, and if the cost of adding another section is \$5,000, to do it now.

Steve DeMaio is in favor, but asked where the money will come from.

Dr. Brady said that there is money in the Capital and Non Recurring Account. The Board of Education will vote on this at its February 13th meeting.

Conversion to Natural Gas

Dr. Brady stated that the cost to convert to natural gas is \$120,000. Since natural gas is half the price of oil, there will be a savings over the first year of \$120,000, and the District will continue to see savings over the years. If **both** the town of Woodbridge and Amity, say yes to natural gas, the Gas Company will bring in the pipeline for free.

Steve DeMaio asked if the \$120,000 cost to convert can be put in next year's budget so no up-front money will be used now. That way, some of the \$120,000 savings during the first year can be used to pay for it.

Jack Levine stated that although there will be a cost of \$120,000 for the conversion, there will also be a minus of \$120,000, due to the savings of the expense of oil.

Steve DeMaio asked if the Oil Co. knows that a lot of towns may switch to natural gas.

Dr. Brady said that if they do, it will not affect the bidding price of oil.

All three members of the committee support conversion to natural gas.

Dr. Brady thanked the committee, and said that all information will be conveyed to the Board of Education on February 13th, and will become part of the budget package for 2013.

The Meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wade