

**AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**Monday, January 13, 2025 6:30 pm**

**25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT**

**Lecture Hall**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cathy Bradley, Paul Davis, Carla Eichler, Sean Hartshorn, Andrea Hubbard, Dr. Karunakaran, Christina Levere-D'Addio, Dana Lombardi, Michael McDonough\* (leaves at 7:16), Dr. Carol Oladele, Patrick Reed, Donna Schlank and Donna Schuster

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Janet Fan

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dr. Jennifer Byars, Theresa Lumas, Thomas Brant

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Davis called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Amity Board of Education Chair Paul Davis

**3. RECOGNITION OF AMITY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL 2024 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Athletic Director Ernest Goodwin and Amity Region 5 Head Varsity Coach Sal Coppola

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. Board of Education Special Meeting – December 16, 2024

*MOTION by Michael McDonough, SECOND by Dr. Karunakaran to approve December 16, 2024 minutes as submitted.*

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (Davis, Eichler, Hartshorn, Hubbard, Levere-D'Addio, Lombardi, McDonough, Dr. Oladele, Reed, Schlank)*

*ABSTAIN, 3 (Bradley, Dr. Karunakaran, Schuster)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

**5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SETTING 2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

*Dr. Oladele and Carla Eichler withdraw their motion, from 120924 BOE meeting, to amend the 2025-2026 Amity Region 5 School Calendar to add Diwali*

*Patrick Reed and Dr. Karunakaran withdraw their motion, from 120924 BOE meeting, to approve the 2025-2026 Amity Region 5 School Calendar recommended by Amity Region 5 Superintendent Dr. Byars.*

*MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Dr. Karunakaran to approve the 2025-2026 Amity Region 5 School Calendar recommended by Amity Region 5 Superintendent Dr. Byars.*

*Mr. Davis requests the Policy Committee to review and potentially revise Board Policy 6111 and to send to the Board for review no later than August 2025 with second read by September 2025.*

*Donna Schuster makes a motion to add Lunar New Year. Chair Davis ruled the amendment out of order. Donna Schuster withdraws her motion to add Lunar New Year to the calendar.*

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (Davis, Eichler, Hubbard, Dr. Karunakaran, Dr. Oladele, Reed, Schlank, Schuster)*

*VOTES AGAINST 5, (Bradley, Hartshorn, Levere-D’Addio, Lombardi, McDonough)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

## **6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **Woodbridge Parent:**

Speaker expressed thanks and gratitude for the Amity District in recognizing the religious holiday of Diwali on the school calendar allowing students the opportunity to celebrate on the day of the holiday and not the weekend after.

### **Bethany Parent**

Speaker expressed thanks and gratitude for the Amity District in recognizing the religious holiday of Diwali on the school calendar allowing students the opportunity to celebrate with friends and family on the day of the holiday.

### **Woodbridge Parent**

Speaker expressed thanks and gratitude for the Amity District in recognizing the religious holiday of Diwali on the school calendar allowing students the opportunity to celebrate on the day of the holiday and not the weekend after.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

Presented by Amity Board of Education Secretary Mrs. Cathy Bradley

## **8. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

### **a. Committee Reports**

1. **ACES**
2. **CABE**
3. **Communications**
4. **Curriculum**
  - a. Questions about proposed revisions to English, AP US History, and Mandarin Curriculum
5. **District Health and Safety**
6. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Executive Committee**
7. **District Technology**
  - a. Monthly Report
8. **Facilities**
  - a. Monthly Report
9. **Finance**

a. **Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements**

i. **Special Education Update**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas and Amity Region 5 Director of Pupil Services Thomas Brant.

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

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

c. **Discussion and Possible Action on Budget Transfers over \$3,000**

*MOTION by Andrea Hubbard, SECOND by Sean Hartshorn to approve the following budget transfers:*

*For storage for apiary supplies:*

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
04-12-2151-5330	Professional Technical-Hearing	\$4,500	
04-12-1201-5690	Other Supplies		\$4,500

*For transportation services:*

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
04-12-6111-5560	Tuition – Vo-Tech	\$20,000	
04-12-6130-5510	Transportation-Private-Out		\$20,000

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

d. **Other**

- i. **CNR Report**
- ii. **Educational Expenditure Report**
- iii. **Grant Report**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

10. **Policy**

a. **First Reads**

- i. Policy 5141.231 - Psychotropic Drugs
- ii. Policy 5142.4 - School Resource Officer

b. **Second Reads**

- i. Policy 4118.11 - Nondiscrimination/Equal Employment Opportunity
- ii. Policy 5145.53 - Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth
- iii. Recommendation to rescind Policies 2111 (Equal Employment Opportunity), 4111.1 (Equal Employment Opportunity) and 5145.4 (Nondiscrimination-Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students)

*MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Dr. Oladele to approve Policy 4118.11 Nondiscrimination/ Equal Employment Opportunity, Policy 5145.53 Transgender and Gender Non- Conforming Youth.*

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

*MOTION* by Christina Levere-D’Addio, *SECOND* by Dr. Oladele *and to Rescind Policies 2111* (Equal Employment Opportunity), 4111.1 (Equal Employment Opportunity) and 5145.4 (Nondiscrimination-Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students).

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

11. **Personnel**

a. Personnel Report

Presented by Amity Region 5 Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jennifer Byars

9. **NEW BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

a. Special Joint AFC and Amity BOE Meeting January 27, 2025

10. **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – Due to Chairperson by January 31, 2025**

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

*MOTION* by Dr. Karunakaran, *SECOND* by Donna Schuster *to adjourn meeting at 7:45 p.m.*

Meeting adjourned, without objection, at 7:45 p.m. by Chairperson Davis.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lisa Zaleski*

Lisa Zaleski

BOE Recording Secretary