

PLEASE POST

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AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

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

*Dr. Jennifer P. Byars
Superintendent of Schools*

AMITY FINANCE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Monday, February 28, 2025, 12:00 pm

VIRTUAL MEETING [CLICK HERE TO VIEW THIS MEETING](#)

Members of the public can submit their comments to be added to the public record by emailing the [Clerk of the Board of Education](#) prior to 2:00 pm on the day of the meeting. These comments will be summarized by the Committee Chairperson in the place so designated in the agenda for the meeting. The public may also email the [Clerk of the Board](#) by 2:00 pm on the day of the meeting and request to speak during public comment as noted on the agenda. Those members of the public making such request will be provided with the information necessary to join the meeting electronically to provide public comment. Amity Regional School District No. 5 shall provide any member of the public with a physical location and the electronic equipment needed to attend a fully remote meeting in real-time. Members of the public must request this provision by emailing the [Clerk of the Board of Education](#) by the close of the last business day before the day of the fully remote meeting.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **UPDATE ON THE SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED 2025-2026 BUDGET**
3. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED 2025-2026 BUDGET**
4. **ADJOURNMENT**



Jennifer P. Byars, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

pc: Town Clerks Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge

***Working to "enable every Amity student to become a lifelong learner
and a literate, caring, creative and effective world citizen."***

District Mission Statement

If you require accommodations to participate because of a disability,
please contact the office of the Superintendent of Schools in advance at 203-397-4811.

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Bethany Orange Woodbridge
26 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06526



TO: Dr. Jennifer Byars, Superintendent of Schools
 FROM: Theresa Lumas, Director of Finance & Administration
 DATE: February 19, 2025
 RE: 2025-2026 Budget Update

The initial budget requests from staff and department leaders came in at an increase of 4.30% or \$2,427,054 over the current year’s budget. The budget workshop with the administrative team in November provided an opportunity to review the requests from each department and hear the rationale for the requests. The budget increase was lowered to 3.82%. Follow-up meetings with each department took place along with a second internal budget workshop on December 18th. Revisions are made by assessing priorities and needs. The goal is to reduce the budget request while complying with unfunded mandates and maintain an excellent educational system. The budget requests were reviewed and more adjustments were made to lower the budget to 3.66%

Further budget discussions through January have resulted in some further reductions but also some additions based on the most current data. These changes do lower the budget request slightly to 3.16%.

TIER 3 - REDUCTIONS				
05-14-2350-5733	Teacher laptops	\$ 144,675.00	Equipment-Tech- Replacement	Change purchase \$199,675 to 4 yr lease FMV buyout option, price estimate \$55,000
05-14-2700-5512	Vo-Tech bus	\$ 52,530.00	Transportation	Vo-Tech bus reimbursed by State
04-12-6110-5560	Tuition	\$ 63,750.00	Tuition	Student exiting
01-14-2600-5712	Room 27 Remodel AMSB	\$ (8,000.00)	Improvement to Bldgs	Actual cost update
05-15-2512-5281	Defined Contribution	\$ 25,000.00	Benefits	Reduction by using Forfeiture account
03-11-3202-5440	AHS Athletic Rentals	\$ 2,500.00	Rentals	AHS Athletic Rentals per AD
03-11-1001-5733	Printer	\$ 700.00	Equipment	Current replacement device is sufficient
		\$ 281,155.00	\$ 58,241,699.00	3.16%

We continue to monitor the latest budget information. There is a favorable change in the State budget, the magnet school and AgSci school tuitions appear to be funded in the Governor’s proposed budget. This has been confirmed with both CASBO and CAPSS. The Administration is comfortable reducing the District’s share of the magnet and AgSci tuition down to the 58% cost of FY24 pricing (State formula). The latest medical insurance information is *not* favorable and the revised projection received on February 21st is an increase of \$110,168. This net of these two changes is \$1,771 less but it does not change the percentage increase from the 3.16%.

TIER 4 - REDUCTIONS				
04-12-6111-5560	Agriculture Tuition	\$ 58,701.00	Tuition	58% rate of FY24 invoice
04-12-6117-5560	Magnet School Tuition	\$ 53,238.00	Tuition	58% rate of FY24 invoice
05-15-2512-5255	Medical Insurance	\$ (110,168.00)	Benefits	Revised estimate increased based on latest claim
		\$ 1,771.00	\$ 58,239,928.00	3.16%

The Administration is requesting a budget of \$58,239,928 or a 3.16% increase.

These are the revised town allocations:

	<i>2024-2025</i>	<i>2025-2026</i>	<i>\$ Variance</i>	<i>% Variance</i>
<i>Bethany</i>	<i>\$9,012,104</i>	<i>\$9,181,328</i>	<i>\$169,224</i>	<i>1.88%</i>
<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$27,479,040</i>	<i>\$27,596,964</i>	<i>\$117,924</i>	<i>0.43%</i>
<i>Woodbridge</i>	<i>\$18,780,881</i>	<i>\$20,188,440</i>	<i>\$1,407,559</i>	<i>7.49%</i>
<i>Other Revenue</i>	<i>\$1,184,627</i>	<i>\$1,273,196</i>	<i>\$ 88,569</i>	<i>1.94%</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$56,456,652</i>	<i>\$58,239,928</i>	<i>\$1,783,276</i>	<i>3.16%</i>

Motions:

The Amity Finance Committee only:

Move to recommend the Amity Board of Education approve the Superintendent's Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2025-2026, in the gross amount of \$58,239,928 and the net amount of \$56,966,732, a 3.16% increase over the 2024-2025 budget.

*****IMPORTANT BUDGET DATES*****

Monday, March 10, 2025 BOE votes on budget at regular meeting

Monday, April 7, 2025 – Public Hearing

Monday, May 5, 2025 – Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 – Referendum

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
2025-2026 REQUESTED BUDGET**

SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED BUDGET

		COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 4	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 6
		2023-2024	2024-2025	NOV 24	2025-2026	VAR. \$ TO	VAR. %
LINE	CATEGORY	ACTUAL	BUDGET	FORECAST	BUDGET	BUDGET	TO BUDGET
1	MEMBER TOWN ALLOCATIONS	53,388,441	55,272,025	55,272,025	56,966,732	1,694,707	3.07%
1a	MEMBER TOWN ALLOCATION CREDIT				0		
2	OTHER REVENUE	369,550	247,545	298,853	221,597	(25,948)	-10.48%
3	OTHER STATE GRANTS	839,037	922,082	803,452	1,036,599	114,517	12.42%
4	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	15,385	15,000	18,000	15,000	0	0.00%
5	TOTAL REVENUES	54,612,413	56,456,652	56,392,330	58,239,928	1,783,276	3.16%
6	SALARIES	29,108,667	31,251,456	31,227,268	32,713,629	1,462,173	4.68%
7	BENEFITS	5,796,459	6,828,489	6,821,607	7,156,139	327,651	4.80%
8	PURCHASED SERVICES	9,433,792	10,242,333	10,069,154	10,934,628	692,295	6.76%
9	DEBT SERVICE	4,417,942	3,858,211	3,858,211	2,552,296	(1,305,915)	-33.85%
10	SUPPLIES (INCLUDING UTILITIES)	3,161,505	3,459,384	3,472,678	3,534,998	75,614	2.19%
11	EQUIPMENT	169,506	200,101	216,261	334,857	134,756	67.34%
12	IMPROVEMENTS / CONTINGENCY	272,756	392,500	373,215	784,000	391,500	99.75%
13	DUES AND FEES	169,465	224,178	224,178	229,381	5,203	2.32%
14	TRANSFER ACCOUNT	1,091,054	0	0	0	0	0.00%
15	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	53,621,146	56,456,652	56,262,572	58,239,928	1,783,276	3.16%
16	SUBTOTAL	991,271	0	129,758	0	(0)	0.00%
17	CANCELLATION OF PRIOR YEAR'S ENCUMBRANCES	59,412	0	0	0	0	0.00%
18	DESIGNATED FOR SUBSEQUENT YEAR'S BUDGET	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
19	NET BALANCE / (DEFICIT)	1,050,683	0	129,758	0	(0)	0.00%
20	AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP	2,123	2,166	2,201	2,201	35	1.62%
21	PER PUPIL EXPENDITURE	21,371	22,427	22,026	23,400	972	4.34%

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
2025-2026 REQUESTED BUDGET**

SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED BUDGET

		COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 4	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 6
		2023-2024	2024-2025	NOV 24	2025-2026	VAR. \$ TO	VAR. %
LINE	CATEGORY	ACTUAL	BUDGET	FORECAST	BUDGET	BUDGET	TO BUDGET
1	BETHANY ALLOCATION	9,075,014	9,012,104	8,828,987	9,181,328	169,224	1.88%
1a	PRIOR YEAR CREDIT BETHANY	242,337		183,117	0		
2	ORANGE ALLOCATION	25,388,491	27,479,040	26,964,444	27,596,964	117,924	0.43%
2a	PRIOR YEAR CREDIT ORANGE	715,253		514,596	0		
3	WOODBIDGE ALLOCATION	17,504,540	18,780,881	18,427,914	20,188,440	1,407,559	7.49%
3a	PRIOR YEAR CREDIT WOODBRIDGE	462,806		352,967	0		
4	MEMBER TOWN ALLOCATIONS	53,388,441	55,272,025	55,272,025	56,966,732	1,694,707	3.07%
5	ATHLETICS	27,229	28,000	24,000	27,000	(1,000)	-3.57%
6	INVESTMENT INCOME	151,963	60,000	100,000	60,000	0	0.00%
7	PARKING INCOME	32,019	31,150	32,400	32,000	850	2.73%
8	RENTAL INCOME	33,887	25,000	18,000	18,000	(7,000)	-28.00%
9	TUITION REVENUE	124,453	103,395	124,453	84,597	(18,798)	-18.18%
10	TRANSPORTATION BOWA AGREEMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
11	OTHER REVENUE	369,550	247,545	298,853	221,597	(25,948)	-10.48%
12	ADULT EDUCATION	4,521	4,754	4,521	4,900	146	3.07%
13	OPEN CHOICE	0	0	0	125,000	125,000	100.00%
14	SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANTS	812,416	893,928	776,831	884,599	(9,329)	-1.04%
15	TRANSPORTATION INCOME	22,100	23,400	22,100	22,100	(1,300)	-5.56%
16	OTHER STATE GRANTS	839,037	922,082	803,452	1,036,599	114,517	12.42%
17	INTERGOVERNMENTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
18	OTHER REVENUE	15,385	15,000	18,000	15,000	0	0.00%
19	TRANSFER IN	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
20	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	15,385	15,000	18,000	15,000	0	0.00%
21	TOTAL REVENUES	54,612,413	56,456,652	56,392,330	58,239,928	1,783,276	3.16%

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
2025-2026 REQUESTED BUDGET**

SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED BUDGET

		COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 4	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 6
		2023-2024	2024-2025	NOV 24	2025-2026	VAR. \$ TO	VAR. %
LINE	CATEGORY	ACTUAL	BUDGET	FORECAST	BUDGET	BUDGET	TO BUDGET
1	5111-CERTIFIED SALARIES	23,917,065	25,596,300	25,640,908	26,943,619	1,347,319	5.26%
2	5112-CLASSIFIED SALARIES	5,191,602	5,655,156	5,586,360	5,770,010	114,854	2.03%
3	SALARIES	29,108,667	31,251,456	31,227,268	32,713,629	1,462,173	4.68%
4	5200-MEDICARE - ER	407,317	455,244	455,244	474,989	19,745	4.34%
5	5210-FICA - ER	337,860	360,217	360,217	378,210	17,993	5.00%
6	5220-WORKERS' COMPENSATION	158,561	165,818	158,586	169,575	3,757	2.27%
7	5255-MEDICAL & DENTAL INSURANCE	3,611,804	4,574,718	4,549,222	4,837,753	263,035	5.75%
8	5860-OPEB TRUST	265,890	291,313	291,313	312,673	21,360	7.33%
9	5260-LIFE INSURANCE	48,405	64,396	64,396	56,461	(7,935)	-12.32%
10	5275-DISABILITY INSURANCE	12,106	12,062	12,062	15,016	2,954	24.49%
11	5280-PENSION PLAN - CLASSIFIED	726,430	670,604	670,604	681,191	10,587	1.58%
12	5281-DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN	189,595	197,327	197,327	183,171	(14,156)	-7.17%
13	5282-RETIREMENT SICK LEAVE - CERT	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
14	5283-RETIREMENT SICK LEAVE - CLASS	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
15	5284-SEVERANCE PAY - CERTIFIED	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
16	5290-UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	36,600	7,590	33,436	15,500	7,910	104.22%
17	5291-CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	1,891	2,200	2,200	4,600	2,400	109.09%
18	5251-TUITION REIMBURSEMENT	0	27,000	27,000	27,000	0	100.00%
19	BENEFITS	5,796,459	6,828,489	6,821,607	7,156,139	327,651	4.80%
20	5322-INSTRUCTIONAL PROG IMPROVEMENT	61,690	64,200	64,200	64,200	0	0.00%
21	5327-DATA PROCESSING	132,568	138,302	138,302	157,949	19,647	14.21%
22	5330-OTHER PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL SRVC	2,129,837	2,298,132	2,356,124	2,627,472	329,340	14.33%
23	5440-RENTALS - LAND, BLDG, EQUIPMENT	109,700	112,566	112,566	123,327	10,761	9.56%
24	5510-PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	3,833,125	4,020,506	3,925,877	4,184,788	164,282	4.09%
25	5521-GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE	282,623	305,004	309,835	324,428	19,424	6.37%
26	5550-COMMUNICATIONS: TEL, POST, ETC.	103,472	115,076	115,076	133,134	18,058	15.69%
27	5560-TUITION EXPENSE	2,712,997	3,093,272	2,951,899	3,198,805	105,533	3.41%
28	5590-OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	67,780	95,275	95,275	120,525	25,250	26.50%
29	PURCHASED SERVICES	9,433,792	10,242,333	10,069,154	10,934,628	692,295	6.76%
30	5830-INTEREST	523,986	368,978	368,978	235,850	(133,128)	-36.08%
31	5910-REDEMPTION OF PRINCIPAL	3,893,956	3,489,233	3,489,233	2,316,446	(1,172,787)	-33.61%
30a	INTEREST OWED TO STATE	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
32	DEBT SERVICE	4,417,942	3,858,211	3,858,211	2,552,296	(1,305,915)	-33.85%
33	5410-UTILITIES, EXCLUDING HEAT	679,399	712,402	715,511	718,420	6,018	0.84%
34	5420-REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE & CLEANING	792,147	802,305	821,590	837,352	35,047	4.37%

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
2025-2026 REQUESTED BUDGET**

SUPERINTENDENT'S PROPOSED BUDGET

		COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 4	COLUMN 5	COLUMN 6
		2023-2024	2024-2025	NOV 24	2025-2026	VAR. \$ TO	VAR. %
LINE	CATEGORY	ACTUAL	BUDGET	FORECAST	BUDGET	BUDGET	TO BUDGET
35	5611-INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES	371,596	444,802	444,802	436,097	(8,705)	-1.96%
36	5613-MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	172,498	240,780	240,780	220,450	(20,330)	-8.44%
37	5620-OIL USED FOR HEATING	63,373	60,930	60,930	55,260	(5,670)	-9.31%
38	5621-NATURAL GAS	84,228	104,180	104,180	99,100	(5,080)	-4.88%
39	5627-TRANSPORTATION SUPPLIES	197,523	180,913	180,913	209,500	28,587	15.80%
40	5641-TEXTS & DIGITAL RESOURCES	117,975	178,281	178,281	173,164	(5,117)	-2.87%
41	5642-LIBRARY BOOKS & PERIODICALS	17,715	20,550	20,550	20,550	0	0.00%
42	5690-OTHER SUPPLIES	230,134	257,296	257,296	269,241	11,945	4.64%
43	5695-TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIES	434,917	456,945	447,845	495,864	38,919	8.52%
44	SUPPLIES (INCLUDING UTILITIES)	3,161,505	3,459,384	3,472,678	3,534,998	75,614	2.19%
45	5730-EQUIPMENT - NEW	36,099	2,000	2,000	4,500	2,500	125.00%
46	5731-EQUIPMENT - REPLACEMENT	60,136	52,301	52,301	105,617	53,316	101.94%
47	5732-EQUIPMENT - TECHNOLOGY-NEW	317	0	0	32,037	32,037	100.00%
48	5733-EQUIPMENT - TECHNOLOGY REPLACEMENT	72,954	145,800	161,960	192,703	46,903	32.17%
49	EQUIPMENT	169,506	200,101	216,261	334,857	134,756	67.34%
50	5715-IMPROVEMENTS TO BUILDING	175,146	73,500	73,500	326,000	252,500	343.54%
51	5715-FACILITIES CONTINGENCY	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	0	0.00%
51a	TRSF. FROM FACILITIES CONTINGENCY	(100,000)	0	(19,285)	0	0	0.00%
52	5720-IMPROVEMENTS TO SITES	97,610	69,000	69,000	208,000	139,000	201.45%
53	5850-CONTINGENCY	137,162	150,000	150,000	150,000	0	0.00%
53a	TRSF. FROM CONTINGENCY TO OTHER ACCTS.	(137,162)	0	0	0	0	0.00%
54	IMPROVEMENTS / CONTINGENCY	272,756	392,500	373,215	784,000	391,500	99.75%
55	5580-STAFF TRAVEL	24,997	25,888	25,888	27,377	1,489	5.75%
56	5581-TRAVEL - CONFERENCES	53,964	86,855	86,855	85,718	(1,137)	-1.31%
57	5810-DUES & FEES	90,504	111,435	111,435	116,286	4,851	4.35%
58	DUES AND FEES	169,465	224,178	224,178	229,381	5,203	2.32%
59	5856-TRANSFER ACCOUNT	1,091,054	0	0	0	0	0.00%
60	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	53,621,146	56,456,652	56,262,572	58,239,928	1,783,276	3.16%