

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525

Dr. Jennifer P. Byars
Superintendent of Schools

AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Monday, March 24, 2025 6:30 pm
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT
Lecture Hall

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. Board of Education Regular Meeting – March 10, 2025 [page 3](#)
4. **STUDENT REPORT**
 - a. Monthly Report
5. **3 A's (Academics, Arts, Athletics) AND POG (Portrait of the Graduate) FOCUS PRESENTATION**
 - a. Special Education 101 – Tom Brant and Rebecca Rivera
6. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
 - a. Superintendent Report [page 8](#)
7. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**
 - a. Committee Reports
 1. Curriculum
8. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ESTABLISHING AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING LATER SCHOOL STARTING TIMES**
9. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Public Comment will be limited to those items noticed in this agenda
10. **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – Due to Chairperson by March 31, 2025**
 - a. Preparation for April 28th Strategic Planning Special Meeting
11. **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
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bethany Orange Woodbridge



NORMS

BE RESPECTFUL

- Model civil discourse and discussion, respecting all viewpoints, welcoming ideas, and disagreeing with courtesy.
- Collaborate as a team.
- Listen actively and refrain from interruptions or side conversations.
- Respect each others' time by brevity of comment.
- Be fully present and mindful of the distractions caused by electronic devices.
- Grow and learn from each other.

HONOR THE POSITION

- Work within the Board's statutory and policy duties.
- Prepare for Board & Committee meetings by reading the packet prior to the meeting.
- Treat each student, parent, and stakeholder respectfully and assist them in following the designated chain of command.
- Be reflective, including conducting an annual Board self-evaluation.

REPRESENT THE BOARD WITH UNITY AND PRIDE

- Make decisions based on what is best for the collective student body of Amity Regional School District No. 5.
- Respect the professional expertise of the staff.
- Be flexible in response to challenges.
- Collaboratively engage in discussions and actions and once voted on, provide undivided support of Board decisions in both public and private.

AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 10, 2025 6:30 pm
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT
Lecture Hall

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Cathy Bradley, Paul Davis, Carla Eichler (virtual), Sean Hartshorn, Andrea Hubbard, Dr. Karunakaran, Christina Levere-D'Addio, Dana Lombardi, Michael McDonough, Dr. Carol Oladele, Patrick Reed, Donna Schlank and Donna Schuster* (arrived at 6:43 p.m.)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Sophia Messina and Janet Fan

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Jennifer Byars, Dr. Shannan Carlson, Theresa Lumas, Thomas Brant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Davis called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Amity Board of Education Chair Paul Davis

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Board of Education Special Meeting – February 24, 2025

MOTION by Michael McDonough, SECOND by Cathy Bradley to approve February 24, 2025 minutes with suggested edits.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 9 (Bradley, Davis, Hartshorn, Hubbard, Levere-D'Addio, Lombardi, McDonough, Dr. Oladele, Reed)

ABSTAIN, 3 (Eichler, Dr. Karunakaran, Schlank)

MOTION CARRIES

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Presented by Amity Board of Education Secretary Mrs. Cathy Bradley

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Woodbridge Resident:

Spoke in support of DEI. Speaker shared her belief that DEI is about respect, celebrating differences and building community.

Bethany Resident:

Spoke in support of DEI and voiced approval of Board policy on Transgender and Non-Conforming Youth, the BOE core values, and Increasing Educator Diversity Plan.

Woodbridge Parent:

Spoke against DEI and the potential for federal funding to be withheld if DEI initiatives continue.

Woodbridge Parent:

Spoke against DEI and the potential for federal funding to be withheld if DEI initiatives continue.

Bethany Parent:

Spoke in support of DEI. Speaker spoke on the issue of equality and provided a timeline of racial discrimination in America which resulted in a lack of equal access to quality education.

Amity Parent (town not provided):

Spoke in support of DEI. Addressed the letter written by the ROTC and Executive Order 13985. Speaker addressed the unconstitutionality of Executive Order 13985.

Amity Parent (town not provided):

Spoke against DEI. The Speaker raised concerns about books in the library, tampon dispensers in bathrooms, and the topic of Spartan Seminar lessons.

Orange Parent:

Spoke against DEI. The speaker defined DEI as reverse discrimination. The speaker urged the district to focus on academics and to adhere to Executive Order 13985. The speaker raised concerns over the potential loss of federal funding and the impact that would have on town taxes and the budget.

Bethany Resident:

Spoke in regard to the Budget. The speaker suggested adding back into the budget the two cameras in each middle school library to better supervise students in those areas. Speaker addresses the amount of money Amity receives in federal funding.

Woodbridge Resident:

Spoke in regard to the Budget. Speaker addressed the impact of the budget specifically on the town of Woodbridge in comparison to the towns of Bethany and Orange.

Christina Levere-D'Addio stepped out at 7:10 p.m. and returned at 7:15 p.m.

Amity Parent (town not provided):

Spoke in favor of DEI. The speaker voiced her support for the education and experiences her children are receiving as part of the Amity school district and community.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a. Committee Reports
 - 1. **ACES**
 - 2. **CABE**
 - 3. **Communications**
 - 4. **District Health and Safety**
 - 5. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Executive Committee**
 - 6. **District Technology**
 - a. Monthly Report
 - 7. **Facilities**
 - a. Monthly Report
 - 8. **Finance**

a. Discussion and Possible Action on Contracts over \$35,000

- i. Investment Consultants
- ii. Auditors
- iii. Insurance Consultants
- iv. Fire Suppression System

MOTION by Dr. Karunakaran, SECOND by Michael McDonough to:

Award a 2-year contract extension to Mahoney, Sabol & Company, LLC of Glastonbury, for auditing services. The proposed 2-year contract extension price is \$41,000 in year 1, and \$43,000 in year 2.

Extend the contract for 2 years, to Fiducient Advisors of Glastonbury for investment consulting services. The extended contract price is \$24,586 in year 1 and \$25,324 in year 2.

Extend the contract with Brown & Brown of Connecticut, Inc, for health insurance consulting services for 2 years. The proposed 2-year extended contract price is \$30,000 in year 1, and \$30,000 in year 2.

Award the contract with W&M Fire Protection for the installation of a fire suppression system at ARHS for \$56,800.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (Davis, Eichler, Hartshorn, Hubbard, Dr. Karunakaran, Levere-D’Addio, Lombardi, McDonough, Dr. Oladele, Reed, Schlank, Schuster)

ABSTAIN, 1 (Bradey)

MOTION CARRIES

b. Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements

i. Special Education Update

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

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

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

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

MOTION by Cathy Bradley, SECOND by Andrea Hubbard to approve this transfer for storage for specialized equipment.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
04-12-6111-5560	Tuition – Vo-Ag/Vo-Tech	\$11,000	
04-13-2190-5690	Other Supplies		\$11,000

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

e. Other

i. Food Service Update

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

9. **Policy**

a. Second Reads

- i. Policy 5144.4 - Physical Exercise and Discipline of Students
- ii. Policy 5145.111 - Students/Probation/Police/Courts

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Cathy Bradley to approve, with suggested edits, Policy 5144.4 Physical Exercise and Discipline of Students and Policy 5145.111 Students/ Probation/ Police/ Courts

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

10. **Personnel**

a. Personnel Report

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

7. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE BOARD OF EDUCATION 2025-2026 BUDGET**

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

MOTION by Dr. Karunakaran, SECOND by Donna Schlank to approve the Superintendent's Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2025-2026, in the gross amount of \$58,193,999 and the net amount of \$56,920,803, a 3.08% increase over the 2024-25 budget.

MOTION by Donna Schuster, SECOND by Dr. Karunakaran to amend the motion to remove the student parking fee and to remove the allocation for field replacement.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 3 (Levere-D'Addio, Dr. Oladele, Schuster)

VOTES OPPOSED, 10 (Bradley, Eichler, Hubbard, Dr. Karunakaran, Davis, Hartshorn, Lombardi, McDonough, Reed, Schlank)

MOTION FAILS

MOTION by Dr. Oladele, SECOND by Donna Schuster to amend the motion to remove the allocation for field replacement.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 7 (Bradley, Hartshorn, Levere-D'Addio, Lombardi, McDonough, Dr. Oladele, Schuster)

ABSTAINED, 1 (Hubbard)

VOTES OPPOSED, 5 (Eichler, Dr. Karunakaran, Davis, Reed, Schlank)

MOTION CARRIES

Dr. Karunakaran stepped out from 8:11 p.m. and returned at 8:16 p.m.

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Michael McDonough amend the motion to remove \$50,000 from infrastructure (technology) contingency.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (Bradley, Davis, Hartshorn, Hubbard, Levere-D'Addio, Lombardi, McDonough, Dr. Oladele, Reed, Schlank, Schuster)

VOTES OPPOSED, 2 (Eichler, Dr. Karunakaran)

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Dr. Karunakaran, SECOND by Donna Schlank to approve the Superintendent's Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2025-2026, in the gross amount of \$58,108,999 and the net amount of \$56,835,803, a 2.93%

increase over the 2024-25 budget.

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

VOTES OPPOSED, 5 (Bradley, Levere-D'Addio, Hartshorn, Lombardi, McDonough)

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Michael McDonough to authorize Amity Regional School District No. 5 to prepare an Explanatory Text for the Budget Referendum Question: BE IT RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Board of Education of Amity Regional School District No. 5 is authorized to prepare, print, and distribute a concise explanatory text of the budget referendum question which, by vote of the member towns, which text shall not advocate either the approval or disapproval of the question and shall otherwise be prepared in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 9-369b.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

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

Monday, April 7, 2025 – Public Hearing

Monday, May 5, 2025 – Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 – Referendum

8. NEW BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION - UPDATE ON HIGH SCHOOL HOMELAND SECURITY AUDIT

Carla Eichler left the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

MOTION by Andrea Hubbard, SECOND Dana Lombardi to enter Executive Session and to invite Dr. Byars, Mr. Martoni, Mr. Brant, Mr. DeRosa and Mrs. Lumas.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

The Board enters Executive Session at 8:26 p.m.

The Board exits Executive Session at 8:58 p.m.

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

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn to adjourn meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Chairperson Davis adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zaleski

Lisa Zaleski

BOE Recording Secretary

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525



Dr. Jennifer P. Byars
Superintendent of Schools

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203.392.2106

Superintendent's Report – March 2025

Continuously improve instruction, cultivate creativity, and enhance student engagement and performance.

Enhance the efficient and effective use of resources.

Foster a supportive climate for students and adults.

March is National School Board Member Appreciation Month. This month, we recognize the unwavering dedication school board members bring to our schools, always putting student well-being and academic success at the heart of their work. Your leadership fosters an environment where every student has the opportunity to grow – academically, socially, and emotionally. Your commitment to listening, collaborating, and making thoughtful decisions for the betterment of our students and teachers does not go unnoticed. On behalf of myself, our staff, our students, and our entire community, thank you for your service and the positive impact you influence every day.

Instruction

March 13th was a Success!: Our special schedule on March 13, 2025 went well with all our students engaged in activities tailored to their grade's needs:

- Seniors were either taking the APPL assessment at school to qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy or off-campus for the day to work on their post-secondary plans or getting their senior internship contracts signed.
- Juniors took the SAT, then had time to work on the final elements of their Portrait of the Graduate portfolios and presentations as they prepare for their April 24th presentation day.
- Sophomores took the Pre-ACT and spent time preparing for their upcoming Career Day.
- Freshmen participated in a series of activities focusing on broadening their perspectives and exploring aspects of the Portrait of the Graduate in a series of group activities. After this, they attended a presentation from motivational Dennard Mitchell who shared his inspirational message about what we can all accomplish if we have the vision, self-awareness, and grit to live with courage.

Assessment Update:

- NGSS Assessment: Juniors will take the NGSS assessment on April 8, 2025. Students in grade 8 will take the NGSS on May 12 and 13, 2025.
- SBA: Students in Grades 7 and 8 will begin Smarter Balance Assessments (SBA) on May 19th and continue testing throughout that week.
- Previous STAR, SBA, PSAT, School Day SAT, and NGSS data is found in PowerSchool where students and families can access this information.
- The 2025 SAT, SBA, and NGSS results will be in PowerSchool in the Fall 2025.

National Merit Finalists: All three of this year's National Merit Semi-Finalists have been selected as Finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Competition, so congratulations once again to Amity seniors Advaith Nair, Ian Stoltenberg, and Benjamin Wang.

Power School Curriculum and Instruction: Beginning in July 2025, all newly approved curriculum will be housed on the PowerSchool Curriculum and Instruction platform. A dedicated team of teachers and instructional coaches are collaborating with PowerSchool to design Amity's customized curriculum template and layout. This transition will provide a centralized, easily accessible platform for curriculum management, ensuring consistency, transparency, and alignment with district goals.

Dual Enrollment Courses Expanded for 2025-2026: Dual enrollment classes allow high school students to take college-level courses and earn both high school and college credit simultaneously. These classes provide an opportunity to experience college academics while still in high school, helping students get a head start on their postsecondary education. Dual enrollment can enhance a student's academic record, save on college tuition costs, and provide a challenging and enriching learning experience. ARHS is excited to offer 20 dual enrollment courses for the 2025-2026 school year, with three additional courses still pending approval. Philosophy, If You Love It, Teach It, and Introduction to Special Education were approved through UConn for next year. Additionally, Understanding Film, Filmmaking III, College Algebra and African American/Black and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies were approved through Sacred Heart University. We are still working with our university partners for approval on Writing for College and Career, Nutrition, and Exercise Science.

Top Prizes at the 2025 UCONN ECE Chinese Talent Show: Congratulations to our amazing UCONN ECE Chinese students for winning two of three awards—Best Language Expression and Most Popular—at the 2025 UCONN ECE Chinese Talent Show! Competing against high school and college students, they made Amity proud by outshining even the college contenders.

Amity in Full Strength at the Connecticut Science and Engineering Fair: Just a month after a strong showing at the CT-STEM Science Fair, Amity students did extremely well again at the Connecticut Science and Engineering Fair, winning a wide variety of awards and scholarships, including:

- Cathy Lee: 1st place, Petit Family Foundation Women in Science and Engineering Award
- Nikihil Petrov: 2nd place, EnergizeCT Future Sustainability Award
- Finalists (scoring in the top 20% of competitors): Janet Fan, Elena Huber, Mila Mejnartowicz, Mihir Nandy, Sabrina Osowiecki, and Aryan Shrivastav

Additionally, Amity students were the recipients of nine different special awards at the fair.

Spring Accolades Pouring In: A significant number of Amity students are finishing or advancing in highly competitive academic competitions. These include:

- **CMEA All-State Honor:** Sophomore trombone player Chloe Chang recently auditioned for and was selected as Amity's only participant in this year's All-State Music Festival!
- **CAS High School Arts Awards:** Congratulations to Emily Sun and Soma Kim, who have been selected as this year's recipients of the Connecticut Association of Schools' High School Arts Award!
- **SCC Scholar Leaders:** Congratulations to seniors Hannah Guo and Dariush Raissi, who have been selected as this year's honorees as SCC Scholar leaders!
- **2025 Scholastic Writing Competition Winner:** Congratulations to 9th grader Eric Chen, who recently received recognition in the 2025 Scholastic Writing Competition (Connecticut) with three awards, a Gold Key in Personal Essay & Memoir (this entry has advanced to the national level!), a Silver Key in Flash Fiction, and an Honorable Mention in Flash Fiction. Well done!
- **Coca-Cola Scholar:** Congratulations to senior Jessie Zhang, who has been selected as one of 150 Coca-Cola Scholars in their nationwide scholarship competition that honors students for their capacity to lead and serve, as well as their commitment to making a significant impact on their schools and communities!

- **NHS Scholarship Semi-Finalist:** Maya Remigio has been selected as a national semi-finalist in the highly competitive National Honor Society scholarship competition!
- **Rotary Oratory First Place:** On March 15, 2025, the Rotary International 4-Way Oratory Contest, South CT Semifinals was held in Trumbull. Twelve schools presented contestants, and Amity student Jessie Zhiyan Zheng won the contest. Two final candidates were chosen, and Jessie was first position. The next step is the District Finals in Old Saybrook on April 26, 2025.

AMSB Fiber Arts Project: The 8th grade at AMSB had a day-long team day and participated in a Fiber Arts Project program on March 19 and 20, 2025. This program, supported by the Hulley Arts Foundation for years, has become a program that is now integrated into the curriculum and serves as an interdisciplinary activity for the AMSB 8th grade teams.

AMSB Elementary Visits: The administration from AMSB, the social worker, the school counselor, and the band teacher met with students in the 6th grade at Beecher and Bethany Community Schools. We welcomed them to the Amity District, shared some information with them, and answered MANY questions. The students were all very respectful and we had a wonderful time meeting the students of our incoming Amity class of 2031!

Curriculum Writing: This past month the following departments/courses have engaged in curriculum writing: Social Studies (middle and high school), Spanish (middle school and high school), Culinary, Financial Literacy and Algebra.

Professional Learning Early Release Day: On March 13, 2025, all teachers participated in collaborative professional learning within their departments. Some of which included: curriculum writing, AI training, vertical articulation, and site visits. These experiences provided valuable opportunities for our team to refine instructional practices, align curriculum across grade levels, and explore innovative teaching strategies. AI training focused on enhancing instructional practices and efficiency, while vertical articulation supported continuity and coherence in student learning. Site visits allowed teachers to observe best practices in action. Additionally, paraeducators received an overview of the upcoming April Portrait of a Graduate (POG) Day, ensuring they are well-prepared to support this important district initiative. The next Professional Learning Day is scheduled for April 3rd, continuing our commitment to meaningful professional growth.

Resources

Problem Gambling Awareness Parent Webinar: Jessica Simone, School Engagement Specialist, hosted a webinar for the BOWA community focusing on Problem Gambling Awareness in honor of Problem Gambling Awareness Month. Presenters included Kaitlin Brown, the Director of Programs & Services from the Connecticut Council on Problem Gambling and Stephen Matos a peer counselor at MCCA's Bettor Choice Program. The webinar was recorded and will be posted to the district website.

Parking News for Juniors: The ARHS administration has evaluated the space needed in our Senior parking lot for this spring and has determined that 10 spots in our Senior area can be reallocated for Junior parking. Starting the second week of March, the Junior parking area was extended to begin at spot #650, allowing our early-bird Juniors the opportunity to park a bit closer to the school for the rest of the year.

Professional Learning Opportunity: Amity is actively participating in a collaborative initiative through ACES focused on Building Thinking Classrooms (BTC). BTC is a research-based framework that helps educators implement optimal practices for thinking, fostering an ideal environment for student learning. A group of six teachers from Amity are engaging in a three-day consortium, collaborating to deepen their

understanding and application of these strategies. This professional development opportunity aims to empower teachers with tools to enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills in their classrooms.

Mental Health Providers Lunch and Learn: School Psychologists, School Social Workers, and Speech Language Pathologists met with Dr. Peter Faustino, President of the National Association of School Psychologists. Dr. Faustino's lunch and learn included topics on working with students with autism, avoiding burnout, finding joy in our work, and supporting students with anxiety.

CEC Conference Attendance: Allison Tucker (ATA-UNH Teacher) and Jennifer Berkowitz (Transition Specialist) attended the Council on Exceptional Children Conference and Exhibition in Baltimore, MD. The CEC Conference is the premier professional learning conference for special education professionals. Topics included transition planning and programming, researched based literacy and numeracy supports, positive behavioral supports, and various other researched based best practices in special education instruction. Mrs. Tucker and Mrs. Berkowitz will be sharing this information with staff through future department meetings and minimum day professional learning.

Climate

Dennard Mitchell Visits Amity: All Amity students saw an uplifting presentation by Dennard Mitchell. "Mr. Next Level" is a Student Retention Specialist, National Best-Selling Author, and International Education Motivational Speaker. His mission is to help schools, colleges, and student organizations to increase the engagement, retention, and success of their students and staff. The focus of the presentation was centered on empowering students to help make their community a better place through kindness, empathy and collaboration. His personal stories of overcoming challenges and taking actions to help others were inspiring to all. The event was sponsored in collaboration with Orange Youth Services.

School Social Worker Week: School Social Worker Week was recognized March 2 – March 8, 2025 across our buildings. Our social workers in each building strive to proactively support students, their families, and the larger Amity community through individualized support, support groups, and community engagement activities.

School Climate Surveys: The student climate surveys were conducted in each of the three buildings during the week of March 17 – 21, 2025. Parent/Family Surveys and Staff Climate Surveys have started and are ongoing, those surveys will close on March 28, 2025.

6th Grade Parent Information Night: AMSO held a Parent Information Session for incoming 7th grade parents on March 6, 2025. The Information Session provided parents with an overview of the middle school program including information on middle school teaming, counseling supports, clubs, and activities. Parents were also given practical tips on helping students through middle school by staff members and the PTSO.

AMSB Orientation Night: AMSB welcomed our incoming 7th grade parents on March 7, 2025 during their annual parent orientation night. The highlight of the night was the 6 student volunteers who all shared what they love about AMSB and helped to put our new parents at ease about what to expect from middle school. AMSB staff shared important information and it was exciting to meet the new Amity families!

Ray's Box of Sox: AMSO 8th grade students are running the annual Ray's Box of Sox collection. The class hopes to collect over 2000 pairs of socks to donate to local shelters. Collection boxes are at AMSO, ARHS, and Racebrook School. The students and staff of AMSB are also honored to be participating in the annual "Ray's Box of Sox".

ATA Annual Unified Basketball Tournament: Amity Transition Academy (UNH and Albertus Magnus) hosted their annual Unified Basketball Tournament at Albertus Magnus College. Unified athletes from Southington, Branford, Hamden, New Haven, and Milford joined our athletes in a morning filled of basketball, dance parties, and pizza. A special thank you to our partners at the Albertus Magnus College Athletics Department. Their support is instrumental in a successful day.