

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5**

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

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*Dr. Jennifer P. Byars*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

**AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**  
**Monday, June 23, 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 – June 09, 2025 [page 3](#)
4. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**
  - a. Finance
    1. Discussion and Possible Action on Food Service Items [page 8](#)
      - a. Price Increases for FY26
  - b. Personnel
    1. Discussion of Superintendent Evaluation (Anticipated Executive Session)
    2. Discussion of Superintendent Contract (Anticipated Executive Session)
    3. Possible Action on Superintendent Evaluation
    4. Possible Action on Superintendent Contract
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Public Comment will be limited to those items noticed in this agenda
6. **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – Due to Chairperson by July 31, 2025**
7. **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*

<p>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.</p>
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**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
*Bethany Orange Woodbridge*

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**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, June 09, 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 \*arrived at 6:39 p.m., Dana Lombardi, Michael McDonough, Dr. Carol Oladele, Patrick Reed, Donna Schlank and Donna Schuster \*arrived at 6:40 p.m. and left at 8:39 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Janet Fan and Shreya Viswanathan

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dr. Jennifer Byars, Dr. Shannan Carlson, Theresa Lumas, Thomas Brant, Kathy Burke, Dr. Jason Tracy, Jill LaPlante, Sean Malloy, Kelly Stoner, Jeremy Iverson, and Stephen Martoni

**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 Regular Meeting – May 12, 2025

*MOTION by Dana Lombardi, SECOND by Sean Hartshorn to approve May 12, 2025 minutes as submitted.*

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (Bradley, Davis, Eichler, Hartshorn, Hubbard, Lombardi, Dr. Oladele, Schlank)*

*ABSTAIN, 3 (Dr. Karunakaran, McDonough, Reed)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

**4. RECOGNITION OF RETIREES, YEARS OF SERVICE, TEACHER OF THE YEAR AND AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jennifer Byars and Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

*Chairperson Davis called a short recess from 6:41- 6:42 p.m.*

**5. STUDENT REPORT**

a. Monthly Report

Presented by Board of Education student representative Janet Fan

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

a. Superintendent Report

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

**9. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

a. Committee Reports

1. **ACES**
2. **Ad-Hoc School Start Times**
3. **CABE**
4. **Communications**
5. **Curriculum**
6. **District Health and Safety**
7. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Executive Committee**
8. **District Technology**
  - a. Monthly Report
9. **Facilities**
  - a. Monthly Report
10. **Finance**
  - a. **Discussion and Possible Action on Contracts over \$35,000**

**i. Bell, Announcement and Security Alert Systems**

*MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Donna Schlank to award the bell, paging, and lockdown equipment and notification to Eastern Datacomm for \$199,777 total for both middle school systems.*

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

b. **Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements**

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 of \$3,000 or More FY25 and FY26**

*MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Michael McDonough to approve the following budget transfers:  
For professional learning:*

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
05-13-2212-5111	Salaries	\$6,300	
05-13-2213-5322	Professional Services		\$6,300

*For kiln replacement:*

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
05-15-0000-5850	Contingency	\$7,500	
03-11-1001-5731	Equipment-Replacement		\$7,500

*For Curb Repair:*

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
05-15-0000-5850	Contingency	\$7,000	
03-14-2600-5420	Repairs & Maintenance		\$7,000

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

*MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Andrea Hubbard to approve the following budget transfers to cover the cost of equipment and installation for bell, PA, and lockdown systems at both middle schools and waive the bid requirement.*

<b>ACCOUNT NUMBER</b>	<b>ACCOUNT NAME</b>	<b>FROM</b>	<b>TO</b>
01-14-2600-5715	Improvements to Sites	\$13,406	
02-14-2600-5715	Improvements to Sites		\$13,406

*VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)*

*MOTION CARRIES*

**e. Other**

**i. Special Education Update**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Pupil Services Thomas Brant

**ii. School Lunch**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

**11. Policy**

**a. Second Reads**

**i. Policy 5131.81 Cell Phones and other Personal Electronic Devices**

*MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Sean Hartshorn to approve Policy 5131.81 Cell Phones and other Personal Electronic Devices.*

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

VOTES OPPOSED, 2 (Dr. Oladele, Schuster)

MOTION CARRIES

*Patrick Reed, Dr. Oladele and Donna Schuster all provided comments regarding their votes.*

**12. Personnel**

**a. Personnel Report**

*MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Dr. Karunakaran to enter Executive Session and to invite Dr. Byars to join.*

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

*The Board enters Executive Session at 8:06 p.m.*

b. Discussion of Non-Union Salary Proposals for 2025-2026 Fiscal Year

c. Discussion of Standard Benefits Package for 2025-2026

d. Discussion of Non-Union Administrator Contracts for 2025-2028

*The Board exits Executive Session at 8:38 p.m.*

e. Possible Action on Non-Union Salary Proposals for 2025-2026 Fiscal Year

*MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Michael McDonough to approve the Non-Union Salary Proposals for 2025-2026 Fiscal Year*

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

f. Possible Action on Standard Benefits Package for 2025-2026

*MOTION by Carla Lombardi SECOND by Michael McDonough to approve the Standard Benefits Package for 2025-2026.*

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

g. Possible Action on Non-Union Administrator Contracts for 2025-2028

*MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Donna Schlank to approve Non-Union Administrator Contracts for 2025-2028*

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

h. Updates on Amity Administrators' Group (AAG) Contract Negotiations

**10. NEW BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

a. Special Board of Education Meeting – June 23, 2025

**11. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – Due to Chairperson by July 30, 2025**

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Davis adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 8:50 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**



**Theresa Lumas**  
**Director of Finance and Administration**

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

To: Dr. Jennifer Byars, Superintendent of Schools  
From: Theresa Lumas, Director of Finance and Administration  
cc: Kathleen Kovalik, Assistant Director of Finance and Administration  
Re: Lunch Price increase recommendation for 2025-2026  
Date: June 13, 2025

The State has provided districts with the Paid Lunch Equity Tool. As previously noted in the May communication there is an increase needed in the school lunch price. To recap, the cost of food, labor, and supplies has increased. The District's fund balance is reviewed along with the "Paid Lunch Equity Tool" provided by the State to determine if and when to increase lunch prices. The Paid Lunch Equity Tool analyzes the quantity of lunches served at our current pricing and subsidies provided in order to determine if we are meeting a minimum price threshold determined at the federal level. The state and federal funding for free and reduce meals cannot subsidize a lower full price charge.

Last year, the District fell 35 (thirty five) cents short of meeting the minimum threshold. Prices were increased for all meals by 25 cents to meet this deficit, which accumulates year to year.

The Paid Lunch Equity Tool for 2025-26 indicates a 24-cent shortfall to meet the required weighted average. The minimum increase allowed is 10 cents. However, applying only the minimum increase pushes the remaining 14 cents toward next year to accumulate with any new adjustments. **My recommendation is to increase lunch prices by 25-cents at all three schools. The District will meet the National School Lunch Program (NLSP) requirement for 2025-2026 with this increase. This is an annual calculation required in order to receive federal and state funding.** The high school opened the deli station which helped offset the deficit. There is no change recommended for the breakfast lunch price.

The Board was notified in February and May of a possible price increase for the 2025-2026 school year.

The recommend prices are as follows:

Pizza & Grill	\$3.80
Create & SONO	\$4.20
Deli	\$4.75
Adult Lunch	\$5.50



*The Amity Finance Committee was notified via email of this recommendation.*

**For Amity Board of Education:**

***Move to authorize a 25-cent lunch price increase at all three schools for 2025-2026 school year.***