

AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Monday, August 18, 2025, 6:30 pm
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT
Lecture Hall

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Cathy Bradley* arrived at 6:51 p.m., Paul Davis, Carla Eichler, Sean Hartshorn, Andrea Hubbard, Dr. Karunakaran, Dana Lombardi* arrived at 6:34 p.m., Michael McDonough, Dr. Carol Oladele, Patrick Reed, Donna Schlank and Donna Schuster* arrived at 6:54 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Christina Levere-D'Addio

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Jennifer Byars, Dr. Shannan Carlson, Theresa Lumas, Thomas Brant, Mr. 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 Special Meeting - June 23, 2025

MOTION by Michael McDonough, SECOND by Mr. Reed to approve June 23, 2025 minutes as submitted.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (Davis, Eichler, Hartshorn, Dr. Karunakaran, McDonough, Dr. Oladele, Reed, Schlank)

ABSTAIN, 1 (Hubbard)

MOTION CARRIES

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. **Superintendent Report**

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

b. **Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed 2025-2026 BOE Meeting and Committee Dates**

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Donna Schlank to approve the 2025-2026 BOE Meeting and Committee dates.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None

7. PRESENTATION OF AMITY STRATEGIC ACTION STEPS 2025-2028

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

8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

a. Committee Reports

1. **ACES**
2. **Ad Hoc School Start Time Committee**
3. **CABE**
4. **Communications**
5. **Curriculum**
6. **District Health and Safety**
7. **District Technology**
 - a. **Monthly Report**
8. **Facilities**
 - a. **Monthly Report**
 - b. **Discussion and Possible Action on Conducting a Feasibility Study for the Middle School Library Media Renovations**

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Donna Schlank to approve the administration to seek proposals for a feasibility study to examine renovation options for the middle school library media centers with the possibility of creating additional classroom spaces. This design scope shifts a larger portion of the middle school LMC projects to the list of bond projects, rather than fully District supported funding.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

9. Finance

a. Presentation of 2026-2027 Budget Calendar

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

b. Presentation of Annual Report on Reserve Funds for Capital and Non-recurring Expenditures and Educational Expenditures

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

c. Discussion and Possible Action on Designation of Unexpended Funds to the Reserve Fund for Educational Expenditures

MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Patrick Reed to approve an appropriation and budget transfer of \$1,129,132 into Reserve Fund for Educational Expenditures from the fiscal year 2024-2025 year-end funds.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
XX-XX-XXXX	Various general fund expenses accounts	\$1,129,132	
05-15-0000-5856	Transfer Account/Undesignated		\$1,129,132

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)
MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Dr. Karunakaran, SECOND by Dr. Oladele to approve designation of funds for the fire pump replacement at AMSB, technology infrastructure and the Library Media Center Renovation projects in the amount of \$1,129,132 or a 2% appropriation.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
00-15-0099-5856	Transfer Account	\$1,129,132	
00-15-0104-5715	Ed. Reserve – Fire Pump -AMSB		\$250,000
00-15-0105-5715	Ed. Reserve – Tech Infrastructure		\$200,000
00-15-0100-5715	Ed. Reserve – LMC-MS		\$679,132

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)
MOTION CARRIES

d. Discussion and Possible Action on ARHS -LMC Revised Cost Estimate Recommendations to the Amity Board of Education

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Patrick Reed to approve the schematic design presented by Silver Petrucelli and Associates and approve the revised cost estimate \$3,475,181 for the ARHS library media center renovation project inclusive of adjoining classrooms, offices and storage spaces.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)
MOTION CARRIES

e. Discussion and Possible Action on Contracts over \$35,000
i. Student and Teacher Devices

MOTION by Dr. Karunakaran, SECOND by Michael McDonough to approve the lease purchase agreement with Insight Financial Services for 750 student devices and 280 teacher devices. This is a four-year lease with FMV buyout at the end of the term for a total of \$187,270.08 annually.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (UNANIMOUS)
MOTION CARRIES

f. Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements
i. Fiscal Year 2024-2025
ii. Special Education Update FY26 by Mr. Brant
iii. Fiscal Year 2025-2026

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

g. Director of Finance and Administration Approved Transfers EOY – FY25

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

h. Director of Finance and Administration Approved Transfers under \$3,000 –FY26

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

i. Other

i. Change of Fiduciary Advisors for 403(b), 401(a), and FICA Alternative Plans

ii. FY25 Fourth Quarter Reports – CNR, Educational Expenditures and Grants

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

10. Policy

a. Second Reads

1. Policy 5145.122 Use of Dogs to Search School Property

2. Policy 5145.14 On Campus Recruitment

MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Dana Lombardi to approve Policy 5145.122 Use of Dogs to Search School Property and Policy 5145.14 On Campus Recruitment.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (Bradley, Davis, Eichler, Hartshorn, Hubbard, Dr. Karunakaran, Lombardi, McDonough Reed, Schlank, Schuster)

ABSTAIN, 1 (Dr. Oladele)

MOTION CARRIES

11. Personnel

b. Personnel Report

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

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA – Due to Chairperson by August 31, 2024

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Davis adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zaleski

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BOE Recording Secretary