

AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 06, 2025 6:30 pm
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT
Lecture Hall

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Paul Davis, Carla Eichler, Dr. Karunakaran, Christina Levere-D’Addio, Dr. Carol Oladele, Patrick Reed, Donna Schlank, Donna Schuster* arrived at 6:40 p.m., Hubbard* arrived at 7:38 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Bradley, Hartshorn, Lombardi, McDonough

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Shreya Viswanathan

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 6:31 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 – September 29, 2025

MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Christina Levere-D’Addio to approve September 29, 2025 minutes as submitted.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 7 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None

6. PUBLIC ACT 25-93 ANNUAL REPORT

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

7. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

a. Committee Reports

1. **ACES**
2. **Ad Hoc School Start Time**
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 the Middle Schools' Building Project Resolutions**

MOTION by Dr. Karunakaran, *SECOND* by Patrick Reed to approve the Middle Schools' Building Project Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Amity Regional Middle Schools' Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the library media center renovations, HVAC replacements, athletic field upgrades, stage lighting, and roof restoration/replacement at both Amity Middle School- Bethany Campus and Amity Middle School- Orange Campus. These committee and staff members are appointed to the Amity Regional Middle Schools' Building Committee: Amity Facilities Committee members, Superintendent, Director of Facilities, Director of Technology, Director of Finance & Administration, Principals of Amity Middle School- Bethany Campus and Amity Middle School- Orange Campus.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Carla Eichler, *SECOND* by Dr. Oladele to establish the Amity Regional Middle Schools' Building Committee and its charge.

Membership: Amity Board of Education Facilities Committee members, Superintendent, Director of Facilities, Director of Technology, Director of Finance & Administration, Principals of Amity Middle School- Bethany Campus and Amity Middle School- Orange Campus

Responsibilities of the Amity Regional Middle Schools' Building Committee:

Amity Regional School District Building Committee is responsible for the budget, design, and construction of a major renovation and upgrade the library media center renovations, HVAC replacements, athletic field upgrades, stage lighting, and roof restoration/replacement at both Amity Middle School- Bethany Campus and Amity Middle School- Orange Campus. The Amity Board of Education created the Building Committee in order to make the project eligible for potential State reimbursement.

The Building Committee's responsibilities shall include:

- a. Advertising through a Request for Qualification process for architect/engineering services;
- b. Recommend to the Amity Board of Education the retention of an architectural/engineering firm(s) to assist the Committee in the design of the proposed projects;
- c. Prepare a construction/design plan with the assistance of the architectural/engineering firm retained by the Amity Board of Education, after taking into account the budget, construction challenges, including hazardous materials abatement, and timing of construction during the school year;

- d. Apply best practices for sustainable design including the use of sustainable and energy efficient products and materials, LEED Certification (if applicable) and the possible use of “green” energy and other techniques and seek grant opportunities to fund or offset the additional potential cost of these initiatives;
- e. Upon approval of the Amity Board of Education of the construction/design plan, seek bids with the possible assistance of a construction manager, on all aspects of the construction, in accordance with the Amity Board of Education Purchasing Policy and State requirements for potential reimbursement;
- f. Recommend to the Amity Board of Education the selection of one or more firms to perform the construction, after receipt and review of the bids;
- g. Oversee construction of the proposed project, with the possible assistance of a professional owner’s representative;
- h. Seek reimbursement from the State Department of Education for all eligible costs of the proposed construction project.

Funding: All expenditures from the District’s capital project budget concerning this project shall be incurred in accordance with the policies of the Amity Board of Education and this Charge.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

9. **Finance**

a. **Discussion and Possible Action on Vehicle Purchase**

MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Donna Schlank to waive the bid process for a used vehicle or utilize the State contract for a new vehicle and approve the new vehicle price threshold at \$40,000 for the purchase of a pickup truck for the District.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

b. **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.

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

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

d. **Other**

- i. **Quarterly Report – CNR**
- ii. **Quarterly Report – Grants**
- iii. **Quarterly Report – Educational Expenditures**
- iv. **Food service negative balances**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

10. **Policy**

a. **First Reads**

- i. **Bylaw 9110 - Number of Members, Terms of Office, Oath of Office**

MOTION by Dr. Carol Oladele SECOND by Dr. Karunakaran to move Bylaw 9110- Number of Members, Terms of Office, Oath of Office to BOE second reads.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

ii. Policy 5118.2 - Educational Opportunities for Military Children

MOTION by Patrick Reed SECOND by Dr. Carol Oladele to move Policy 5118.2-Educational Opportunities for Military Children to BOE second reads.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (Davis, Eichler, Dr. Karunakaran, Levere-D'Addio, Dr. Oladele, Reed, Schlank, Schuster)

ABSTAIN, 1 (Hubbard)

MOTION CARRIES

b. Discussion and Possible Action on the removal of Policy 6161.1 - Selection of Library Media Center Materials and Resources

MOTION by Patrick Reed SECOND by Dr. Karunakaran to approve the removal of Policy 6161.1- Selection of Library Media Center Materials and Resources.

Patrick Reed and Dr. Karunakaran rescind their motion to approve the removal of Policy 6161.1- Selection of Library Media Center Materials and Resources.

c. Second Reads

i. Policy 6161.12 - Library Material Review and Reconsideration

ii. Policy 6161.13 - Library Collection Development and Maintenance

iii. Policy 6161.14 - Library Display and Program

Request by Policy Committee Chair Christina Levere-D'Addio to postpone Second Read approval until the next regular BOE meeting.

iv. Policy 3171.1 - Reserve Fund for Educational Expenditures

v. Policy 5131 – Conduct and Discipline

vi. Policy 6140 – Curriculum

MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Dr. Karunakaran to approve Bylaw 9110- Number of Members, Terms of Office, Oath of Office, Policy 5118.2-Educational Opportunities for Military Children, Policy 3171.1 - Reserve Fund for Educational Expenditures, Policy 5131 – Conduct and Discipline, and Policy 6140 – Curriculum.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 9 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

11. Personnel

a. Personnel Report

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

8. NEW BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned, without objection, at 7:49 p.m. by Chairperson Davis.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zaleski

Lisa Zaleski
BOE Recording Secretary