

AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 10, 2025 6:30 pm

25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT

Lecture Hall

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Cathy Bradley, Paul Davis, Carla Eichler, Sean Hartshorn, Dr. Karunakaran, Dana Lombardi, Michael McDonough, Patrick Reed, Donna Schlank and Dr. Carol Oladele * arrived at 6:33 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Hubbard, Levere-D'Addio, Schuster

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Janet Fan and Shreya Viswanathan

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

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

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

MOTION by Paul Davis to amend the agenda to include an agenda item ii. Vehicle under 11. Chairmans Reports 9a. Discussion and Possible action on Contracts over \$35,000.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 9 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Board of Education Regular Meeting – October 27, 2025

MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Dana Lombardi to approve October 27, 2025 minutes as submitted.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (Bradley, Davis, Eichler, Hartshorn, Dr. Karunakaran, Lombardi, McDonough, Reed)

ABSTAIN, 1 (Schlank)

MOTION CARRIES

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Orange Parent raised concerns over the length of the commute home for students riding the late bus. Parent thanked the Board members for serving and for the work they do. Parent concluded by acknowledging that tomorrow is Veteran's Day.

Bethany Parent spoke on her appreciation for the 2025-2026 School Calendar and how it has conveniently provided students with breaks to rest, catch up, and adjust to the new school year. Parent thanked Board members for their service.

Orange Parent spoke out against Policy 6161.12 - Library Material Review and Reconsideration.

Bethany Parent spoke about books that are included in ARSD libraries and his concern over books he deemed inappropriate.

5. **[PRESENTATION OF CSDE NEXT GENERATION ACCOUNTABILITY RESULTS 2024-2025](#)**

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

6. **3 A's (Academics, Arts, Athletics) AND POG (Portrait of the Graduate) FOCUS PRESENTATION**

[Professional Learning Day - AI Wisdom from Students](#) – Dr. Perry Carlson, Ken Clark

7. **PRESENTATION OF 2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

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

8. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SETTING 2026 GRADUATION DATE – June 11, 2026**

MOTION by Carla Eichler, SECOND by Cathy Bradley to approve the 2026 Graduation date for June 11, 2026.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

9. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON 2026 BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE**

MOTION by Cathy Bradley, SECOND by Patrick Reed to approve the 2026 Board of Education Regular Meeting Schedule.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

11. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

a. Committee Reports

1. **ACES**
2. **Ad Hoc School Start Time**
3. **CABE**
4. **Communications**
5. **Curriculum**

a. **Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Revised Curricula**

- i. [Advanced Pastry](#) (formerly *Creative Kitchen*)
- ii. [Introduction to Computing](#)
- iii. [College Writing and Research](#) (formerly *Writing for College and Career*)
- iv. [Algebra 1](#)

MOTION by Dana Lombardi, SECOND by Michael McDonough to approve revised Curricula for Advanced Pastry, Introduction to Computing, College Writing and Research and Algebra I.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 9 (Bradley, Davis, Eichler, Hartshorn, Dr. Karunakaran, Lombardi, McDonough, Reed, Schlank)

ABSTAIN, 1 (Dr. Oladele)

MOTION CARRIES

- 6. **District Health and Safety**
- 7. **District Technology**
 - a. Monthly Report
- 8. **Facilities**
 - a. Monthly Report
- 9. **Finance**
 - a. **Discussion and Possible Action on Contracts over \$35,000**
 - i. **Transportation**

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Patrick Reed to waive the bid process and extend the transportation contracts through June 30, 2030 to the current owner/operators per the negotiated rates.

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

ABSTAIN, 2 (Bradley, Dr. Oladele)

MOTION CARRIES

- ii. **Vehicle**

MOTION by Michael McDonough, SECOND by Sean Hartshorn to approve the purchase of a vehicle from Blasius Chevrolet Co, Inc. for a State contract price of \$41,974 plus registration fees.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

- b. **October 1 Enrollment Report**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

- c. **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

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

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

- e. **Discussion and Possible Action on Budget Transfers over \$3,000**

MOTION by Donna Schlank, SECOND by Michael McDonough to approve this transfer for a control module and light dimming rack to operate the lights in the Brady Center.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
05-15-0000-5850	Contingency	\$19,999	
03-14-2600-5731	Equipment Replacement		\$19,999

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Michael McDonough, SECOND by Sean Hartshorn to approve this transfer for a new vehicle purchased from the State contract bid list but is overbudget by \$7,500.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
03-14-2600-5613	Custodial Supplies	\$7,500	
05-14-2600-5731	Equipment Replacement		\$7,500

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Michael McDonough to approve this transfer for salary expenses and intern services.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	TO	FROM
01-11-1009-5111	Certified Salaries	\$15,237	
05-15-1026-5111	Certified Salaries	\$10,200	
03-15-2601-5111	Certified Salaries	\$4,000	
01-13-2400-5330	Professional Technical Services		\$14,000
02-13-2400-5330	Professional Technical Services		\$11,437
03-13-2400-5330	Professional Technical Services		\$ 4,000

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

10. **Policy**

a. **First Reads**

- i. **Policy 6142.101 - Student Nutrition and Physical Activity**

b. **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**

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Carla Eichler to approve Policy 6161.12 - Library Material Review and Reconsideration, Policy 6161.13 - Library Collection Development and Maintenance and Policy 6161.14 - Library Display and Program.

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

VOTES AGAINST, 2 (Bradley, Lombardi)

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

MOTION by Sean Hartshorn, SECOND by Dr. Karunakaran to remove Policy 6161.1 - Selection of Library Media Center Materials and Resources.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 9 (Bradley, Davis, Eichler, Hartshorn, Dr. Karunakaran, McDonough, Reed, Schlank and Dr. Oladele)

ABSTAIN, 1 (Lombardi)

MOTION CARRIES

11. **Personnel**

a. Personnel Report

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

12. **NEW BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Led by Amity Board of Education Chair Paul Davis

13. **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – Due to Chairperson by November 28, 2025**

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Davis adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zaleski

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BOE Recording Secretary