

AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 08, 2025 6:30 pm

25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT

Lecture Hall

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Cathy Bradley, Autumn CloudIngram, Paul Davis, Jennifer Blando Jacquet, Dr. Karunakaran, Dana Lombardi, Michael McDonough, Dr. Carol Oladele, Meghan Rabuse, Patrick Reed, Donna Schlank, Donna Schuster, Christian Young

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Janet Fan and 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 6:39 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Amity Board of Education Chair Paul Davis

3. OATH OF OFFICE

Led by Amity Board of Education Chair Paul Davis

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

MOTION by Dana Lombardi, SECOND by Michael McDonough to nominate Cathy Bradley for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Chairperson.

MOTION by Dr. Karunakaran SECOND by Dr. Oladele to nominate Paul Davis for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Chairperson.

BOE Member	Nominee: Bradley	Nominee: Davis
Bradley	✓	
CloudIngram	✓	
Davis		✓
Jacquet		✓
Dr. Karunakaran		✓
Lombardi	✓	
McDonough	✓	
Dr. Oladele		✓
Rabuse	✓	
Reed		✓
Schlank		✓

Schuster		✓
Young	✓	

VOTE: Bradley (6), Davis (7)

RESULT: Paul Davis elected Amity Region 5 Board of Education Chairperson

Amity Region 5 Board of Education Chairperson Paul Davis facilitates the remaining election of officers

ELECTION OF VICE- CHAIRPERSON

MOTION by Dana Lombardi, SECOND by Michael McDonough to nominate Cathy Bradley for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Vice –Chairperson.

MOTION by Paul Davis, SECOND by Dr. Oladele to nominate Patrick Reed for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Vice- Chairperson.

BOE Member	Nominee: Bradley	Nominee: Reed
Bradley	✓	
CloudIngram		✓
Davis		✓
Jacquet		✓
Dr. Karunakaran		✓
Lombardi	✓	
McDonough	✓	
Dr. Oladele		✓
Rabuse	✓	
Reed		✓
Schlank		✓
Schuster		✓
Young	✓	

VOTE: Bradley (5), Reed (8)

RESULT: Patrick Reed elected Amity Region 5 Board of Education Vice-Chairperson

ELECTION OF SECRETARY

MOTION by Cathy Bradley, SECOND by Christian Young to nominate Dana Lombardi for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Secretary.

VOTE/ RESULT: Dana Lombardi unanimously elected Amity Region 5 Board of Education Secretary

ELECTION OF TREASURER

MOTION by Cathy Bradley, SECOND by Michael McDonough to nominate Meghan Rabuse for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Treasurer.

VOTE/ RESULT: Meghan Rabuse unanimously elected Amity Region 5 Board of Education Treasurer

ELECTION OF DEPUTY- TREASURER

MOTION by Paul Davis, SECOND by Dr. Oladele to nominate Donna Schlank for Amity Region 5 Board of Education Deputy Treasurer.

VOTE/ RESULT: Donna Schlank unanimously elected Amity Region 5 Board of Education Deputy -Treasurer

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Board of Education Regular Meeting – November 24, 2025

MOTION by Dr. Oladele, SECOND by Dr. Karunakaran to approve November 24, 2025 minutes as submitted.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (Bradley, CloudIngram, Davis, Jacquet, Dr. Karunakaran, Lombardi, McDonough, Dr. Oladele, Rabuse, Reed)

ABSTAIN, 3 (Schlank, Schuster, Young)

MOTION CARRIES

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Orange Resident

Resident urged the Amity Board of Education to revisit Policy 6161.12 - Library Material Review and Reconsideration. Resident requested the Amity Board of Education reconsider who is eligible to file concerns about books in district libraries.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SETTING 2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

MOTION by Donna Schlank, SECOND by Patrick Reed to approve the 2026- 2027 School Calendar.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Presented by Amity Board of Education Secretary Mrs. Cathy Bradley

9. 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 Middle School Library Media Center Projects**

MOTION by Michael McDonough, SECOND by Donna Schlank to approves the appointment of Silver Petrucelli and Associates at a base price of \$34,000 for the Amity Middle School Bethany and Amity Middle School Orange library for design and cost estimation of the media center renovation projects.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

The Amity Board of Education approves the appointment of Patrick Reed as the Amity Regional School District School Building Committee chairperson.

9. Finance

a. Presentation and Discussion of Third Quarter 2025 Executive Summary Review of Amity Pension Fund, OPEB Trust and Sick and Severance Fund.

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

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

i. ARHS Lighting System

MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Michael McDonough to award the contract to Mercury Electric, LLC, a State Bid Portal Contract, for the lighting module control and dimmer rack for the Brady Center for \$45,861.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

ii. AMSB Fire Pump

MOTION by Michael McDonough, SECOND by Donna Schlank to award the contract to Encore Fire Protection for the replacement of the fire pump in the AMSB well vault for \$148,250.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

iii. Copiers

MOTION by Jennifer Blando Jacquet, SECOND by Meghan Rabuse to authorize the Director of Finance to sign the Xerox contract for copiers, faxing capabilities, and the laser printer management program for the monthly charge of \$12,324 for the period of December 31, 2025 through December 31, 2030.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

c. Update on the 2026-2027 Proposed Budget

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

d. 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.

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

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

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

MOTION by Jennifer Blando Jacquet, SECOND by Donna Schlank to approve the following budget transfers for special education services to cover certified positions that are not filled due to vacancy and leaves of absences.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	TO	FROM
05-15-1026-5111	Certified Salaries		\$32,250
04-12-1206-5330	Professional Technical Services	\$32,250	
04-12-6130-5560	Tuition		\$17,850
04-12-1208-5330	Professional Technical Services	\$17,850	

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECOND by Dr. Karunakaran to approve the following budget transfers for special education services to cover increased transportation costs.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	TO	FROM
04-12-6110-5510	Transportation – Public Out	\$23,616	
04-12-6117-5560	Tuition - ECA		\$15,000
04-12-2151-5330	Professional Technical Services		\$ 8,616
04-12-6116-5510	Transportation – Public In	\$6,310	
04-12-6130-5560	Tuition -Private Out		\$ 6,310

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Meghan Rabuse, SECOND by Donna Schlank to approve the following budget transfers for coverage for administrative assistants on leaves of absences.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	TO	FROM
05-14-2510-5330	Professional Services	\$29,237	
05-15-1026-5112	Classified Salaries		\$29,237

VOTES IN FAVOR, 13 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

- g. **Other:**
 - i. **Café Negative Balance Update**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

10. Policy

- a. **First Reads**
 - i. **Policy 6111 School Calendar**
 - ii. **Policy 2151 Recruitment and Selection of Administrative Staff**
- b. **Second Reads**

i. **Policy 6142.101 Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (School Wellness Policy)**

MOTION by Dr. Oladele, SECOND by Patrick Reed to approve Policy 6142.101 Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (School Wellness Policy)

VOTES IN FAVOR, 5 (CloudIngram, Davis, Jacquet, Dr. Karunakaran, Reed)

VOTES OPPOSED, 8 (Bradley, Lombardi, McDonough, Dr. Oladele, Rabuse, Schlank, Schuster, Young)

MOTION FAILS: Policy 6142.101 Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (School Wellness Policy) will be sent back to the Policy committee for further review.

11. Personnel

a. Personnel Report

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

10. NEW BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Led by Amity Board of Education Chair Paul Davis

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

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Davis adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zaleski

Lisa Zaleski

BOE Recording Secretary