

AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 12, 2026 6:30 pm

25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT

Lecture Hall

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Cathy Bradley, Jennifer Blando Jacquet, Dr. Karunakaran, Michael McDonough, Meghan Rabuse, Patrick Reed, Donna Schuster *via phone, Dr. Oladele *arrived at 7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Cloud-Ingram, Davis, Lombardi, Schlank, Young

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Janet Fan and Shreya Viswanathan

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

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

Documents provided during/ after meeting:

[RETURN TO MEMBER TOWNS MEMO- FY2024-25.pdf](#)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Reed called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Amity Board of Education Vice Chair Patrick Reed

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Board of Education Regular Meeting – December 22, 2025

MOTION by Michael McDonough, SECOND by Meghan Rabuse to approve December 22, 2025 minutes as submitted.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 5 (Bradley, Jacquet, McDonough, Reed, Rabuse)

ABSTAIN, 2 (Dr. Karunakaran, Schuster)

MOTION CARRIES

4. CAPSS SUPERINTENDENT STUDENT AWARD RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Presented by Amity Region 5 Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jennifer Byars, Amity Region 5 AMSB Principal Dr. Tracy, Amity Region 5 AMSO Principal Kathy Burke and Amity Region 5 High School Mr. Andre Hauser

Vice Chair Reed calls a short recess for pictures and dismissal of CAPSS students and families 6:58 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

ARHS Student

Raised a variety of concerns regarding the use of AI for grading and the dangers that may present.

Orange Parents

The President and Vice President of Amity Travel Youth Basketball are requesting a partnership with ARSD to coordinate the scheduling and use of district buildings for practices and games.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None

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
9. **Finance**
 - a. **Presentation of Fiscal Year 2025 Audit Reports**

Presented by representatives from Mohoney Sabol & Company, LLP

b. **Discussion and Possible Action on Audited 2024-2025 Financial Statements**

MOTION by Meghan Rabuse, SECOND by Cathy Bradley to accept the Annual Financial Statements for the period ending June 30, 2025

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

c. **Discussion and Possible Action on Reducing Member Town Allocations**

MOTION by Dr. Karunakaran, SECOND by Meghan Rabuse to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to reduce the March Allocation payment of the member towns by a total of \$898,605, as follows:

<i>Town of Bethany</i>	<i>\$ 147,479.35</i>
<i>Town of Orange</i>	<i>\$ 446,061.23</i>
<i>Town of Woodbridge</i>	<i>\$ <u>305,064.50</u></i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$ <u>898,605.08</u></i>

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

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 Transfers over \$3,000**

MOTION by Meghan Rabuse, SECOND by Jennifer Blando Jacquet to approve the budget transfer for special education services to cover homebound services.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	TO	FROM
04-12-1204-5330	Professional Technical Services	\$ 5,000	
04-12-1204-5111	Certified Salaries		\$5,000

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Jennifer Blando Jacquet, SECOND by Dr. Oladele to approve the budget transfer for special education services to cover transportation services

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	TO	FROM
04-12-6110-5510	Transportation- Public Out	\$ 7,500	
04-12-6110-5560	Tuition – Public Out		\$7,500

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

MOTION by Meghan Rabuse, SECOND by Jennifer Blando Jacquet to approve the budget transfer for a CNC Maker Fab router.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	TO	FROM
03-11-1008-5731	Equipment-Replacement	\$ 4,036	
03-11-1001-5730	Equipment- New		\$2,000
03-11-1008-5611	Instructional Supplies		\$2,036

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

g. Other

- i. CNR Report**
- ii. Educational Expenditure Report**
- iii. Grant Report**

Presented by Amity Region 5 Director of Finance Theresa Lumas

10. Policy

a. Second Reads

- i. Policy 6111 School Calendar**

MOTION by Meghan Rabuse, SECOND by Jennifer Blando Jacquet to approve Policy 6111 School Calendar.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 5 (Jacquet, Karunakaran, Reed, Oladele, Schuster)

VOTES AGAINST, 2 (Bradley, Rabuse)

ABSTAIN, 1 (McDonough)

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 January 30, 2026

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Davis adjourned the meeting, without objection, at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zaleski

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BOE Recording Secretary