

AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 28, 2026 6:30 pm

25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, CT

Lecture Hall

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Cathy Bradley, Paul Davis, Jennifer Blando Jacquet* (attended via phone, left meeting at 8:25 p.m.), Dr. Karunakaran, Dana Lombardi, Michael McDonough, Meghan Rabuse, Patrick Reed, Donna Schlank, Christian Young

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Cloud-Ingram, Dr. Oladele, Schuster

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Shreya Viswanathan and Luca DiSorbo

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Jennifer Byars, Dr. Shannan Perry Carlson, Andre Hauser, Ernie Goodwin, Dr. Tracy, Kathy Burke, Jill LaPlante

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Davis called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Amity Board of Education Chair Paul Davis

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Board of Education Regular Meeting – September 14, 2026

MOTION by Cathy Bradley, SECONDED by Patrick Reed to approve the September 14, 2026 minutes as submitted.

MOTION by Donna Schuster (delivered by Chairperson Davis), SECONDED by Dr. Karunakaran to approve the September 14, 2026 minutes with suggested edits:

- A school administrator spoke in support of maintaining the student alcohol testing policy and discussed its role in prevention and student safety.
- An Orange resident spoke regarding concerns with the year-end budget surplus and offered suggestions for the use of surplus funds.
- An ARHS student spoke in support of maintaining the student alcohol testing policy and shared information regarding student perspectives on the policy.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 9 (Bradley, Davis, Jacquet, Dr. Karunakaran, Lombardi, McDonough, Rabuse, Reed, Young)

ABSTAIN, 1 (Schlank)

MOTION CARRIES

4. RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS

- a. 2026-2027 National Merit Scholarship Commended Scholars and Semi-Finalists

Presented by Amity Region 5 Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jennifer Byars and Amity Region 5 High School Mr. Andre Hauser

Chairperson Davis calls for a short recess to allow parents, students, and families to exit.

5. STUDENT REPORT

a. Monthly Report

Presented by Board of Education student representatives Shreya Viswanathan (High School) and Luca DiSorbo (Middle School)

6. STRATEGIC PLANNING

Presented by Dr. Richard Lemons, Executive Director, Partners for Educational Leadership

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- a. Superintendent Report – Enclosure
- b. Public Act 25-93 Annual Report - Enclosure
- c. Athletics Update – Mr. Goodwin
- d. [State Assessment Results Preliminary Review](#) – Dr. Perry Carlson
- e. Middle School Schedule Update – Mrs. Burke and Dr. Tracy

8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a. Personnel Committee
 - 1. Discussion of Administrative Assistant Union Contract for 2026-2029 (Anticipated Executive Session)

MOTION by Patrick Reed, SECONDED by Dana Lombardi, to enter executive session and invite Dr. Byars to join.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

The Board enters Executive Session at 8:24 p.m.

The Board exits Executive Session at 8:31 p.m.

2. Action on Administrative Assistant Union Contract

MOTION by Dana Lombardi, SECONDED by Michael McDonough to approve the Administrative Assistant Union Contract for 2026-2029.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 9 (UNANIMOUS)

MOTION CARRIES

9. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public Comment will be limited to those items noticed in this agenda

None

10. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – Due to Chairperson by September 30, 2026

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Davis adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m. without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Zaleski

Lisa Zaleski
BOE Recording Secretary