

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

Bethany Orange Woodbridge
 25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525
 (203) 397-4811

Dr. Jennifer P. Byars
Superintendent of Schools

AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

September 29, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., 100 Ohman Avenue, Orange, CT

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THIS MEETING](#)

Attendance in-person at this meeting is closed to the public; however, public comment can be emailed to pamela.pero@amityregion5.org by 2:00 p.m. on September 29, 2020. Emails received after 2:00 p.m. on September 29, 2020 will be forwarded to the Amity Regional School District No. 5 Board of Education Policy Committee, but will not be admitted as part of this meeting. Anonymous items will be forwarded to the Amity Regional School District No. 5 Board of Education Policy Committee, but will not be admitted as Public Comment for this meeting.

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – July 28, 2020 *Page 2*
3. Public Comment
4. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy 5142.41 Armed School Security Officers *Page 5*
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy 6114.81 Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies *Page 7*
6. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy 5141.4 Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Assault *Page 12*
7. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy 5122 Assigning Students to a Grade Level *Page 17*
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Select Policies in 3000 Series
 - a. Policy 3516 Safety and Secure School Facilities, Equipment, and Grounds *Page 18*
 - b. Policy 3516.3 Safety & Health Committee *Page 22*
 - c. Policy 3517 Security of Buildings and Grounds *Page 23 and Page 24*
 - d. Policy 3524.2 Hazardous Materials in Schools *Page 26*
 - e. Policy 3533 Employee Bonds *Page 29*
 - f. Policy 3541 Transportation *Page 31*
9. Adjourn



Jennifer P. Byars
 Superintendent of Schools

JPB/pjp

pc: Town Clerks: Bethany, Orange, Woodbridge

Working to "enable every Amity student to become a lifelong learner and a literate, caring, creative and effective world citizen." District Mission Statement

If you require accommodations to participate because of a disability,
 please contact the office of the Superintendent of Schools in advance at 203-397-4811.

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 28, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Davis, Carla Eichler, George Howard, Steven DeMaio
(absent 1:18-1:24 p.m.)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Jennifer Byars, Thomas Brant

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Howard called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – February 25, 2020

MOTION by Paul Davis to approve minutes as submitted

VOTES IN FAVOR, 4 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy for Armed School Security Officers

MOTION by Carla Eichler to move Policy for Armed School Security Officers to Board of Education Regular Meeting for First Read

VOTES IN FAVOR, 3 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

4. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy 5145.5/4118.112/4218.112 Prohibition Against Sexual Harassment

MOTION by Carla Eichler to move Policy 5145.5/4118.112/4218.112 Prohibition Against Sexual Harassment to Board of Education Regular Meeting for First Read

VOTES IN FAVOR, 4 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 28, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy 5145.511 Exploitation - Sexual Harassment

MOTION by Paul Davis to move Policy 5145.511 Exploitation - Sexual Harassment to Board of Education Regular Meeting for First Read

VOTES IN FAVOR, 4 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy 5145.4 Non-discrimination - Transgender and Gender Non-conforming Students

MOTION by Carla Eichler to move Policy 5145.4 Non-discrimination - Transgender and Gender Non-conforming Students to Board of Education Regular Meeting for First Read

VOTES IN FAVOR, 4 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

7. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy 5145.42 504 Title II

MOTION by Paul Davis to move Policy 5145.42 504 Title II to Board of Education Regular Meeting for First Read

VOTES IN FAVOR, 4 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

8. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy 5145.45 Student – Non-discrimination

MOTION by Carla Eichler to move Policy 5145.45 Student – Non-discrimination to Board of Education Regular Meeting for First Read

VOTES IN FAVOR, 4 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy 6114.81 Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies

MOTION by Paul Davis to move Policy 6114.81 Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies to Board of Education Regular Meeting for First Read

VOTES IN FAVOR, 4 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 28, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Policy 6173 Homebound/Hospital Instruction

MOTION by Paul Davis to move Policy 6173 Homebound/Hospital Instruction to Board of Education Regular Meeting for First Read

VOTES IN FAVOR, 4 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

11. Adjourn

MOTION by Paul Davis to adjourn the meeting

VOTES IN FAVOR, 4 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Pero

Pamela Pero, Recording Clerk

Students

Roles and Responsibilities of Armed School Security Officers

Through the adoption of the School Security Officer ("SSO") program, the Amity Regional School District No. 5 Board of Education (the "Board") authorizes the placement of Armed School Security Officers (ASSO) in each of the school buildings of the Amity Regional School District No. 5 (ARSD) to provide for the safety and security of students and school personnel during times that the Superintendent deems necessary.

The Armed School Security Officer ("ASSO") is an employee of the Board. The specific qualifications, duties, and responsibilities for the position of ASSO and the Lead School Security Officer (LSSO) shall be those set forth in the ASSO and the LSSO job descriptions, as may be amended from time to time at the discretion of the Board, consistent with State and federal law.

The ASSO shall support the school administration and staff in maintaining a safe and positive school environment. The ASSO reports to the Lead School Security Officer and to the building principal and ultimately to the Superintendent of Schools. At the discretion of the Board, the ASSOs and the LSSO are authorized to carry firearms in the performance of their duties as armed security officers (ASSO) in accordance with State statute. The Board shall not employ as an ASSO any individual who fails to meet the requirements for the position as set forth in State statute. An ASSO hired and authorized by the Board to carry a firearm in the exercise of his/her duties is required to receive police/firearms training as required by law, Board policy and regulations, job description, and any memorandum of understanding or agreement with the Towns of Bethany, Orange and Woodbridge.

The use of a firearm by an ASSO/LSSO is permitted on school grounds and at school functions or activities in accordance with State and federal law and this Board Policy and regulation. The use of a firearm by an ASSO/LSSO shall be limited to circumstances when there are no other less lethal alternatives available and the use is deemed necessary by the ASSO/LSSO to protect self or others from what the ASSO/LSSO reasonably believes to be the imminent use of deadly physical force. Any use of a firearm on school grounds or at a school function or activity by an ASSO/LSSO must be in accordance with State and federal law, be pursuant to the ASSO's/LSSO's police training, and also be consistent with Board policy and administrative regulations, and any applicable memorandum of understanding or agreement with the Towns of Bethany, Orange, and Woodbridge.

The function of the ASSO and the LSSO is to assist the administration and other school staff in promoting a safe, non-threatening school environment, including assisting in the prevention of school violence. The ASSO and the LSSO are visible and active figures at the school to which they are assigned. The ASSO and the LSSO shall be charged with taking steps to safeguard and protect the school community and school property. The ASSO and the LSSO shall engage in the detection or prevention of any unauthorized activity on or near school grounds, including, but not

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Policy adopted:

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Woodbridge, CT

Students

Roles and Responsibilities of Armed School Security Officers

limited to, the unlawful intrusion or entry on school property, vandalism, abuse, arson or trespass. An ASSO/LSSO may use reasonable physical force in accordance with his/her training only to prevent serious physical injury to self or others or district property. The use of reasonable force shall be in accordance with State law, Board policy and regulations and any applicable memorandum of understanding or agreement with the Towns of Bethany, Orange, and Woodbridge.

The Board 's policy and any applicable administrative regulations shall be subject to all applicable federal and/or Connecticut laws, as may be amended from time to time. In the event that any portion of this policy or the applicable administrative regulations is determined to be contrary to the provisions of any such federal and/or Connecticut law at any time, the Board shall promptly review and revise the policy and administrative regulations as may be necessary to comply with such federal and/or Connecticut laws.

The Superintendent will adopt and maintain administrative regulations to implement this policy.

Instruction

Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness

Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies



P6114.81(a)

A new policy to consider on this issue.

Instruction

Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies
Emergency Suspension of Policy During Pandemic

The [Amity Regional School District No. 5 \(ARDS\)](#) Board of Education (Board) is authorized by statute to govern the District, including the adoption, revision, and suspension of Board policies.

The Board, through this policy, acknowledges school closures in response to a pandemic/epidemic and designates the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee to act as a liaison for the District to ensure the health and safety of students, staff, and the community.

~~The World Health Organization on March 11, 2020 characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic. Governor Lamont declared a state of emergency and directed implementation of appropriate plans and procedures in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). This action included closure of all Connecticut public schools. President Trump declared a national state of emergency.~~

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) has authority to waive instructional hours and school days, to interpret graduation requirements, and to oversee the allocation of resources for nutrition, transportation, and other crucial aspects of public education and is providing written guidance to school districts on issues related to COVID-19, including but not limited to student attendance, distance/online learning, high school credit, meal distribution, and other issues.

Temporary Powers Granted to Superintendent of Schools

Emergency Suspension of Policy During Pandemic (continued)

Policy Adopted:

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Woodbridge, CT

Instruction

Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness

Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies

The Board grants to the Superintendent the following temporary powers to address the COVID—19 pandemic emergency:

1. Authority to temporarily waive such Board policies or provisions of Board policies as the Superintendent shall deem necessary to comply with guidance from appropriate health or governmental authorities or necessary for other effective response.
- ~~2.~~ Authority to take any lawful actions necessary to ensure the continuation of public education, to provide for the health and safety of students and employees, or to respond to direction from appropriate health and government authorities. Such action may include, but are not limited to, adjustments to the curriculum and the provision of alternate educational program options; modifications to the school calendar; adjustments to the delivery of school-provided meals; limitations on access to District property; applying to any governmental body for financial or other aid as may be available; and applying to any governmental body for waiver of regulations or requirements, compliance with which is affected by the COVID-19 pandemic emergency.

Instruction

Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness

Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies

~~—Instruction~~

~~—Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies~~

~~Emergency Suspension of Policy During Pandemic (continued)~~

- ~~3.2.~~ Authority to enter into contracts without Board approval for any dollar amount within the appropriated budget for the purchase of materials, equipment, supplies, or services for sanitation, cleaning, technology, or other needs directly related to the COVID-19 emergency situation, provided such action is consistent with all applicable State and Federal laws.
- ~~4.3.~~ Authority to close any school facility without further action by this Board. Such closure shall continue during the emergency created by the COVID-19 pandemic until such time as the Superintendent, in consultation with appropriate health and government authorities, deems it in the best interests of the District and its students to open schools.
- ~~5.4.~~ Authority based upon the needs of the District and the guidance from health and government agencies disseminated by CSDE, to direct staff assignments during District closures, including but not limited to essential employees who must report to work, employees who may be reassigned, and employees whose services are not needed.
- ~~6.5.~~ Authority to limit access to public school grounds and District buildings during school closures.
- ~~7.6.~~ Authority to waive the requirements requiring advertising for bids and competitive bid procedures for purchases which may be necessary due to the emergency. The Superintendent will document the reasons for which prompt remedial action is necessary to prevent physical injury to persons or to property of the District.

Suspension of Policies

The Board hereby suspends provisions of its policies and/or whole policies, as identified by the Superintendent or designee, if such suspension is necessary to implement the written guidance from CSDE relating to containing COVID-19 for the duration identified in the Governor's order of school closure.

Instruction

Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness

Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies

Consultation with Board of Education

The Superintendent shall consult with and report to the Board as feasible, appropriate, and timely regarding the emergency closure and efforts to implement written guidance from health and government agencies as disseminated by CSDE and other state agencies pertaining to this pandemic situation.

Board of Education Meetings

In the interest of public health, the Board encourages the public to attend its open public meetings ~~[modify as feasible for your district]~~ via live streaming on television and/or the internet and to limit public comment to written comments. The Board reserves the right to adjust Board meeting dates, times, and locations during the District-wide emergency closure in a manner consistent with the Freedom of Information Act. Further, any or all Board members may attend Board meetings electronically.

This policy would be in effect for the 2020-21 school year and would expire and be removed from the Board's Policy Manual on June 30, 2021.

Instruction

Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness

Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies

Instruction

~~Pandemic/Epidemic Emergencies~~

~~Emergency Suspension of Policy During Pandemic (continued)~~ (cf. 1120 – Public Participation at Board Meetings)

(cf. 2210 – Administrative Leeway in Absence of Board Policy (cf. 3323 – Soliciting Prices)

(cf. 3542 – Food Service)

(cf. 3542.31 – Free or Reduced Price Lunches) (cf. 5110 – Attendance)

(cf. 5113 – Attendance and Excuses) (cf. 5118.1 – Homeless Students)

(cf. 5141.22 – Communicable/Infectious Diseases) (cf. 5141.6 – Crisis Management Plan)

(cf. 6111 – School Calendar)

(cf. 6114 – Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness) (cf. 6114.6 – Emergency Closings)

(cf. 6114.8 – Pandemic/Epidemic Emergency (cf. 6146 – Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6159/6171 – Special Education) (cf. 6172.6 – Virtual/Online Courses)

(cf. 9321 – Time, Place, Notification of Meetings) (cf. 9325 – Meeting Conduct)

(cf. 9325.43 – Attendance at Meetings via Electronic Communications)

Cross-reference AFC bylaw/policy

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-154a Professional communications between teacher or nurse and student.

10-207 Duties of medical advisors. 10-209 Records not to be public.

10-210 Notice of disease to be given parent or guardian. 10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules.

19a-221 Quarantine of certain persons.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, (FERPA), 20

U.S.C. 1232g, 45 C.F.R. 99.

~~Policy adopted:~~

~~eps 3/28~~

~~Sample policies are distributed for demonstration purposes only. Unless so noted, contents do not necessarily reflect official policies of the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Inc.~~

Students

Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault

The Amity Regional School District No. 5 (ARSD) Board of Education (Board) recognizes its legal and ethical obligations in the reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect. Any person applying for employment with the Board shall submit to a record check of the Department of Children and Families Child Abuse and Neglect Registry before the person may be hired. Mandated reporters include all school employees, specifically Superintendent, administrators, teachers, substitute teachers, guidance counselors, school counselors, paraprofessionals, coaches of intramural and interscholastic athletics, as well as licensed nurses, physicians, psychologists and social workers and licensed behavior analysts either employed by the Board or working in one of the District schools, or any other person who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in District schools. Such individual(s) who have reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused, neglected, placed in imminent risk of serious harm, or sexually assaulted by a school employee is required to report such abuse and/or neglect or risk and/or sexual assault.

A mandated reporter's suspicions may be based on factors including, but are not limited to, observations, allegations, facts by a child, victim or third party. Suspicion or belief does not require certainty or probable cause.

Furthermore, the Board of Education requires all personnel who have reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child, under the age of eighteen (18), except in the case of sexual assault by a school employee, has been abused, neglected, has had non-accidental physical injury, or injury which is at variance with the history given of such injury, is placed in imminent danger of serious harm or has been sexually abused by a school employee to report such cases in accordance with the law, Board policy and administrative regulations. The mandatory reporting requirement regarding the sexual assault of a student by a school employee applies based on the person's status as a student, rather than his or her age.

A mandated reporter shall make an oral report, by telephone or in person, to the Commissioner of Children and Families or a law enforcement agency as soon as possible, but not later than twelve (12) hours after the mandated reporter has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused, neglected or placed in imminent risk of serious harm. In addition, the mandated reporter shall inform the building principal or his/her designee that he/she will be making such a report. Not later than forty-eight hours of making the oral report, the mandated reporter shall file a written or electronic report with the Commissioner of Children and Families or his/her designee. (The Department of Children and Families has established a 24-hour Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline, "Careline" at 1-800-842-2288 for the purpose of making such oral reports.)

A mandated reporter may make the required oral report electronically in the manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Children and Families. An employee making an electronic report shall respond to further inquiries from the Commissioner of Children and Families or designee made within twenty-four hours. Such employee shall inform the Superintendent or his/her designee as soon as possible as to the nature of the further communication with the Commissioner or designee.

Online reports may be made to the Careline by mandated reporters if the report is of a non-emergent nature. A non-emergent situation is one in which a report is mandated but the child

is not in immediate risk. Mandated reporters reporting electronically when they reasonably suspect that a child has been abused, neglected or placed at risk of imminent harm in a “non-emergent” situation, can do so without risk that they will be subject to a failure to report finding and subsequent penalties.

The oral and written reports shall include, if known: (1) the names and addresses of the child and his/her parents/guardians or other persons responsible for his/her care; (2) the child’s age; (3) the child’s gender; (4) the nature and extent of the child’s injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect; (5) the approximate date and time the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect occurred; (6) information concerning any previous injury or injuries to, or maltreatment or neglect of, the child or his/her siblings; (7) the circumstances in which the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect came to be known to the reporter; (8) the name of the person(s) suspected to be responsible for causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect; (9) the reasons such person or persons are suspected of causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect; (10) any information concerning any prior cases in which such person or persons have been suspected of causing an injury, maltreatment or neglect of a child; and (11) whatever action, if any, was taken to treat, provide shelter or otherwise assist the child.

(For purposes of this section pertaining to the required reporting, a child includes any victim under eighteen years of age educated in a technical high school or District school. Any person who intentionally and unreasonably interferes with or prevents the making of the required report or attempts to conspire to do so shall be guilty of a class D felony, unless such individual is under eighteen years of age or educated in the technical high school system or in a District school, other than part of an adult education program.)

If the report of abuse, neglect or sexual assault involves an employee of the District as the perpetrator, the District may conduct its own investigation into the allegation, provided that such investigation shall not interfere with or impede any investigation conducted by the Department of Children and Families or by a law enforcement agency.

The Board recognizes that the Department of Children and Families is required to disclose records to the Superintendent of Schools in response to a mandated reporter’s written or oral report of abuse or neglect or if the Commissioner of Children and Families has reasonable belief that a school employee abused or neglected a student. Not later than five (5) working days after an investigation of child abuse or neglect by a school employee has been completed, DCF is required to notify the school employee and the Superintendent and the Commissioner of Education of the investigation’s results. If DCF has reasonable cause, and recommends the employee be placed on DCF’s Child Abuse and Neglect Registry, the Superintendent shall suspend such employee.

The Board, recognizing its responsibilities to protect children and in compliance with its statutory obligations, shall provide to each employee in-service training regarding the requirements and obligations of mandated reporters. District employees shall also participate in training offered by the Department of Children and Families. Each school employee is required to complete a refresher training program, not later than three years after completion of the initial training program and shall thereafter retake such refresher training course at least once every three years.

The **Director of Curriculum & Staff Development** shall annually certify to the Superintendent that each school employee working at such school has completed the required initial training and the refresher training.

State law prohibits retaliation against a mandated reporter for fulfilling his/her obligations to report suspected child abuse or neglect. The Board shall not retaliate against any mandated reporter for his/her compliance with the law and Board policy pertaining to the reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect.

~~(This paragraph is optional) It is mandated that policy and procedure development include three major components: Education, Intervention and Evaluation. The Education component requires that school personnel be provided with ongoing education (staff development) related to the recognition and reporting of suspected child abuse, neglect and sexual assault. Intervention requires that “at risk” students be identified and that suspected child abuse, neglect and sexual assault be reported. Evaluation is essential in order to determine whether policy and procedures are effective and appropriately updated to incorporate changes in knowledge, personnel, student and family needs, community resources and law. Such evaluation should take place annually, or more frequently as needed.~~

In accordance with the mandates of the law and consistent with its philosophy, the Board in establishing this policy directs the Superintendent of Schools to develop and formalize the necessary rules and regulations to comply fully with the intent of the law.

This policy will be distributed annually to all employees. Documentation shall be maintained that all employees have, in fact, received the written policy and completed the required initial and refresher training related to mandated reporting of child abuse and neglect as required by law.

The Board of Education will post the telephone number of the Department of Children and Families’ child abuse hotline, Careline, and the Internet web address that provides information about the Careline in each District school in a conspicuous location frequented by students. Such posting shall be in various languages most appropriate for the students enrolled in the school.

Establishment of the Confidential Rapid Response Team

The Board of Education shall establish a confidential rapid response team to coordinate with DCF to (1) ensure prompt reporting of suspected child abuse or neglect; or 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th degree sexual assault; 1st degree aggravated sexual assault; or 3rd degree sexual assault with a firearm of a student not enrolled in adult education by a school employee and (2) provide immediate access to information and individuals relevant to DCF’s investigation of such cases.

The confidential rapid response team shall consist of (1) a local teacher and the Superintendent, (2) a local police officer, and (3) any other person the Board of Education deems appropriate.

DCF, along with a multidisciplinary team, is required to take immediate action to investigate and address each report of child abuse, neglect or sexual abuse in any school.

Hiring Prohibitions

The Board of Education will not employ anyone who was terminated or resigned after a suspension based on DCF’s investigation, if he or she has been convicted of (1) child abuse or neglect or (2) 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th degree sexual assault; 1st degree aggravated sexual assault; or 3rd degree sexual assault with a firearm of a student who is not enrolled in adult education.

The Boards of Education will not employ an individual who was terminated or resigned, if he or she (1) failed to report the suspicion of such crimes when required to do so or (2) intentionally and unreasonably interfered with or prevented a mandated reporter from carrying out this obligation or conspired or attempted to do so. This applies regardless of whether an allegation of abuse, neglect, or sexual assault has been substantiated.

(cf. [4112.6/4212.6](#) – Personnel Records)

(cf. 5141.511 – Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-220a](#) Inservice training. Professional development committees. Institutes for educators. Cooperating teacher program, regulations (as amended by PA [11-93](#))

[10-221d](#) Criminal history records check of school personnel. Fingerprinting. Termination or dismissal (as amended by PA [11-93](#))

[10-221s](#) Investigations of child abuse and neglect. Disciplinary action. (as amended by PA 16-188)

[17a-28](#) Definitions. Confidentiality of and access to records; exceptions. Procedure for aggrieved persons. Regulations (as amended by PA [11-93](#))

[17a-101](#) Protection of children from abuse. Mandated reporters. Educational and training program. Model mandated reporting policy. (as amended by PA 96-246, PA 00-220, PA 02-106, PA 03-168, PA 09-242, PA [11-93](#) and PA 15-205, PA 18-15 and PA 18-17)

[17a-101a](#) Report of abuse, neglect by or injury of child or imminent risk of serious harm to the child. Penalty for failure to report. Notification of Chief State's Attorney. (as amended by PA 02-106, PA [11-93](#), and PA 15-205, PA 18-15 and PA 18-17)
[17a-102](#) Report of danger of abuse. (as amended by PA 02-106)

[17a-101b](#) Report by mandated reporters. Notification of law enforcement agency when allegation of sexual abuse or serious physical abuse. Notification of person in charge of institution, facility or school when a staff member suspected of abuse or neglect.

[17a-101c](#) Written or electronic report by mandated reporter.

[17a-101d](#) Contents of reports.

[17a-101e](#) Employer prohibited from discriminating or retaliating against employee who makes a good faith report or testifies re child abuse or neglect. Immunity from civil or criminal liability. False report of child abuse. Referral to Office of the Chief State's Attorney. Penalty.

[17a-101g](#) Classification and evaluation of reports. Determination of abuse or neglect of child. Investigation. Notice, entry of recommended finding. Referral to local law enforcement authority. Home visit. Removal of child in imminent risk of harm. Family assessment response program. Development of service plans and plans of care. Monitoring. Disclosure of information to community providers. Annual report.

[17a-101i](#) Abuse or neglect by school employees or staff member of public or private institution or facility providing care for children. Notice. Adoption of

policy. Employee training program.

[17a](#)-101o School employee failure or delay in reporting child abuse or neglect. Policy re delayed report by mandated reporters.

[17a](#)-106 Cooperation in relation to prevention, identification and treatment of child abuse/neglect.

[10](#)-151 Teacher Tenure Act

DCF Policy [22](#)-1-3 Mandated Reporter's Failure to Report

Policy revised:

Students

Assigning Students to a Grade Level

Each Principal or his/her designee will have the responsibility and the authority for assignment of each student to his or her grade level, class(es), and teacher(s) with the best interests of the student in mind. Principals will not take requests to place children with particular teachers or teams. Principals will make the final determination in placing all students.

Students transferring from a school accredited by a State Department of Education will enroll at the grade level and with the course credits indicated by the records of the previous school. Students transferring from a school that is non-accredited will be accepted for enrollment at the level school records indicate, but the level of mastery and the quality of their previous class work must be validated against the Amity Regional School District No. 5 (ARSD) performance standards and benchmarks.

Grades 7-8

Previous work will be validated for 7-8 students by successfully completing the grade in which they enroll. If upon enrollment, it appears that the student is not able to handle the assigned level after 20 school days, the school counselor, building principal, teachers, and parents involved will meet to determine the appropriateness of the placement of the student.

Grades 9-12

Transfer from an Accredited School

A student transferring from an accredited school must earn a minimum of 25 credits by the end of the senior year to receive a diploma from Amity Regional High School. The credits must also meet the specific requirements set for in Board of Education Policy 6146. Students must complete all graduation requirements in order to participate in the commencement exercises.

Transfer from a Non-accredited School (Including Home-Schooling)

Previous high school work will be validated for a 9-12 student by successfully completing a placement assessment for every unit/course completed in a non-accredited high school or home-schooling (i.e. successful completion of the placement assessment of mathematics would validate the mathematics credit being transferred). If the placement assessment does not validate the credit, similar or equivalent work will be evaluated at the discretion of the Principal or his/her designee. Students transferring from non-accredited schools or home-schooling may transfer a maximum of five (5) equivalent units per school year. Ordinarily, students from non-accredited high schools or from home-schooling will not be eligible to graduate from Amity Regional High School with less than one year of full-time attendance.

(cf. 5122.3 - Assignment of Former Home-Schooled Students to Classes)

(cf. [5123](#) - Promotion/Retention)

(cf. [6146](#) - Graduation Requirements)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-221\(b\)](#) Boards of education to prescribe rules

Business and Non-Instructional Operations

Safety

Safe and Secure School Facilities, Equipment, and Grounds

Goal: It is the goal of the Amity Regional School District No. 5 (ARSD) Board of Education (Board) to ensure that all facilities, grounds, equipment, and vehicles meet accepted injury and violence prevention standards for design, installation, use, and maintenance.

Safety and Hazard Assessments: The District shall develop and implement a written school security and safety plan to conduct regular safety and hazard assessments of all classrooms, buildings, school grounds, gymnasiums, playgrounds, sports-related equipment, and buses and other vehicles used to transport students.

The school security and safety plan shall be an all-hazards approach to emergencies at schools and shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Involvement of local officials, including the First Selectman/Mayor/Town Manager, Superintendent of Schools, law enforcement, fire, public health, emergency management and emergency medical services, in the plan's development.
2. A command center organization structure based on the federal National Incident Management System and a description of the responsibilities of such command center organization.
3. A requirement that a school security and safety committee be established of each school, in accordance with the provisions of C.G.S. 10-22m.
4. Crisis management procedures.
5. A requirement that local law enforcement and other local public safety officials evaluate, score and provide feedback on fire drills and crisis response drills.
6. A requirement that the Board of Education submit annually reports to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection regarding fire drills and crisis response drills, conducted pursuant to C.G.S. 10-231.
7. Procedures for managing various types of emergencies.
8. A requirement that the Board of Education conduct a security and vulnerability assessment for each school and develop a school security and safety plan for each school based upon the school security and safety plan standards developed by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection. (DESPP)
9. A requirement that the Safe School Climate Committee of each school, established pursuant to C.G.S. 10-222k, collect and evaluate information relating to instances of disturbing or threatening behavior that may not meet the statutory definition of bullying and report such information, as necessary, to the district's Safe School Climate Coordinator and the school's security and safety committee.
10. A requirement that each school provide an orientation pertaining to the security and safety plan to each employee and provide violence prevention training as prescribed in the school security and safety plan. (The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection is required to make such standards available to the Board of Education. The Department of Education is required to distribute such standards to all public schools.)

The Board will annually submit each school's security and safety plan to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, with the required documentation, in the manner requested.

The plan shall include provisions for reporting hazards to appropriate staff, prompt repairs or upgrade of identified hazards and other shortcomings, and appropriate communication of repair/upgrade plans to staff, students and family members.

Safety and hazard assessments shall be conducted for building facilities and grounds including for classrooms, gymnasiums, sports-related equipment, laboratories, and industrial arts facilities. The District shall report annually on safety and hazard assessments to the Superintendent of Schools or his or her designee. Written inspection reports shall be kept on file for 10 years. The District shall correct identified hazards before used by students, staff, or community members.

Maintenance: The District shall develop maintenance plans for all classrooms, buildings, school grounds, gymnasiums, playgrounds, sports-related equipment, and buses and other vehicles used to transport students. The plan shall include provisions for reporting maintenance needs to appropriate staff, schedules of maintenance activities, and communication of details to appropriate staff, students, and family members. Maintenance reports shall be kept on file for 10 years.

Supervision of Students: All school-related activities shall be supervised by adults to enforce safety rules and prevent injuries. At least one adult trained in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and infection control shall be available when students are present on school grounds to respond to injuries and medical emergencies. All adults supervising, athletic fields, gymnasiums, science classrooms, industrial arts classrooms and cafeterias shall have easy access to appropriate first aid supplies. Supervising adults shall be informed of any relevant medical guidance on file with the school concerning limits on the participation of individual students in physical activity. Such information will be treated with strict confidentiality.

Staff Training: The District will provide regular training and information to all school employees pertaining to the District's school emergency management systems and protocols, including violence prevention training and emergency response procedures.

School Security and Safety Committee: The District school shall have a school security and safety committee under the jurisdiction of the Board. Such committee is responsible for assisting in the development of the school security and safety plan for the school and administering the plan.

Membership must consist of a local police officer, a local first responder, a teacher at the school, a school administrator, a mental health professional (school counselor, social worker, school psychologist, or school nurse), a parent/guardian of an enrolled student, and any other person the Board finds necessary.

Parents/guardians on the committee shall not have access to information about disturbing or threatening student behavior reported to the committee, as such access may compromise student confidentiality.

Health & Safety Committee: The District shall provide a workplace and an environment as free as possible from recognized hazards which could cause injury or death to our employees and/or students. The Health & Safety Committee is responsible for monitoring safety performance, safety inspections, and administering the safety program for the Amity Regional School District No. 5.

Membership

1. The Safety Committee will be composed of representatives from each of the district's employee groups.
2. Whenever deemed necessary, interested employees will be invited to attend a specific meeting.
3. If a hazard is to be corrected through engineering methods, then the Town Engineer or Building Inspector or similarly skilled person should be invited to the meeting to give his/her professional advice.

Responsibility

1. The Health & Safety Committee will be responsible for administering a health safety program. The committee will meet on a regular schedule with additional meetings when needed.
2. The committee will meet to:
 - a. review accident and injury reports and to assure there have been measures taken to correct the conditions that may have caused the accidents;
 - b. review any and all safety inspections and submit to departments for necessary corrections; and
 - c. review all maintenance work, orders pertaining to safety and set priorities on these orders.

Policy Evaluation: The Health & Safety Committee shall regularly monitor, evaluate, and submit an annual report to the Superintendent on the implementation of this policy and its effectiveness in reducing injuries at school. The report shall include recommendations for improvements to the policy and its implementation.

Use of School Security Consultants

When determined necessary, the District will utilize qualified school security consultants operating in Connecticut. Such consultants used will be listed on the registry maintained by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and published on its website.

- (cf. [3517](#) – Security of Buildings and Grounds)
- (cf. [4131](#)/4231 – Staff Development)
- (cf. 4148.1/4248.1 – School Security and Safety Committee)
- (cf. [5142](#) – Student Safety)
- (cf. [6114](#) – Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness)
- (cf. [6114.7](#) – Safe Schools)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-203](#) Sanitation

[10-207](#) Duties of medical advisers

[10-220f](#) Safety Committee

[10-222k](#) District safe school climate coordinator. Safe school climate specialist. Safe school climate committee

[10-222m](#) School security and safety plans. School security and safety committees

[10-22n](#) School security and safety plan standards

[10-231](#) Fire Drills

[29-389](#) Stairways and fire escapes on certain buildings.

[52-557b](#) Immunity from liability for emergency medical assistance, first aid or medication by injection. School personnel not required to administer or render

P.A. 13-3 An Act Concerning Gun Violence Prevention and Children's Safety

Policy adopted:

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Security of Buildings and Grounds

Buildings constitute one of the greatest investments of the school district and the community. It is in the best interest of students and taxpayers to protect that investment adequately.

Security means more than having locks and being sure that they are locked at the proper times. Security also means:

1. Minimizing fire hazards;
2. Reducing the probability of faulty equipment;
3. Guarding against the chance of electrical shock;
4. Keeping records and funds in a safe place; and
5. Protecting against vandalism and burglary.

The Superintendent of Schools is directed to establish such rules and regulations as may be needed to provide for security in the sense outlined above.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

29-389 Stairways and fire escapes on certain buildings.

Policy adopted: November 14, 2005 AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Woodbridge, Connecticut

Business and Non-Instructional Operations

Security of Buildings and Grounds

Buildings constitute one of the greatest investments of the school district and the community. It is in the best interest of students and taxpayers to protect that investment adequately.

1. Developing at each school, in compliance with the requirements of C.G.S. 10-22m, a school security and safety plan, in partnership with other community groups, including, but not limited to, law enforcement, fire safety officials, emergency medical services, as well as health and mental health professionals. Such plan shall be based upon the school security and safety plan standards developed by the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) pursuant to C.G.S. 10-222n.
2. Training and practice necessary and essential for implementation of the crisis response plan. Law enforcement and other local public safety officials shall evaluate, score and provide feedback on fire drills and crisis response drills pursuant to C.G.S. 10-231.
3. Controlling access to school grounds and facilities.
4. Conducting a security and vulnerability assessment for each District school every two years and developing a school security and safety plan for each District school based upon the security and safety plan standards developed by DESPP.
5. Submitting annual reports to DESPP regarding fire drills and crisis response drills.
6. Establishing a School Security and Safety Committee at each school, responsible for assisting in the development of the school's security and safety plan and its implementation. (membership as required by C.G.S. 10-22k)
7. Developing procedures for managing various types of emergencies.
8. Minimizing fire hazards.
9. Reducing the probability of faulty equipment.
10. Guarding against the chance of electrical shock.
11. Keeping records and funds in a safe place.
12. Protecting against vandalism and burglary.

The Superintendent of Schools is directed to establish such rules and regulations as may be needed to provide for security as outlined above.

(cf. [3516](#) – Safe and Secure School Facilities; Equipment and Grounds)

(cf. 4148.1/4248.1 – School Security and Safety Committee)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[29-389](#) Stairways and fire escapes on certain buildings.

P.A. 13-3 An Act Concerning Gun Violence Protection and Children's Safety

[10-220f](#) Safety Committees

[10-222k](#) District safe school climate coordinator. Safe school climate specialist. Safe school climate committee.

[10-222m](#) School security and safety plans. School security and safety

committees.

[10-222n](#) School security and safety plan standards

[10-231](#) Fire drills

Policy updated:

Business/Non-Instructional Operations Hazardous Material in Schools

Green Cleaning Program

Cleaning chemicals can negatively impact indoor air quality and cause harm to the occupants of a school building. Therefore, the purpose of this policy is to encourage and promote the principles of green cleaning throughout the Amity Regional School District No. 5 (ARSD), in compliance with applicable statutes. The ARSD Board of Education encourages and supports efforts to implement green cleaning in all District schools.

It is the policy of the ARSD to retain the beneficial functions of cleaning products while preventing negative impacts to human health and the environment from these products.

The ARSD Board of Education will reduce exposure of school building occupants to potentially hazardous chemical cleaning products by adopting this Green Cleaning policy, which requires the use of cleaning products in the schools that meet the guidelines or standards set by a national or international certification program approved by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) in consultation with the Commissioner of Environmental Protection in order to minimize the potential harmful effects on human health and the environment.

Definitions

“Green Cleaning Program” means the procurement and proper use of environmentally preferable cleaning products in school buildings and facilities.

“Environmentally Preferable Cleaning Products” means products or services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services that serve the same purpose. Such products must be approved by a Department of Administrative Services (DAS)-approved national or international certification program. This term includes, but is not limited to, general purpose cleaners, bathroom cleaners, glass and carpet cleaners, hand cleaners and soaps, and floor finishes and strippers. Excluded are any disinfectant, disinfecting cleaner, sanitizer or any other antimicrobial products regulated by the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act. Also excluded are products for which no guidelines or environmental standard has been established by any national or international certification program approved by the Department of Administrative Services or which is outside the scope of or is otherwise excluded under guidelines or environmental standards established by such a national or international certification program.

Business/Non-Instructional Operations Hazardous Material in Schools

Notice Requirements

Annually the ARSD will give to members of the school staff and to parents/guardians who request it, a written copy of this policy. In addition, this written statement shall also include:

- a. the names and types of environmentally preferable cleaning products used in the schools and where in the buildings they are applied;
- b. the schedule for applying the products; and
- c. the name of the school administrator or designee whom the parent/guardian or student may contact for more information.

The notice shall also contain the following statement: ***“No parent, guardian, teacher, or staff member may bring into the school facility any consumer product which is intended to clean, deodorize, sanitize or disinfect.”***

In addition, parents/guardians of any child who transfers during the school year, or a new staff member hired during the school year shall be notified of this green cleaning policy.

The ARSD Board of Education will also make available on its website a copy of this green cleaning policy.

The Board will report to the Commissioner of Education on its green cleaning program, in a manner and frequency prescribed by the Commissioner.

~~(cf. 3524—Hazardous Materials in Schools)~~
~~(cf. 3524.1—Pesticide Application)~~
~~(cf. 7230.2—Indoor Air Quality)~~

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-220 Duties of boards of education (as amended by P.A. 09-81 and P.A. 11-136)

10-231a through 10-231d. Pesticide applications at schools

10-231g Green Cleaning Program at schools: Definitions, Implementation, Notice.

Policy approved: January 13, 2020

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Woodbridge, Connecticut

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Hazardous Material in Schools

22a-46. Short title: Connecticut Pesticide Control Act.

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) 7 U.S. Code
136 et seq.

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Employee Bonds

3533

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Employee Bonds

In accordance with State law, the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer of the Board of Education shall give bond in the amount determined by the members of the Board. The cost of the bond shall be borne by the school system.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-46 Regional board of education (subsection d)

Policy adopted: November 14, 2005 AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Woodbridge, Connecticut

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Employee Bonds

Policy adopted: ~~November 14, 2005~~ ~~AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5~~
~~Woodbridge, Connecticut~~

Policy adopted: November 14, 2005 AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Woodbridge, Connecticut

Existing policy, number 3541 adopted 2/1/15, modified

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

Transportation

General

The Board of Education shall provide for the public schools an appropriate transportation system, within guidelines set forth in this policy, which will enable all qualified children of school age to be transported to schools as required. School bus transportation is for the benefit of students only. The Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for the school transportation system and shall develop and administer it to:

1. Provide maximum safety of students.
2. Supplement and reinforce desirable student behavior patterns.
3. Assist handicapped students appropriately.
4. Enrich the instructional program through carefully planned field trips recommended by staff.

The transportation system shall be planned and operated in compliance with the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut and all regulations of the State Department of Education and the State Department of Motor vehicles regarding the operation of school buses and motor vehicles.

Transportation by private carrier or through district owned buses shall be provided at the discretion of the Board of Education. Parents may be reimbursed for transportation of eligible students whenever such practice is more economical or convenient.

Federal Compliance

Transportation will be provided for homeless students to and from the school of origin as required by the ~~No Child Left Behind~~ Every Student Succeeds Act. These services shall be provided throughout the regularly scheduled school year and day as determined by the Board.

Transportation will be provided for an eligible student who attends a district school out of the student's attendance area because his/her home school has been identified as in need of improvement, or the student is a victim of a violent criminal offense occurring in or on the grounds of the school the student attends, or the student attends a school identified as persistently dangerous.

~~Transportation may be provided to eligible students who transfer from a district school to an out-of-district school under a cooperative agreement because their home school has been identified as in need of improvement under the No Child Left Behind Act.~~

Duties of the Superintendent

It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools or designee to manage and supervise the school transportation service and, in connection therewith, to do the following:

1. Determine eligibility for school transportation in accordance with these guidelines and Section 10-186 of the General Statutes and in compliance with applicable portions of the No Child Left Behind Every Student Succeeds Act pertaining to homeless students and school choice.
2. Establish school transportation routes and designate locations for pick-up points (bus stops). The Superintendent shall direct the establishment of bus routes to provide the safest, shortest routes as economically as possible. Routes shall equalize, as nearly as possible, the length of routes and bus loads as close to bus capacity as possible and shall provide student transportation to and from schools within prescribed time limits. Generally, bus routes shall begin no earlier than 60 minutes before school opens, and students shall not be in transit from school more than 60 minutes.
3. Develop, circulate and enforce codes of behavior for those children who are transported to and from school via school transportation.
4. Develop procedures for responding to requests pertaining to matters of school transportation or other school accommodations.
5. Give due consideration to requests for extension of school transportation service.
6. Perform all other duties and responsibilities related to the furnishing of school accommodations by school transportation or otherwise in a manner consistent with Section 10-186 of the Connecticut General Statutes or these guidelines.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-76d Duties and powers of boards of education to provide special education programs and services. State agency placements; apportionment of costs. Relationship of insurance to special education costs.

10-97 Transportation to vocational schools.

10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance. Hearings. Appeals to state board. Establishment of hearing board. 10-187 Appeal from finding of hearing board.

10-220 Duties of boards of education.

10-221 Development of policy for reporting complaints regarding school transportation safety. Reporting of accidents at school bus stops.

10-220c Transportation of children over private roads. Immunity from liability.

10-273a et seq. Reimbursement for transportation to and from elementary and secondary schools.

10-280a Transportation for students in non-profit private schools outside school district.

10-281 Transportation for students in non-profit private schools within school district.

Chapter 248 Vehicle Highway Use

~~20 U.S.C. NCLB Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, Title I, Section 1116~~

McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act of 2001, Pl. 107-110, 42 U.S.C., Sections 11431-11435

S.1177 Every Student Succeeds Act

Policy Adopted:

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Woodbridge, CT

Existing policy, number 3541 adopted 2/1/15, modified

Business/Non-Instructional Operations

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2. Supplement and reinforce desirable student behavior patterns.
3. Assist handicapped students appropriately.
4. Enrich the instructional program through carefully planned field trips recommended by staff.

The transportation system shall be planned and operated in compliance with the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut and all regulations of the State Department of Education and the State Department of Motor vehicles regarding the operation of school buses and motor vehicles.

Transportation by private carrier or through district owned buses shall be provided at the discretion of the Board of Education. Parents may be reimbursed for transportation of eligible students whenever such practice is more economical or convenient.

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4. Develop procedures for responding to requests pertaining to matters of school transportation or other school accommodations.
5. Give due consideration to requests for extension of school transportation service.
6. Perform all other duties and responsibilities related to the furnishing of school accommodations by school transportation or otherwise in a manner consistent with Section 10-186 of the Connecticut General Statutes or these guidelines.

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S.1177 Every Student Succeeds Act

Policy Adopted:

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Woodbridge, CT