

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

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

Dr. John J. Brady
Superintendent of Schools

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AMITY REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

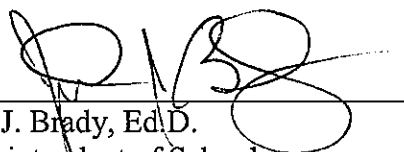
April 9, 2012

A regular meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education will be held on Monday, April 9, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., in the Presentation Room at the District Offices.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Regular BOE Meeting, February 13, 2012 (Enclosure)
 - b. Regular BOE Meeting, March 12, 2012 (Enclosure)
 - c. District Meeting, Public Hearing, 4/2/12 (Enclosure)
 - d. Public District Budget Hearing, 4/2/12 (Enclosure)
 - e. Special BOE Meeting, 4/2/12 (Enclosure)
4. Discussion and Possible Action to Refer Possible Revision in Policy on Drug Sniffing Dogs in the Schools to the Policy Committee
5. Discussion and Action on Setting Graduation Date – June 22, 2012
6. Discussion and Possible Action to Authorize the Superintendent to Commit Amity to Pursue Cablecasting on Educational Channel 78 for the Town of Orange (Enclosures)
7. Student Report
8. Public Comment
9. Announcements from the Board and Administration
10. Discussion and Possible Action on Waiver of Policy Regarding Naming of Auditorium
11. Discussion and Possible Action on Naming of Auditorium
12. Correspondence
 - a. Letter from Dr. John J. Brady (Enclosure)
13. Superintendent's Report
 - a. Personnel Report (Enclosure)

14. Chairman's Report
 - a. Committee Reports
 1. ACES
 2. CAFE
 3. Curriculum
 4. Facilities
 5. Finance
 - a. Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Fund Balance Policy (First Read)
 - b. Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements
 - c. Director of Finance and Administration Approved Transfers Under \$3,000
 - d. Discussion and Possible Action on Budget Transfers
 - e. Discussion and Possible Action on New Funding Requests
 6. Policy
 7. Personnel
15. Items for the Next Agenda
16. Adjournment



John J. Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

JJB/kfw

pc: Town Clerks: Bethany
Orange
Woodbridge

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

MINUTES

AMITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Julie Altman, William Blake, Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

AMITY BOARD MEMBER ABSENT: None

Staff Members Present: John Brady, Charles Britton, Kathleen Fuller Cutler, Richard Dellinger, Deb DeMeo, Kevin Keller, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Terry Lumas, Rocco Palmieri, Jim Saisa

Also Present: Thomas Falcigno, James Leahy; other members of the Public

A regular meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education was held on Monday, February 13, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of Amity High School.

1. **Call to Order:** William Blake called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

a. Regular Board of Education Meeting, January 9, 2012

Motion to approve the minutes as presented (Mr. Hurley, 2d Mr. Horwitz).

Discussion: Mr. Horwitz offered a correction.

Vote in favor of approving the minutes as amended: Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

Vote opposed: none

Abstain: Julie Altman

Motion passed.

b. Special Board of Education Meeting, January 25, 2012

Motion to approve the minutes as presented (Ms. Cardozo, 2d Mr. Stirling).

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

Vote opposed: none

Abstain: Diane Crocco, John A. Grasso, Jr.

Motion passed.

4. Recognition of Student, Zizi Yu, INTEL Science Competition Semifinalist

Dr. Brady announced that Amity High School student Zizi Yu was named as a finalist in the INTEL Science Competition. It is the second year that an Amity student managed to make it as a finalist in the prestigious competition. There are 40 finalists. A certificate was given to Zizi for her achievement.

Zizi thanked everyone for their support. The project was about food allergies. She decided to study food allergies because she was curious about the factors that lead to these allergies. She looked into whether or not early exposure to an allergen was beneficial. She believes that early exposure will be found to be beneficial.

Mr. Blake wished Zizi luck on behalf of the board.

Dr. Dellinger introduced two principals visiting from China. They visited both middle schools. There are 18 principals from China visiting Connecticut.

5. Superintendent Search – Leadership Profile

Dr. Jacobi, who is assisting with the search for the new superintendent, gave an update. She thanked all of those people who participated in focus groups and responded to on-line surveys. There is already an extremely strong foundation at Amity. One hundred people took part in 12 different focus groups. Copies of the survey can still be obtained both on-line and there are also paper copies available. She enjoyed meeting everyone, especially the students, who she found to be very articulate and thoughtful. The students proposed solutions to problems.

According to data gathered thus far, the strengths in the District include: faculty, motivated students, accommodating support staff, diversity of curriculum, opportunities for internships and independent study and an array of afterschool activities. Challenges facing Amity include: budget/finances and differing standards in the three towns. Qualities used to describe the leadership that they would like to see continue at Amity include: progressive, focus on youngsters, personal accessibility and participatory management style, and someone who is thoughtful, resilient and creative.

Dr. Jacobi said that although it is early in the process, she has had a number of people contact her about the position. A written report will be available on-line.

Mr. Blake said that it is good to know that the process is underway and the search is moving forward.

6. Discussion and Possible Action to Switch from Fully Insured to Self-Funded Medical, Dental and Vision Benefits

Charlie Rose of Marsh & McLennan gave an overview of the plan. Amity is paying approximately \$5 million in premiums. The District submitted claims over the last several years amounting to approximately \$3.5 million. There is a

large differential between what was paid in claims compared with the cost of insurance. Amity can save \$1.1 million this year. A portion of the savings will be used to set up reserves to protect against what claims could be in the future. There is insurance that stops the claim at \$150,000.

Dr. Brady said that there have been numerous meetings and, looking at the numbers, his original budget proposal can be reduced by \$520,000.

Mr. Rose said that they have taken the most conservative position. There will be no benefit plan changes.

Deb DeMeo, representing the teachers, is present at tonight's meeting.

Ms. Russo questioned what happens if \$1.1 million isn't saved. She noted that in Mr. Rose's model there is a range, including the least amount of money saved. If we try this and it doesn't work, can Amity go back, or is there a penalty.

Mr. Rose said the reserve would be built up as needed. There is no penalty.

Motion to move from fully insured to self-funded medical, dental and vision benefits (Mr. Stirling, 2d Mr. Grasso).

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., James Horwitz, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

Vote opposed: none.

Abstain: Mr. Hurley

Motion passed.

7. Discussion and Possible Action on 2012-2013 School Calendar

Motion to move consideration of the 2012-2013 school calendar on agenda (Mr. Hurley, 2d Ms. Gedansky).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

Dr. Brady said that Board has a copy of the draft calendar. The consensus is to have school on Election Day, Veterans' Day and another holiday. There will be four snow days. The veterans seem supportive and the schools will enhance the recognition for Veterans' Day.

Motion to approve the school calendar (Ms. Cohen, Ms. Gedansky).

Discussion: Mr. Hurley said that students usually help out on Election Day and it would be nice to have some assurance that there would be no penalty for their participation. Mr. Blake said that the polls are open for a number of hours, so students should still be able to participate before or after school.

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

8. Student Report

Thomas Falcigno said students at the High School are getting ready for the CAPT test. The Mr. Spartan contest will take place this Thursday. The Amity Math Team recently earned an award and will be invited to participate in a state competition. The Amity High School Student Government recently collected clothes for battered women.

Motion to move Public Comment forward on the agenda (Mr. Hurley, 2d Mr. Grasso).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

9. Public Comment

David Guzowski of Orange said that he is concerned about drug activity at the High School and is trying to better understand how canine patrols are initiated. Mr. Blake said that the Superintendent makes that determination. Mr. Guzowski said that he is very happy with the Amity school system, and was pleased to hear that the dogs were brought through the school. There are some students that are going to do drugs no matter what we do and there are students who may never try drugs. Canines are a significant way to show students that they cannot bring drugs to this school. He believes it might make sense to bring in canines during a lockdown so as not to disrupt the flow of activities throughout the day. He and other parents are happy that the dogs were brought in. There are a few people that are not happy. Another concern is that many freshmen are waiting to go into the bathroom. There has to be a way to get a smoke detector into the bathroom that can't be tampered with.

James Leahy, vice chairman of the Orange Board of Finance, said that there are concerns about the Amity budget. Student enrollment is declining, but the share in Orange goes up even when the number of students stays the same. There will be an increase of \$200 per household for Amity. The Orange Board of Finance voted unanimously not to support this budget. In 2011 – 2012, the current fiscal year, Orange increased its total spending by \$647,000. Of that number, Orange funded Amity an increase of \$641,000. That means that 99.1% of the spending increase for fiscal year 2011 – 2012 in Orange went to Amity. It also means that only a \$6,000 increase went to fund the Orange elementary schools and town operations.

Matthew Giglietti of Woodbridge, a member of the Amity Finance Committee, said that he supports the proposed .92 percent budget increase. He described Amity as the crown jewel of the three towns. If Dr. Brady cut \$400,000 from this budget, Orange would still have a \$500,000 increase. He understands the dilemma in Orange. Expenses have gone up in the Woodbridge budget as well. To get to a 0% increase, \$1.4 million would have to be cut, which would dismantle the educational system. He described Dr. Brady as a phenomenal

superintendent. He trusts Dr. Brady and fully supports this budget and hopes that the Board will also.

10. Discussion and Possible Actions Regarding the Superintendent's Proposed 2012-2013 Budget

Mr. Blake asked Mr. Stirling what action the Amity Finance Committee took earlier tonight. Mr. Stirling said that the Committee approved the Superintendent's proposed .92 % increase by a vote of 4 to 2.

Mr. Blake went over the figures. The \$43,809,643 budget involves a .92 percent increase over the current budget.

Dr. Brady noted that this would be a preliminary vote.

Mr. Hurley said that he would like to consider bonding for the bleachers.

Mr. DeMaio said that he would like the Board to discuss a few topics. There has been a decrease in enrollment and the staffing may need to be reduced through layoffs or not hiring. A new superintendent will be hired. He would like to vote on the Capital Non-Recurring, possibly bonding for some needed work. He would like to delay voting on the budget for two weeks or perhaps until the March meeting.

Motion to delay voting on the budget until the March meeting (Mr. DeMaio, 2d Mr. Hurley).

Discussion:

Ms. Cardozo said that this is a preliminary vote. She questioned why it would be postponed.

Mr. Hurley said that there are issues that some board members would like to work through. If staff reductions are needed, he would like to have some clarification on what that would mean. He would like to have an idea of the impact. More information will be available in March. The administration doesn't have enough information yet and more information is needed. Some expenses should be bonded and taken off the plate.

Mr. Blake said that the administration has said that the time isn't right for staff reductions. The Board hasn't charged Dr. Brady with looking at that issue.

Mr. Hurley said that he would like to delay the vote. The budget is not ready as proposed. All the numbers must be examined. It's premature to say the budget is good as is. More time is needed to make a reasonable decision.

Ms. Russo said that she shares the concerns raised. An e-mail was received late Friday afternoon. She said that she isn't ready to vote.

Mr. Stirling said that he appreciates the concerns raised, but noted that this vote is preliminary and there should be a better sense of where the Board stands. The Amity budget looks pretty good.

Ms. Altman asked what effect a delay would have on the budget calendar.

Dr. Brady said that the vote has already been delayed by a month. He has not had direction from the Board.

Mr. Browe said that the process is moving and changing at all times and questioned the significance of a preliminary vote. Amity should be bonding for more than the roof.

Motion to lay on the table the motion by Mr. DeMaio's motion to delay voting (Mr. Stirling, 2d Ms. Cardozo).

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

Vote opposed: Christopher Browe, James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley

Motion passed.

Motion to add bleachers to the Capital Plan for the High School roof project (Mr. Hurley, no second)

Motion to open discussion for bonding for more than just the roof (Mr. DeMaio, no second).

Motion to include bleachers in the Capital plan (Mr. Hurley, no second).

Discussion: Ms. Cohen said the \$75,000 for the bleachers is not in next year's budget. Dr. Brady said that the bleachers do not affect the .92% increase.

Mr. Hurley withdrew his motion.

Ms. Russo said that she would like to make a motion to identify any issues in the budget that could qualify for bonding.

Dr. Brady said that a Facilities Committee meeting took place. To revisit this issue, it should be addressed by the Facilities Committee.

Mr. Hurley said that he would like Dr. Brady to conduct a study to determine the effect of getting rid of some staff. He would like to know the effects of any staff reductions.

Dr. Brady said that he presented his assessment on November 14th. He hopes to present a planning document for the future in March. There will be no additional staff reductions planned based on the information he has so far.

Motion to direct the Superintendent to conduct a study the results of reducing staff by one, two, three or four faculty positions (Mr. Hurley, 2d Mr. DeMaio)
Discussion:

Mr. Blake said that a case hasn't been made for reducing staff. The issue could be addressed by the Curriculum Committee for feedback.

Mr. Hurley said that the vote should be moved to March so this could be done.

Mr. Horwitz said that Dr. Brady is asking for some direction. If the vote on the budget is approved the process can move forward and if it is defeated, then it would send a signal to Dr. Brady to look for additional cuts. The vote should go forward.

Mr. Stirling said that in the past an early retirement incentive resulted in a net loss of five positions. He looks to Dr. Brady to provide leadership. He would like to vote on the budget.

Vote in favor: Christopher Browe, Steven DeMaio, Thomas Hurley

Vote opposed: Julie Altman, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., James Horwitz, James Stirling

Abstain: Tracey Lane Russo

Motion failed.

Motion to take off the table the motion to postpone the vote (Ms. Altman, 2d Ms. Gedansky).

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Rita Gedansky, Diane Crocco, James Horwitz, James Stirling

Vote opposed: Christopher Browe, Steven DeMaio, John A. Grasso, Jr., Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo

Motion passed.

Motion to approve the Superintendent's Proposed Budget (Ms. Altman, 2d James Stirling)

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Rita Gedansky, James Horwitz, James Stirling

Vote opposed: Christopher Browe, Steven DeMaio, John A. Grasso, Jr., Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo

Motion passed.

11. Announcements from the Board and Administration

There have been problems with smoking in the bathrooms at the High School.
Dr. Brady said that he would like to get stealth smoke detectors.

12. Correspondence

Mr. Blake read a letter from staff members Peter Downhour and Robert Kennedy. They would like to name the auditorium in honor of Dr. Brady. Mr. Blake said that he strongly supports the idea. The topic was added to the agenda for the next Facilities Committee meeting.

Ms. Russo questioned a hazing incident involving members of a sports team at the High School. Mr. Blake said that the incident was handled by the administration.

13. Superintendent's Report

- a. Personnel Report – There were no questions.
- b. ESEA Waiver Flexibility – Dr. Brady said that about 12 states have been granted a waiver. The state is pursuing a waiver. We have the second lowest student to administrator ratio.
- c. CABA's Day on the Hill – Mr. Stirling said that the event costs \$10.00 for CABA members. He encouraged attendance.
- d. PEAC Agreement – There was no discussion.

14. Chairman's Report

- a. Committee Reports
 1. ACES
 2. CABA
 3. Curriculum
 4. Facilities
 5. Finance
 - a. Discussion and Possible Action on Healthy Food Certification Statement for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013
Discussion: Mr. Blake noted that Amity opted out of this program because it costs more money and involves more paperwork.
Motion to authorize the Director of Finance and Administration to sign Form ED-099 indicating that Amity Regional District No. 5 will not certify that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under our jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will not meet said standards during the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 (Mr. Browe, 2d Mr. Hurley).
Discussion: Ms. Altman questioned what is offered in the machines in the High School cafeteria. Dr. Brady said that chips are available for purchase after school.
Vote in favor unanimous.
Motion passed.

- b. Discussion and Possible Action on Award of Contract over \$35,000
Discussion: Mr. Levine said that extending the lease with Tyler Technologies involves a slight increase in price. He believes it is in the District's interest to continue the lease. Mr. Hurley said that he believes the audit report shows that what Amity is doing is working. *Move the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to sign a three-year extension of the current lease with Tyler Technologies for the MUNIS Financial Accounting Systems for a total cost of \$181,470, or \$60,490 per year. The annual maintenance fee for Tyler Content Manager shall be \$3,086 for the first year and may not increase more than 5% per annum for the annual terms commencing in 2013 and 2014. The Amity Board of Education waives the bid requirement* (Mr. Stirling, 2d Mr. Hurley).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

- c. Discussion and Possible Action on Amity High School Roof Restoration Project
Motion to have the Superintendent request the District's Bond Counsel to prepare documents in connection with an appropriation, and the issuance of bonds and notes to finance such appropriation, for costs related to the restoration of a portion of the roof of Amity High School (Ms. Cardozo, 2d Ms. Gedansky).
Discussion: Mr. Hurley said that this is the bonding that has been discussed. Items may be added. Mr. Blake suggested putting this on the agenda for the next Facilities Committee meeting. Dr. Brady said that this authorizes the administration to get started with the bond. Mr. Stirling asked if a delay would create problems. Mr. DeMaio questioned if the exact amount was needed today. Dr. Brady said no. Mr. Stirling asked if the Facilities Committee met in two weeks whether there would be enough time. Mr. Blake said that the Board would be telling bond counsel to prepare a referendum. Mr. Hurley and Ms. Russo questioned whether additions could be made. Mr. Blake said that the wording needs to be specific. Mr. Stirling said that the Amity Finance Committee voted in favor of this motion, but the Committee didn't have the benefit of this discussion. He would vote against this in the hopes that a Facilities Committee meeting could take place soon. Mr. Levine said that if the motion passed tonight, the project would be put out to bid to gather quotes. The cost is just an estimate at this point. The bond needs to be put in place so that this work can be done this summer. Mr. Hurley questioned whether a vote was needed to get a quote. Ms. Altman said that this isn't free money, the money that is bonded needs to be paid. Mr. DeMaio said that if you are going to bond, you should do it one time and incorporate

needed items. Mr. Blake said that the Facilities Committee can consider this.

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, Patricia Cardozo

Vote opposed: Christopher Browe, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, John Grasso, James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

Motion failed.

- d. Discussion and Possible Action on Establishment of Special Revenue Fund for Turf Field

Motion to authorize the Director of Finance and Administration to open a new bank account for a fund to be called "Amity Regional School District No. 5 – Special Projects." This fund shall be used to hold funds for the purpose of construction and installation of a turf athletic field at Amity Regional High School. Funds for the turf athletic field shall not be comingled with funds for any other purpose (Ms. Cohen, 2d Mr. Browe).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

- e. Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements – There was no discussion.
- f. Director of Finance and Administration Approved Transfers Under \$3,000 – There was no discussion.
- g. Discussion and Possible Action on Budget Transfers

Motion to make the following budget transfer of \$10,000 to pay legal expenditures (Ms. Gedansky, 2d Mr. Grasso):

Account Number	Account Name	From	To
05-14-2510-5521	General Liability Insurance	\$10,000	
05-14-2310-5330	Other Professional & Tech. Svcs.		\$10,000

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

Motion to make the following budget transfer to pay Aruba Network, Inc. of Sunnyvale, California, \$32,000 for a M6000 wireless controller and 10 wireless access points (Ms. Cohen, 2d Mr. Grasso).

Discussion: This is an immediate need. Teachers are losing connectivity. Mr. Hurley noted that the District may be able to get a better price.

Account Number	Account Name	From	To
05-14-2350-5690	Other Supplies	\$24,674	
05-14-2350-5730	Equipment – New	\$7,326	
05-14-2350-5731	Equipment – Replacement		\$32,000

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

h. Discussion and Possible Action on New Funding Requests

Motion to make the following budget transfer of \$11,750 to pay for an infrared analysis to identify any trapped moisture, core tests for tensile strength, and asbestos testing on a portion of the Amity High School roof (Mr. Browe, 2d Mr. Hurley):

Discussion: Mr. Hurley noted that this test is very important. The only way problems can be seen is with this test.

Account Number	Account Name	From	To
05-15-0000-5850	Contingency Account	\$11,750	
05-14-2310-5330	Other Professional & Tech. Svcs.		\$11,750

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

6. Policy -- There was no discussion.
7. Personnel -- There was no discussion.

15. Items for the Next Agenda

Mr. Hurley would like to discuss tuition students.

16. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. (Ms. Russo, 2d Ms. Cardozo).

Motion passed; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Gedansky, secretary
Marianne Lippard, recording clerk

Attachments/References:

- Memos:** John J. Brady to the Amity Board of Education and Amity Finance Committee (2/10/12) re: Potential Revisions to Superintendent's Proposed 2012-2013 Budget
 Jack B. Levine to John J. Brady (1/27/12) re: New Funding Requests for Fiscal Year 2011-2012
 Jack B. Levine to John J. Brady (2/1/12) re: Healthy Food Certification Statement for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013
 Jack B. Levine to John J. Brady (2/8/12) re: Establishment of Special Revenue Fund for Turf Field
 John J. Brady to the Amity Board of Education and Amity Finance Committee (2/8/12) re: Amity High School Roof Restoration or Replacement
 Jack B. Levine to John J. Brady (2/9/12) re: Award of Contracts over \$35,000
- Reports:** Amity Regional School District No. 5 Year-To-Date Budget Report 2/6/12
 Amity Regional School District No. 5 Executive Summary – Fourth Quarter 2011
 Amity Regional School District No. 5 – Budget Transfers 2011-2012
 Amity Regional School District No. 5 Revenues and Expenditures for FY 2011-2012
- Minutes:** Amity Regional School District No. 5 Finance Committee 1/23/12
 Amity Regional School District No. 5 Board of Education 1/25/12
 Amity Regional School District No. 5 Board of Education 1/9/12
 Amity Regional School District No. 5 Finance Committee 1/9/12

MINUTES

AMITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Julie Altman, William Blake, Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

AMITY BOARD MEMBER ABSENT: none

Staff Members Present: John Brady, Charles Britton, Paula Cofrancesco, Kathleen Fuller Cutler, Richard Dellinger, Kevin Keller, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Terry Lumas, Paul Mengold, Rocco Palmieri, Mary Raiola, Jim Saisa, Sheila Wycinowski

Also Present: Russ Adair, Mark Chapman, Patricia Coffey, Emma Bogush, Natalie Booth, Matthew DiBuduo, Thomas Falcigno, Matthew Giglietti, Jordan Gorelick, Graham Hughes, Ilene Kramer, James Leahy, Sheila McCreven, Sandy Stein, James Zeoli; other members of the Public; members of the Press

A regular meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education was held on Monday, March 13, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at Amity Regional High School.

1. **Call to Order:** William Blake called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.
3. **Recognition of 2012 Superintendent's Award Winners**
Charles Britton, Richard Dellinger and Kathleen Fuller Cutler introduced the award recipients from their respective schools. The recipients from the High School are Patricia Coffey and Matthew DiBuduo. The award winners from Amity Middle School in Bethany are Emma Bogush and Jordan Gorelick. At Amity Middle School in Orange, Natalie Booth and Graham Hughes received the 2012 award.

Mr. Blake congratulated the students on behalf of the Board.

Motion to move Public Comment to Item #4 on the agenda (Mr. Hurley, 2d Ms. Gedansky).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

4. **Public Comment**

Sheila McCreven presented a petition asking the Board to consider naming the auditorium in honor of Dr. Brady. She said that the petition contains over 100 names. She said that he is beloved within the community for his dedication to Amity.

Russ Adair said that he has had two children graduate from Amity and wanted to speak in favor of naming the auditorium in honor of Dr. Brady for a number of reasons. Dr. Brady was able to effectively handle tough financial problems. People had said that money could be saved by having no auditorium. Dr. Brady was against that idea. Some people have said that without Dr. Brady, the school wouldn't have an auditorium. Dr. Brady is a strong supporter of academics, athletics and the arts. The reputation of Amity has improved the real estate market here. Dr. Brady was also instrumental in bringing in Rob Kennedy, who he described as a fantastic teacher. He asked the Board to give strong consideration to this idea and honor Dr. Brady.

Matthew Giglietti, a member of the Amity Finance Committee, spoke in favor of naming the auditorium after Dr. Brady. In 2002, when the former finance director resigned, there were problems. The communities were angry and rejected 17 consecutive budgets. Each town's Board of Finance came together to run the school system for one year. The superintendent's office was like a revolving door, with interim superintendents filling in. The field of candidates for the job was poor since the new superintendent would have to deal with problems, including air quality lawsuits. Dr. Brady was sought out by a consultant and he hired Jack Levine. Audits were completed on time. Academics, athletics and the arts were stressed and now test scores have never been higher. Students are thriving. The auditorium had been boarded up and the air quality was so poor that people were getting sick. In 2006, a national air quality award was received. The school puts on phenomenal programs. He feels that Dr. Brady is the most important superintendent ever to serve at Amity.

Sandy Stein spoke in favor of naming the auditorium in honor of Dr. Brady. Her daughters were artistic and she said that Dr. Brady brought a balance to Amity.

Ilene Kramer praised the diversity of programs at Amity. Athletes are also involved with the arts. The arts offer an opportunity for bright students to gain a well-rounded experience. Mary L. Tracy was honored when she was alive. She feels that she represents the sentiments of a number of people from Orange.

James Zeoli, Orange First Selectman, said that he didn't come to talk about the John Brady Theater, but had a few comments to make concerning the naming of the auditorium. The first selectmen from the three towns all received an e-mail and he responded that he doesn't have any problems with the naming of the auditorium. He has seen several shows in the auditorium and enjoyed them. He feels it isn't necessary to wait until someone dies to honor them. People aren't always going to agree. There was controversy over the naming of the athletic complex. Some people were happy, some sad, but we got through it. The Board should step up and act on it.

Mr. Zeoli said that the real reason for being at the meeting is to talk about money. Just because you're going to float a bond that doesn't mean that all of a sudden everything is up for grabs. If you can get 40 years of use out of bleachers, put them on the bond. New things ended up on the bond. He did not see scaling back, but more spending. He is looking for compromise. He went through the Amity budget and saw a hole of over \$600,000. There was \$344,000 set aside for roof repairs. Teachers were praised for taking a hard freeze. Self-insured health insurance is being pursued. He is not sure how using the \$344,000 is going turn out long term. He also has questions about how much money will be held in an account for the self-insurance fund. It should be between 22 percent and 25 percent in reserves. Bethany's share of the increase is smaller, and Woodbridge's is going down. There is new economic development in Orange, with \$923,000 in new tax dollars. He just sees shuffling here. He credited Ms. Altman and Ms. Cardozo for trying not to expand the focus of the bond. He can't see why any Orange member would support the Amity budget. Orange has two elementary schools needing roofs and ventilators.

James Leahy, vice chairman of the Orange Board of Finance, said that he shared his concerns already with the Finance Committee. In Orange, 99.1 percent of the increase in fiscal year 2011-2012 went to Amity. The Amity budget increases yet enrollments are decreasing. He researched the last seven years and Amity has run a surplus of over \$500,000 during that time. It was actually an average of \$853,000. He urged the Board to think about that when voting. In Bethany there is a 12.7 percent decrease in enrollment, yet there is a \$1.4 million increase projected. He would be happy to share this data.

Sheila McCreven, a member of the Woodbridge Board of Education Finance Committee, said the timing of expense can affect how the numbers are interpreted if you isolate the exact day that you have a surplus. You can't run an excellent school system continually cutting budgets. People in these communities want excellence. Balance is important. The community supports the Board and would like to see a responsible budget.

5. Robotics Demonstration

The Board went to the Presentation Room to see what the Robotics Team has been working on. Several students demonstrated. Mr. Blake wished the team members well.

6. Presentation of Social Robotics Research Program

Bethany Technology Teacher Kevin Berean talked about the Social Robotics Research Program. The program allows students to do scholarly research. An application and research proposal were accepted by the Aldebaran Robotics Educational Partnership Program. The robots that students work with can speak multiple languages and have recognition features. Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) connect with arts and humanities. Students can explore robot interaction.

Discussion:

Mr. Stirling asked if there are robotics clubs at the elementary schools. Robotics is included in the curriculum at the middle school level. Every student leaves with robotics experience. Dr. Brady noted that Bethany has a robotics club. Ms. Fuller Cutler said that the Orange elementary schools have robotics.

Ms. Russo said that it sounds as though this program will be segregated to Amity Middle School in Bethany. Mr. Berean said that the cost of a robot is \$8,000.

Dr. Brady said that this is a pilot program. If it is successful, the program will be brought to Orange. Mr. Berean said plans are to eventually bring this educational experience throughout the curriculum. He recommended that Orange also has a robo

Mr. Hurley asked if this is in the budget for next year. Dr. Brady said that it is not.

Mr. Berean said that he feels privileged to work at Amity and this opportunity allows the students to be exceptional. Students can't begin conducting research early enough.

7. Presentation and Discussion of Enrollment Projection Report

Donald G. Kennedy, Ed.D. , an associate in Planning/Management with the New England School Development Council (NESDEC), provided an update on the comprehensive analysis that he is working on concerning enrollment in the District. Enrollment is declining and the data that he is gathering will help shape the future of Amity.

Dr. Kennedy said that NESDEC is very experienced in projecting future enrollment. These studies have been performed for between 50 and 75 schools throughout the state.

Looking at the current figures, there are 434 students in the senior class, whereas in elementary school there were 403 students. Typically, about five percent of students leave at the end of eighth grade. At Amity, there is more immigration than students leaving. Projections will be the most accurate going out two, three and four years. The best you can get is a 1 percent variance year to year. Projections haven't been done for Amity in about 10 years. The numbers that he has at this point need to be recalculated, since outplaced special education students and a few outplaced students weren't included.

Discussion:

Dr. Brady said that the research will be useful for future planning.

Mr. Stirling said that the data shows that the decrease is most noticeable in the elementary schools. Amity will start to feel that shift years out. When the real estate market improves, the elementary schools will be the first to see the effect.

Dr. Kennedy said that most people resist moving as their children get older. Projections are difficult in kindergarten and ninth grade.

Mr. Horwitz said that the numbers appear to be concrete, but can shift.

8. Presentation of the CABA Award of Excellence for Educational Communications

Sheila McCreven presented the CABA Award of Excellence for Educational Communications. She noted that the Amity District calendar was recognized for showcasing the wonderful artwork of the High School students.

9. Approval of Minutes

- a. Regular Board of Education Meeting, February 13, 2012

Motion to approve these minutes as presented (Mr. DeMaio, 2d Ms. Cohen).

Discussion: Mr. DeMaio offered an addition under Public Comment.

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

10. Student Report

Thomas Falcigno reported that the Student Government Food Drive is taking place from March 19, 2012 to April 1, 2012. CAPT Testing is taking place and he wished luck to the sophomores. He wished good luck to the athletes on the spring sports teams. The Junior Prom will be held on May 5. The Billy Joel tribute band Big Shot will be playing soon. The Amity Regional High School Theater Department will be presenting *Legally Blonde*. More information about performances is available at the Drama Department's website.

11. Announcements from the Board and Administration

Dr. Brady reported that Amity has a number of semifinalists for National Merit Scholars. This is the largest pool of finalists Amity has ever had.

12. Correspondence

- a. Amity Middle School, Bethany, Among Top-Performing Schools in the Governor's 2011 Summer Reading Challenge
A letter was received congratulating Amity Middle School for this honor.
- b. Letters Regarding Naming of the High School Auditorium
Mr. Blake noted that he received many letters supporting naming the auditorium in honor of Dr. Brady. Woodbridge First Selectman Edward Sheehy said the selectmen voted unanimously to support naming the auditorium.

Ms. Cohen said that the response has been heartwarming.

Motion to amend the agenda to discuss naming the Amity Regional High School auditorium in honor of Dr. Brady (Mr. Cardozo, 2d Ms. Gedansky).

Discussion:

Mr. Hurley said that speaking as a member of the Policy Committee, there were big problems before with naming athletic facilities at the High School. The motion is out of order according to the policy.

Mr. Blake said that the naming could be considered.

Ms. Russo said that while she supports the public sentiment, the Board owes it to the Policy Committee to wait. Doing this out of order is a surprise. It is not on the agenda. She would prefer to defer to the Facilities Committee. She opposes the amendment.

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, William Blake, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Rita Gedansky, James Horwitz

Vote opposed: Christopher Browe, Steven DeMaio, John Grasso, Jr., Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

Motion passed.

Motion to suspend Facilities Policy and name the auditorium in honor of Dr. Brady (Ms. Cardozo, 2d Ms. Gedansky).

Discussion:

Mr. Stirling said that he will vote against suspending the policy.

Mr. Hurley said that this gives the wrong signal to the community that the Board hasn't followed the proper process.

Mr. Blake said that the Board should be able to vote on every issue that comes before it.

Ms. Cardozo said that the Facilities Committee could not agree to go forward with naming the auditorium.

Mr. Hurley said that according to the Policy, six months is needed; not enough time has passed since this issue was first raised. This is violating a policy that was just put in place.

Ms. Cohen said the six month time period is arbitrary.

Ms. Russo said that everyone had an opportunity to contact Mr. Blake to put this topic on the agenda. The fact that people have come out in support of this is okay, but she feels members of the Board have been sandbagged. There is a policy and a process. This could have been added to the agenda. This is setting a precedent. The Board packet was received on Friday afternoon. She views this as an abuse of the process.

Mr. DeMaio said that when Dr. Brady retires, he would be the first to want to do this the proper way. He still has work to complete. He will vote against this at this time. He contacted CABB and was advised to wait.

Ms. Cohen said that she does not feel that Dr. Brady isn't going to do his job because of this. She does not see the timing as arbitrary. She would like to have more of a consensus.

Mr. Browe said that there is a reason that boards have policies and committees are established. There is a reason why agendas are written ahead of time. He has not discussed this with one person yet.

Ms. Altman said that there were over 100 signatures on a petition asking that the auditorium be named in Dr. Brady's honor. Dr. Brady's leadership is unprecedented.

Mr. Hurley said that it is nice that the community got together to gather signatures, but this wasn't on the agenda. If someone wants to get something through this Board, they know they just have to get it in late.

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, William Blake, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Rita Gedansky, James Horwitz

Vote opposed: Christopher Browe, Steven DeMaio, John Grasso, Jr., Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

Mr. Blake apologized to Dr. Brady for the debate and controversy, but in the community there has been no controversy. Everyone has spoken to honor Dr. Brady in this matter. He wished the vote could have been unanimous.

Dr. Brady said that he considers the discussions to be democracy in action.

13. Superintendent's Report

a. Personnel Report

There was no discussion.

14. Chairman's Report

a. Committee Reports

1. ACES – There was no discussion.
2. CABB – Mr. Stirling mentioned a website.
3. Curriculum – There was no discussion.

4. Facilities – There was no discussion.

5. Finance

a. **Discussion and Possible Action to Re-Designate Funds from the Capital & Nonrecurring Account for Specified Capital Projects**

A memo dated February 12, 2012 from Dr. John J. Brady to the Amity Board of Education and Amity Finance Committee Members contained six possible motions. The motions were taken together, with the exception of #4, concerning the new visitor bleachers for Stadium Field.

Move that funds currently designated for the Amity High School roof restoration project be re-designated for natural gas conversion at the High School for \$120,000, plus or minus; Move that funds currently designated for the Amity High School roof restoration project be re-designated to re-sod the crown of the football field at the High School for \$15,000; Move that funds currently designated for the Amity High School roof restoration project be re-designated for asphalt sealing and repairs and sidewalk repairs at the High School for \$27,000, plus or minus; Move that funds currently designated for the Amity High School roof restoration project be re-designated for the replacement of 105 computers for \$81,501; Move that funds currently designated for the Amity High School roof restoration project be re-designated for the replacement of three servers for \$27,113.20 (Mr. Horwitz, 2d Ms. Cardozo).

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley, James Stirling

Vote opposed: Tracey Lane Russo ***Motion passed.***

Move that funds currently designated for the Amity High School roof restoration project be re-designated for new visitor bleachers for the Stadium Field for \$76,000, plus or minus (Mr. Stirling, 2d Ms. Gedansky).

Discussion:

Mr. Horwitz said that he does not feel that visitor bleachers are needed since the other bleachers have a seating capacity of 900 and their usually only one-half to two-thirds full. There are other uses for the money, such as a garage to replace trailers on the High School property or a fitness trail. The money can be better spent on something else.

Mr. Hurley questioned why this wasn't included with the bond, which would seem to make more sense.

Ms. Cardozo said that generally items under \$100,000 should not be bonded. Also, if we can pay for the bleachers, they can be put in place before graduation.

Ms. Russo said that she doesn't feel that bleachers are the best use of the money. A garage would be preferable.

Mr. Stirling said that he appreciates the views shared by Mr. Horwitz and others, but the Board was advised of the need for bleachers by experts.

Mr. DeMaio said that he feels that the new bleachers should go up so that visitors can sit separately to reduce the need for more police officers at games.

Mr. Horwitz said that he doesn't see the value in spending this much money to keep fans separated. It does not seem to be the best use of money. At many colleges, fans can sit peacefully together. If two to three years from now, Amity has a lot more money to work with, bleachers can be added. Bleachers offering storage underneath would be preferable.

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., Thomas Hurley, James Stirling

Vote opposed: Diane Crocco, James Horwitz, Tracey Lane Russo

Motion passed.

- b. To Consider and Act Upon Resolutions Making Recommendations With Respect to Appropriations and Borrowing Authorizations for Various Improvements to the District's School Facilities, Including Restoration of the Existing Gravel-Surfaced Built-Up Roofs at Amity Regional High School, Replacement of the Air Handler Units in the Boys' and Girls' Locker Rooms at Amity Regional High School, and Repaving of the Side Parking Lot at the Amity Regional Middle School Orange Campus; and Calling a District Meeting to Hold a Public Hearing Thereon**

Discussion:

Mark Chapman, a consultant, said that low interest rates are available. A chart showing the estimated debt service for various Capital project was contained in the Board of Education packet. The estimated cost of Capital projects is \$1,748,000.

Discussion: Dr. Brady said that a hearing is needed to discuss the bonding and a Special Meeting will be needed to set a referendum

date. A hearing on the bond will be at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, April 2nd in the Presentation Room at District Offices. A hearing on the budget will be at 6:00 p.m. that day. The Board will vote on the final budget.

RESOLVED, That the officers of the Board of Education and the Superintendent are authorized to cause a district meeting to be called for the purpose of conducting a public hearing in the Presentation Room of Amity Regional High School on Monday, April 2, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. with respect to the following recommendations of the Board:

1. *That \$1,748,000 be appropriated for costs related to the design, construction and implementation of various improvements to the District's school facilities, including (a) restoration of the existing gravel-surfaced, built-up roofs at Amity Regional High School, including repairs as necessary, upgrading of the wall, unit and perimeter flashings, and any related work (estimated cost of \$1,400,000), (b) replacement of the air handler units in the boys' and girls' locker room at Amity Regional High School, and any related work (estimated cost of \$176,000), and (c) repaving of the side parking lot at the Amity Regional Middle School Orange Campus, which also serves as the school's outdoor physical education classroom, and any related work (estimated cost of \$97,000); and costs of the financing thereof (estimated at \$75,000). The appropriation may be spent for design, demolition, installation and construction costs, equipment, materials, testing costs, disposal costs, architects' fees, engineering fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings, other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project. The District Board of Education shall be authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the project, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project as desirable, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified.*

2. *That \$1,748,000 bonds and temporary notes of the District be authorized to finance the appropriation.*

3. *That the Chairman of the District Board of Education and the District Treasurer, or such officer or body delegated by the Board, be authorized to require the District and its member towns to comply with applicable federal income tax requirements for tax-exempt bonds.*

4. *That the Chairman of the District Board of Education and the District Treasurer, or such officer or body delegated by the Board, be authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information.*

5. *That the aforesaid bond, note and temporary note authorization shall be submitted to referendum vote by the electors and citizens qualified to vote in the towns of the District. (Ms. Cohen, 2d Ms. Cardozo).*

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

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

In a March 8, 2012 memo from Jack B. Levine to John J. Brady, Tremco Incorporated of Deep River, Connecticut, is recommended as the roofing service provider. In response to a Request for Proposals, three companies submitted packages and two submitted

comprehensive proposals. Of the two, Tremco offered the best total package for Amity.

Move that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to sign a contract with Tremco Incorporated to be the school district's roofing services provider for the Amity High School roof restoration project. Tremco Incorporated will be responsible for planning, design, oversight of construction, and warrantee of the roof restoration project (Mr. Grasso, 2d Mr. Hurley).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

The visitor side bleachers at the football stadium at Amity High School were unsafe and out of code compliance. The old bleachers have been removed from service. A bid was held to provide new bleachers for the visitor side of the football field. Three companies turned in bids for the job. For 309 seats, the prices ranged from \$73,380 to \$81,114. For 435 seats, the prices ranged from \$87,150 to \$102,240. E&D Specialty Stands Inc. was the low bidder on both projects. Mr. Levine and Mr. Saisa recommend the Board award the contract to E&D Specialty Stands, Inc. of North Collins, New York for 309 seats at the bid price of \$73,380.

Move that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to sign a contract with E&D Specialty Stands, Inc. to purchase bleachers with 309 seats at the bid price of \$73,380 (Ms. Altman, 2d Ms. Gedansky).

Discussion:

Mr. Horwitz said that at Bates College, he saw bleachers specially designed with storage underneath. If we purchase the bleachers, it would be nice to get rid of the trailers on the High School property. He would like to buy as many bleachers as we can possibly afford with storage underneath.

Ms. Russo asked if Facilities Director Jim Saisa could discuss this.

Mr. Saisa said that the additional cost would prevent the District from being able to get sufficient seating. We would be lucky to get 100 seats with the storage option.

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

Vote opposed: Diane Crocco, James Horwitz,

Motion passed.

- d. Discussion and Possible Action on Establishment of Self-Insurance Fund and Transfer of Funds into the Self-Insurance Fund
The preliminary Board of Education's 2012-2013 Budget includes switching from a fully insured to a self-funded insurance program. A separate Self-Insurance Fund should be established for this purpose.

Motion that the Amity Board of Education establishes the "Amity Self-Insurance Fund" to maintain and distribute funds for the sole purpose of a self-insurance program. All expenditures from this bank account to be authorized by the Superintendent of Schools and Director of Finance and Administration. The Amity Board of Education directs the Superintendent of Schools to move the monies received by the District from the Early Retiree reinsurance program into the Amity Self-Insurance Fund. This will include \$64,034, which is committed to the early retiree reinsurance program on the financial statements as of June 30, 2011. The District has applied for additional funds from this Federal program; however, it is uncertain at this time what funds, if any, will be received as the total Federal appropriation is limited to \$5 billion (Mr. Horwitz, 2d Mr. Stirling).

Discussion: Mr. Hurley recused himself.

Vote in favor: Julie Altman, Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, John A. Grasso, Jr., James Horwitz, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

Vote opposed: none

Motion passed.

- e. **Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Fund Balance Policy**
Dr. Brady said that this should go through the Finance Committee. Mr. Stirling said that the Finance Committee referred the issue to the Policy Committee. Dr. Brady said that the item should be added to the Finance Committee agenda. Mr. Hurley asked if this would be considered the first reading. Dr. Brady said that it would.

f. **Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements**

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

With the planned change at the High School from fuel oil to natural gas, Mr. Stirling questioned if Amity would be required to purchase fuel oil.

Dr. Brady said that the administration is in negotiations with the oil company as to how to deal with the excess oil.

Mr. Browe asked if there is anything wrong with the current system.

Dr. Brady said that plans are to convert the boilers.

6. Policy - There was no discussion.
7. Personnel - There was no discussion.

15. Items for the Next Agenda

Mr. Hurley said that he would like to discuss the idea of actively recruiting tuition students. He asked if an ad hoc committee could be established. Mr. Blake said that the Curriculum Committee would look at the issue.

16. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 p.m. (Mr. Horwitz, 2d Mr. DeMaio).

Motion passed; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Gedansky, secretary
Marianne Lippard, recording clerk

Attachments/References:

Minutes:

Amity Regional School District No. 5 Board of Education Regular Meeting, 2/13/12
Amity Regional School District No. 5 Finance Committee, 2/13/12
Amity Regional School District No. 5 Facilities Committee, 2/16/12

Memos:

Jack B. Levine to John J. Brady, 3/1/12, re: Establishment of Self-Insurance Fund and Transfer of Funds into the Self-Insurance Fund
John J. Brady to Amity Board of Education and Amity Finance Committee Members, 2/28/12, re: Re-designate Funds from the Capital & Nonrecurring Expenditures Account for Specified Capital Projects
Jack B. Levine to John J. Brady, 12/1/12, re: Proposed Fund-Balance Policy
Jack B. Levine to John J. Brady, 3/8/12, re: Award of Contracts over \$35,000
Jack B. Levine to John J. Brady, 3/8/12, re: Resolutions for Appropriations and Borrowing Authorizations
John J. Brady to Members of the Board of Education, 3/12/12, Personnel Report

Letters:

Stefan Pryor to John J. Brady, 2/10/12, re: 2011 Summer Reading Challenge
Derrylyn Gorski to William Blake, 2/29/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Cheri Charney to Facilities Committee, 3/1/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Jonathan Furst to Facilities Committee, 3/5/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Mary Abriola to William Blake, 3/5/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Susan Larkin to Board of Education, re: John J. Brady Center for the Performing Arts
Ellen Papciak-Rose to Facilities Committee and William Blake, 3/5/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Bruce Spiewak to Facilities Committee, 3/7/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Sharon Linet to William Blake, 3/5/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Lisa Small to Board of Education, 3/4/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Jill Polisson to William Blake, 3/4/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Ilene Kramer to Facilities Committee, 3/1/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Marie Robert and Earl Glusac to Board of Education, 2/29/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Derrylyn Gorski to William Blake, 2/29/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Mahinda and Kumudinie Yapa to Facilities Committee, 2/29/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Elizabeth Smolinski to Facilities Committee, 2/29/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Debbie McNulty to Facilities Committee, 3/6/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Nancy Anschutz to Facilities Committee, 3/5/12, re: Auditorium Naming
Jeanette Glicksman to Facilities Committee, 3/6/12 re: Auditorium Naming

Reports:

Amity Regional School District No. 5, Revenues and Expenditures for FY 2011-2012
Amity Regional School District No. 5, Year-to-Date Budget Report, 3/2/12
Amity Regional School District No. 5, Budget Transfers 2011-2012

MINUTES

AMITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Blake, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

AMITY BOARD MEMBER ABSENT: Julie Altman, Christopher Browe, John A. Grasso, Jr.

Staff Members Present: John Brady, Kevin Keller, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Terry Lumas, Jim Saisa

Also Present: Thomas Falcigno, Jim Leahy, James Zeoli; other members of the Public

A District Meeting of Amity Regional School District No. 5 was held on Monday, April 2, 2012, at 6:00 p.m., in the Presentation Room of Amity Regional High School, for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the referendum. The Board has recommended that \$1,748,000 be appropriated for costs related to the design, construction and implementation of various improvements to the District's school facilities. Roof restoration at the High School, replacement of the air handler units in the boys' and girls' locker rooms at the High School, and repaving of the side parking lot at the Amity Regional Middle School Orange Campus have been recommended by the Board of Education.

1. **Call to Order:** William Blake called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.
3. **Present and Conduct a Hearing on the Referendum**
Dr. Brady explained that the roof at the High School has exceeded its warranty and the restoration has been in the capital forecast for a number of years. The estimated cost of the restoration is \$1.4 million. He noted that the Facilities Committee also wanted to move forward with the air handling unit replacement in the boys' and girls' locker rooms at the High School and repaving at the Orange campus.

Mr. Saisa, facilities director, provided details about each of the projects. The roof restoration work was awarded to Tremco. Gravel will be removed and replaced. The project qualified for a restoration, which does not qualify for reimbursement from the state. As such, the project can move forward without abiding by certain regulations. Mr. Saisa noted that with good maintenance, this type of project can be performed another two or three times. The roof restoration should last 10 years.

Discussion:

Mr. Stirling questioned what the expected reimbursement would be for a new roof.

Dr. Brady said that the reimbursement rate was 35 percent for the last construction project.

Mr. Blake asked about the air handling units.

Mr. Saisa said that the air handling units should be replaced. The cost is approximately \$176,000. Mr. Saisa told the Board that the area that is being considered for repaving (estimated cost: \$97,000) is used for physical education. Extensive crack patching was performed a couple of years ago. Mr. Saisa said that he recommends re-grading the area and putting down a new, safe surface. The area is beyond the point where resealing would solve the problem.

4. Public Comment

None

5. Adjourn

Motion to close the hearing at 6:16 p.m. and adjourn (Ms. Gedansky, 2d Ms. Cohen).

Approval unanimous.

Motion passed; hearing adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Gedansky, secretary
Marianne Lippard, recording clerk

MINUTES

AMITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Blake, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

AMITY BOARD MEMBER ABSENT: Julie Altman, Christopher Browe, John A. Grasso, Jr.

Staff Members Present: John Brady, Kevin Keller, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Terry Lumas, Jim Saisa

Also Present: Janet Brunwin, Thomas Falcigno, Matthew Giglietti, Philip Grande, Jim Leahy, Joe Nuzzo, James Zeoli; other members of the Public

A Public District Budget Hearing of Amity Regional School District No. 5 was held on Monday, April 2, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., in the Presentation Room at the Amity Regional District Offices, for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the Amity Board of Education proposed operating budget for 2012-2013.

1. **Call to Order:** William Blake called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.
2. **Present and Conduct a Hearing on the 2012-2013 Amity Board of Education Proposed Operating Budget**
On February 13, 2012, the Board of Education adopted the 2012-2013 budget, which increased total expenditures by \$401,022, or 0.92 percent. Dr. Brady noted that he mentioned at the time that he would recommend further changes to the budget if new information became available. Dr. Brady said that the administration is constantly working on efficiencies to find ways to do business more effectively. He said that the 2012-2013 budget can be modified for a net positive effect.

The changes will result in total expenditures of \$43,613,162, or \$204,541 or 0.47 percent higher than this fiscal year's budget. Member Town Allocations would increase by \$464,721, or 1.13 percent (Bethany – up \$151,862 or 1.80 percent; Orange – up \$743,274 or 3.73 percent; Woodbridge – down \$430,415 or 3.36 percent). The higher allocation for Orange can be primarily attributed to a shift in the student population (\$518,308 or 70 percent of the increase).

Dr. Brady said that several issues concerning the budget have been discussed in the media. The case has been made that if Amity has had surpluses, why is more money needed. Dr. Brady noted that significant efforts are made to keep costs

down. Amity has been fortunate to get additional funds from the state. The District has aggressively worked to keep insurance costs down. These efficiencies are signs of good management. Financial information is shared with the Board on a monthly basis. Surplus money has been used for computer equipment, funding for the OPEB Trust, and it has also been returned to the towns. In difficult economic times, money has been saved with the support of the Amity Finance Committee and the Amity Board of Education.

Another issue that has been raised in the media is that the enrollment in the District is decreasing, so why is there is not a reduction in spending. Dr. Brady noted that Amity has seen a slight decrease in enrollment. He noted that costs increase regardless of the decrease. Amity has reached out to Ezra Academy and 13 students will come to Amity, including one tuition student for an additional \$13,956. In the near future, reductions will be necessary due to declining enrollment. Reductions have been made despite the argument about spending increases.

Questions have been raised about whether the gas pipeline is big enough for the conversion planned at the High School. Dr. Brady has been assured that the pipeline is large enough for the conversion. The Board will see the savings going forward.

Dr. Brady noted that a summary page concerning the budget shows that with the exception of two accounts, every other account has been reduced. Salaries are up because some non-certified employees were due salary increases.

In special education, Director of Pupil Services Mary Raiola and her staff have worked to create appropriate programs for students within the three schools. As a result, two students with out-of-district placements will be returning to the District in the next school year at a savings of \$150,000.

Due to the warmer weather, the District will not use 30,000 gallons of heating oil this fiscal year. Dr. Brady noted that we will still need to pay the bid price for these gallons in this fiscal year; however, the vendor will 'store' these gallons for next school year. The heating oil will be used at the middle schools. The budget for this account can be reduced by \$58,166.

Discussion:

Mr. Hurley said that the District received \$100,000 from a grant. It was supposed to be a one-time expense that wouldn't be carried over year-to-year. He questioned why this funding, which was expected to go away, would have an impact on the budget.

Dr. Brady said that the money was used.

Mr. Hurley said that we didn't do what the Board thought had been agreed to.

Dr. Brady said that a special education teacher was hired for two years. When the money went away, the job went away.

There were no further questions from Board members.

Public Comment:

Sheila McCreven, a member of the Woodbridge Board of Education, said that she would like to speak in favor of the budget. Her son is a senior and she has been very impressed with the programs at Amity. Her son is interested in a career in broadcast journalism and he has learned a great deal about this type of work while studying at Amity. The District needs the budget to incorporate diverse programs and meet the needs of the student population.

Jim Leahy, co-chairman of the Orange Board of Finance, said that at the last regular Board of Education meeting he brought up the issue of surpluses at Amity. He said that Amity has had consistent surpluses. It is highly unusual to have a \$500,000 surplus well into the fiscal year. There are a number of important financial issues facing the taxpayers in Orange. Unemployment is at an all-time high and foreclosures are at their highest rate ever. Residents qualifying for the Husky program are at an all-time high. The teachers received a zero percent increase. The District is changing to self-insurance. Amity's debt service went down \$200,000. There has been a 5.5 percent reduction in the Amity student population. He pointed this out some time ago, but a study is only now being done. He is not misleading the public when he says that 99.1 percent of the town budget is going to Amity. Over the next six years, Bethany's share will increase significantly. In the next three years, there are increases in the budget despite a nine percent enrollment decrease. Bethany will see an increase of \$900,000, while Orange will see an increase of more than \$2 million. The increase for Woodbridge will be \$558,000.

Dr. Brady said that there are differences between the budget forecast and the actual budget request. Mr. Levine uses an approach that takes into account a worst case scenario. This approach is good for planning, but it is not accurate.

Mr. Levine said that his budget forecast was higher. He tends to be ultra conservative in his calculations and goes by best practices. His job is to show if things are left in place what would happen in the future. When he came to Amity, a three-year forecast was used. Original administrator requests involved seven to eight percent increases. Everything on the list had value and was important. A lot of decisions had to be made to bring the budget down to what is currently being proposed. The difference between the budget and the forecast was three or four percent. He noted that \$700,000 was saved by the hard freeze that the teachers took. The District's insurance consultants figured that \$525,000 could be

saved. This budget was talked about two years ago. Everything was examined. Over a half million dollars was saved by going to an electricity consortium. Ms. Raiola has had anticipated potential special education students. Surpluses are reported. When we over budget, efforts are made to correct that.

Mr. Leahy said that a one percent increase over the next three years will cost a lot for the Orange taxpayers.

Matthew Giglietti, chairman of the Board of Finance in Woodbridge and a member of the Amity Finance Committee, said that he would like to comment on the surplus issue. The surpluses are clearly identified in Mr. Levine's reports. Each month, updates are provided about where the surplus is. If we come up short, then a special vote is needed. The surpluses are there, not due to mismanagement, but due to the difficulty of forecasting. Amity has returned funds to the towns. A budget increase of .47 percent is remarkable. If there wasn't a shift in enrollment that is particularly affecting Orange, he doesn't feel that anyone would be complaining. He supports this budget.

Philip Grande said that he doesn't support the budget. He distributed a letter which details the three points that he would like to make. He is disappointed that the Board is reallocating money that was set aside for the High School roof project. He would've preferred to see the money returned to the towns. He sees a failure of the regional school district model because for a couple of years, the town of Orange has been seeking cooperation. Modest increases are hitting Orange hard. Senior citizens will be forced to leave Orange. He also said that as a former member of the Amity Board of Education, he was disappointed that the new policy for naming school facilities was not followed recently.

3. Confirm Annual District Meeting Date of May 7, 2012, and Referendum Date of May 8, 2012

Move the Amity Board of Education adopt an operating budget for fiscal year 2012-2013 in the gross amount of \$43,613,162 and the net amount of \$41,664,551 and directs that this budget be forwarded to an Annual District Meeting date of May 7, 2012, and Referendum vote on May 8, 2012 (Mr. Horwitz, 2d Ms. Cardozo).

Approval unanimous.

Motion passed.

4. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. (Mr. Horwitz, 2d Ms. Cohen).

Approval unanimous.

Motion passed; hearing adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Gedansky, secretary
Marianne Lippard, recording clerk

MINUTES

AMITY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: William Blake, Christopher Browe, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Rita Gedansky, James Horwitz, Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo, James Stirling

AMITY BOARD MEMBER ABSENT: Julie Altman, John A. Grasso, Jr.,

Staff Members Present: John Brady, Kevin Keller, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Terry Lumas, Jim Saisa

Also Present: Janet Brunwin, Thomas Falcigno, Matthew Giglietti, James Leahy, Sheila McCreven, Joseph Nuzzo, James Zeoli; other members of the Public

A special meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education was held on Monday, April 2, 2012, at 7:30 p.m., in the Presentation Room at the District Offices.

1. **Call to Order:** William Blake called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.

3. **Public Comment**

James Zeoli, Orange First Selectman, said that he came tonight to raise several concerns. He came before this Board at recent meetings and feels that he made no progress and doesn't want to rehash the numbers again. Nonetheless, he would like to address bonding for the roof repairs and a few other items. Since he is not a part of this Board, residents speak candidly with him when he is out and about. Roof repairs are planned at the High School, but there are problems with the roof at Amity Middle School in Orange. There are issues at the Orange facility that should be looked at. He questioned whether exploratory work is going on there. The bond will affect us for years ahead.

There may be new requirements for bus transportation with respect to insurance and owner/operators. He will fight for Orange to go its own way.

He has been approached by a number of people in Orange and has concerns about the information he is hearing. He has enjoyed the theater programs at Amity, but is disappointed to hear the students say it's like they're gearing up just for an award. They're taking the fun out of it. When he visited the bank last week, seven people stopped him to talk. There are concerns in the community because people have read in the newspaper that we take what we need. Orange has the highest population of seniors in the county. He suggested that Dr. Brady should've softened the wording to say that we ask for what we need. He has been

approached by all political parties. The unemployment rate is improving in the town. He cautioned the Board not to be kept in the dark, as there is a lot of chatter in the community by people with concerns. We've gone a long way without a lot. The town will be going forward with a bond in the \$10 million to \$12 million range. School roofs and road drainage are problems. Raising taxes isn't easy. He sees the faces of the people of the community. He cautioned the Board to look at the faces as decisions are made.

Thomas Falcigno, the student representative to the Board and an Amity junior, said that he feels that the budget puts money in all the right places. It adds more quality to all departments. He came to bring attention to where the money will be going to. He urged everyone to review and look at the budget before May 8th.

Patty Legeo of Orange said that she spoke out on the budget back in 1970. It's a difficult time for Orange, as the town is taking the bulk of the expenses. It is easy for Woodbridge to say it doesn't matter because that town is paying a lot less. In the past, Woodbridge was in this position. She questioned if anything could be done to lessen the impact on Orange. She said that the 50 percent taxpayer should not be overlooked.

4. To consider and act upon resolutions with respect to an appropriation and borrowing authorization for various improvements to the District's school facilities, including restoration of the existing gravel-surfaced, built-up roofs at Amity Regional High School, replacement of the air handler units in the boys' and girls' locker room at Amity Regional High School, and repaving of the side parking lot at the Amity Regional Middle School Orange Campus; and the calling of a District referendum thereon.

The Amity Board of Education passed the following resolution with a roll call vote:

APPROPRIATION OF \$1,748,000 AND AUTHORIZATION OF BONDS AND TEMPORARY NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT FOR DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DISTRICT'S SCHOOL FACILITIES

RESOLVED,

1. That Regional School District Number 5 of the State of Connecticut appropriate ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,748,000) for costs related to the design, construction and implementation of various improvements to the District's school facilities, including (a) restoration of the existing gravel-surfaced, built-up roofs at Amity Regional High School, including repairs as necessary, upgrading of the wall, unit and perimeter flashings, and any related work (estimated cost of \$1,400,000), (b) replacement of the air handler units in the

boys' and girls' locker room at Amity Regional High School, and any related work (estimated cost of \$176,000), and (c) repaving of the side parking lot at the Amity Regional Middle School Orange Campus, which also serves as the school's outdoor physical education classroom, and any related work (estimated cost of \$97,000); and costs of the financing thereof (estimated at \$75,000). The appropriation may be spent for design, demolition, installation and construction costs, equipment, materials, testing costs, disposal costs, architects' fees, engineering fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings, other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project. The District Board of Education shall be authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the project, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project as desirable, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified.

2. That the District issue its bonds and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,748,000) to finance the appropriation for the project. The amount of the bonds or notes authorized shall be reduced by the amount of grants received by the District for the project. The bonds and temporary notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 10-56 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds and notes shall be general obligations of the District and its member towns, secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the District and its member towns. The law firm of Day Pitney LLP is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds and notes. The Chairman and the Treasurer, or such officer or body to whom the Board of Education delegates the authority to make such determinations, are authorized to determine the amounts, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds and notes; to designate one or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds or notes; to provide for keeping a record of the bonds or notes; to designate a financial advisor to the District in connection with the sale of the bonds or notes; to sell the bonds or notes at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds or notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds or notes. (Mr. Horwitz, 2d Ms. Gedansky)

Roll Call Vote:

Christopher Browe	<u>yes</u>
Patricia Cardozo	<u>yes</u>
Sue Cohen	<u>yes</u>
Diane Crocco	<u>yes</u>
Steven DeMaio	<u>yes</u>
Rita Gedansky	<u>yes</u>
James Horwitz	<u>yes</u>
Thomas Hurley	<u>yes</u>
Tracey Lane Russo	<u>yes</u>
James Stirling	<u>yes</u>

Vote in favor unanimous.

3. That the District hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that project costs may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the District reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The Chairman and Treasurer, or such officer or body to whom the Board of Education delegates such authority, are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable and to bind the District pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds or notes authorized by this resolution if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

4. That the Chairman and Treasurer, or such officer or body to whom the Board delegates such authority, are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds or notes.

5. That the authorization of bonds and temporary notes shall be subject to approval by a referendum vote to be held in the Towns of Bethany, Orange and Woodbridge, being all of the towns comprising said District.

The Amity Board of Education passed the following resolution with a roll call vote:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education recommends to the towns comprising Regional School District Number 5 that the aforesaid bond and temporary note authorizations be approved by referendum vote; and that said referendum be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2012; that notice of said referendum be given by publication and posting between five and fifteen days before said date, and that said notices of the referendum in the Towns of Bethany, Orange and Woodbridge be substantially in the following form:

5. "WARNING
REFERENDUM VOTE
Regional School District Number 5
Town of _____
May 8, 2012

A referendum vote of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of _____, Connecticut will be held in the Town of _____ at the following polling places:

[INSERT TOWN POLLING PLACES]

and simultaneously in the other Towns in Regional School District Number 5 on Tuesday, May 8, 2012 between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M. pursuant to Section 10-56 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, upon a resolution adopted by the Regional Board of Education which will be placed on the ballot labels as the following question:

SHALL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 5
APPROPRIATE \$1,748,000 AND AUTHORIZE BONDS AND
TEMPORARY NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT FOR DESIGN,
CONSTRUCTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF VARIOUS
IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DISTRICT'S SCHOOL FACILITIES?
(Mr. Horwitz, 2d Mr. Stirling)

Roll Call Vote:

Christopher Browe	<u>yes</u>
Patricia Cardozo	<u>yes</u>
Sue Cohen	<u>yes</u>
Diane Crocco	<u>yes</u>
Steven DeMaio	<u>yes</u>
Rita Gedansky	<u>yes</u>
James Horwitz	<u>yes</u>
Thomas Hurley	<u>yes</u>
Tracey Lane Russo	<u>yes</u>
James Stirling	<u>yes</u>

Vote in favor unanimous.

The Amity Board of Education passed the following resolution with a roll call vote:

RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Board of Education is authorized, in such official's discretion, to prepare, and to cause to be printed and distributed, a concise explanatory text regarding the aforesaid question to be submitted to the voters of the District at referendum to be held May 8, 2012,

such explanatory text to be subject to the approval of the District's general counsel and to be prepared and distributed in accordance with subsections (a) and (b) of Section 9-369b of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. (Mr. Horwitz, 2d Ms. Cardozo)

Roll Call Vote:

Christopher Browe	<u>yes</u>
Patricia Cardozo	<u>yes</u>
Sue Cohen	<u>yes</u>
Diane Crocco	<u>yes</u>
Steven DeMaio	<u>yes</u>
Rita Gedansky	<u>yes</u>
James Horwitz	<u>yes</u>
Thomas Hurley	<u>yes</u>
Tracey Lane Russo	<u>yes</u>
James Stirling	<u>yes</u>

Vote in favor unanimous.

Discuss and Take Final Action on the 2012-2013 Amity Board of Education Operating Budget to be Submitted to Referendum on Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Dr. Brady's March 21, 2012 summarizes the proposed changes to the Board of Education 2012-2013 Budget, Adopted on February 13, 2012. Rather than an increase in total expenditures of \$401,022, or 0.92 percent, Dr. Brady recommends modifications that have a net positive effect. The changes will result in total expenditures of \$43,613,162, or \$204,541 or 0.47 percent higher than this fiscal year's budget.

Move that the Amity Board of Education adopt an operating budget for fiscal year 2012-2013 in the gross amount of \$43,613,162 and the net amount of \$41,664,551 and directs that this budget be forwarded to a referendum vote on May 8, 2012 (Mr. Stirling, 2d Mr. Horwitz).

Motion to amend the current motion, withdrawn (Ms. Cohen, 2d Ms. Gedansky).

Discussion:

Mr. Stirling said that there has been intense financial pressure with this budget. The Board has worked hard to find ways to reduce the budget. The Board has put in place methods for responding to decreasing enrollment. The current reduction is going too far in digging away at Amity and may be putting the District in jeopardy halfway through the year. He will, however, vote in favor of this budget. We feel a commitment to educate all students. Some of the expenses are beyond our control.

Mr. Hurley questioned who is paying for the ballots. Dr. Brady said that the towns pay for the ballots. Mr. Hurley said that he can't see funding staff with one-time grants that are eventually added to the operating budget. He applauds the changes he sees. He believes tuition students should be brought in to maintain programs. He hasn't seen a plan to get us out of this hole. The bar has been raised and the state won't let us lower the bar. He doesn't know the effect of reducing staff. When we don't ask the hard questions, we don't know the answers. He requested information on other options and didn't get the information. He can't support this budget. He doesn't feel that everything has been looked at.

Ms. Russo said that teachers are the most important part of the school system and they are getting a zero percent increase. She doesn't believe that we can't do better. We can only raise taxes so much in Orange. We're at over \$17,000 per student. She can't believe \$16,000 per student isn't enough. She doesn't support the budget.

Mr. Browe said that the teachers were asked to take a zero percent increase. The average overage for the budget is \$500,000. We should've shown that we could get to zero percent. We're \$200,000 away. The budget process leads to excesses in the half million range. Getting to zero percent would show the teachers that we would be willing to do what they were willing to do.

Ms. Cohen said that the budget is driven by the Board goals. The teacher contract came before this Board. Now it is being said that this isn't the way to go. These things should've come up and should come up with goal setting next year.

Mr. DeMaio said that when the preliminary budget was voted on, he asked that it be put on hold for one month. He talked to Mr. Blake, Mr. Stirling and Dr. Brady. He wanted to go over these issues before moving forward. He takes offense to Ms. Cohen's comments.

Ms. Cohen said that she felt that he voiced his concerns late.

Mr. Horwitz said that the Board has a responsibility to the students and the costs are expensive. The Board has been sensitive to Orange. The budget has been cut again and again. We are doing our best with Band-Aids and Scotch tape. It's not the Board's job to get the budget to zero. He would object that there isn't enough money in the budget. The bleachers aren't needed, but programs are. Real estate values are tied to a strong system of education. This budget should be enthusiastically supported.

Mr. Browe questioned what happens when money comes back from the state.

Dr. Brady said that the money goes into the budget. The money can be dealt with in a number of ways.

Vote in favor: Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Rita Gedansky, James Horwitz, James Stirling

Vote opposed: Christopher Browe, Steven DeMaio, Thomas Hurley, Tracey Lane Russo

Motion passed.

6. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. (Mr. Horwitz, 2d Ms. Gedansky).

Motion passed; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Gedansky, secretary
Marianne Lippard, recording clerk



AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

BETHANY * ORANGE * WOODBRIDGE

*John J. Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools*

*25 Newton Road
Woodbridge, CT 06525
john.brady@reg5.k12.ct.us
Phone: (203) 392-2106
Fax: (203) 397-4864*

To: Amity Board of Education Members
From: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
Re: Educational Channel 78
Date: April 4, 2012

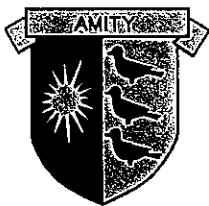
We currently cablecast into the Town of Woodbridge on E-TV Channel 78. We have been approached by Mr. Ron Davis, who is Chair of the Cable Advisory Committee, and currently responsible for programming in the Town of Orange on E-TV. Mr. Davis would like to hand over to Amity the programming responsibilities for cablecasting on E-TV in Orange.

If the Board authorizes me to commit to this transfer of responsibilities for cablecasting on E-TV in Orange, Amity will become the primary purveyor of transmissions into the Towns of Orange and Woodbridge. We would then become eligible for a CAC grant of up to \$100,000 in funding to support local cable programming. The grant would need to be completed soon.

We would like to purchase the equipment necessary to program the cablecasting of video content. Currently, we are limited to existing technology and are only able to cablecast the Amity High School marquee on E-TV Channel 78 into the Town of Woodbridge. The cost of the equipment is \$15,514 and there is a budget transfer request from the Contingency Account to pay for this.

I believe this is a wonderful opportunity for our school district. If the Board agrees, I recommend the following motion:

Move the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to commit Amity to pursue cablecasting on Educational Channel 78 for the Town of Orange.



AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
BETHANY • ORANGE • WOODBRIDGE

John J. Brady, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

25 Newton Road
Woodbridge, CT 06525
john.brady@reg5.k12.ct.us
Phone: (203) 392-2106
Fax: (203) 397-4864

March 14, 2012

Mr. William Blake, Chairman
Amity Regional Board of Education
Amity Regional School District No. 5

Dear Bill,

I was honored and humbled by the Board of Education this past Monday to name the auditorium after me. I want you and the Board to know that if a worthy individual emerges in the future, and a future Board would like to rename the auditorium, I will offer my full and unconditional support.

Once again, my thanks to the Board for this great honor.

Very truly yours,

John J. Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

C: Dr. Charles Britton
Mr. Robert Kennedy
Members of the Amity Board of Education
FILE

JJB/pfc

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525



John J. Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

john.brady@reg5.k12.ct.us
phone: (203) 392-2106
Fax: (203) 397-4864

April 9, 2012

To: Members of the Board of Education
From: John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
Re: Personnel Report

New Hire(s):

Amity Reg. High School – Woodbridge – None

Amity Reg. Middle Schools – Orange – None

Amity Reg. Middle School – Bethany – None

Coaches:

Amity Reg. High School – Woodbridge

Emily Morrell – Asst. Varsity Girls' Lacrosse – Woodbridge
Richard McGowan – Asst. Varsity Football – Woodbridge

Amity Reg. Middle Schools – Bethany / Orange - None

Resignation(s):

Natasha Zannelli – Coach – Asst. Varsity Cheerleading/Dance Team - Woodbridge

Retirement(s):

JJB/pfc

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

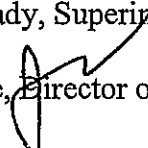
**Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525**



Jack B. Levine
Director of Finance and Administration
jack.levine@reg5.k12.ct.us

Phone (203) 397-4813
Fax (203) 397-4864

To: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools

From: Jack B. Levine,  Director of Finance and Administration

Re: Proposed Fund Balance Policy

Date: March 26, 2012

As you know, the Amity Board of Education wants the proposed Fund Balance Policy brought back to the Amity Finance Committee for an in-depth review at their next meeting. Since this is a technical, financial policy, it was felt the Amity Finance Committee should make recommendations to the Amity Board of Education rather than the Policy Committee.

Enclosure

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525



Jack B. Levine
Director of Finance and Administration
jack.levine@reg5.k12.ct.us

Phone (203) 397-4813
Fax (203) 397-4864

To: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
From: Jack B. Levine, Director of Finance and Administration
Re: Proposed Fund Balance Policy
Date: March 1, 2012

In compliance with GASB No. 54, attached is a draft Fund Balance Policy, which I have reviewed with our auditors. A Fund Balance Policy needs to be adopted by the Amity Board of Education.

In the opinion of Mr. Rob Howard, Partner in-charge of Amity's audit, the Board does not need to formally adopt existing special revenue funds unless it wishes to do so. Mr. Howard stated in an e-mail on February 29th, "Based on past practice, the fact that the Board of Education has always accepted them as special revenue funds, and based on the nature of activities in the funds, we were comfortable accepting them as special revenue funds."

I would like to present the proposed Fund Balance Policy to the Amity Finance Committee at their next meeting and ask for their comments. The draft Fund Balance Policy can then be brought to the Policy Committee.

Enclosure

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5 FUND BALANCE POLICY

This Fund Balance Policy establishes the procedures for reporting fund balance in governmental fund financial statements, including the General Fund financial statements. Certain commitments and assignments of fund balance will help ensure that there will be adequate financial resources to protect the District against unforeseen circumstances and events such as revenue shortfalls and unanticipated expenditures. The policy also authorizes and directs the Director of Finance and Administration to prepare financial reports which accurately categorize fund balance as per Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions.

Per GASB No. 54, fund balance consists of five categories: Nonspendable, Restricted, Committed, Assigned, and Unassigned:

- ☐ **Nonspendable fund balance** consists of funds that cannot be spent due to their form (e.g., inventories and prepaids) or funds that legally or contractually must be maintained intact.
- ☐ **Restricted fund balance** consists of funds that are mandated for a specific purpose by external parties, constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- ☐ **Committed fund balance** consists of funds that are set aside for a specific purpose by the district's highest level of decision making authority (the Board of Education). Formal action must be taken prior to the end of the fiscal year. The same formal action must be taken to remove or change the limitations placed on the funds.
- ☐ **Assigned fund balance** consists of funds that are set aside with the intent to be used for a specific purpose. The Director of Finance and Administration has the authority to assign fund balance, as discussed more fully below. Assigned funds cannot cause a deficit in unassigned fund balance.
- ☐ **Unassigned fund balance** consists of excess funds that have not been classified in the previous four categories. All funds in this category are considered spendable resources. The General Fund should be the only fund that reports a positive unassigned fund balance amount. In other governmental funds, if expenditures incurred for specific purposes exceeded the amounts restricted, committed, or assigned to those purposes, it may be necessary to report a negative unassigned fund balance in the applicable fund. This category also provides the resources necessary to meet unexpected expenditures and revenue shortfalls.

Nonspendable and Restricted Funds

Nonspendable funds are those funds that cannot be spent because they are either:

- 1) Not in spendable form (e.g., inventories and prepaids)
- 2) Legally or contractually required to be maintained intact

It is the responsibility of the Director of Finance and Administration to report all Nonspendable funds appropriately in the District's financial statements.

Restricted funds are those funds that have constraints placed on their use either:

- 1) Externally by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations or other governments
- 2) By law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

It is the responsibility of the Director of Finance and Administration to report all Restricted funds appropriately in the District's financial statements.

Classifying Fund Balance Amounts

When both restricted and unrestricted funds are available for expenditure, restricted funds should be spent first unless legal requirements disallow it.

When committed, assigned and unassigned funds are available for expenditure, committed funds should be spent first, assigned funds second, and unassigned funds last; unless the Board of Education has provided otherwise in its commitment or assignment actions.

Authority to Commit Funds

The District's Board of Education has the authority to set aside funds for a specific purpose and to commit revenue sources in special revenue funds. Any funds or revenues set aside as Committed require the passage of a resolution by a simple majority vote. The passage of a resolution must take place prior to June 30th of the applicable fiscal year. If the actual amount of the commitment is not available by June 30th, the resolution must state the process or formula necessary to calculate the actual amount as soon as information is available.

Authority to Assign Funds

Upon passage of the Fund Balance Policy, authority is given to the Director of Finance and Administration to assign funds for specific purposes. Any funds set aside as Assigned fund balance must be reported to the Board of Education at their next regular meeting. The Board of Education has the authority to remove or change the assignment of the funds with a simple majority vote.

Unassigned Fund Balance

Unassigned fund balance is the residual amount of fund balance in the General Fund. It represents the resources available for future appropriation. An appropriate level of Unassigned fund balance should be maintained in the General Fund in order to cover unexpected expenditures and revenue shortfalls.

The District is not authorized to maintain an unassigned fund balance and shall return the residual amount of fund balance in the General Fund, upon being audited, to the member towns in proportion to the allocation percentage used in the budget for the same fiscal year. The authorization to return funds to the member towns shall require the passage of a resolution by a simple majority vote of the District's Board of Education.

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR FY 2011-2012

LINE	CATEGORY	COLUMN 1 2010-2011 ACTUAL	COLUMN 2 2011-2012 BUDGET	COLUMN 3 FEB '12 FORECAST	COLUMN 4 CHANGE INCR./ (DECR.)	COLUMN 5 MAR '12 FORECAST	COLUMN 6 VARIANCE OVER/(UNDER)	COL 7 FAV UNF
1	MEMBER TOWN ALLOCATIONS	40,645,362	41,199,830	41,199,830	0	41,199,830	0	FAV
2	OTHER REVENUE	252,290	196,397	209,075	1,633	210,708	14,311	FAV
3	OTHER STATE GRANTS	653,539	552,122	597,711	33,320	631,031	78,909	FAV
4	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	1,182,495	982,148	1,017,597	2,760	1,020,357	38,209	FAV
5	BUILDING RENOVATION GRANTS	488,111	478,124	478,124	0	478,124	0	FAV
6	TOTAL REVENUES	43,221,797	43,408,621	43,502,337	37,713	43,540,050	131,429	FAV
7	SALARIES	21,952,932	22,831,870	22,778,597	8,527	22,787,124	(44,746)	FAV
8	BENEFITS	5,039,066	5,371,399	5,451,876	(172)	5,451,704	80,305	UNF
9	PURCHASED SERVICES	5,444,161	6,050,445	5,744,545	(60,611)	5,683,934	(366,511)	FAV
10	DEBT SERVICE	5,789,534	5,562,444	5,562,444	0	5,562,444	0	FAV
11	SUPPLIES (INCLUDING UTILITIES)	3,187,994	3,158,195	3,035,138	(210)	3,034,928	(123,267)	FAV
12	EQUIPMENT	257,996	108,196	161,259	20,514	181,773	73,577	UNF
13	IMPROVEMENTS / CONTINGENCY	29,249	207,000	120,850	(20,514)	100,336	(106,664)	FAV
14	DUES AND FEES	90,903	119,072	119,072	0	119,072	0	FAV
15	TRANSFER ACCOUNT	728,868	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
16	ESTIMATED UNSPENT BUDGETS	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
17	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	42,520,703	43,408,621	42,973,781	(52,466)	42,921,315	(487,306)	FAV
18	SUBTOTAL	701,094	0	528,556	90,179	618,735	618,735	FAV
19	PLUS: CANCELLATION OF PRIOR YEAR'S ENCUMBRANCES	37,940						
20	DESIGNATED FOR SUBSEQUENT YEAR'S BUDGET:							
21	LESS: ASSIGNED TO NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET	(675,000)		(300,000)	0	(300,000)	(300,000)	UNF
22	LESS: COMMITTED TO ERRP	(64,034)						
23	NET BALANCE / (DEFICIT)	0	0	228,556	90,179	318,735	318,735	FAV

Column 7: FAV=Favorable Variance
Revenues: At or OVER budget
Expenditures: At or UNDER budget

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR FY 2011-2012

LINE	CATEGORY	COLUMN 1 2010-2011 ACTUAL	COLUMN 2 2011-2012 BUDGET	COLUMN 3 FEB '12 FORECAST	COLUMN 4 CHANGE INCR./(DECR.)	COLUMN 5 MAR '12 FORECAST	COLUMN 6 VARIANCE OVER/(UNDER)	COL 7 FAV UNF
1	BETHANY ALLOCATION	8,607,468	8,439,785	8,439,785	0	8,439,785	0	FAV
2	ORANGE ALLOCATION	19,302,889	19,944,426	19,944,426	0	19,944,426	0	FAV
3	WOODBIDGE ALLOCATION	12,735,005	12,815,619	12,815,619	0	12,815,619	0	FAV
4	MEMBER TOWN ALLOCATIONS	40,645,362	41,199,830	41,199,830	0	41,199,830	0	FAV
5	ADULT EDUCATION	3,170	3,130	3,343	0	3,343	213	FAV
6	PARKING INCOME	30,435	31,745	29,226	0	29,226	(2,519)	UNF
7	INVESTMENT INCOME	2,509	7,500	500	0	500	(7,000)	UNF
8	ATHLETICS	22,054	20,000	22,370	3,583	25,953	5,953	FAV
9	TUITION REVENUE	72,747	62,072	79,152	0	79,152	17,080	FAV
10	TRANSPORTATION INCOME	121,375	71,950	74,484	(1,950)	72,534	584	FAV
11	TRANSPORTATION BOWA AGREEMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
12	OTHER REVENUE	252,290	196,397	209,075	1,633	210,708	14,311	FAV
13	BESB GRANT	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
14	SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANTS	653,539	552,122	597,711	33,320	631,031	78,909	FAV
15	OTHER STATE GRANTS	653,539	552,122	597,711	33,320	631,031	78,909	FAV
16	RENTAL INCOME	34,690	29,000	26,103	(2,000)	24,103	(4,897)	UNF
17	CAPITAL RESERVE	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
18	CONSTRUCTION SINKING DEBT FUND	255,000	262,000	262,000	0	262,000	0	FAV
19	DESIGNATED FROM PRIOR YEAR	800,000	675,000	675,000	0	675,000	0	FAV
20	EARLY RETIREE REINSURANCE PROGRAM	64,034	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
21	OTHER REVENUE	28,771	16,148	54,494	4,760	59,254	43,106	FAV
22	TRANSFER IN	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
23	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	1,182,495	982,148	1,017,597	2,760	1,020,357	38,209	FAV
24	BUILDING RENOVATION GRANTS	488,111	478,124	478,124	0	478,124	0	FAV
25	TOTAL REVENUES	43,221,797	43,408,621	43,502,337	37,713	43,540,050	131,429	FAV

Column 7: FAV=Favorable Variance
Revenues: At or OVER budget
Expenditures: At or UNDER budget

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR FY 2011-2012

LINE	CATEGORY	COLUMN 1 2010-2011 ACTUAL	COLUMN 2 2011-2012 BUDGET	COLUMN 3 FEB '12 FORECAST	COLUMN 4 CHANGE INCR./DECR.)	COLUMN 5 MAR '12 FORECAST	COLUMN 6 VARIANCE OVER/(UNDER)	COLUMN 7 FAV UNF
1	5111-CERTIFIED SALARIES	18,621,650	19,352,371	19,256,742	0	19,256,742	(95,629)	FAV
2	5112-CLASSIFIED SALARIES	3,331,282	3,479,499	3,521,855	8,527	3,530,382	50,883	UNF
3	SALARIES	21,952,932	22,831,870	22,778,597	8,527	22,787,124	(44,746)	FAV
4	5200-MEDICARE - ER	283,691	280,907	294,380	110	294,490	13,583	UNF
5	5210-FICA - ER	214,362	223,673	222,439	83	222,522	(1,151)	FAV
6	5220-WORKERS' COMPENSATION	112,508	127,340	119,070	0	119,070	(8,270)	FAV
7	5231-BLUE CROSS DENTAL	257,059	229,450	257,358	(365)	256,993	27,543	UNF
8	5251-MEDICAL INSURANCE	2,881,555	3,199,158	3,219,600	0	3,219,600	20,442	UNF
9	5860-OPEB TRUST	373,757	376,753	376,753	0	376,753	0	FAV
10	5260-LIFE INSURANCE	42,150	43,838	45,246	0	45,246	1,408	UNF
11	5275-DISABILITY INSURANCE	9,773	10,103	9,349	0	9,349	(754)	FAV
12	5280-PENSION PLAN - CLASSIFIED	525,437	599,032	599,032	0	599,032	0	FAV
13	5282-RETIREMENT SICK LEAVE - CERT	133,554	113,827	113,827	0	113,827	0	FAV
14	5283-RETIREMENT SICK LEAVE - CLASS	12,165	24,093	24,093	0	24,093	0	FAV
15	5284-SEVERANCE PAY - CERTIFIED	162,905	131,225	131,225	0	131,225	0	FAV
16	5290-UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	30,150	12,000	39,504	0	39,504	27,504	UNF
17	BENEFITS	5,039,066	5,371,399	5,451,876	(172)	5,451,704	80,305	UNF
18	5322-INSTRUCTIONAL PROG IMPROVEMENT	7,510	10,683	10,683	0	10,683	0	FAV
19	5327-DATA PROCESSING	64,297	60,458	60,958	0	60,958	500	UNF
20	5330-OTHER PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL SRVC	890,141	916,434	984,933	0	984,933	68,499	UNF
21	5440-RENTALS - LAND, BLDG, EQUIPMENT	68,932	64,359	64,359	0	64,359	0	FAV
22	5510-PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	1,934,035	2,291,704	2,177,698	(26,764)	2,150,934	(140,770)	FAV
23	5521-GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE	152,144	173,133	155,689	2,641	158,330	(14,803)	FAV
24	5550-COMMUNICATIONS: TEL, POST, ETC.	79,989	74,026	72,526	3,000	75,526	1,500	UNF
25	5560-TUITION EXPENSE	2,185,134	2,380,616	2,138,667	(39,488)	2,099,179	(281,437)	FAV
26	5590-OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES	61,979	79,032	79,032	0	79,032	0	FAV
27	PURCHASED SERVICES	5,444,161	6,050,445	5,744,545	(60,611)	5,683,934	(366,511)	FAV

Column 7: FAV=Favorable Variance
Revenues: At or OVER budget
Expenditures: At or UNDER budget

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
FOR FY 2011-2012

LINE	CATEGORY	COLUMN 1 2010-2011 ACTUAL	COLUMN 2 2011-2012 BUDGET	COLUMN 3 FEB '12 FORECAST	COLUMN 4 CHANGE INCR./DECR.)	COLUMN 5 MAR '12 FORECAST	COLUMN 6 VARIANCE OVER/(UNDER)	COL 7 FAV UNF
28	5830-INTEREST	2,014,534	1,832,444	1,832,444	0	1,832,444	0	FAV
29	5910-REDEMPTION OF PRINCIPAL	3,775,000	3,730,000	3,730,000	0	3,730,000	0	FAV
30	DEBT SERVICE	5,789,534	5,562,444	5,562,444	0	5,562,444	0	FAV
31	5410-UTILITIES, EXCLUDING HEAT	846,082	922,583	841,807	(210)	841,597	(80,986)	FAV
32	5420-REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE & CLEANING	832,855	667,994	667,994	0	667,994	0	FAV
33	5611-INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES	356,040	337,893	332,393	0	332,393	(5,500)	FAV
34	5613-MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	170,586	172,207	172,207	0	172,207	0	FAV
35	5620-OIL USED FOR HEATING	231,179	329,994	330,636	0	330,636	642	UNF
36	5627-TRANSPORTATION SUPPLIES	126,466	159,127	159,127	0	159,127	0	FAV
37	5641-TEXTBOOKS	120,543	72,379	72,379	0	72,379	0	FAV
38	5642-LIBRARY BOOKS & PERIODICALS	23,997	23,925	23,925	0	23,925	0	FAV
39	5690-OTHER SUPPLIES	480,246	472,093	434,670	0	434,670	(37,423)	FAV
40	SUPPLIES (INCLUDING UTILITIES)	3,187,994	3,158,195	3,035,138	(210)	3,034,928	(123,267)	FAV
41	5730-EQUIPMENT - NEW	87,590	42,423	50,686	20,514	71,200	28,777	UNF
42	5731-EQUIPMENT - REPLACEMENT	170,406	65,773	110,573	0	110,573	44,800	UNF
43	EQUIPMENT	257,996	108,196	161,259	20,514	181,773	73,577	UNF
44	5715-IMPROVEMENTS TO BUILDING	26,049	9,000	9,000	0	9,000	0	FAV
45	5720-IMPROVEMENTS TO SITES	3,200	48,000	48,000	0	48,000	0	FAV
46	5850-CONTINGENCY	0	150,000	150,000	0	150,000	0	FAV
46A	TRSF. FROM CONTINGENCY TO OTHER ACCTS.	0	0	(86,150)	(20,514)	(106,664)	(106,664)	FAV
47	5855-CAPITAL RESERVE	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
48	IMPROVEMENTS / CONTINGENCY	29,249	207,000	120,850	(20,514)	100,336	(106,664)	FAV
49	5580-STAFF TRAVEL	13,488	19,546	19,546	0	19,546	0	FAV
50	5581-TRAVEL - CONFERENCES	16,036	16,449	16,449	0	16,449	0	FAV
51	5810-DUES & FEES	61,379	83,077	83,077	0	83,077	0	FAV
52	DUES AND FEES	90,903	119,072	119,072	0	119,072	0	FAV
53	5856-TRANSFER ACCOUNT	728,868	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
54	ESTIMATED UNSPENT BUDGETS	0	0	0	0	0	0	FAV
55	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	42,520,703	43,408,621	42,973,781	(52,466)	42,921,315	(487,306)	FAV

Column 7: FAV=Favorable Variance
Revenues: At or OVER budget
Expenditures: At or UNDER budget

**AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
REVENUES & EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY
FINANCIAL ANALYSIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012**

MARCH 2012

OVERALL

NOTE: The following documentation standards are provided:

- ✓ New comments are noted in boldface, italic print; and
- ✓ Each reference to a line number is accompanied by the page number of the excel spreadsheet.

2010-2011 ACTUAL

Post-closing adjustments reduced expenditures by **\$15,785.22 FAV** due to unspent encumbrances. These additional funds were transferred to Reserve Fund for Capital and Nonrecurring Expenditures and designated for the Amity High School roof restoration project. The Amity Finance Committee and Amity Board of Education had authorized the use of any unused balance for this purpose.

The cancellation of prior year's encumbrances added **\$37,940**, as shown on page 1, column 1, line 19.

The Adopted 2011-2012 Budget designates **\$675,000** of unspent funds on page 1, column 1, line 21. There is **\$64,034** committed to the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (ERRP) under the Federal Affordable Care Act on page 1, column 1, line 22.

The net balance is **\$0** on page 1, column 1, line 23. No funds will be returned to the Member Towns.

2011-2012 FORECAST

The projected net balance of revenues and expenditures for this fiscal year is ***\$618,735 FAV under budget (previously \$528,556 FAV under budget)***, which appears on page 1, column 6, line 18. The proposed 2012-2013 budget assigns \$300,000 of the projected net balance from this fiscal year to lower Member Town Allocations, which appears on page 1, column 6, line 21. ***Projected Net Balance is \$318,735 FAV (previously \$228,556 under budget, which appears on page 1, column 6, line 23.***

REVENUES BY CATEGORY

The projected yearend balance of revenues is **\$131,429 FAV over budget (previously \$93,716 FAV over budget)**, which appears on page 2, column 6, line 25.

LINE 5 on Page 2: ADULT EDUCATION:

The forecast is based on the current State award.

LINE 6 on Page 2: PARKING INCOME:

The forecast is based on year-to-date receipts plus a projection of revenues for the remainder of the school year.

LINE 7 on Page 2: INVESTMENT INCOME:

The budget assumes an interest rate of 1.00 percent. The average interest rates by month for the State Treasurer's Investment Fund (STIF) are shown below:

Average Interest Rates by Month

<u>Month</u>	<u>Rate</u>
June	0.21%
July	0.18%
August	0.17%
September	0.18%
October	0.32%
November	0.16%
December	0.16%
January	0.11%
February	0.11%
<i>March</i>	<i>0.10%</i>

Actual interest income earned in 2010-2011 is \$2,508.66. Based on the current low interest rates, the forecast of interest income is \$500. The budget is \$7,500.

LINE 8 on Page 2: ATHLETICS:

The forecast is based on actual revenue collected to-date.

LINE 9 on Page 2: TUITION REVENUE:

Six tuition students are anticipated compared to the budget of four tuition students.

LINE 10 on Page 2: TRANSPORTATION INCOME:

The forecast is based on the most current information from the State.

LINE 14 on page 2: SPECIAL EDUCATION GRANTS:

The forecast is based on the most current information from the State. The estimated reimbursement rate is 77.12 percent compared to the budgeted reimbursement rate of 75 percent. In addition, the forecast is based on the District's March filing.

LINE 16 on Page 2: RENTAL INCOME:

The forecast is based on a historical analysis and year-to-date receipts.

LINE 21 on Page 2: OTHER REVENUE:

The forecast includes an incentive award of \$25,725 FAV from Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) for installing a solar-based water heating system with a tankless back-up for the Field House. The forecast includes \$6,000 FAV reimbursement from FEMA related to the January snow storm and \$4,000 FAV from a legal settlement with a company who illegally sold items with the Amity logo. *The forecast includes a reimbursement of \$4,760.15 FAV from FEMA for the major snowstorm in October 2011. Other miscellaneous revenues received to-date is included in the forecast.*

EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY

The projected yearend balance of expenditures is **\$487,306 FAV under budget** (previously **\$434,840 FAV under budget**), which appears on page 4, column 6, line 55.

LINE 1 on Page 3: 5111-CERTIFIED SALARIES:

'Turnover savings' from replacing teachers, who retired or resigned, and the savings from hiring lower costing certified substitutes for teachers on a leave-of-absence, were approximately **\$84,000 FAV** over the budgeted savings. This is partially offset by the higher pay to some teachers due to degree changes, which is about **\$38,000 UNF** higher than budgeted. Long-term coverage expense was increased by **\$2,527 UNF** over the previous forecast. An additional **\$7,000 FAV** in savings is projected based on a long-term leave-of-absence. The forecast includes **\$7,000 UNF** to pay two bench subs \$70 per day each for 50 days to allow us to maintain the tutoring which we are using as part of RTI programming and CAPT prep remediation efforts. The forecast includes **\$11,000 FAV** of savings due to several unpaid leaves of absence. Projected coverage expenses are **\$38,000 FAV** lower than previously forecasted. Homebound expenditures are expected to be **\$5,000 UNF** over budget. The forecast is based on the current staffing.

LINE 2 on Page 3: 5112-CLASSIFIED SALARIES:

Estimated overtime was increased by **\$3,028 UNF** from the prior forecast. Projected substitute and overtime costs are estimated to be higher by **\$26,000 UNF** as a result of three custodians out on long-term absences and overtime for the technology staff to implement a server upgrade. *Custodial overtime forecast was increased by \$8,500 UNF. The forecast was updated based on current staffing.*

LINE 4 on Page 3: 5200-MEDICARE – ER:

The forecast for this account is based on projected salaries.

LINE 5 on Page 3: 5210-FICA – ER:

The forecast for this account is based on projected salaries.

LINE 6 on Page 3: 5220-WORKERS' COMPENSATION:

Workers' compensation insurance budget was based on information from our carrier in December 2010. Due to the District's excellent accident loss ratio over the past five years, the actual bid from Trident Insurance of \$117,440 was under budget by **\$900 FAV**. The audit premium is budgeted at \$9,000. The audit premium was \$1,630, or under budget by **\$7,370 FAV**.

LINE 7 on Page 3: 5231-BLUE CROSS DENTAL:

The forecast is based on current staffing.

LINE 8 on Page 3: 5251-MEDICAL INSURANCE:

The forecast is based on current staffing.

LINE 10 on Page 3: 5260-LIFE INSURANCE:

The forecast for this account is based on the current staffing.

LINE 11 on Page 3: 5275-DISABILITY INSURANCE:

The forecast for this account is based on the current staffing.

LINE 16 on Page 3: 5290-UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION:

The District received an invoice for \$17,504.00 from the State of Connecticut Department of Labor for the month ending September 30, 2011. A budget transfer of **\$17,504 UNF** was approved to pay for this. The forecast assumes an additional **\$10,000 UNF** will be incurred during the remainder of the fiscal year.

LINE 19 on Page 3: DATA PROCESSING:

A fee of **\$500 UNF** was paid to change the signatures for Accounts Payable and Payroll checks due to the change of the Board Treasurer.

LINE 20 on Page 3: OTHER PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL SERVICES:

The Health and Welfare Benefits Consultants were selected from several bidders. Marsh & McLennan Agency was awarded the bid for \$25,000. The 2011-2012 budget for this service is \$40,000, or a favorable variance of **\$15,000 FAV**. The forecast includes **\$20,735 UNF** to pay for a Speech and Language Pathologist substitute to cover for a teacher on a leave-of-absence. Legal expenditures are anticipated to be **\$30,000 UNF (previously \$20,000 UNF)** over budget due to the upcoming negotiations in the spring with the secretaries, paraprofessionals, custodians and nurses unions. The forecast includes **\$15,000 UNF (previously \$20,000 UNF)** for consulting services to assist the Board of Education in the selection of a new Superintendent of Schools. In addition, a final payment to Day Pitney LLP of **\$6,014 UNF** was made for professional services rendered in connection with the IRS audit of \$20,000,000 General Obligation Bonds and \$8,190,000 Bond Anticipation Notes. The IRS has notified us of a "No-Change Determination" after completing their examination of our bonds. A budget transfer of **\$11,750 UNF** from the Contingency Account was made to pay for an infrared analysis to identify any trapped moisture, core tests for tensile strength, and asbestos testing on a portion of the Amity High School roof.

LINE 22 on Page 3: 5510-PUPIL TRANSPORTATION:

The forecast projects special education transportation to be **\$140,770 FAV under budget (previously \$114,006 FAV under budget)**.

LINE 23 on Page 3: 5521-GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE:

The budget was based on an estimate provided by our insurance carrier for liability-automobile-property (LAP) insurance in December 2010. The LAP insurance was \$142,060, or **\$16,073 FAV under budget**. Student Accident Insurance premium was \$10,629, or **\$1,371 FAV under budget**. *Other insurance exceeded budget by \$2,641 UNF.*

LINE 24 on Page 3: 5550-COMMUNICATIONS: TELEPHONE, POSTAGE:

The forecast includes a budget transfer of \$1,500 from this account to certified salaries to pay two bench subs \$70 per day each for 50 days to allow us to maintain the tutoring which we are using as part of RTI programming and CAPT prep remediation efforts. *This account is projected to exceed budget due to higher telephone expenses.*

LINE 25 on Page 3: 5560-TUITION EXPENSE:

These figures are subject to change on a monthly basis.

Tuition for the vo-ag schools is projected at \$67,007 FAV under budget.

	FY07-08 ACTUAL	FY08-09 ACTUAL	FY09-10 ACTUAL	FY10-11 ACTUAL	FY11-12 BUDGET	FY11-12 ENROLLED
Sound	5	9	9	7	7	6
Trumbull	1	1	2	4	4	3
Nonnewaug	2	4	5	5	6	3
Totals	8	14	16	16	17	12

Public (ACES) and private out-of-district placements are projected at \$273,830 FAV under budget (previously \$234,342 FAV under budget).

	FY07-08 ACTUAL	FY08-09 ACTUAL	FY09-10 ACTUAL	FY10-11 ACTUAL	FY11-12 BUDGET	FY11-12 ENROLLED
Public SPED	8.25	9	7	6	7	6
Private SPED	18	21	20.5	21	22	24(26)
Totals	26.25	30	27.5	27	29	30(32)

Note: 0.5 is a part-time student.

The forecast includes 25 students at ACES Educational Center for the Arts. The projected tuition is \$59,400 UNF over budget.

LINE 31 on Page 4: 5410-UTILITIES, EXCLUDING HEAT:

Electricity usage is projected at 4,733,252 kilowatt hours based on a three-year average compared to a budgeted usage of 4,771,558 kilowatt hours. (Last fiscal year's usage was 4,656,641 kilowatt hours.) The forecasted price is \$0.181 per kilowatt hour compared to a budgeted price of \$0.1767 per kilowatt hour. The distribution side was increased by DPUC. (Last fiscal year's price was \$0.177 per kilowatt hour.) The Amity High School lighting retrofit project is forecasted to lower the kilowatt hour usage by 20 percent, or a savings (net of loan payment) of approximately \$52,000 FAV under budget (previously \$52,000 FAV under budget).

The load shed numbers from participating in the program during last fiscal year is \$23,916 FAV.

Propane usage is estimated at *7,000 gallons at \$2.89 per gallon (previously \$2.92 per gallon)*. The budget is 11,000 gallons at \$3.00 per gallon. (Last fiscal year's usage was 8,346 gallons.) We anticipate the new, more efficient Field House hot water system will lower our usage. This will be partially offset by the extra lunch wave at the high school due to the eight-period schedule. The projected savings for this fiscal year is *\$12,770 FAV (previously \$12,560 FAV)*.

Sewer expenses are projected to be \$25,700, or \$7,700 UNF over budget.

LINE 32 on page 4: 5420-REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE & CLEANING:

A lightning strike occurred on July 31, 2011 at Bethany Middle School. Multiple vendors were needed to repair extensive damage to the Building Management and Life Safety systems. We have been paying vendors out of the Bethany Middle School repair account. The insurance company paid \$44,955.55 (total cost of \$45,955.55 less \$1,000 deductible), which was credited to the expense account.

Total expenditures related to Tropical Storm Irene were \$7,182.49. Our insurance agent informed us that only \$1,155 for roof repairs qualifies for insurance coverage. With a \$1,000 deductible, we expect an insurance check for \$155. The insurance company paid \$731.00 related to wind damage caused by the storm, which has been credited to the expense account.

The budget for snow removal and sanding is \$47,000. Total expenses have been \$16,950 as of March 1, 2012. We plan to use whatever funds may be available to do some needed repair projects.

LINE 33 on Page 4: 5611-INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES:

The forecast includes a budget transfer of **\$5,500 FAV** from this account to certified salaries to pay two bench subs \$70 per day each for 50 days to allow us to maintain the tutoring which we are using as part of RTI programming and CAPT prep remediation efforts.

LINE 35 on Page 4: 5620-OIL USED FOR HEATING:

Fuel was purchased for the generator at Bethany Middle School during Tropical Storm Irene. The unbudgeted expense was **\$398 UNF**. Additional fuel was purchased for the generator at Bethany Middle School during the power outage. The unbudgeted expense was **\$244 UNF**.

The number of degree days to-date is 3,699 with a normal of 4,552. The actual number of degree days is about 19 percent lower than normal (previously 14 percent lower than normal). With the warmer weather and the potential of converting to natural gas at Amity High School, we are projecting a surplus of *30,000 gallons of unused heating oil (previously estimated at 20,000 to 30,000 gallons)*. We are committed to purchase these gallons; however, we are discussing what it will cost to 'store' these gallons for next fiscal year.

LINE 39 on Page 4: 5690-OTHER SUPPLIES:

The Microsoft licensing fee is \$12,749 FAV under budget. The District has problems with its wireless infrastructure. We purchased a M6000 wireless controller and 8 high density access points for \$32,000. To pay for this, we have found savings of \$24,674 FAV in the Technology Department budget. A budget transfer request has been made to move these funds to the Equipment – Replacement account.

LINE 40 on Page 4: 5730-EQUIPMENT-NEW:

Budget transfers under \$3,000 were approved in October to purchase an ADA compliant cafeteria table and some iPads / iPods. The District has problems with its wireless infrastructure. We purchased a M6000 wireless controller and 8 high density access points for \$32,000. To pay for this, we have found savings of \$7,326 FAV in the Technology Department budget. A budget transfer request has been made to move these funds to the Equipment – Replacement account. *A budget transfer of \$5,000 UNF is requested from the Contingency Account to purchase a robot, software, carrying case, warranty and support. A budget transfer of \$15,514 UNF is requested from the Contingency Account for the equipment necessary to program the cablecasting of video content on E-TV for the town of Orange.*

LINE 42 on Page 4: 5731-EQUIPMENT-REPLACEMENT:

The forecast includes the purchase of a replacement server for \$12,650 UNF. The District has problems with its wireless infrastructure. We purchased a M6000 wireless controller and 8 high density access points for \$32,000 UNF. A budget transfer request has been made to pay for these items.

LINE 46 and LINE 46A on Page 4: 5850-CONTINGENCY:

The forecast assumes the entire Contingency Account of \$150,000 will be spent by year end. The Contingency Account has a balance of \$75,600. *The balance is \$63,850; if the budget transfers are approved, the new balance will be \$43,336.*

July (voted in June): \$67,411 UNF – Pay the full tuition for 27 students at ACES Educational Center for the Arts. All Superintendents of Schools were informed of the requirement to pay for the full tuition costs, less any applicable grants, for all students enrolled in the inter-district magnet school program. The ACES Governing Board has set the tuition at \$8,746.00. After subtracting the anticipated funding from each student from the CSDE Inter-district Magnet School grant, the remaining balance of tuition to be paid would be approximately \$3,793.00 per student. Boards of Education in Connecticut are required to pay tuition for the three-year average student enrollment, which is 27 students for Amity. We must pay \$102,411. The 2011-2012 Adopted Budget has \$35,000 for ECA tuition payments. Thus, we have a shortfall of \$67,411 is being covered by using the Contingency Account.

October: \$3,793 FAV - Actual enrollment is 26 students at ACES Educational Center for the Arts. A budget transfer of \$3,793 from Tuition to Contingency Account was approved.

December: \$15,000 UNF – (The budget transfer request of \$20,000 was changed by the Amity Board of Education to \$15,000.) A budget transfer was made to pay for consulting services to assist the Board of Education in the selection of a new Superintendent of Schools.

December: \$4,218 FAV – A budget transfer of \$4,218 from Tuition to Contingency Account was made based on the actual enrollment of 25 students at ACES Educational Center for the Arts and the actual tuition of \$3,776 per student.

February: \$11,750 UNF – An infrared analysis is needed to identify any trapped moisture, core test for tensile strength, and asbestos testing on a portion of the Amity High School roof.

April: \$5,000 UNF – *A budget transfer is requested to purchase a robot, software, carrying case, warranty and support. The other funding of \$3,200 will come from available funds from the Bethany Middle School budget and a generous PTO contribution. The total cost is \$8,200.*

April: \$15,514 UNF – *A budget transfer is requested for the equipment necessary to program the cablecasting of video content on E-TV for the town of Orange.*

Amity Regional School District No. 5 - Budget Transfers 2011-2012

<u>MONTH/YR</u>	<u>JNL#</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NUMBER & DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
2011-JUL	15	01-04-12-6117-5560 TUITION EXPENSE	67,411.00	ECA TUITION MAND
2011-JUL	15	01-05-15-0000-5850 CONTINGENCY	(67,411.00)	ECA TUITION MAND
2011-JUL	28	01-03-11-1010-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	1,700.00	ALLSTATE&NE SOUND
2011-JUL	28	01-03-11-1010-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(1,700.00)	ALLSTATE&NE SOUND
2011-AUG	13	01-02-111014-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	920.00	ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES NEEDED
2011-AUG	13	01-02-111014-5641 TEXTBOOKS	(920.00)	ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES NEEDED
2011-AUG	16	01-02-142219-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(78.00)	PRICE INCREASE
2011-AUG	16	01-02-111007-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	78.00	PRICE INCREASE
2011-AUG	25	01-02-111014-5810 DUES&FEES	(94.00)	PRICE INCREASE
2011-AUG	25	01-02-111014-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	94.00	PRICE INCREASE
2011-AUG	39	01-02111001-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(100.00)	SHIPPING CHARGE
2011-AUG	39	01-02-111001-5731 EQUIPMENT-REPLACE	150.00	SHIPPING CHARGE
2011-AUG	39	01-02-142219-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(50.00)	SHIPPING CHARGE
2011-AUG	57	01-03-111006-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(2,907.00)	INC ENROLLMENT
2011-AUG	57	01-03-111006-5641 TEXTBOOKS	2,907.00	INC ENROLLMENT
2011-AUG	161	01-01-132220-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	500.00	AUTHOR VISIT FOR SCHOOL
2011-AUG	161	01-01-132220-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(500.00)	AUTHOR VISIT FOR SCHOOL
2011-AUG	118	01-05-142350-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	1,423.00	APPS-PAGES,NOTES,KEYNOTE
2011-AUG	118	01-05-142320-5810 DUES &FEES	(1,423.00)	APPS-PAGES,NOTES,KEYNOTE
2011-AUG	136	01-05152512-5220 WORKERS COMPENS	(2,801.00)	CAPSS MEMBERSHIP
2011-AUG	136	01-05142310-5810 DUES&FEES	2,801.00	CAPSS MEMBERSHIP
2011-SEPT	65	01-01132400-5590 OTHER PURCHASED SVC	(116.00)	RETURN OF ITEMS SHIPPED
2011-SEPT	65	01-01132400-5420 REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE	116.00	RETURN OF ITEMS SHIPPED
2011-SEPT	65	01-01132400-5590 OTHER PURCHASED SVC	(315.00)	POSTAGE METER SHORTAGE
2011-SEPT	65	01-01132400-5550 COMMUNICATIONS	315.00	POSTAGE METER SHORTAGE
2011-SEPT	88	01-03111013-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(2,200.00)	ADDITIONAL TEXTS NEEDED
2011-SEPT	88	01-03111013-5641 TEXTBOOKS	2,200.00	ADDITIONAL TEXTS NEEDED
2011-SEPT	89	01-03132220-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(750.00)	PURCHASE WHITEBOARD
2011-SEPT	89	01-0313220-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	750.00	PURCHASE WHITEBOARD
2011-SEPT	133	01-03111008-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(51.00)	TEXTBOOKS/INC ENROLL
2011-SEPT	133	01-03111008-5641 TEXTBOOKS	51.00	TEXTBOOKS/INC ENROLL
2011-SEPT	159	01-01142600-5620 OIL USED FOR HEATING	398.00	GENERATOR FUEL-HURRICANE
2011-SEPT	159	01-05152512-5220 WORKERS COMPENS	(398.00)	GENERATOR FUEL-HURRICANE
2011-SEPT	210	01-03111013-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(120.00)	INCR COST OF TEXTBOOK
2011-SEPT	210	01-03111013-5641 TEXTBOOKS	120.00	INCR COST OF TEXTBOOK
2011-SEPT	227	01-01111006-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(140.00)	LANGUAGE TEACHER WORKSHOP
2011-SEPT	227	01-01111006-5810 DUES&FEES	140.00	LANGUAGE TEACHER WORKSHOP
2011-SEPT	273	01-01132220-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(100.00)	AUTHOR VISIT
2011-SEPT	273	01-01132220-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	100.00	AUTHOR VISIT
2011-OCT	2	01-01111011-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(155.00)	ATTEND CONFERENCE
2011-OCT	2	01-01132400-5581 TRAVEL-CONFERENCES	155.00	ATTEND CONFERENCE
2011-OCT	16	01-05142510-5521 GENERAL LIAB INSUR	(937.00)	APPLE CONFERNCE
2011-OCT	16	01-04121200-5581 TRAVEL-CONFERENCES	469.00	APPLE CONFERNCE
2011-OCT	16	01-05132212-5581 TRAVEL-CONFERENCES	468.00	APPLE CONFERNCE
2011-OCT	22	01-01111013-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(150.00)	APPLE CONFERNCE
2011-OCT	22	01-01132400-5581 TRAVEL-CONFERENCES	150.00	APPLE CONFERNCE
2011-OCT	26	01-04121200-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(210.00)	CONFERENCE FEE
2011-OCT	26	01-04132190-5581 TRAVEL-CONFERENCES	210.00	CONFERENCE FEE
2011-OCT	54	01-02111005-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(1,732.00)	PURCHASE IPAD/IPODS
2011-OCT	54	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	1,732.00	PURCHASE IPAD/IPODS
2011-OCT	56	01-05152512-5220 WORKERS COMPENS	(1,570.00)	CAFÉ TABLE,ADA
2011-OCT	56	01-03132400-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	1,570.00	CAFÉ TABLE,ADA
2011-OCT	130	01-04122150-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	20,735.00	LOA FOR SPEECH TEACHER
2011-OCT	130	01-05151026-5111 CERTIFIED SALARIES	(20,735.00)	LOA FOR SPEECH TEACHER
2011-OCT	130	01-05150000-5850 CONTINGENCY	3,793.00	ECA ENROLLMENT
2011-OCT	130	01-04126117-5560 TUITION EXPENSE	(3,793.00)	ECA ENROLLMENT
2011-OCT	160	01-01111010-5440 RENTALS-LAND,BLDG,	(2,805.00)	PURCHASE STEP RISERS
2011-OCT	160	01-01111010-5730 EQUIPMENT - NEW	2,805.00	PURCHASE STEP RISERS
2011-OCT	165	01-01111010-5440 RENTALS-LAND,BLDG,	(421.00)	BUY TEXTBOOKS

2011-OCT	165	01-01111010-5641 TEXTBOOKS	421.00	BUY TEXTBOOKS
2011-OCT	167	01-02142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(483.50)	REPLACE BULBS OUTSIDE
2011-OCT	167	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	483.50	REPLACE BULBS OUTSIDE
2011-OCT	196	01-02142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(550.00)	CONCRETE REPAIR
2011-OCT	196	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	550.00	CONCRETE REPAIR
2011-OCT	208	01-02142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(1,071.00)	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-OCT	208	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	1,071.00	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-NOV	38	01-02142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(350.00)	FIRE PUMP PIT FLOODED
2011-NOV	38	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	350.00	FIRE PUMP PIT FLOODED
2011-NOV	64	01-02142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(310.00)	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-NOV	64	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	310.00	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-NOV	106	01-05152512-5220 WORKERS COMPENS	(244.00)	GENERATOR FUEL-BETHANY
2011-NOV	106	01-01142600-5620 OIL USED FOR HEATING	244.00	GENERATOR FUEL-BETHANY
2011-NOV	111	01-03142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(13,000.00)	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-NOV	111	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	13,000.00	LIGHTNING DAMAGE
2011-NOV	117	01-02111006-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(500.00)	IPAD PURCHASE
2011-NOV	117	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	500.00	IPAD PURCHASE
2011-NOV	126	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	500.00	IPAD DIRECTOR FINANCE
2011-NOV	126	01-05142350-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	(500.00)	IPAD DIRECTOR FINANCE
2011-DEC	3	01-03142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	13,000.00	REVERSE NOV TSF
2011-DEC	3	01-01142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(13,000.00)	REVERSE NOV TSF
2011-DEC	68	01-05142310-5810 DUES&FEES	45.00	BOE CONF MEMBERS
2011-DEC	68	01-05142310-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(45.00)	BOE CONF MEMBERS
2011-DEC	81	01-05142350-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	(500.00)	IPAD BACKUP
2011-DEC	81	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	500.00	IPAD BACKUP
2011-DEC	82	01-05142350-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	(2,000.00)	AMAZON FIRE TRIAL
2011-DEC	82	01-05142350-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	2,000.00	AMAZON FIRE TRIAL
2011-DEC	103	01-05152512-5290 UNEMPLOYMENT COMP	17,504.00	INCR UNEMPLOY COST
2011-DEC	103	01-03142600-5410 UTILITIES,EXCLUDING HEAT	(17,504.00)	INCR UNEMPLOY COST
2011-DEC	103	01-05142310-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	15,000.00	SUPERINTEND SEARCH
2011-DEC	103	01-05150000-5850 CONTINGENCY	(15,000.00)	SUPERINTEND SEARCH
2011-DEC	103	01-05150000-5860 OPEB TRUST	4,218.00	ECA DECREASE
2011-DEC	103	01-04126117-5560 TUITION EXPENSE	(4,218.00)	ECA DECREASE
2012-JAN	7	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	1,000.00	IPAD PURCHASE
2012-JAN	7	01-05142510-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(1,000.00)	IPAD PURCHASE
2012-JAN	36	01-03142600-5613 MAINTENANCE/CUSTODIA	(726.00)	GENERATOR FUEL
2012-JAN	36	01-03142600-5620 OIL USED FOR HEATING	726.00	GENERATOR FUEL
2012-JAN	59	01-05151026-5111 CERTIFIED SALARIES	7,000.00	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111001-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPL	(500.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111008-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(300.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111009-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(900.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111010-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(400.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111013-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(900.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03111014-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(150.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03132120-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(1,000.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03142219-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(1,000.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03132220-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(350.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-03132400-5550 COMMUNICATIONS	(1,500.00)	CAPT BENCH SUBS
2012-JAN	59	01-05142310-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	6,014.00	IRS AUDIT
2012-JAN	59	01-05142510-5521 GENERAL LIAB INSUR	(6,014.00)	IRS AUDIT
2012-JAN	61	01-02111008-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(500.00)	IPAD PURCHASE
2012-JAN	61	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	500.00	IPAD PURCHASE
2012-JAN	82	01-03111001-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	1,000.00	KILN REPAIR
2012-JAN	82	01-05142320-5580 STAFF TRAVEL	(1,000.00)	KILN REPAIR
2012-JAN	123	01-01132130-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(438.00)	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	123	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	438.00	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	123	01-01111011-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(416.00)	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	123	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	416.00	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	123	01-01132400-5590 OTHER PURCHASED SVC	(196.00)	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	123	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	196.00	IPAD AND CASE
2012-JAN	151	01-01132220-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(47.00)	BOOK COVERS
2012-JAN	151	01-01132220-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	47.00	INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP

2012-JAN	207	01-01111010-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	(1,273.00)	REPAIR STAGE CURTAIN
2012-JAN	207	01-01111010-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	1,273.00	REPAIR STAGE CURTAIN
2012-JAN	207	01-01111010-5440 RENTALS-LAND,BLDG,	(809.00)	REPAIR STAGE CURTAIN
2012-JAN	207	01-01111010-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	809.00	REPAIR STAGE CURTAIN
2012-JAN	225	01-05142510-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	606.00	COPIER CHARGE
2012-JAN	225	01-05142510-5521 GENERAL LIAB INSUR	(606.00)	COPIER CHARGE
2012-JAN	264	01-01142600-5730 EQUIPMENT - NEW	(915.00)	STRADDLER PURCH
2012-JAN	264	01-03142600-5730 EQUIPMENT - NEW	915.00	STRADDLER PURCH
2012-JAN	264	01-03142600-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(1,400.00)	STRADDLER PURCH
2012-JAN	264	01-03142600-5730 EQUIPMENT - NEW	1,400.00	STRADDLER PURCH
2012-FEB	10	01-01111016-5642 LIBRARY BOOKS	(18.00)	ADDITIONAL READING
2012-FEB	10	01-01111016-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	18.00	ADDITIONAL READING
2012-FEB	10	01-01111016-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(25.00)	ADDITIONAL READING
2012-FEB	10	01-01111016-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	25.00	ADDITIONAL READING
2012-FEB	11	01-01132400-5590 OTHER PURCHASED SVC	(152.00)	REPAIR IPAD
2012-FEB	11	01-01132400-5420 REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE	152.00	REPAIR IPAD
2012-FEB	21	01-03113202-5440 RENTALS, LAND, BLDG	1,446.00	INCREASED COST
2012-FEB	21	01-05142510-5521 GENERAL LIAB INSUR	(1,446.00)	INCREASED COST
2012-FEB	119	01-01111010-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(700.00)	REPAIR STAGE CURTAIN
2012-FEB	119	01-01111010-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	700.00	REPAIR STAGE CURTAIN
2012-FEB	178	01-03113202-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(540.00)	IPAD AND CASE
2012-FEB	178	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	540.00	IPAD AND CASE
2012-FEB	180	01-05142310-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	10,000.00	LEGAL SERVICES
2012-FEB	180	01-05142510-5521 GENERAL LIAB INSUR	(10,000.00)	LEGAL SERVICES
2012-FEB	181	01-05142350-5731 EQUIPMENT - REPLACE	32,000.00	WIRELESS ACCESS
2012-FEB	181	01-05142350-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(24,674.00)	WIRELESS ACCESS
2012-FEB	181	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT - NEW	(7,326.00)	WIRELESS ACCESS
2012-FEB	182	01-03142600-5410 UTILITIES, EXCLUDING HEAT	(1,543.00)	APPLE CONFERNCE
2012-FEB	182	01-03142600-5410 UTILITIES, EXCLUDING HEAT	(1,446.00)	COPIER CHARGE
2012-FEB	182	01-05142510-5521 GENERAL LIAB INSUR	2,989.00	CONF/COPIER
2012-FEB	184	01-05142310-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	11,750.00	INFRARED ANALYSIS
2012-FEB	184	01-0515000-5850 CONTINGENCY	(11,750.00)	INFRARED ANALYSIS
2012-FEB	185	01-05142510-5521 GENERAL LIAB INSUR	1,211.00	ADDITIONAL CHARGES
2012-FEB	185	01-03142600-5410 UTILITIES, EXCLUDING HEAT	(1,211.00)	ADDITIONAL CHARGES
2012-FEB	214	01-02113202-5440 RENTALS, LAND, BLDG	300.00	TRAILIER RENTAL
2012-FEB	214	01-03142600-5410 UTILITIES, EXCLUDING HEAT	(300.00)	TRAILIER RENTAL
2012-FEB	238	01-03132400-5550 COMMUNICATIONS	(2,498.00)	SMOKE DETECTORS
2012-FEB	238	01-03132400-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	2,498.00	SMOKE DETECTORS
2012-FEB	238	01-03111009-5641 TEXTBOOKS	(494.00)	SMOKE DETECTORS
2012-FEB	238	01-03132400-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	494.00	SMOKE DETECTORS
2012-MAR	20	01-03142600-5410 UTILITIES, EXCLUDING	(497.00)	PROPANE BALANCE
2012-MAR	20	01-01142600-5410 UTILITIES, EXCLUDING	497.00	PROPANE BALANCE
2012-MAR	34	01-03111014-5641 TEXTBOOKS	(1,000.00)	LINK CREW TRAINING
2012-MAR	34	01-03132220-5642 LIBRARY, BOOKS, PERIO	(498.00)	LINK CREW TRAINING
2012-MAR	34	01-03132220-5642 LIBRARY, BOOKS, PERIO	(442.00)	LINK CREW TRAINING
2012-MAR	34	01-03132400-5590 OTHER PURCHASED SV	1,940.00	LINK CREW TRAINING
2012-MAR	40	01-03132400-5590 OTHER PURCHASED SV	(450.00)	DESIGN&BUILD PICNIC
2012-MAR	40	01-03111008-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	450.00	DESIGN&BUILD PICNIC
2012-MAR	74	01-01142700-5510 PUPIL TRANSPORATION	(1,312.00)	IPAD&CASES
2012-MAR	74	01-05142350-5730 EQUIPMENT - NEW	1,312.00	IPAD&CASES
2012-MAR	100	01-03111016-5641 TEXTBOOKS	(42.00)	INSTRUCTIONAL IPADS
2012-MAR	100	01-03111016-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(326.00)	INSTRUCTIONAL IPADS
2012-MAR	100	01-03111016-5810 DUES&FEES	(394.00)	INSTRUCTIONAL IPADS
2012-MAR	100	01-03111016-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	762.00	INSTRUCTIONAL IPADS
2012-MAR	147	01-01111013-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(513.00)	SCIENCE TESLA COIL
2012-MAR	147	01-01111013-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	513.00	SCIENCE TESLA COIL
2012-MAR	147	01-01111013-5810 DUES&FEES	(55.00)	SCIENCE TESLA COIL
2012-MAR	147	01-01111013-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	55.00	SCIENCE TESLA COIL
2012-MAR	168	01-01111014-5641 TEXTBOOKS	(26.00)	CHARTSET PHOTOPAK
2012-MAR	168	01-01111014-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	26.00	CHARTSET PHOTOPAK
2012-MAR	168	01-01111014-5810 DUES&FEES	(10.00)	CHARTSET PHOTOPAK
2012-MAR	168	01-01111014-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	10.00	CHARTSET PHOTOPAK

2012-MAR	175	01-05132213-5322 INSTRUCTIONAL PROG	(1,500.00) STAFF DEV DAY
2012-MAR	175	01-05132213-5590 OTHER PURCHASES SV	1,500.00 STAFF DEV DAY
2012-MAR	182	01-05142700-5512 VO-AG/VO-TECH REG ED	(1,657.00) TRANSPORT REIMBURS
2012-MAR	182	01-05142700-5513 IN DISTRICT PRIVATE	1,657.00 TRANSPORT REIMBURS
2012-MAR	183	01-04126111-5560 TUITION EXPENSE	(2,900.00) HOMEBOUND TUTORS
2012-MAR	183	01-04151204-5111 CERTIFIED SALARIES	2,900.00 HOMEBOUND TUTORS
2012-MAR	188	01-01132130-5581 TRAVEL-CONFERENCES	(115.00) EPIPEN BATTERIES
2012-MAR	188	01-01132130-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	115.00 EPIPEN BATTERIES
2012-MAR	272	01-03132400-5550 COMMUNICATIONS	(150.00) SHIPPING CHARGE
2012-MAR	272	01-03132400-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	150.00 SHIPPING CHARGE
2012-MAR	279	01-03132220-5810 DUES&FEES	(413.00) VIDEO PROGRAM
2012-MAR	279	01-03132220-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(958.00) VIDEO PROGRAM
2012-MAR	279	01-03132220-5642 LIBRARY,BOOKS,PERIO	(1,273.00) VIDEO PROGRAM
2012-MAR	279	01-03132220-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	2,644.00 VIDEO PROGRAM
2012-MAR	280	01-03111011-5810 DUES&FEES	(180.00) VIDEO PROGRAM
2012-MAR	280	01-03111011-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	180.00 VIDEO PROGRAM
2012-MAR	282	01-03111010-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	(651.00) VIDEO PROGRAM
2012-MAR	282	01-03111010-5330 OTHER PROFESSIONAL	(1,473.00) VIDEO PROGRAM
2012-MAR	282	01-03111010-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	2,124.00 VIDEO PROGRAM
2012-MAR	282	01-03111011-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(362.00) UPHOLSTERY REPAIRS
2012-MAR	282	01-03113202-5420 REPAIRS,MAINTENANCE	362.00 UPHOLSTERY REPAIRS
2012-MAR	290	01-01111009-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(1,501.00) ART MODEL WHEEL
2012-MAR	290	01-01111001-5730 EQUIPMENT-NEW	1,501.00 ART MODEL WHEEL
2012-MAR	308	01-02111005-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	(122.00) LITERATURE BOOKS
2012-MAR	308	01-02111005-5690 OTHER SUPPLIES	(25.00) LITERATURE BOOKS
2012-MAR	308	01-02142219-5611 INSTRUCTIONAL SUPP	147.00 LITERATURE BOOKS

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525



Jack B. Levine
Director of Finance and Administration
jack.levine@reg5.k12.ct.us

Phone (203) 397-4813
Fax (203) 397-4864

To: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
From: Jack B. Levine, Director of Finance and Administration
Re: Budget Transfers of \$3,000 or More for Fiscal Year 2011-2012
Date: March 27, 2012

I recommend the Amity Finance Committee and Board of Education approve the following budget transfer(s) of over \$3,000:

Legal Expenditures:

A budget transfer is requested to cover legal expenditures, which have been forecasted to exceed budget. It is anticipated further budget transfers will be needed by the end of the fiscal year.

#1– Motion to make the following budget transfer of \$12,000 to pay legal expenditures:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
03-14-2600-5410	Utilities, Excluding Heat	\$12,000	
05-14-2310-5330	Other Professional & Tech. Svcs.		\$12,000

AMITY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

Bethany Orange Woodbridge
25 Newton Road, Woodbridge Connecticut 06525



Jack B. Levine
Director of Finance and Administration
jack.levine@reg5.k12.ct.us

Phone (203) 397-4813
Fax (203) 397-4864

To: Dr. John J. Brady, Superintendent of Schools
From: Jack B. Levine, Director of Finance and Administration
Re: New Funding Requests for Fiscal Year 2011-2012
Date: April 2, 2012

I would like to recommend the Amity Finance Committee and Amity Board of Education approve the following new funding request(s):

Robotics Research Program:

Attached is information regarding the Bethany Middle School Robotics Research Program. The Board saw a demonstration at its last meeting. We would like to purchase a robot, software, carrying case, warranty and support for \$8,200. Dr. Dellinger said he has \$3,200 from available funds from his budget and a generous PTO contribution. We would need \$5,000 from the Contingency Account to make up the difference.

#1 – Motion to make the following budget transfer of \$5,000 to purchase a robot, software, carrying case, warranty and support. The other funding of \$3,200 to come from other sources.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
05-15-0000-5850	Contingency Account	\$5,000	
01-11-1008-5730	Equipment - New		\$5,000

E-TV in the Town of Orange:

The District currently cablecasts into the town of Woodbridge on E-TV Channel 78. We have been approached by Mr. Ron Davis, Chair of the Cable Advisory Committee, regarding taking over programming responsibilities for cablecasting on E-TV for the town of Orange. We are requesting \$15,514 for the equipment necessary to program the cablecasting of video content. Currently, we are limited by existing technology and are only able to cablecast the Amity High School marquee on E-TV Channel 78 into the Town of Woodbridge.

Enclosure

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	FROM	TO
05-15-0000-5850	Contingency Account	\$15,514	
05-14-2350-5730	Equipment - New		\$15,514

CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT RECAP

Budget		\$150,000
July:	Additional ECA Tuition	\$ 67,411
October:	Restore Unused Additional ECA Tuition	+ \$ 3,793
December:	Restore Unused Additional ECA Tuition	+ \$ 4,218
December:	Consulting services to assist Board of Education in selection of a new Superintendent of Schools	<u>\$ 15,000</u>
Subtotal		\$ 75,600
February:	Infrared analysis on portion of high school roof	<u>\$ 11,750</u>
Subtotal		\$ 63,850
April:	Middle School Robotics Research Program – Robot	\$ 5,000
April:	Technology equipment for E-TV Channel 78	<u>\$ 15,514</u>
Balance		<u>\$ 43,336</u>

Levine, Jack

From: Dellinger, Richard
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 10:33 AM
To: Levine, Jack
Cc: Berean, Kevin; Brady, John
Subject: FW: AMSB Robotics Research Program
Attachments: AMSB Robotics Research Program Summary.docx; Berean_K_Education Partnership Program Application.docx

Dear Jack-

Attached is a summary of the robotics research program designed by Kevin Berean. Also attached his successful application that Kevin made to Aldebaran Robotics. Finally a copy of the presentation which was made to the BOE last month is available at: [\\woodbridge13\BOE March 2012 pres](#) .

After the price reduction (special price) for us by Aldebaran Robotics the cost of the robot, software, carrying case, warranty & support and shipping and handling is \$8,200. As discussed, we have about \$3,200 internally at AMSB from a combination of remaining funds in the 2011-2012 AMSB Tech Ed budget, other STEM related funds and the generous AMSB PTO donation. We, therefore, need \$5,000 in additional funds to make the purchase.

Let me know if you need any additional information or have any questions/concerns.

Thanks,

Rich

AMSB ROBOTICS RESEARCH PROGRAM SUMMARY

TO: DR. DELLINGER
FROM: KEVIN BEREAN
SUBJECT: AMSB ROBOTICS RESEARCH PROGRAM
DATE: 3/28/2012

As discussed, the following is a summary of the Robotics Research Program that I would like to establish at AMSB.

In this program, students, under my guidance, and the guidance of a university robotics professor, will conduct and subsequently publish scholarly research in the area of social robotics. Students in this innovative program will connect theory with practice in STEM and the arts by conducting actual research and thereafter working through the process of seeking publication of the work. This program and approach has the potential, I believe, to provide new ways to tap into the capabilities of our students in STEM and the arts. Once established, this program will continue each year with successive students as they select and undertake new research endeavors. I would like to launch this program in the fall of 2012.

As you know, to establish this program I have been in touch with some of the leading professors in the area of social robotics, including Dr. Jenkins at Brown University. Dr. Jenkins is a distinguished robotics professor and researcher who was recently featured in *Popular Science* as one of its annual top ten brilliant young scientific researchers in the country. I will be visiting Dr. Jenkins and his research team/lab in March to obtain some additional advice and insight from him. I have also secured the assistance of Dr. Sianez, a robotics professor at CCSU's School of Engineering & Technology. Dr. Sianez has agreed to be our advisor on the research and publication aspects of our effort.

In terms of the robotics platform to use for conducting the research in this program, I submitted an Educational Partnership Program application to Aldebaran Robotics, the creator and producer of NAO, one of the most widely used humanoid robots for social robotics research at leading universities across the world. I have attached a copy of my application for your reference. Acceptance into Aldebaran's Education Partnership Program by its committee results in access to a NAO robot, which is only available to select educational and research facilities, and financial support (in the form of reduced cost), training, support, and access to Aldebaran's online global community of robotics leaders.

As you know, we learned recently that Aldebaran reviewed my application and research proposal and has accepted us into its Educational Partnership Program. Since then, I have been working closely with a representative from Aldebaran to devise a way that Aldebaran can reduce the cost of providing us with a NAO and the necessary software. Aldebaran normally

provides the NAO to its approved educational partners at a discounted price of \$12,000 per robot. The software suite for NAO is also a couple thousand dollars. Aldebaran is excited about this effort and to support its launch, has agreed to provide us with a NAO and all the necessary software and support for \$8,000. I have \$1,800 remaining in my budget which I can apply towards the purchase and have also submitted a request to the PTO for any additional support they can provide. Aldebaran is also willing to work with us in terms of the timing of payments.

Finally, I am already thinking ahead to the future and am in the process of selecting and writing STEM grants for additional funding in future years to continue to build and develop this program. My plan would be to leverage the successful launch and results in year one to elevate our prospects with these STEM grants.

As always, thank you for your consideration and support.

Robotics & Motivation: *Can Motivational Techniques be Computed?*

NAO as Teaching Assistant

ALDEBARAN Robotics

Education Partnership Program Application Form

Submitted by

Kevin J. Berean

Engineering & Technology Education Teacher

Amity Regional School District # 5 – Bethany Middle School

December 8, 2011

Contact Information:

Kevin J. Berean
Amity Regional Middle School – Bethany
190 Luke Hill Road
Bethany, CT
(203) 393 - 3102
kevin.berean@reg5.k12.ct.us

I. Contact Information

Name: Mr. Kevin Berean
Title/Profession: Engineering & Technology Education Teacher
Telephone: Office (203-393-3102) Mobile (860-638-9538)
School: Amity Regional School Dist. #5 – Bethany Middle School
Department: Technology Education
Address: 190 Luke Hill Road
City/State: Bethany, CT
Postal Code: 06524
Country: USA

Have you already worked with NAO(s) in your past experience? No

II. Project Information

General Information

Project Name: Robotics & Motivation: Can Motivational Techniques be Computed? Nao as Teaching Assistant

Number of classes concerned: 3

Number of students concerned: 10

Number of NAOs needed: 1 (minimum) 2 (ideal)

Number of Software Licenses needed: 2 (minimum) 4 (ideal)

Number of levels concerned: n/a

Expected duration of the project: 1 year (with vision for additional projects in successive years)

III. Educational Value of the Project

What subjects and themes do you intend to teach within the project?

Under the guidance of Robotics Professor, Dr. David Sianez of Central Connecticut State University's School of Engineering & Technology, I intend to teach students how to conduct and subsequently publish scholarly research. The NAO in this regard will serve as a research platform. I also intend to use NAO as an educational tool for STEM which will allow my students to connect theory with practice in science (including computer science), technology, engineering, and mathematics.

What do you expect your students to be capable of at the beginning of the project?

At the beginning of the project I expect my students to have a basic understanding of robotics and computer science (through our current robotics program and curricula) and an understanding of motivational theory.

What will your students learn during the project? What do you expect your students to be capable of at the end of the project?

During the project my students will learn the structural process of researching and subsequently publishing a scholarly paper, including how to formulate a hypothesis, develop conceptual and operational definitions, gather, analyze and interpret data and draw meaningful conclusions. Dr. David Sianez of Central Connecticut State University's School of Engineering & Technology will be an advisor to our project and will help guide us through this process. Moreover, students will learn that robots can be made and programmed to interact with people – that social robotics (human-robot interaction) is an emerging area and the future of robotics. Finally, the students will understand how the theories they learn in science, technology, engineering and math connect with real-world application. At the end of the project, I expect my students to be able to replicate the structural process of researching and subsequently publishing a scholarly paper. In fact, my vision is to develop an ongoing program at the school where a new research/publication endeavor using NAO is undertaken each year with successive groups of students. Further, I expect my students to be capable of articulating and demonstrating how theory meets practice in STEM through their experience with NAO.

What hands-on experiments do you intend to organize for your students, if any? How will your project confront theory and practice?

The students will study motivational theories and then figure out if, and how, those theories can be ritualized and coded. The students will then conduct hands-on experiments where the NAO will serve as a teaching assistant with the primary goal of providing motivational support to students that become frustrated when confronted with a challenge that presents a stumbling block for them. I believe the middle school setting provides an ideal and unique environment in which to explore such a project as many middle school students give up easily when confronted with obstacles. Students

will also study how the NAO helps the teacher do his/her job better by providing that assistance. This project will also confront theory and practice in STEM.

IV. Programming

What programming tools/language will you use with your students?

My students have used graphical block editing via Lego Mindstorms NXT and LabView. The students are therefore prepared to utilize the NAO's graphical interface as well as to begin to learn code commands (some have experience with code commands via ROBOTC). Some of my advanced students are also familiar with C++, JAVA, URBI and other programming languages. My plan is to begin with NAO's graphical interface and then allow some of my more advanced students to utilize code commands.

V. Innovative Value of the Project

How will NAO and his software environment be useful for your project?

Given the purpose of this project, as outlined above, NAO and his software environment are critical to my project. This project is based on human-robot interaction. This project is also exploring the ability of a human-like, socially interactive robot, to serve as a teaching assistant in the classroom.

Will you be using specific innovative teaching methods during the course of the project?

Yes. First, I will be working off of the premise that students, especially middle school students, must find direct relevance in what they're doing to be truly motivated and engaged in the classroom. By using NAO as a platform to introduce students to the process of researching and publishing scholarly work, students will understand and experience first-hand the relevance behind what they're doing and consequently be more engaged in the multi-curricular aspects of this project. Working with a robotics professor at a major university in the middle school environment will also be an innovative approach. Finally, by using NAO as a teaching assistant in the middle school environment, I will be incorporating an innovative teaching method in this regard as well.

Do you expect to be able to publish the results of your project or use in further research?

Yes. As outlined in detail throughout this application, a central part of this project is the publication of the work and results of this project. I also plan to use the results of this project for further research with additional students in successive years, including research into how we can better teach children today in the K-12 setting.

VI. Community Implication

Will you create some content (presentations, exercises, etc.) for your project? (if yes, give examples)

My plan is to capture and create a wide variety of material that provides an account of all end-to-end aspects of this project. This includes, but is not limited to, video, educational blogs, photos, articles and photos for press release, presentations for conferences and teacher development workshops.

How do you feel about sharing these documents with the rest of the community on an exchange platform to gain access to others' contributions?

I would welcome and embrace the opportunity to share any and all documents with the rest of the community on an exchange platform.

How do you feel about sharing the programs you will have developed with your students?

My students will be an integral part of what is developed with this project, so I would likewise welcome the opportunity to share the programs with them as well.

Are you ready to share your experience of teaching with NAO and/or promote the use of robotics for education, through testimonial videos, or during conferences or workshops?

Yes. I would be ready and willing to share my experience of teaching with NAO and/or to promote the use of robotics for education through whatever medium or venue is beneficial to promoting NAO and robotics in education.

Attached are the minutes from the following Board of Education
Sub-Committee meetings:

Finance Committee	3/12/12
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Finance Committee	4/2/12
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MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Janet Brunwin, Matthew Giglietti, John Grasso, Jr., James Horwitz, Joseph Nuzzo, James Stirling

Also Present: John Brady, Charles Britton, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Thomas Hurley, James Leahy, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Terry Lumas, Paul Mengold, Rocco Palmieri, Jim Saisa

A meeting of the Finance Committee of the Amity Regional Board of Education was held on Monday, March 12, 2012, at 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria at Amity Regional High School.

1. **Call to Order:** James Stirling called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.
3. **Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes**
 - A. Finance Committee Meeting – February 13, 2012

Motion to approve the minutes as presented (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Mr. Grasso).
Discussion: Mr. Nuzzo noted that under Public Comment, James Leahy, vice chairman of the Orange Board of Finance, would like to have more of his comments included in the meeting minutes, including statistics of the breakdown of funding for Amity. Mr. Nuzzo will e-mail this information to Ms. Lippard.
Vote in favor unanimous. *Motion passed.*
4. **Public Comment**

James Leahy, vice chairman of the Orange Board of Finance, said that since the preliminary budget passed, he went back and looked at data. Amity has been running a surplus for seven years of well over \$500,000 each year, averaging at about \$853,000. He also looked at future costs and saw that Bethany will pay \$1.4 million more, despite a 12.7 percent decline in enrollment. Orange will be looking at a \$3.5 million increase.
5. **Information and Discussion of Student Enrollment Projections**

Dr. Brady introduced Don Kennedy from NESDEC (New England School Development Council) of Marlborough, MA, who has done a significant amount of work in Connecticut assisting school districts. The enrollment projections Dr. Kennedy has been working on will provide data for future years up to 2020.

Dr. Kennedy gave a presentation of his research to date. In kindergarten to sixth grade, the numbers are declining. In grades seven through 12, the numbers have risen somewhat. These numbers need to be recalculated, since tuition students,

outplaced special education students, and some others weren't included. Those numbers (62 students) are small in relation to the whole picture.

He noted that for every 100 children born in the District, an additional 42 move in. Bethany presents a lot of potential growth. There are currently 434 seniors at the High School and 391 juniors. At the end of eighth grade, the public school population declines by about five percent. Amity is a desirable district.

Dr. Brady noted that Dr. Kennedy's introduction offers insight into the methodology in using this data for planning. In two to three years, there are enrollment declines that will lead to staffing changes.

Discussion:

Mr. Horwitz asked if it is possible to analyze what the special education enrollments will be.

Dr. Kennedy said that this can be looked at. Unless the types of employment were to change significantly, the largest growth will be in or near cities. Special education issues will be addressed. He noted that Connecticut school districts that have growth or shrink tend to be quite different. He does not have data by town at this point.

Mr. Stirling said that the elementary schools will see the declines first. When real estate improves, it should have an immediate effect.

Dr. Kennedy said that people with children in middle or high school usually try to stay in place. Immigration affects elementary school populations more. Children moving from private to public schools will shift the numbers. There is a trend that when students leave private schools, that tend to have good experiences in a public school setting.

Dr. Brady noted that he will have hard copies of this report for everyone.

Mr. Stirling said that this may be an ongoing discussion.

6. Discussion and Possible Action on Re-Designation of Funds from Capital & Nonrecurring Expenditures Account for Specified Capital Projects

Mr. Levine noted that the items under consideration tonight were previously considered by the Facilities Committee. The Committee supported re-designating funds from the Capital & Nonrecurring Expenditures Account for specified projects.

Mr. Stirling suggested that all of the items listed in a memo from Dr. John J. Brady to the Amity Board of Education and the Amity Finance Committee members, dated February 28, 2012, be considered together.

Motion to combine six motions (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Mr. Grasso).

Discussion:

Mr. Horwitz said that he has reservations about spending so much money on the bleachers. The home stands are not usually filled. There is ample seating nearly 100 percent of the time. A number of college campuses have bleachers on one side and it works. There are other uses for this money.

Mr. Mengold said that without this seating there can be big issues when managing games. A lot of people will have to stand. We have traveled to towns where there have been fistfights with adults when there are bleachers on just one side. If anyone gets seriously injured, the cost would be significantly more than the cost of these bleachers.

Dr. Brady said that this has been a number one priority. Mr. Mengold said that it has been since 1999.

Mr. Giglietti said that he agreed with the need.

Mr. Grasso said that the Facilities Committee decided not to include this on the bond.

Mr. Horwitz said that if we decide not to get the bleachers today, that doesn't mean that the High School will never get them. He noted that a fitness trail would be beneficial for students. There are also temporary trailers on the property that are an eyesore and could be replaced with something permanent. It would be nice to do something to make the campus look better. In these challenging times, there are better ways to spend the money.

Motion to re-designate funds from Capital & Nonrecurring Expenditures Account for all items in the memo dated February 28, 2012 from Dr. Brady to the Amity Board of Education and the Amity Finance Committee members (Mr. Nuzzo, 2d Mr. Grasso).

Vote in favor: Janet Brunwin, Matthew Giglietti, John Grasso, Jr., Joseph Nuzzo
James Stirling

Vote opposed: James Horwitz

Motion passed.

- 7. To Consider and Act Upon Resolutions Making Recommendations With Respect to Appropriations and Borrowing Authorizations for Various Improvements to the District's School Facilities, Including Restoration of the Existing Gravel-Surfaced Built-Up Roofs at Amity Regional High School, Replacement of the Air Handler Units in the Boys' and Girls' Locker Rooms at Amity Regional High School, and Repaving of the Side Parking Lot at the**

Amity Regional Middle School Orange Campus; and Calling a District Meeting to Hold a Public Hearing Thereon

On February 16, 2012, the Facilities Committee voted unanimously to add the air handling unit and repaving in Orange to the roof restoration bonding package. The Board of Education will need to set a date for a District Meeting, at which time the public is provided with information, but no vote is taken. Mr. Levine said that a District Meeting and Special Board of Education meeting can both be held on Monday, April 2, 2012. This would fulfill timing requirements.

The Amity Finance Committee recommends that the Amity Board of Education adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the officers of the Board of Education and the Superintendent are authorized to cause a district meeting to be called for the purpose of conducting a public hearing in the Presentation Room of Amity Regional High School on Monday, April 2, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. with respect to the following recommendations of the Board:

1. That \$1,748,000 be appropriated for costs related to the design, construction and implementation of various improvements to the District's school facilities, including (a) restoration of the existing gravel-surfaced, built-up roofs at Amity Regional High School, including repairs as necessary, upgrading of the wall, unit and perimeter flashings, and any related work (estimated cost of \$1,400,000), (b) replacement of the air handler units in the boys' and girls' locker room at Amity Regional High School, and any related work (estimated cost of \$176,000), and (c) repaving of the side parking lot at the Amity Regional Middle School Orange Campus, which also serves as the school's outdoor physical education classroom, and any related work (estimated cost of \$97,000); and costs of the financing thereof (estimated at \$75,000). The appropriation may be spent for design, demolition, installation and construction costs, equipment, materials, testing costs, disposal costs, architects' fees, engineering fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings, other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project. The District Board of Education shall be authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the project, and may reduce or modify the scope of the project as desirable, and the entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified.

2. That \$1,748,000 bonds and temporary notes of the District be authorized to finance the appropriation.

3. That the Chairman of the District Board of Education and the District Treasurer, or such officer or body delegated by the Board, be authorized to require the District and its member towns to comply with applicable federal income tax requirements for tax-exempt bonds.

4. That the Chairman of the District Board of Education and the District Treasurer, or such officer or body delegated by the Board, be authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds or notes to provide secondary market disclosure information.

5. That the aforesaid bond, note and temporary note authorization shall be submitted to referendum vote by the electors and citizens qualified to vote in the towns of the District (Ms. Brunwin, 2d Mr. Nuzzo).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

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

Roofing Services Provider

In a March 8, 2012 memo from Jack B. Levine to John J. Brady, Tremco Incorporated of Deep River, Connecticut, is recommended as the roofing service provider. Background information was included showing justification for this choice. In response to a Request for Proposals, three companies submitted packages and two submitted comprehensive proposals. Of the two, Tremco offered the best total package for Amity. Tremco offered full-time construction supervision with a technical representative well-versed in roofs, while the other company offered to place a representative on-site for 1.5 hours per day. Full-time supervision with the other company would cost an additional \$700 per day. Tremco offered a better over-all price reduction strategy on materials; Amity will receive a 13.3 percent discount off of the already bid national purchasing agreement and will also get free delivery to the site. The company is also state preferred.

Move that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to sign a contract with Tremco Incorporated to be the school district's roofing services provider for the Amity High School roof restoration project. Tremco Incorporated will be responsible for the planning, design, oversight of construction, and warrantee of the roof restoration project (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Mr. Nuzzo).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

New Visitor Bleachers for Stadium Field

The visitor side bleachers at the football stadium at Amity High School were unsafe and out of code compliance. The old bleachers have been removed from service. A bid was held to provide new bleachers for the visitor side of the football field. Three companies turned in bids for the job. For 309 seats, the prices ranged from \$73,380 to \$81,114. For 435 seats, the prices ranged from \$87,150 to \$102,240. E&D Specialty Stands Inc. was the low bidder on both projects. Mr. Levine and Mr. Saisa recommend the Board award the contract to E&D Specialty Stands, Inc. of North Collins, New York for 309 seats at the bid price of \$73,380.

Move that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to sign a contract with E&D Specialty Stands, Inc. to purchase bleachers with 309 seats at the bid price of \$73,380 (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Mr. Nuzzo).

Vote in favor: Janet Brunwin, Matthew Giglietti, John Grasso, Jr., Joseph Nuzzo, James Stirling

Vote opposed: James Horwitz

Motion passed.

9. Discussion and Possible Action on Establishment of Self-Insurance Fund and Transfer of Funds into the Self-Insurance Fund

Self-Insurance Fund

The preliminary Board of Education's 2012-2013 Budget includes switching from a fully insured to a self-funded insurance program. A separate Self-Insurance Fund should be established for this purpose.

Motion that the Amity Board of Education establishes the "Amity Self-Insurance Fund" to maintain and distribute funds for the sole purpose of a self-insurance program. All expenditures from this bank account to be authorized by the Superintendent of Schools and Director of Finance and Administration (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Ms. Brunwin).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

Funding of Self-Insurance Fund

A well-run self-insurance fund will have adequate reserves available to pay all claims not covered by stop-loss insurance or aggregate insurance and administrative fees.

Motion that the Amity Board of Education directs the Superintendent of Schools to move the monies received by the District from the Early Retiree reinsurance program into the Amity Self-Insurance Fund. This will include \$64,034, which is committed to the early retiree reinsurance program on the financial statements as of June 30, 2011. The District has applied for additional funds from this Federal program; however, it is uncertain at this time what funds, if any, will be received as the total Federal appropriation is limited to \$5 billion (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Ms. Brunwin).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Fund Balance Policy

Mr. Levine said that we are required to have a fund balance policy.

Motion to recommend review of a fund balance policy by the Policy Committee (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Mr. Horwitz).

Vote in favor unanimous.

Motion passed.

11. Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements

There were no questions.

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

There were no questions.

13. Update on Financial Operations

Mr. Horwitz raised the question about what will be done with unused oil if the High School converts over to natural gas. Mr. Levine said that we will have to pay the full commitment.

14. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 p.m. (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Ms. Brunwin).

Motion passed; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Lippard, recording clerk

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Janet Brunwin, Matthew Giglietti, James Horwitz, Joseph Nuzzo, James Stirling

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: John Grasso, Jr.

Also Present: William Blake, John Brady, Patricia Cardozo, Sue Cohen, Diane Crocco, Steven DeMaio, Thomas Falcigno, Rita Gedansky, Thomas Hurley, Kevin Keller, James Leahy, Jack Levine, Marianne Lippard, Terry Lumas, Tracey Lane Russo, Jim Saisa, James Zeoli; other members of the Public

A meeting of the Finance Committee of the Amity Regional Board of Education was held on Monday, April 2, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Presentation Room at the District Offices.

1. **Call to Order:** James Stirling called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.
3. **Discussion and Possible Final Action on 2012-2013 Amity Board of Education Operating Budget**

Public Comment:

No member of the public commented.

Discussion:

Dr. Brady said that he had nothing to add. A memo dated March 21, 2012 details changes to the budget that will modify the 2012-2013 budget for a net positive effect. The changes result in total expenditures of \$43,613,162, or \$204,541 or 0.47 percent higher than this fiscal year's budget.

Move the Amity Finance Committee recommends to the Amity Board of Education the adoption of an operating budget for fiscal year 2012-2013 in the gross amount of \$43,613,162 and the net amount of \$41,664,551 (Mr. Stirling, 2d Mr. Giglietti).

Vote in favor: Janet Brunwin, Matthew Giglietti, James Horwitz, James Stirling

Vote opposed: Joseph Nuzzo

Motion passed.

4. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. (Mr. Giglietti, 2d Ms. Brunwin).

Approval unanimous.

Motion passed; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Lippard, recording clerk