

A regular meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education was held on Monday, April 9, 2018 at 6:30 pm in the Board Presentation Room at 25 Newton Road, Woodbridge.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson Christopher Browe, Mr. John Belfonti, Ms. Robyn Berke, Ms. Patricia Cardozo, Ms. Shannan Carlson, Ms. Paula Cofrancesco, Mr. Steven DeMaio, Ms. Carla Eichler, Ms. Amy Esposito, Mr. Thomas Hurley, Ms. Sheila McCreven, Dr. Jennifer Turner, and Ms. Diane Urbano

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Charles Dumais, Ms. Theresa Lumas, Ms. Kathy Burke, Mr. Scott Cleary, Dr. Richard Dellinger, Mr. Shaun DeRosa, Mr. Peter Downhour, Ms. Lisa Lassen, Ms. Anna Mahon, Dr. Marie McPadden, Ms. Mary Raiola, Mr. Joseph Robinson, Mr. James Saisa, and Mr. Peter Silva

1. **Call to Order**

Chairman Browe called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Recited by those present

3. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **Regular Board of Education Meeting, February 12, 2018**
- b. **Regular Board of Education Meeting, March 12, 2018**

MOTION by Ms. McCreven, Second by Mr. DeMaio, to accept the minutes as submitted

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

4. **Student Report** – Ananya Kachru

MOTION by Ms. McCreven, Second by Ms. Cardozo, to move item #6 (Recognition of SCASA Superintendent's Student Recognition Award Recipients) to immediately after item #4 (Student Report)

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

6. **Recognition of SCASA Superintendent's Student Recognition Award Recipients** (Enclosure)

Chairperson Browe called a 5-minute recess at 6:55 p.m.

Chairperson Browe called the meeting back to order at 7:00 p.m.

5. **Public Comment**

Brian Laubstein from Bethany congratulated Amity for ranking 9th of 137 districts in Connecticut and 15th out of 140 high schools from www.schooligger.com for test scores. He also stated that he is angry that a student protest was allowed during school and teachers with signs and posters were allowed in front of the school at Amity on March 14, 2018 when morning buses were arriving. He is angry that administrators helped organize this and that some teachers stopped teaching class and some students were chastised for not joining the protest. He concluded that this will open the door to other protest requests during the school day for other reasons and that this is a public school and our job is to teach not to take political sides. He stated that the Board of Education should apologize and reprimand for this activity

Peter Downhour, president of the Amity Education Association Teachers' Union, explained to the Board of Education that the teachers want to be involved in a meaningful way in choosing the next superintendent. He also stated that administration had nothing to do with the teachers standing outside to support the students the morning of the walk-out. Not all teachers participated, and teachers did that on their own time. He also stated that teachers were not protesting but rather supporting the students.

MOTION by Ms. McCreven, Second by Ms. Esposito, to move Item #10 (Correspondence) immediately after item #5 (Public Comment)

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

10. **Correspondence**

Ms. McCreven entered into correspondence and circulated an email (enclosure) dated April 8, 2018 from Mitchell Goldblatt of Orange requesting that the graduation date be June 15th instead of June 18th.

Chairperson Browe entered into correspondence the resignation letter from Dr. Dumais dated April 5, 2018 (enclosure) and thanked Dr. Dumais, stating that he has been a pleasure to work with and that he has appreciated the 4+ years that they have worked together. He stated that doors are always open and that Dr. Dumais will always be welcome. Dr. Dumais referred to the closing in his letter, that it was written with both sincerity and gratitude. Dr. Turner stated that her son and his Amity friends said they are upset that Dr. Dumais is leaving. Dr. Turner stated that this speaks quite well for Dr. Dumais.

7. **Discussion and Possible Action on Setting Graduation Date – June 18, 2018**

MOTION by Ms. McCreven, Second by Mr. Belfonti, to set the graduation date for June 15, 2018

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT by Mr. Hurley, Second by Mr. Belfonti, to shorten the school year from 181 days to 180 days

VOTES IN FAVOR (amendment), 8 (Mr. Hurley, Ms. Eichler, Ms. Esposito, Ms. McCreven, Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Cardozo, Ms. Berke, and Dr. Turner)

VOTES OPPOSED (amendment), 4 (Ms. Carlson, Mr. DeMaio, Ms. Cofrancesco, and Ms. Urbano)

MOTION CARRIED (amendment)

MOTION by Ms. McCreven, Second by Mr. Belfonti, to set graduation date and last day of school for June 15, 2018 based on 180 days in school year

VOTES IN FAVOR, 8 (Mr. Hurley, Ms. Eichler, Ms. Esposito, Ms. McCreven, Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Cardozo, Ms. Berke, and Dr. Turner)

VOTES OPPOSED, 4 (Ms. Carlson, Mr. DeMaio, Ms. Cofrancesco, and Ms. Urbano)

MOTION CARRIED

8. **Presentation Next Generation Accountability Report 2016-2017**

9. **Three- Year Technology Plan**

11. **Superintendent's Report**

a. **Personnel Report**

b. **Superintendent Report**

https://www.amityregion5.org/uploaded/District_information/Superintendent's_Reports/2017-2018_Superintendent's_Reports/SuperintendentReport_April2018.pdf

12. **Chairman's Report**

a. **Committee Reports**

1. **ACES**

2. **CABE**

3. **Curriculum**

4. **Facilities**

5. **Finance**

a. **Discussion and Possible Action on the Healthy Food Certification Statement for July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019**

MOTION by Ms. Cofrancesco, Second by Mr. DeMaio, for the Amity Board of Education to comply with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-215f and authorize the Superintendent of Schools to sign Form ED-099 indicating that Amity Regional School District No. 5 will 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 meet said standards during the period of July 01, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (Mr. DeMaio, Ms. Cofrancesco, Ms. Urbano, Ms. Eichler, Ms. Esposito, Ms. McCreven, Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Cardozo, Ms. Berke, Dr. Turner, and Ms. Carlson)

VOTE OPPOSED, 1 (Mr. Hurley)

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Ms. Esposito, Second by Ms. Cardozo, to authorize the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to sign Form ED-099, indicating that Amity Regional School District No. 5 will exclude from certification food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards, provided that 1) such food is sold in connection with an event occurring after the end of regular school day or on the weekend, 2) such sale is at the location of the event, and 3) such food is not sold from a vending machine or school store.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

b. **Discussion and Possible Action on Contract of \$35,000 or More**

i. **Athletic Training Contract**

MOTION by Mr. Belfonti, Second by Ms. Cofrancesco, to authorize the Director of Finance and Administration to award the contract for all of the services of a certified athletic trainer to Rehabilitation Associates, Inc. of Fairfield, Connecticut, for the 2018-2019 academic year at the annual fee of \$60,863. The Board waives bidding this contracted service. The Board reserves the right to cancel the contract if Rehabilitation Associates, Inc. of Fairfield, Connecticut fails to perform in a satisfactory manner.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 10 (Mr. Hurley, Mr. DeMaio, Ms. Cofrancesco, Ms. Eichler, Ms. Esposito, Ms. McCreven, Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Cardozo, Dr. Turner, and Ms. Carlson)

ABSTAINED, 2 (Ms. Urbano and Ms. Berke)

MOTION CARRIED

ii. **Air Handling Units at Amity Regional High School**

MOTION by Ms. Cardozo, Second by Ms. McCreven, to award the contract to replace air handler units 17 and 18, including three (3) alternate options for a total price of \$140,045 to Tucker Mechanical, a division of EMCOR in Meriden, CT.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

- c. **Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements**
- d. **Director of Finance and Administration Approved Transfers Under \$3,000**
- e. **Discussion and Possible Action on Transfers over \$3,000**

MOTION by Mr. Hurley, Second by Ms. Urbano, to approve the following budget transfer to cover snow removal costs through March:

<u>ACCOUNT NUMBER</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
05-14-2600-5715	Building Improvements/Contingency	\$4,525	
03-14-2600-5420	Repair & Maintenance		\$4,525

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Ms. Cardozo, Second by Ms. Cofrancesco, to approve the following budget transfer to cover additional building repairs at Amity Middle School in Bethany:

<u>ACCOUNT NUMBER</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
05-14-2600-5715	Building Improvements/Contingency	\$8,000	
01-14-2600-5420	Repair & Maintenance		\$8,000

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

- 6. **Policy**
- 7. **Personnel**
- 8. **District Technology**
- 9. **District Health and Safety**
- 10. **Ad Hoc Shared Services Committee**
- 11. **Ad Hoc Security and Wellness Committee**

13. **Items for the Next Agenda**

- a. 3-Year Technology Plan
- b. CAFE research of e-meeting

14. **Executive Session to Discuss Superintendent's Departure**

MOTION by Mr. DeMaio, Second by Ms. Cofrancesco, to enter Executive Session to discuss Superintendent's departure

VOTES IN FAVOR, 11 (Mr. Hurley, Mr. DeMaio, Ms. Cofrancesco, Ms. Eichler, Ms. Esposito, Ms. McCreven, Mr. Belfonti, Ms. Cardozo, Ms. Berke, Dr. Turner, and Ms. Carlson)

VOTE OPPOSED, 1 (Ms. Urbano)

MOTION CARRIED

Superintendent Dr. Dumais asked Chairperson Browe if the Board of Education was inviting or not inviting the Superintendent to Executive Session; Chairperson Browe replied that the Board of Education was not inviting the Superintendent to Executive Session.

Chairperson Browe called the Board of Education members to enter Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.

Board of Education members exited Executive Session at 9:37 p.m.

15. **Adjournment**

MOTION by Mr. Hurley, Second by Ms. Cofrancesco, to adjourn meeting at 9:37 p.m.

VOTES IN FAVOR, 12 (unanimous)

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

*Pamela Pero
Recording Secretary*

*Sheila McCreven
Secretary*