

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman William Blake, Ms. Robyn Berke (arrived at 6:45 pm), Mr. Christopher Browe (arrived at 8:10 pm), Ms. Patricia Cardozo, Ms. Sue Cohen, Mr. Steven DeMaio, Ms. Amy Esposito, Mr. Thomas Hurley, Ms. Tracey Russo, Ms. Sheila McCreven, Mr. James Stirling, and Ms. Diane Urbano.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. John Belfonti

Staff members present: Dr. Charles Dumais, Ms. Theresa Lumas, Mr. Scott Cleary, Dr. Richard Dellinger, Mr. Peter Downhour, Ms. Kathi Fuller-Cutler, Mr. Ernie Goodwin, Ms. Anna Mahon, Ms. Mary Raiola and Mr. Jim Saisa.

Also present: Ms. Ananya Kachru, Mr. Bob Lindberg, Ms. Luiza Livingston, Ms. Pam Mautte, Ms. Joni Nordstrom, and other members of the public.

A regular meeting of the Amity Regional Board of Education (BOE) was held on Monday, September 12, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the presentation room at the Amity District Offices.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman William Blake called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited by those present.
3. **Approval of minutes.**
 - A. **Regular BOE meeting, August 08, 2016 (enclosure)**

One correction, page 4 of the minutes, vote regarding the line striping equipment, Ms. Urbano voted against this motion. Minutes corrected and re-submitted.

4. **Public Comment** - none

5. Student Report

Ms. Ananya Kachru gave a report regarding events at Amity High School, Amity Middle School Bethany Campus and Amity Middle School Orange Campus over the past month, as well as informing the Board of upcoming events.

6. Presentation by Ms. Anna Mahon – Principal, Amity Regional High School

Ms. Mahon gave a presentation regarding how core values and beliefs are being lived out at Amity High School in order to achieve the mission; Core values and beliefs are: Fairness (compassion and integrity), Respect (collaboration and communication) and Passion (persistence and inspiration). The mission statement of Amity High School is to create an inclusive community to develop in all students the skills and the desire necessary to become contributing members of a just society.

7. Presentation by Ms. Luiza Livingston – Student, Amity Regional High School

Ms. Livingston did an independent study program during the 2nd semester of her junior year on sex-trafficking with a focus on New York City and Sao Paulo. She explained why she chose this subject and what she was able to learn from this program. Board members asked questions regarding the specifics of the independent study program; questions were answered by Ms. Livingston and Ms. Mahon.

Several Board members congratulated Ms. Livingston on her accomplishment and thanked her for sharing her study with them; Dr. Dumais stated that this independent study project is an example of how personalized learning can take place at Amity.

8. Presentation by Ms. Pam Mautte and Ms. Joni Nordstrom on Alcohol and Drug Survey Instrument

Ms. Mautte presented the benefits of Amity's participation in a prevention and intervention program and explained what her organization would provide as tools for Amity in this regard. The Bethany-Orange-Woodbridge Drug/Alcohol Action Committee (BOWDAC) has offered the funds to pay for the survey.

9. Correspondence – None.**10. Superintendent's Report****A. Personnel Report – (enclosure)**

Dr. Dumais reported that Amity is fully staffed at this time.

B. Superintendent's Monthly Report (enclosure)

Dr. Dumais highlighted items in his report regarding test reporting, emergency management and CABE policy review.

C. Other**11. Chairman's Report -****A. Committee Reports**

1. ACES - Ms. Cohen reported on focus groups that are taking place as part of the ACES Strategic/Design Planning process and the concern about State cuts to education budgets.

2. CABE - Ms. McCreven reported on a webinar that she attended on September 9th regarding the recent court ruling that the current method of funding education in the State of Connecticut is unconstitutional. This issue will be further addressed at the CABE delegate meeting in November. Ms. McCreven provided the Board members with written report. (attachment)

3. Curriculum – The Curriculum Committee met on September 1st.

4. Facilities – The Facilities Committee is scheduled to meet on September 20th.

A. Facilities Department monthly report, August 2016 (enclosure)**5. Finance****A. Discussion of Monthly Financial Statements**

Ms. Lumas reviewed the changes to the forecast as reported in the enclosed packet.

B. Director of Finance and Administration Approved Transfers Under \$3,000**C. Discussion and Possible Action on Budget Transfers of \$3,000 or More**

Two transfers are being requested, one for technology and the other for facilities.

Motion by Ms.Cohen, 2nd by Ms. Cardozo to approve the following budget transfer, accounts as listed below, or to another appropriate account pending further discussion and decision by Finance, to cover the cost of paying for network services provided the CT Education Network:

| ACCOUNT NUMBER | ACCOUNT NAME | FROM | TO |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----------|----------|
| 05-14-2350-5731 | Equipment - Replacement | \$18,000 | |
| 05-14-2350-5690 | Other Supplies | | \$18,000 |

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

Motion by Ms. McCreven, 2nd by Ms. Urbano to make the following budget transfer to cover the cost of paying for Schooldude software for scheduling facilities usage.

| ACCOUNT NUMBER | ACCOUNT NAME | FROM | TO |
|-----------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| 03-14-2600-5420 | Repairs & Maintenance | \$ 3,570 | |
| 03-14-2600-5690 | Other Supplies | | \$ 3,570 |

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

- D. To Consider and Act Upon a Resolution Concerning the Authorization of Refunding Bonds for Payment of the Outstanding Principal of and Interest on all or a Portion of the District's \$27,480,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Issue of 2009, and \$8,695,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Issue of 2010, and Costs Related Thereto.**

Mr. Hurley recused himself from discussion on this item.

Motion by Mr. Browe, 2nd by Ms. Esposito to consider and act upon a Resolution concerning the authorization of refunding bonds for payment of the outstanding principal of and interest on all or a portion of the District's \$27,480,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Issue of 2009, and \$8,695,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Issue of 2010, and costs related thereto.

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

**RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 5**

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT EXCEEDING \$20,000,000 REFUNDING BONDS FOR PAYMENT IN WHOLE OR IN PART OF THE OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE DISTRICT'S \$27,480,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, ISSUE OF 2009, AND \$8,695,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, ISSUE OF 2010 OF REGIONAL DISTRICT NUMBER 5, AND COSTS RELATED THERETO

(September 12, 2016)

RESOLVED,

(a) That Regional School District Number 5 issue its refunding bonds, in an amount not to exceed TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS (\$20,000,000), the proceeds of which are hereby appropriated: (1) to fund one or more escrows, and to apply the balance held in such escrows, together with the investment earnings thereon, to the payment in whole or in part, as to be determined by the Chairman of the Board of Education and the Treasurer of the District, of the outstanding principal of and interest on the District's \$27,480,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Issue of 2009, dated as of May 13, 2009, and \$8,695,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Issue of 2010, dated as of April 6, 2010, including the payment of interest accrued on said bonds to the date of payment, and (2) to pay costs of issuance of the refunding bonds authorized hereby, including legal fees, consultants' fees, trustee or escrow agent fees, underwriters' fees, net interest and other financing costs and other costs related to the payment of the outstanding bonds described above. The refunding bonds shall be issued pursuant to Section 10-60a of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds 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.

(b) The Chairman of the Board of Education and the Treasurer of the District shall sign the bonds by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Day Pitney LLP is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds. The Chairman and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the bonds to be redeemed and the amount, date, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the refunding bonds; to designate one

or more banks or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds; to sell the bonds at public or private sale; to deliver the bonds; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds.

(c) That the District hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that costs of the refunding may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that (except to the extent reimbursed from grant moneys) 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 refunding. The Chairman and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds 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.

(d) That the Chairman and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds 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.

(e) That the Chairman, the Treasurer, and other proper officers and officials of the District are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to enable the District to effectuate the refunding of all or a portion of the District's \$27,480,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Issue of 2009, and \$8,695,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Issue of 2010, and to issue refunding bonds authorized hereby for such purposes, including, but not limited to, the entrance into agreements on behalf of the District with underwriters, trustees, escrow agents and others to facilitate the issuance of the refunding bonds, the escrow of the proceeds thereof and investment earnings thereon, and the payment of the outstanding bonds in whole or in part.

(f) That the above authorization to issue refunding bonds shall lapse on June 30, 2017.

Amendment to the motion by Mr. Browe to waive the reading of the Resolution since copies were made available to the Board and that the resolution be entered into the minutes.

Vote unanimous

Motion carried.

E. To Consider and Act Upon a Resolution with Respect to Recommendations for an Appropriation and Borrowing Authorization for Costs Related to Various Improvements at Amity Regional High School and Amity Middle School, Bethany Campus.

Motion by Ms. Russo, 2nd by Ms. Urbano To Consider and Act Upon a Resolution with Respect to Recommendations for an Appropriation and Borrowing Authorization for Costs Related to Various Improvements at Amity Regional High School and Amity Middle School, Bethany Campus.

**RESOLUTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 5
(September 12, 2016)**

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, September 26, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. with respect to the following recommendations of the Board, which recommendations are hereby approved:

1. That \$2,065,000 be appropriated for costs related to various improvements at Amity Regional High School and Amity Middle School, Bethany Campus, contemplated to include: (a) at Amity Regional High School, replacement of the middle gymnasium air handlers with combination heating/cooling units, replacement of the air handlers serving the A wing classrooms and the kitchen area, renovation of the consumer service room, replacement of various parking lots and driveway areas, and replacement of tennis courts; and (b) at Amity Middle School, Bethany Campus, upgrades to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system including changes in the diffuser layout, installation of additional control points and improvements to the building management system programming. The appropriation may be spent for design and installation costs, equipment, materials, consultant 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 \$2,065,000 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.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the applicable portions of the project be referred to the Bethany Planning and Zoning Commission and the Woodbridge Planning and Zoning Commission for reports pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Mr. Stirling stated that the Finance Committee voted in favor of this bond at their August meeting. There was some discussion regarding the bonded items and clarification regarding the date of the Public Hearing (September 26, 2016) with a special Board meeting to follow immediately after to set the date for the referendum vote.

Vote 10 in favor, 1 opposed (Mr. Browe)

Motion carried

F. Other

1. Information on Second Quarter 2016 Executive Summary Review of Amity Pension Fund, Sick and Severance Account, and OPEB Trust

2. Self-Insurance Analysis

Mr. Bob Lindberg gave the Board an overview of the self-insurance program. He answered various questions from the Board members.

3. Update on Financial Audit

Ms. Lumas stated that the auditors were on site last week and that they should be finished by the end of this week.

6. Policy – Policy meeting scheduled for September 19th has been cancelled.

7. Personnel – has not met.

12. Items for next agenda – please forward any items to Dr. Dumais or Mr. Blake.

Dr. Dumais advised the Board members that the drug/alcohol survey will be on the agenda next month. He requested feedback from the members regarding the presentation they heard this evening, and specifically regarding the possible addition of questions regarding sexual activity being added to the survey before the October meeting.

13. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Hurley , 2nd by Ms. Urbano to adjourn at 8:55 pm.

Vote unanimous

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth E. Natzel, Recording Clerk

Thomas Hurley, Secretary

Attachment – CAFE report by Ms. McCreven