BOARD OF EDUCATION Amityville Union Free School District Amityville, NY 11701 Regular Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2014 Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School – 7:00 PM

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LOCATION: Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School – Auditorium		
IN ATTENDANCE: President Lisa Johnson	1 st Vice President Ronald A. Moss	
Trustee Jeannette Santos	Trustee Dr. Kathleen Corbett	
Trustee Nathan King	Trustee Carolyn Dodd	
2 nd Vice President Terry Fulton		
ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Mary T. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools		
Mrs. Sydney Freifelder, Interim Asst. Supt. for Finance & Operations		
Dr. Joan K. Lange, Interim Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction		
Ms. Bridgette Wilson, Director for Human Resources		
Mr. Gary Steffanetta, Esq., Guercio & Guercio		
Mr. Anthony Fasano, Esq., Guercio & Guercio		
Mr. Robert Claps, President ATA		
Ms. Carol Seehof, Vice President ATA		
OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Mary DeRose, Interim Principal, AMHS		
Mr. Rod Wilkins, Interim Assistant Principal, AMHS		
Mr. Ed Plaia, Principal, EWMMS		
Mr. Ted Tsirigotis, Director of Phy. Ed., Athletics & Health		
Ms. Suzanne Pena, District Coordinator ESL		
Dr. Fran Fernandez, Director, Fine Arts		
Scott Bullis, Principal, PAMES		
Mrs. Rose Hutcherson, Asst. Principal, PAMES		
Mr. Vincent Todisco, As	sst. Principal, Northwest Elementary School	
Ms. Sandra Parmentier, Asst. Administrator PPS & Sp. Ed.		
Mr. Peter Paternostro, A	dministrator PPS/SP. Ed/ Central Reg./Nurses	
COMMUNITY: 30 members present.		
CLEDK IN ATTENDANCE, Mrs. Judith O'Noill District Clork		

CLERK IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. Judith O'Neill, District Clerk

1. <u>Meeting Called to Order</u> by President Johnson at 7:00 PM.

A. Emergency Exit, No Smoking Statement

*In the unlikely event of an emergency, you need to note that exits are clearly marked. Take a moment to note the exit nearest to where are you are seated. *Smoking is not allowed on school grounds. *As a courtesy, please turn off cell phones and pagers during the meeting.

- B. <u>Pledge of Allegiance</u> The Board and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Community Input Regarding Board Agenda Items Only
- D. Audit Committee

PRESENTATIONS:

Peter Paternostro, Adm. PPS/Sp. Ed. – Mr. Paternostro gave a presentation on Professional Development and acknowledged some of the people on the DASA team: Dr. Corbett, Mr. Moss, Mr. Bullis, Dr. Collins, Dr. DeRose, Dr. Fernandez, Mr. Todisco, Mr. Tsirigotis & Mr. Wilkins. Parents on the committee: Mrs. Idrovo, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Shingleton, Ms. Juan-Schulze. Mr. Paternostro spoke about National Bullying Prevention activities in the District, child abuse preventive service programs, regional special education task force assistance, the L. I. School Practitioners Network, Suffolk County bullying prevention programs, school climate survey results and the next steps for the DASA task force. Different anti- bullying activities have been done in each building. The anti-bullying curriculum will be facilitated through the health and physical education department. The DASA task force will be looking not only at anti bullying but also school climate.

President Johnson asked what kind of training will be given to the students for the child abuse prevention program and will there be follow-up. Mr. Paternostro responded that CAPS (Children Abuse Preventive Services) will come in and facilitate training on Students United for Safe Schools. The goal is to create a longstanding relationship with CAPS a non-profit organization. The program is a secondary program and will begin in the Middle School and expand to the High School.

Dr. Mary DeRose gave a presentation on the new course catalog for 2015-16 for the high school. The proposed course catalog is comprehensive and engaging and included students on the team. There are new course offerings and it is in the early stage.

The Board made suggestions regarding the new course catalog. Black History and Hispanic courses should be kept separate. A writing program and a research paper should be required. Dr. DeRose would like to look into the Syracuse Writing Program again. She also noted that a research paper is required on the second part of the common core regents. But we will look at making it part of the curriculum for 9th through 12th grades. Dr. DeRose summarized the Board's suggestions: we should split the Black and Hispanic literature and look at curriculum writing in all areas. President Johnson suggested that work should begin earlier on the course catalog.

Dr. Joan Lange - Professional Development Plan (See attachment #1).

COMMUNITY COMMENTS AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Patricia Hobson, 31 Rainbow La., Amityville – Addressed Agenda Item 3B-37 – Appointment of Basketball Varsity Coach. Ms. Hobson requested that the Board hire a coach who is concerned about the children during the season as well as when the season is over as the former coach was.

Sidney Martin, 45 North Walton Pl., Massapequa, NY – Wanted to know why the Board and the Superintendent have been taking so much time to vet a coach and did the Board vote for the former coach. President Johnson said the vote is part of the minutes which were not available yet but the vote was 7 to 0. Mr. Martin asked if the Board or Superintendent had any experience in basketball to hire a coach. President Johnson responded that we have to review all the information we receive on all candidates for all positions and we base our decision on that information. Mr. Martin asked if the Board would go through the same process for all coaches of all sports. President Johnson replied that the Board reviews all the information and it is a lot of work. Mr. Martin asked if this gentlemen's resume is better than all the others. President Johnson asked Mr. Steffanetta if he would respond to Mr. Martin's question. Mr. Steffanetta said that the confidentiality of personnel records is protected under federal and state laws. The Board of Education is prohibited from discussing or commenting on an individual's employee history in the absence of a waiver of those rights. Mr. Martin thanked the Board.

Kevin Saunders, 29 Floral Lane, Amityville – Asked why a bully box has not been placed in the Middle School. He was curious about the acting varsity coach was also a football coach and is a teacher and asked why he has three jobs at the high school. President Johnson responded that the acting coach position has been reposted. Mr. Saunders said that coaching involves nurturing and mentoring. He then commented on the former coach being a positive force in the community.

Heather Drasken, 12 Florida Rd., Rocky Point – Amityville Alumni - Wants to bring back the former coach and wants the Board of Education to have dialogue with the community.

Andrea DeLoney, 52 N. Ronald Dr., Amityville – Asked for alumni to be hired in Amityville School District. Dr. Kelly explained the hiring process to her. We reach out to diverse areas and applications do not have an applicant's ethnicity on them.

Malcolm Mathis, 21 West Jefferson St., Amityville – Did not have a problem with the present coach. He spoke about a student walkout to get back the former coach. He felt that the Board was not listening to the community.

Nazir MacLean, 347 Great Neck Rd., Amityville – Felt that if the Board was for the kids, the former coach would be re-instated. President Johnson said that the public is not privy to the information they want because the employee in question has not submitted a waiver.

Jackie Allen, 8 Floral Dr., Amityville – The community should attend Board meetings even when they do not have a personal issue.

Malcolm Mathis, 21 West Jefferson St., Amityville – Questioned who chooses the coach. President Johnson explained the hiring process.

Margaret Mathis, 32 West Jefferson St., Amityville – Asked about the package the former coach received. President Johnson responded that this question cannot be answered because of confidentiality. Mr. Steffanetta commented that employees have a right to confidentiality and the school board cannot waive that right by discussing employee records. An employee can sign a waiver giving up their rights to privacy. If that happens an employee's records can be discussed.

Daniel Hill, 21Sabor Dr., Selden, NY – Mr. Hill never lived in the district but the Board allowed him to speak. He felt that there was something else going on because the punishment did not fit the infraction committed by the former coach.

Patricia Hobson, 31 Rainbow Lane, Amityville – Stated that there is no regard from the Board for what the community and children want.

Andrea DeLoney, 52 N. Ronald Dr., Amityville – Felt that the objective questions asked by the community were not answered. Asked what the District's policy was for re-hiring a former employee. Ms. Wilson stated that if an applicant meets the criteria, they proceed through the hiring process of.

Sidney Martin, 45 N. Walden Pl., Massapequa – Wanted to know the process of hiring an Assistant Coach for basketball. There was an assistant coach position posted but it is not on the agenda for tonight. Also, he and his wife have applied for jobs and have never had a response from the District.

2. <u>Board Action Recommended by the Board of Education</u>

A. <u>Approval of Board Minutes</u>

- 1. Draft #1 Special Meeting October 1, 2014
- 2. Draft #2 Regular Meeting October 8, 2014
- 3. Draft #1 Special Meeting October 16, 2014
- 4. Draft #1 Special Meeting October 29, 2014
- 5. Draft #1 Special Meeting November 3, 2014

MOTION to TABLE Agenda Items 2A-1 & 2A-2 made by 1st Vice President Moss, seconded by 2nd Vice President Fulton. **Discussion:** Missing information. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Items 2A-3 through 2A-5 made by made by 1st Vice President Moss, seconded by 2nd Vice President Fulton. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

B. Board Action Recommended by Board Policy Committee

1. Approval of Policy #1900 – Parental Involvement Policy

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 2B-1 made by 2nd Vice President Fulton, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

C. Board Action Recommended by Board of Education

1. Approval of Policy #1900 – Parental Involvement Policy

MOTION to TABLE Agenda Item 2C-1 made by 1st Vice President Moss, seconded by 2nd Vice President Fulton. **Discussion:** Missing information. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

D. Audit Committee - None

3. Board Action Recommended by the Superintendent

A. Superintendent

1. Approval of 2014-2015 Professional Development Plan

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 3A-1 made by 2nd Vice President Fulton, seconded by 1st Vice President Moss. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

2. Approval of 2015-2016 Course Catalog

MOTION to TABLE Agenda Item 3A-2 made by Trustee Santos, seconded by 1st Vice President Moss. **Discussion:** Needs more review. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

B. <u>Personnel</u>

1. Extend Leave of Absence W/O Pay: Music Teacher/PA – Koraus, D.

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 3B-1 made by 1st Vice President Moss, seconded by 2nd Vice President Fulton. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

- 2. Leave of Absence W/O Pay: Part Time Art Teacher/NE/NW Piersa, E.
- 3. Leave of Absence W/O Pay: Permanent Substitute Teacher Piersa, E.

MOTION to TABLE Agenda Items 3B-2 & 3B-3 made by Trustee Dodd, seconded by 1st Vice President Moss. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

- 4. Appointment: Part Time Food Service Worker/NW Berry, J.
- 5. Appointment: Part Time Food Service SWorker/HS Radziewicz, C.
- 6. Appointment: Intramural Coach McCoy, G.
- 7. Appointment: Intramural Coach Katsigiorgis, J.
- 8. Leave Replacement Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher/MS Ciancarelli, P.
- 9. Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher/PA Bejarano, M.
- 10. Leave Replacement Appointment: Part-Time Art Teacher/NE Ciancarelli, P.
- 11. Appointment: High School Regents/RCT Prep Teacher/Social Studies Morenus, K.
- **12.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Special Ed/HS Feehan, R.
- **13.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Art/HS Grasso, J.
- 14. Appointment: Mentor Teacher Library Media/HS Quinn, T.
- 15. Appointment: Mentor Teacher English/MS Katsigiorgis, J.

16. Appointment: Mentor Teacher – English/MS – Pentangelo, J.

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Items 3B-4 through 3B-16 made by 1st Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

- 17. Appointment: Mentor Teacher English/MS Wilson, K.
- 18. Appointment: Mentor Teacher Special Ed/PA Alexander, G.
- **19.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Special Ed/PA Button, K.
- **20.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Elementary/PA Hyland, K.
- **21.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Special Ed/PA Persaud, A.
- **22.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Special Ed/PA Peshler, J.
- **23.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Elementary/PA Ross, D.
- **24.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Elementary/PA Stein, A.
- **25.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Elementary/NW Asbell, M.
- **26.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Elementary/NW Brooks, M.
- 27. Appointment: Mentor Teacher Elementary/NW Davi-Ortiz, N.
- **28.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Special Ed/NW Gonser, M.
- **29.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Elementary/NW Karounos, O.
- **30.** Appointment: Mentor Teacher Elementary/NW Reddin, M.
- **31.** Probationary Appointment: Teacher Assistant/NW Baum, L.
- 32. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor Addae, E.
- 33. Appointment: SAT Test Prep Coordinator Murphy, S,.
- 34. Appointment: Teaching Additional ELA Spec Ed Class/MS Wilson, K.
- **35.** Appointment: Special Education 1:1 Aide/MS Torres, E.
- 36. Appointment: Activity Advisor College and Career Book Club Gorry, J.
- 37. Appointment: Winter Coach/Acting V Basketball Kretz, B.
- 38. Appointment: Winter Coach/Volunteer JV Basketball Coach Cammaroto, C.
- **39.** FMLA Leave: Social Studies Teacher/MS Rudden

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Items 3B-17 through 3B-39 made by Trustee Santos, seconded by 2nd Vice President Fulton. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

C. Business and Finance

1. Use of Facilities – Item 1

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 3C-1 made by 2nd Vice President Fulton, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

2. Workers Compensation – Item 1

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 3C-2 made by Trustee King, seconded by Vice President Moss. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

- **3.** Budget Transfer Item 1
- 4. Stationery, Form and Envelope Printing Bid
- 5. Motion to Dispose of Fixed Assets
- 6. Approval for Proposal to Provide Food Service Consulting Services
- 7. Approval of Agreement with Delta Dental
- 8. Approval of Contract with Athletic Trainer
- 9. Acceptance of Donation from Bay Village Civic Association

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Items 3C-3 through 3C-9 made by 1st Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee King. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

D. Monthly Finance Report

1. Report for the Month of September, 2014

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 3D-1 made by Trustee Dodd, seconded by 1st Vice President Moss. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** & Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

E. <u>CSE & CPSE Action/Meetings</u>

- **1.** Mill Neck Manor School
- 2. Adults and Children with Learning and Development Disabilities, Inc.
- **3.** United Cerebral Palsy Suffolk
- **4.** The Long Island Home

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Items 3E-1 through 3E-4 made by 1st Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

F. Curriculum and Instruction

1. Approval of Conferences – Items 1 through 21

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 3F-1/1 through 3F-1/21 made by Trustee Santos, seconded by 2nd Vice President Fulton. **Discussion:** Trustee Dr. Corbett discussed Item 3F-1/4. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

4. <u>Reports</u>

A. <u>Legal Counsel for the District</u> – Will report in Executive Session.

B. <u>Superintendent of Schools</u>

On Nov. 3, school improvement experts, Dr. John Hodge and Dr. Harvey Perkins of the Urban Center for learning and leadership were in our district to conduct a diagnostic assessment of our schools. On Dec. 17, the High School Social Studies Dept. will hold a mock United Nation Event with each class representing a different nation. Dowling College professors will serve as judges at the United Nations debates. This past Saturday, a group of students and their parents participated in the Dowling College Latino Summit on college and careers. This week is also college and career week at Park Ave. A number of career day visitors will be at Park Ave. on Nov. 14. On Nov. 5, the Amityville Memorial High School hosted a meeting for the community to introduce art space not for profit art space to help redevelop the downtown areas by incorporating space for the arts. Many positive comments received from the community on the staff and students. The Amityville high School Marching Band participated in the Veterans' Day Parade. On Nov. 14, high school student, Michael Dealey will participate in the Suffolk County Music Educator's Association Day of Tuba and Eufonium from 3:00 to 9:00 PM at the Nesaquake Middle School in St. James. On Nov. 15, High School student Aaron Methuran will participate at the Long Island Food Festival from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Copiague HS. On Nov. 21, high school student, Christian Morgan will perform in the NYSCAME Suffolk All County Festival as a member of the mixed chorus. The concert will be held at 7:30 PM at Half Hollows Hill East High School.

<u>Facilities Update</u> – Mrs. Friefelder and I met with representatives from the District's Architectural firm last week BBS to review a space analysis that they had prepared based on discussion from last month's Board meeting. The district will implement a computerized visitor management system. Expect it to be up and running by mid December. The Middle School lockers are in process of being replaced. Also, the stairway railings at the Middle School have all been repaired. The weight room at

the high school is in the final stages of renovation. Expect to be completed before Thanksgiving recess.

C. <u>Board of Education</u> Dr. Corbett was concerned that the District did not host the SAT's at the high school in November. Dr. Kelly responded that the position for the SAT Coordinator which has been held by a retired teacher in the district was inadvertently not posted. So we have rescheduled the opportunity for the SAT's for January.

COMMUNITY INPUT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

Daralyn Davis, 71 Coolidge Ave., Amityville – Spoke about her daughter's phone being stolen at the Middle School and the fact that no one in the District responded to her emails about the theft. President Johnson said that she had information and will get back to her.

Sydney Martin 45 North Baldwin Pl. Spoke about finding a qualified principal for the high school.

Melissa Krueger, 17 Virginia Ct., Amityville – Spoke about the fact that there seems to be a lack of substitute teachers. There is not enough coverage. Dr. Kelly said that this is an on-going problem. We are continuing to look for substitutes and we are looking to minimally disrupt instructions. Trustee Santos said that the pay is too low for substitutes and we need to address that.

Susan Heenan, 2 Matthew Dr., Amityville - Wanted to obtain a copy of policy #1900 – Parental Involvement. President Johnson said that you will be able to get it on line very shortly. Discussed the DASA report. The bullying is still going on and felt that the program is not working. Dr. Kelly explained that we are taking a very proactive approach and we are continuing to work on it. Mrs. Heenan felt that the number of children being bullied is one too many.

President Johnson left at 10:00 PM and at this time, 1st Vice President Moss conducted the meeting.

Pamela Saunders, 44 Sand St., Massapequa – Wanted to know what the Board was going to do about the bullying. Dr. Kelly said that we put a task force in place and a number of programs are in place. There is a committee made up of faculty, parents and students who are working together on bullying. Ms. Saunders suggested adding a bullying box for students to use to protect their privacy. She also suggested using speakers who had been bullied and who had been part of the system.

Trustee King left at 10:05 PM and returned at 10:12 PM.

Krista Rodriguez, 44 Camp Rd., Massapequa – Spoke about bullying and her son's experience with being bullied.

Malcolm Mathis, 21 West Jefferson, Amityville – He spoke about a bullying incident he witnessed and felt that nothing was being done to prevent it.

Sandra Whitney, 85 Dry Gulch Path, Amityville – Talked about bullying and that it must be stopped.

1st Vice President Moss appointed 2nd Vice President Fulton as District Clerk Pro Tem.

MOTION to RECESS to Executive Session at 10:32 PM for negotiations, particular person's employment history and advice from counsel made by Trustee Santos, seconded by Trustee Dodd. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

Judith O'Neill left at 10:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith O'Neill, District Clerk

EXECUTIVE SESSION called to order by 1st Vice President Moss at 10:45 PM. LOCATION: Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School 1st Vice President Ronald A. Moss **IN ATTENDANCE:** Trustee Jeannette Santos Trustee Dr. Kathleen Corbett Trustee Nathan King Trustee Carolyn Dodd 2nd Vice President Terry Fulton ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Mary T. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools Mrs. Sydney Freifelder, Interim Asst. Supt. for Finance & Operations Dr. Joan K. Lange, Interim Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction Ms. Bridgette Wilson, Director for Human Resources Mr. Gary Steffanetta, Esq., Guercio & Guercio Mr. Anthony Fasano, Esq., Guercio & Guercio NO LONGER IN ATTENDANCE: President Lisa Johnson **ACTION TAKEN:** None

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Fulton, District Clerk Pro Tem

RESUME Open Session at 11:20 PM. LOCATION: Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School		
IN ATTENDANCE: 1 st Vice President Ronald A. Moss	Trustee Jeannette Santos	
Trustee Dr. Kathleen Corbett	Trustee Nathan King	
Trustee Carolyn Dodd	2 nd Vice President Terry Fulton	
ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Mary T. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools		
Mrs. Sydney Freifelder, Interim Asst. Supt. for Finance & Operations		
Dr. Joan K. Lange, Interim Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction		
Ms. Bridgette Wilson, Director for Human Resources		
Mr. Gary Steffanetta, Esq., Guercio & Guercio		
Mr. Anthony Fasano, Esq., Guercio & Guercio		
NO LONGER IN ATTENDANCE: President Johnson		
3B-2 Leave of Absence W/O Pay: Part Time Art Teacher/NE/NW – Piersa, E.		
3B-3 Leave of Absence W/O Pay: Permanent Substitute Teacher – Piersa, E.		
MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Items 3B-2 & 3B-3 made by Trustee Dr. Corbett, seconded by Trustee		
Santos. Motion FAILED: 0 Yes, 6 No, 0 Abstain.		

3B-8 Leave Replacement Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher/MS – Ciancarelli, P.3B-10 Leave Replacement Appointment: Part-Time Art Teacher/NE – Ciancarelli, P.

MOTION to RESCIND Approval of Agenda Items 3B-8 & 3B-10 made by Trustee Dodd, seconded by Trustee Dr. Corbett. **Motion CARRIED:** 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

MOTION to ADJOURN Regular Meeting at 11:35 PM made by Trustee Dr. Corbett, seconded by 2nd Vice President Fulton. **Motion CARRIED:** 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Fulton, District Clerk Pro Tem

Board Approved: 01/14/15