

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701**  
**Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School, Auditorium**  
**Regular Meeting – July 11, 2024 – 7:30pm**

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Draft 08/23/24

*To view/listen to the audio of this meeting, please click [here](#)*

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:18 PM by President Lisa Johnson following Reorganization Meeting Motion to open meeting made by Ms. Seehof; seconded by Mrs. Canestro  
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ms. Lisa Johnson, Trustee  
Ms. Carol Seehof, Trustee  
Mrs. Leslie Kretz, Trustee  
Mrs. Wendy Canestro, Trustee  
Mrs. Megan Messmann, Trustee  
Mrs. Caroline Fanning, Trustee  
Mr. Christopher Nehring, Trustee

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dr. Gina Talbert, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Joan Lange, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction  
Dr. Bridgette Waite, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources  
Ms. Olivia Buatsi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations  
Mr. Carl Fraser, Consultant  
Mr. John Sheahan, Esq., Guercio & Guercio  
Mrs. Melissa Durnin, District Clerk

**A. The Emergency Exit/No Smoking Statement read**

**B. The Board of Education led the Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance**

**C. Presentations**

**1. 2023-24 Financial Update**

Olivia Buatsi gave an overview of the district's current financial status  
(See video for full presentation)

**D. Community Input Regarding Board Agenda Items Only**

- Matt Geiss
- Edward Plaia
- Margaret Shuff

**2. Board Action Recommended by the Board of Education**

**A. Approval of Board Minutes**

**B. Board Action Recommended by Board Policy Committee**

**C. Board Action Recommended by Board of Education**

**1. Advance Payment Agreement (Reserves Claim Rights) (NYS DOT)**

Motion to Approve **3C-1** made by Mrs. Canestro; seconded by Mrs. Kretz  
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**2. Agreement of Adjustment and Release of Owner (Full Release of Claims) (NYS DOT)**  
Advised by Counsel that **2C-2** is the same as **2C-1** only **2C-1** was voted on and **2C-2** is withdrawn.

Motion to Withdraw **2C-2** made by Ms. Seehof; seconded by W. Canestro  
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No.

Motion to Amend the Agenda to include item **2C-3** for the purpose of Board members to attend a Law conference. The cost per person would be \$210 virtually or \$325 in person.

Motion made by Mrs. Kretz; seconded by Ms. Fanning.

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Motion for Board Members to attend Law Conference **2C-3** made by Mr. Nehring; seconded by Ms. Fanning

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**D. Audit Committee**

**3. Board Action Recommended by the Superintendent of Schools**

**A. General**

**1.** Table of Organization Modification-Special Education/PPS.

Motion to Approve **3A-1** made by Mr. Nehring; seconded by Mrs. Kretz

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**2.** Side Letter Agreement: ATA Building Level Leaders.

Motion to Approve **3A-2** made by Ms. Fanning; seconded by C. Nehring

The Board called for a roll call as follows:

NAME	YES	NO
Lisa Johnson	X	
Carol Seehof	X	
Megan Messmann	X	
Leslie Kretz	X	
Wendy Canestro	X	
Caroline Fanning		X
Christopher Nehring	X	

Motion Carries: 6 Yes; 1 No

**B. Personnel**

**1.** Personnel Action Report

Motion to Approve **3B-1** made by Mrs. Canestro; seconded by Ms. Seehof

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**2.** Service Agreement: Comply Corporation

Motion to Approve **3B-2** made by Mrs. Canestro; seconded by Ms. Seehof

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**3.** Stipulation of Agreement Return to Work

Motion to Approve **3B-3** made by Mrs. Canestro; seconded by Ms. Seehof

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Motion to Amend the Agenda to add Agenda Items **3B-4**, **3B-5** and **3B-6** made by Mrs. Canestro; seconded by Ms. Fanning.

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**4.** Appointment: Transportation Coordinator – Spence, N.

**5.** Appointment: Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction – Stephens, M.

**6.** Appointment: Interim Secondary Principal/AMHS – Cardone, J. Dr.

Motion to Approve Agenda Items **3B-4**, **3B-5** and **3B-6** made by Mrs. Kretz; seconded by Ms. Seehof.

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**C. Business**

**1. Donations**

**2. Use of Facilities**

Motion to Approve **3C-1** and **3C-2** made by Mrs. Canestro; seconded by Mr. Nehring

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**3. AS-7 BOCES Agreement for 2024-25 School Year**

Motion to Approve **3C-3** made by Mrs. Canestro; seconded by Mr. Nehring

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**D. Finance**

**1. Treasurer’s Report – May 2024**

Motion to Approve **3D-1** made by Mrs. Kretz; seconded by Mr. Nehring

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**E. Contracts for Special Education Services**

**1. Plainedge UFSD- Special Education Contract 2024/2025**

**2. Amergis Healthcare Staffing Inc.– Consultant Services Contract 2024/2025**

**3. Dr. Caryl Oris, MD- Consultant Services Contract 2024/2025**

**4. Dr. Jodi Mishkin-Michaelson- Consultant Services Contract 2024/2025**

**5. South Oaks/ The Long Island Home- Consultant Services Contract 2024/2025**

Motion to Approve **3E-1 through 3E-5** made by Ms. Seehof; seconded by Mrs. Canestro

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**F. Curriculum and Instruction**

**4. Community Input Regarding Non-Board Agenda Items Only**

- Nakia Wolfe
- Debra McQuillan
- Robert Plaia
- Jacqueline Stevenson
- Margaret Shuff

**5. Reports**

**A. Legal Counsel for the District**

**B. Superintendent of Schools**

**C. Board of Education**

**6. Adjournment**

Motion adjourn the Open Meeting at 12:09 AM made by President Johnson

Motion approved Mrs. Canestro; seconded Mr. Nehring

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Respectfully submitted,  
Eileen Becker  
August 20, 2024