

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701
Combined Session Meeting – November 20, 2024
Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School

Meeting Called to Order by President Johnson at 5:30 PM

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Johnson, President
Carol Seehof, 1st Vice President
Megan Messmann, 2nd Vice President
Wendy Canestro, Trustee
Caroline Fanning, Trustee
Leslie Kretz, Trustee
Christopher Nehring, Trustee

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Gina Talbert, Superintendent of Schools
Mary Stephens, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Olivia Buatsi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Dr. Bridgette Waite, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Carl Fraser, Financial Consultant
John Sheahan, Esq., Guercio & Guercio, LLP

Motion to Adjourn Open Session to enter to Executive Session at 5:31 PM for advice from Legal Counsel

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Johnson, President
Carol Seehof, 1st Vice President
Megan Messmann, 2nd Vice President
Wendy Canestro, Trustee
Caroline Fanning, Trustee
Leslie Kretz, Trustee
Christopher Nehring, Trustee

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Gina Talbert, Superintendent of Schools
Mary Stephens, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
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Dr. Bridgette Waite, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Carl Fraser, Financial Consultant
John Sheahan, Esq., Guercio & Guercio, LLP

At 6:00 PM, Mary Stephens, Olivia Buatsi, Dr. Bridgette Waite and Carl Fraser exited Executive Session

Motion to Adjourn Executive Session and resume Open Session at 7:41 PM

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Johnson, President
Carol Seehof, 1st Vice President
Megan Messmann, 2nd Vice President
Wendy Canestro, Trustee
Caroline Fanning, Trustee
Leslie Kretz, Trustee
Christopher Nehring, Trustee

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Gina Talbert, Superintendent of Schools
Mary Stephens, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Olivia Buatsi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Dr. Bridgette Waite, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
Carl Fraser, Financial Consultant
John Sheahan, Esq., Guercio & Guercio, LLP
Eileen Becker, District Clerk

Community Present: 24 in person; 170 via zoom

Community Input regarding Board Agenda Items Only

- Margaret Shuff

2. Board Action Recommended by the Board of Education

A. Approval of Board Minutes

1. October 15, 2024 – Special Meeting
2. October 17, 2024 – Special Meeting
3. October 23, 2024 – Combined Session Meeting
4. October 29, 2024 – Special Meeting

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 2A-1 through 2A-4 made by W. Canestro; seconded by C. Seehof
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

B. Board Action Recommended by Board Policy Committee

1. #0000 Mission Statement
2. #2000 District Goals
3. #2245 Student Representative to the Board of Education
4. #3210 Organization Chart
5. #5605 Student Voter Registration and Pre-Registration
6. #8112 Health and Safety Committee
7. #8112-R Health and Safety Committee Regulation
8. #9150 Staff-Student Relations (Fraternization)

President Johnson read the revisions to the Policies. 2nd Vice President Messmann requested some verbiage changes which will be made. The approval of these policies will be on a future agenda. Ms. Messmann also asked the Policy Committee to consider adding policies regarding social media, cell phones in classroom and AI policy.

C. Board Action Recommended by Board of Education

1. Appointment of Special Investigator

Motion to Amend the Agenda to Add Agenda Item 2C-1 made by L. Kretz; seconded C. Seehof
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 2C-1 made by C. Seehof; seconded C. Nehring
Discussion: Refer to the Recording of the Meeting
Motion Carries: 5 Yes; 2 No (W. Canestro and M. Messmann)

2. Library

Motion to Amend the Agenda to Add Agenda Item 2C-2 made by W. Canestro; seconded M. Messmann
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 2C-2 made by C. Nehring; seconded L. Kretz

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

3. 913 Exam

Motion to Amend the Agenda to Add Agenda Item 2C-3 made by C. Nehring; seconded W. Canestro

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 2C-3 made by C. Nehring; seconded by C. Seehof

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

D. Audit Committee

1. Acceptance of June 30, 2024 External Audit Report

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 2D-1 made by L. Kretz; seconded by C. Nehring

Discussion: Refer to the Recording of the Meeting

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

3. Board Action Recommended by the Superintendent of Schools

A. General

1. Employment Agreement for 2024-25 School Year- O. Buatsi

2. Employment Agreement for 2024-25 School Year- B. Waite

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 3A-1 and 3A-2 made by C. Fanning; seconded C. Seehof

Discussion: Refer to the Recording of the Meeting

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

B. Personnel

1. Appointment: PEL Elementary Teacher - Kirschen, J.

2. Instructional Position: Leave Replacement Elementary Teacher/NW - Christie, T.

3. Instructional Position: Leave Replacement Elementary Teacher/PAMES - Morgan, A.

4. Instructional Position: Family & Consumer Science Teacher/EWMMS - Moritz, N.

5. Instructional Position: P/T Mathematics Teacher/AMHS - Alabre, G.

6. Instructional Position: Special Education Teacher/NW Leave Replacement - Critelli, A.

7. Appointment: Broadcasting Co-Advisor Club - Zwerling, C.

8. Appointment: Varsity Girls Indoor Track & Field Head Coach - Kreuzer, B.

9. Appointment: MS Assistant Cheerleading Coach - Reyes, S.

10. Appointment: JV Wrestling Head Coach - Orellana, E.

11. Appointment: Varsity Girls Outdoor Track & Field Asst. Coach - Collins, K.

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 2B-1 through 3B-11 made by L. Kretz; seconded C. Seehof

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

12. ILB- Intentionally Left Blank

No Vote Necessary

13. Appointment: Boys Indoor Track & Field Head Coach - Matthews, H.

14. Appointment: Boys Outdoor Track & Field Head Coach - Matthews, H.

15. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor: Zwerling, C.

16. FMLA: ESL Teacher - Dillahunt, R.

17. Intermittent FMLA: School Psychologist - Postiglione, M.

18. FMLA: ESL Teacher - Kretz, M.

19. Intermittent FMLA: Special Education Teacher - McGowan, J.

20. FMLA: Elementary Teacher - Zomback, L.

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Motion to Approve Agenda Items 3B-13 through 3B-20 made by C. Fanning; seconded M. Messmann
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

21. FMLA: Special Education Teacher - Trotman, J.

Motion to Pull Agenda Item 3B-21 made by C. Seehof; seconded by L. Kretz

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

22. Appointment: Custodial Worker I - Benkert, K.

23. Appointment: Food Service Worker - Manzueta Belen, K.

24. Appointment: Bus Monitor - Schmadtke, M.

25. Appointment: Substitute Special Education 1:1 Aide - Latty, B.

26. Appointment: Substitute Office Assistant - Bibi, R.

27. Appointment: Substitute Office Assistant - Roth, C.

28. Appointment: Substitute Custodial Worker - Jones, R.

29. Retirement: Special Education 1:1 Aide - Joyner, D.

30. FMLA: Custodial Worker I - Abrahams, R.

31. FMLA: Monitor - DiLiberto, C.

32. Employment Agreements: Confidential Employees

33. Termination Resolution

34. Appointment: Boys Indoor Track & Field Assistant Coach - Johnson, K.

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 3B-22 through 3B-34 made by C. Fanning; seconded C. Seehof

Discussion: Employment Agreements need to be timely to match the effective dates.

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

C. Business

1. Unemployment Consultant Services

2. Donations

3. Use of Facilities – Refer to Recording of Meeting regarding

4. Disposal of Fixed Assets

5. Change Order #2- Energy Performance Contract (EPC)

6. Increase General Fund Budget and Reduce Employee Benefits Accrued Liability Reserve (EBALR)

7. Accept Donation for Scholarship Award

8. Health Services Contract

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 3C-1 through 3C-8 made by C. Seehof; seconded by L. Kretz

Discussion: Refer to the Recording of the Meeting

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

There was discussion regarding class trips. It was agreed by the Board of Education to have one class trip per grade. A poll was taken and each Board Member voted in favor.

D. Finance

1. Treasurer's Report: September 2024

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3D-1 made by C. Fanning; seconded W. Canestro

Discussion: Refer to the Recording of the Meeting.

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

E. Contracts for PPS & Special Education Services

1. A.C.L.D. - Federal Part B Flow-Through SEDCAR Contract 2024/2025
2. Farmingdale UFSD - Special Education Services Contract 2023/2024
3. Liberty POST - Federal Part B Flow-Through SEDCAR Contract 2024/2025
4. SCO- Madonna Heights - Federal Part B Flow-Through SEDCAR Contract 2024/2025
5. West Babylon UFSD - Special Education Services Contract Cross Contract 2024/2025
6. Woodward Children’s Center - Special Education Services Contract 2024/2025

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 3E-1 through 3E-6 made by C. Seehof; seconded by L. Kretz

Discussion: Refer to the Recording of the Meeting

Motion: Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

F. Curriculum and Instruction

1. Approval of Conferences A-E
2. Farmingdale State College - STEP Program MOA

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3F-1 and 3F-2 made by C. Nehring, seconded L. Kretz

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

***PLEASE REFER TO THE RECORDING AT 1:49:54 FROM THE START OF THE MEETING
OR 21:29:25 REAL TIME***

4. **Old Business** – Refer to the Recording of the Meeting

5. **New Business**– Refer to the Recording of the Meeting

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

- Francis O’Brien
- Matthew Greiss
- Nakia Wolfe
- Madeline Quintyne McConney
- Winsome Cooke
- Saba Mchungzi
- Margaret Shuff
- Robert Plaia
- Margaret Shuff

7. **Reports**

A. Legal Counsel for the District – No Report

B. Superintendent of Schools – Refer to the Recording of the Meeting

C. Board of Education – No Report

8. **Adjournment**

Motion Adjourn Open Session at 10:51 PM made by C. Seehof, seconded C, Nehring

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

BOE APPROVED 12/11/24