

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701
Combined Session Meeting – December 11, 2024
Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School Auditorium

Meeting Called to Order by President Johnson at 5:34 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 (arrived 5:37 PM)
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 5:35 PM to discuss the collective bargaining negotiations involving the ATA, advice from Legal Counsel, discussion employment history of particular person(s) and interview candidate(s) for Assistant Director PPS/Special Education.

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 Executive Session at 7:30 PM made by M. Messmann; seconded W. Canestro

COMMUNITY: 24 in person; 290 zoom participation

1. **Meeting Called to Order** - It was the consensus of the Board to resume Open Session at 7:36 PM
 - A. **Emergency Exit, No Smoking Statement** *Please note the emergency exits closest to you, there is no smoking on school grounds and please silence cell phones during the business of the board.*
 - B. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Minutes – Combined Session Meeting – December 11, 2024

President Johnson asked for a motion to the Board of Education to change the order of the agenda as follows:

- Move the Superintendent of Schools Report after the presentation of the AMHS course catalog

Motion made by C. Seehof; seconded W. Canestro

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

- Move up Community Input regarding non agenda items before old Business and New Business

Motion made by C. Seehof; seconded L.Kretz

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

- Request by President Johnson to keep Old Business and New Business to roughly 30 minutes just as we ask our community to do.

Motion made by C. Seehof; seconded L.Kretz

Discussion: Regarding community attending, providing comments and purpose of Board of Education meeting is to do-the business of the district in public. Discussed the ability to extend the time if requested.

Motion Carries: 4 Yes; 3 No (C. Fanning; M. Messmann, W. Canestro)

President Johnson made the following notes regarding agenda items:

- 3B – Personnel Agenda Item 3B-2 should read as Assistant Director of PPS and Special Education
- Amend the agenda to add Agenda Item 2-C4 the Termination of the Honeywell contract

Motion for the above addendums made by M. Messmann; seconded C. Fanning

Discussion: Resolution for the Termination of Honeywell Contract

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

C. Presentation(s)

Mary Stephens, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction shared the Amityville Memorial High School Course Catalog.

Report – Superintendent of Schools

- AMHS Course Catalog
- We would certainly like to start by celebrating our student and staff achievements with Ms. Wilshire and the AMHS Student Council as they recently hosted a highly successful blood drive in the high school gymnasium
- Last night the PAMES Music Department hosted a beautiful holiday concert at the high school with a wonderful Showcase of our students
- Members of the Board of Education, the Cabinet and myself attended the Western Suffolk BOCES holiday dinner with a special evening where we had the opportunity to see our high school students shine through their fashion and architectural designs. climates and the district goals survey which will be released at 7 a.m.
- Dr. Talbert addressed the misinformation that was not released in its totality to our community regarding the debt of the Amityville Union Free School District the status of the Northeast Elementary School.
- I would like to pause for a moment and acknowledge Mr. Carl Frasier, our Financial Consultant. Mr. Frasier has provided valuable assistance and guidance

D. Community Input Regarding Board Agenda Items Only (33:08)

1. Nakia Wolfe
2. Jacqueline Stevenson
3. Madeline Quintyne McConney

At this point, President Johnson asked the Board to extend this portion another 15 minutes.

Motion made by C. Nehring; seconded W. Canestro

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

President Johnson instructed the District Clerk to restart the timer at 15 minutes.

4. Sydney Martin
5. Bishop Walter Willie
6. Debra Kenny
7. Heather Palmore
8. Samantha Francois (representing Kimberly Jean-Pierre)
9. Andrew Ayodeji
10. Dr. Veronica Henry

Board Action Recommended by the Board of Education (8:29 PM)

A. Approval of Board Minutes

1. Draft #1 - November 7, 2024 - Special Meeting - District Goals
2. Draft #1 - November 12, 2024 - Special Meeting
3. Draft #1 - November 12, 2024 - Audit Committee
4. Draft #1 - November 18, 2024 - Policy Committee
5. Draft #1 - November 20, 2024 - Combined Session Monthly Meeting
6. Draft #1 - November 21, 2024 - Special Meeting
7. Draft #1 - November 26, 2024 - Special Meeting

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 2A-1 through 2A-7 made by C. Nehring; seconded W. Canestro

Discussion: There is a request to add the number of zoom viewers in addition to in person attendance and to add timer notation after voting sections.

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Board Action Recommended by the Board Policy Committee

1. #0000 Mission Statement – 2nd and Final Reading
2. #2000 District Goals – 2nd and Final Reading
3. #2245 Student Representative to the Board of Education – 3rd Reading
4. #3210 Organization Chart – 3rd and Final Reading
5. 3215 Service Animals - 1st Reading
6. #5605 Student Voter Registration and Pre-Registration - 3rd Reading
7. #8112 Health and Safety Committee Policy - Final Reading
8. #8112-R Health and Safety Committee Regulation – 3rd Reading
9. #8113 Door Hardening - 1st Reading
10. #9150 Staff-Student Relations (Fraternization) –2nd Reading

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 2B-1 through 2B-10 made by L. Kretz; seconded by W. Canestro

Discussion: It was the consensus of the Board to approve 2B-1 through 2B-10 as Final Readings and to submit to Legal Counsel for review.

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

B. Board Action Recommended by the Board of Education

1. Appointment of District Clerk

Motion to Table Agenda Item 2C-1 made by W. Canestro; seconded by C. Seehof

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Resignation: Financial Consultant: Fraser, C.

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

Discussion: Thanked Mr. Fraser for his contribution and has been invaluable

Motion Carries: 6 5 Yes; 1 2 No (L. Johnson)

Student Stipulation of Settlement & General Release

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

Motion Carries: 7-Yes; 0 No

Honeywell

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 2C-4 made by M. Messmann; seconded by W. Canestro

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Board Action Recommended by the Superintendent of Schools

A. General

B. Personnel

1. Leave Replacement - Leave Replacement Library Teacher: Zanchelli-Tutku, Kristen

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3B-1 made by C. Nehring; seconded L. Kretz

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Probationary Appointment - Assistant Director of PPS and Special Education: TBD

Motion to Amend Agenda Item 3B-2 to correct title as Assistant Director and to name Janine O'Connor

Made by C. Seehof; seconded C. Nehring

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

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

Motion Carries: & Yes; 0 No

Additional Assignment- Parent Liaison: Rivera, Jennifer

3. Additional Assignment- Parent Liaison: Ruiz De Ojeda, Maria

4. Additional Assignment- Parent Liaison: Gandarillas, Theresa

5. Additional Assignment- Parent Liaison: Lee, Debra

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 3B-3 through 3B-6 made by L. Kretz; seconded C. Fanning

Discussion: Regarding Parent Liaison (listen to audio roughly the time 9:15 PM)

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

7. Additional Assignment- CAC Administrator: Cardone, Dr. John

8. Additional Assignment- CAC Co-Chair Plaia, Edward

9. Additional Assignment- CAC Co-Chair Wolfe, Nakia

10. Additional Assignment- CAC Teacher Herz, Dana

11. Additional Assignment- CAC Teacher Naso, Keri

12. Additional Assignment- CAC Teacher Sarlo, Christopher

13. Additional Assignment- CAC Teacher Smith, Tina

14. Additional Assignment- Suffolk Edge Teacher Center: Stein, Amy
15. Additional Assignment- Suffolk Edge Teacher Center: Dieck, Patti
16. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Brunson, Carlee
17. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Castro, Elisa
18. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Conboy, Joanna
19. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Feehan, Rebecca
20. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Gordon, Lindsey
21. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Karounos, Olimpia
22. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Kretz, Allyson
23. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher LaBarca, Rebecca
24. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Lazio, Jessica
25. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Lettieri, Christopher
26. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Morris, Jennifer
27. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Piccirilli, Jeffrey
28. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Ramirez, Maria Isabel
29. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Reichel, Allison
30. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Romeo, Christina
31. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Ross, Deborah
32. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Scherzinger, Patricia
33. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Smith, Jenny
34. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Stahlman, Rebecca
35. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Tesoro, Katie
36. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Torcivia, Melody
37. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Varas, Lissa
38. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Walker, Tiffany
39. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Whitney, Sandra
40. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Boell, John
41. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Fallot, Ryan
42. Additional Assignment- Home Instruction Teacher Fallot, Patrick

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 3B-7 through 3B-42 made by W. Canestro; seconded C. Nehring
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

43. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Annese, Robert
44. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Bueno, Reynaldo
45. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Castro, Elisa
46. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Jordan, Constance
47. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Keenan, Kara
48. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Madigan, Thomas
49. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Ramirez, Maria Isabel
50. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Rivera, Jennifer
51. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Tesoro, Katie
52. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Whitney, Sandra
53. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: Herz, Dana
54. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: McGowan, Jason
55. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: Whitney, Sandra
56. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Arnold, Courtney
57. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Byrd, Jessica
58. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Breitfeller, Jacklyn

59. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Castiblanco, Belinda
60. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Cesiro, Lynn
61. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Dieck, Patti
62. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Limplevil-Divers, Dominique
63. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Harpaul, Kelly
64. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: LaBarca, Rebecca
65. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Mannion, Joseph
66. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Reid, William
67. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: Breitfeller, Jacklyn
68. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Button, Kristen
69. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Casey, Annemarie
70. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Charles, Coleen
71. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Dispenziere, Michael
72. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: DeMauro, Alison
73. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Draddy, Jessica
74. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Driscoll, Jessica
75. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Frank, Katherine
76. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Hartung, Adrienne
77. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Maisel, William
78. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: McCormack, Theresa
79. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Replack, James
80. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Reiner, Howard
81. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Tsunis, Jordan
82. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: Greco, Michael
83. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Altamura, Nicole
84. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Blando, Luigina
85. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Burkhardt-Faber, Nicole
86. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Chandler, Renee
87. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Cottone, Maria
88. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Critelli, Anthony
89. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: DelGiorno, Alyssa
90. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Haber, McKenzie
91. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Komsic, Kristina
92. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Lee, Debra
93. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Litras, Victoria
94. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Meisser, Patricia
95. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Smith, Jenny
96. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Soto, Kenia
97. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Thorn, Katey
98. Additional Assignment- LoT Teacher: Robinson, Lydia
99. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: Blando, Lugina
100. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: Critelli, Anthony
101. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: Komsic, Kristina
102. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: Naso, Kerin
103. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: Pariser, Rachel
104. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: Soto, Kenia
105. Additional Assignment- LoT Sub-Teacher: White, Brian
106. Additional Assignment- LoT Nurse: Dogmanits, Kylene

Minutes – Combined Session Meeting – December 11, 2024

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 3B-43 through 3B-106 made by C. Seehof; seconded W. Canestro
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

107. Additional Assignment- 6th Class-Geometry ICT: Twomey, Donald
108. Additional Assignment- 6th Class-Geometry ICT: Collura, Noelle
109. Resignation: FACS Teacher Moritz, Noelle
110. FMLA- SpecEd Teacher: DelGiorno, Alyssa
111. FMLA- Library Teacher: Quinn, Timothy
112. Intermittent FMLA- Social Worker: DeMauro, Alison
113. FMLA- SpecEd Teacher: McGowen, Jason
114. Revised Probationary Appointment: Math Teacher - Hopkins, Mary Frances
115. Appointment: School Nurse .5 - Panesar, Prem
116. Resignation: Guard - Dominicci, Stanley
117. Appointment: Guard - Doumas, Keith
118. Appointment: 7.0 Hour Food Service Worker - Fernandez, Deanna

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 3B-107 through 3B-118 made by

Discussion: 3B-109 the resignation is effective 12/11/24. Also 1st Vice President Seehof asked Dr. Waite to email the Board a copy of the Personnel Exit Form.

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

C. **Business** (9:20 PM)

1. Suffolk's Edge Motion to Increase Budget

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3C-1 made by C. Fanning; seconded by C. Nehring

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

2. Use of Facilities

- a. Town of Babylon
- b. Amityville Soccer Club

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3C-2 made by W. Canestro; seconded C. Fanning

Discussion: The use of facilities for weekends and considering the cost to the District.

Motion to Rescind Agenda Item 3C-2 for the purpose of doing each request separately made by C. Seehof; seconded M. Messmann. Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3C-2a made by C. Nehring; seconded by M. Messmann

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3C2-b made by W.Canestro; seconded by C. Fanning

Discussion: Listen to audio; roughly 21:20:28 to 21:35:02

Motion to amend the motion for Agenda Item 3C-2-b to remove the fee of \$2500 from the current resolution made by M.Messman; ; seconded by W.Canestro

Discussion: Listen to audio; roughly 21:35:03 to 21:41:58- assistance from legal requested

Motion Fails: 2 Yes (M.Messman, W.Canestro) 5No (L.Johnson, L.Kretz, C. Nenhring, C.Seehof, L.Kretztz)

Return to previous motion as stated:

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3C2-b made by W.Canestro; seconded C. Fanning.

Motion Carries 7 Yes: 0 No

3. Disposal of Fixed Assets

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3C-3 made by C. Nehring; seconded W Canestro

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

4. Engagement Contract: Lewis Brisbois, Bisgaard, & Smith, LLP

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3C-4 made by C. Nehring; seconded C. Seehof

Discussion:

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

D. Finance

1. Treasurer's Report: October 2024

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

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

E. Contracts for PPS & Special Education Services

1. West Islip UFSD - Special Education Contract 2024/2025

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3E-1 made by C. Seehof; seconded M. Messmann

Discussion: Legal Counsel has reviewed the contract

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

F. Curriculum and Instruction

1. Approval of Conferences A-E

2. Approval of High School Course Catalog

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 3F-1 & 3F-2 made by C. Seehof; seconded C. Nehring

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

10:00 PM end of voting

4. **Old Business** – covered at beginning of meeting

5. **New Business** – covered at beginning of meeting

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

- Dr. Pepper Martin
- Daphne Irizarry
- Andrew Ayodeji
- Matt Greiss
- Jacqueline Stevenson
- Katrina Conway
- Nakia Wolfe
- Francis O'Brien
- Dr. Pepper Martin
- Patricia Hobson

7. **Reports**

- A. Legal Counsel for the District – No report
- B. Superintendent of Schools – covered at beginning of meeting
- C. Board of Education – No report

8. **Adjournment:**

Motion to Adjourn at 11:11pm made by C. Seehof; seconded C. Fanning

Motion Carries: 7Yes 0No

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Becker