

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701
Regular Meeting Minutes – December 14, 2016

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Fulton at Park Avenue School, Art Room.

A motion made by Trustee Pawlewicz; seconded by 1st Vice President Santos to go into Executive Session at 6:31 p.m. for the purpose of legal counsel regarding negotiations. 1st Vice President Santos was appointed Clerk Pro Tem.

IN ATTENDANCE: Terry Fulton, President
Jeannette Santos, 1st Vice President
Carolyn Dodd, 2nd Vice President
Susan Benard-Handler, Trustee
Lisa Johnson, Trustee
Juan Leon, Trustee
Laura Pawlewicz, Trustee
Dr. Mary T. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools
Diane Castonguay, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Carole Polney, Ass't Superintendent for Technology and Administrative Services
Gary Steffanetta, Esq., Guercio & Guercio LLP
Anthony Fasano, Esq., Guercio & Guercio, LLP

Motion to resume Open Meeting 7:43 p.m. in the Auditorium.

IN ATTENDANCE: Terry Fulton, President
Jeannette Santos, 1st Vice President
Carolyn Dodd, 2nd Vice President
Susan Benard-Handler, Trustee
Lisa Johnson, Trustee
Juan Leon, Trustee
Laura Pawlewicz, Trustee
Dr. Mary T. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Lois Etzel, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Diane Castonguay, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Carole Polney, Ass't Superintendent for Technology and Administrative Services
Gary Steffanetta, Esq., Guercio & Guercio LLP
Anthony Fasano, Esq., Guercio & Guercio, LLP
Eileen Becker, District Clerk
Dr. Pauline Collins, Principal, Northeast Elementary School
Kathleen Hyland, Assistant Principal, Northwest Elementary School
Robyn Santiago, Principal, Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School
Dennis Ricci, Assistant Principal, Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School
Ed Plaia, Principal, Edmund W. Miles Middle School
Kristy Pagliari, Assistant Principal, Edmund W. Miles Middle School
Earl Mitchell, Dean of Students, Edmund W. Miles Middle School
Donna DeFretias, Assistant Principal, Amityville Memorial High School
John Cardone, Dean of Students, Amityville Memorial High School
Peter Paternostro, Administrator, Pupil Personnel Services and Special Education

Sandra Parmentier, Assistant Administrator, Pupil Personnel Services and Special Education

Rose Hutcherson, Assistant Principal, Virtual Academy

COMMUNITY: 25 Present

PRESENTATIONS

1. The Amityville Elite Research Group regarding their studies with SUNY Farmingdale and SUNY Stony Brook. Students presented their research and the steps they have taken to complete their project.
2. The Edmund W. Miles Middle School showed a slide presentation of their college tour and expressed their appreciation for the opportunity.
3. Holiday Music from the High School Orchestra
4. Capital Projects update from Garrett Knatz stating approvals are favorable and the paperwork to the State has been approved on time or ahead of schedule.
5. Dr. Etzel presented the new course catalogs for the high school and middle school
6. Ms. Polney presented the NYS Regents Data Report Card for the 2015-16 school year and Dr. Etzel reviewed the programmatic changes across the district.

COMMUNITY INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Trustee Johnson asked how many students typically enroll in Chemistry and Physics and have the numbers increased. Dr. Kelly would look into it and respond to the Board.

Toni Bean 58 Jefferson Avenue, Amityville inquired about the course catalog:

Is this being approved tonight?

Did students have input on the courses?

Do we have sufficient staff for all these courses?

How does this affect the budget?

Ms. Bean stated we want them to start thinking about what they are going to do in their life after high school and want to force their thought process into a direction that is going to help them advance when they enter their college. It's a positive thing.

Dr. Kelly responded we encourage students to take these courses and have included parental input and we make sure we have the right the supports for students who are interested.

BOARD ACTION

Motion to accept Agenda Item 2A-1 through 2A-9 made by Trustee Johnson; seconded by Trustee Pawlewicz. Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

1. Draft #1 – Regular Meeting – September 14, 2016
2. Draft #1 – Special Meeting – September 23, 2016
3. Draft #1 – Special Meeting – October 5, 2016
4. Draft #1 – Regular Meeting – October 13, 2016
5. Draft #1 – Special Meeting – November 2, 2016
6. Draft #1 – Special Meeting – November 7, 2016
7. Draft #1 – Audit Committee Meeting – November 9, 2016
8. Draft #1 – Regular Meeting – November 9, 2016
9. Draft #1 – Special Meeting – November 16, 2016

GENERAL

Motion to amend the Agenda to add 3A-1 made by 2nd Vice President Dodd; seconded by Trustee Pawlewicz. Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

Motion to approve Agenda Item 3A-1 made by Trustee Pawlewicz; seconded by 1st Vice President Santos. Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain

1. Approval of Course Catalogs for 2017/2018 – Amityville Memorial High School and Edmund W. Miles Middle School

PERSONNEL

Motion to approve Agenda Items 3B-1 through 3B-48 made by 2nd Vice President Dodd; seconded by Trustee Johnson. Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain

1. Rescind Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher/HS – Geduldig, J.
2. FMLA: Assistant Principal/MS – Pagliari, K.
3. FMLA: Social Studies Teacher/Chairperson/HS – Mizrachi, D.
4. FMLA: Elementary Teacher/NW – Skaliotis, X.
5. Extended Leave of Absence W/O Pay: English Teacher/MS – Pentangelo-Bisulca, J.
6. Leave of Absence W/O Pay: Cook/PA – Walker, N.
7. Leave of Absence W/O Pay: Food Service Worker/HS – Maldonado, S.
8. Leave of Absence W/O Pay: Elementary Teacher/NW – Grzunov, K.
9. Revised Leave Replacement Appointment: Elementary Teacher/NW – Zider, J.
10. Revised Leave Replacement Appointment: Science Teacher/HS – Kotsovolos, D.
11. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor – Jorgensen, J.
12. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor – Ellis, J.
13. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor – Thompson, K.
14. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor – Tsunis, J.
15. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor – Burstyn, E.
16. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor – Jessup, B.
17. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor – McGowan, J.
18. Appointment: Grade Level Leader/NW – Katt-Tlockowski, S.
19. Appointment: Chaperone – Kretz, W.
20. Appointment: Chaperone – Zaratin, S.
21. Appointment: Chaperone – Pappas, N.
22. Appointment: Substitute Food Service Worker – Brown, M.
23. Appointment: Substitute Special Education 1:1 Aide – Ort, D.
24. Resignation: Business Teacher/HS – Tietje, S.
25. Appointment: Step Coordinator – Charles, A.
26. Resignation: 21st CCLC Club Advisor/HS – McGowan, J.
27. Resignation: 21st CCLC Academic Advisor/PA – Cammaroto, T.
28. Leave of Absence w/o Pay: Food Service Worker/PA – Quiroz, M.
29. Probationary Appointment: Teaching Assistant/NE – Smith, D.
30. Resignation: Teaching Assistant/NE – Smith, D.
31. Revised Appointment: Intramural/HS – Katsigiorgis, J.
32. Revised Appointment: Intramural/HS – Hawkins, R.
33. Revised Appointment: Intramural/HS – Thompson, K.
34. Revised Appointment: Intramural/HS – Fallot, P.

35. Revised Appointment: Intramural/HS – Litras, V.
36. Revised Appointment: Intramural/HS – Albano, M.
37. Appointment: Intramural/HS – Abbondandolo, M.
38. Appointment: Intramural/HS – McCoy, G.
39. Appointment: Intramural/HS – Gannon, C.
40. Appointment: Intramural/HS – Bass, N.
41. Appointment: Intramural/HS – Howard, M.
42. Appointment: Activity Advisor/HS – Yearbook – Scherzinger, P.
43. Appointment: Activity Advisor/HS – Yearbook – Carbo, S.
44. Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher/HS – Berry, M.
45. Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher/HS – Bayona, M.
46. Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher/NW – DiMaio, B.
47. Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher/HS – Khan, N.
48. Appointment: Monitor/MS – Golding, R.

Motion to amend the Agenda to add 3B-49 made by 2nd Vice President Dodd; seconded by Trustee Pawlewicz. Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

Motion to approve Agenda Item 3B-49 made by 1st Vice President Santos; seconded by 2nd Vice President Dodd. Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain

49. Appointment: Principal/NW – Hyland, K.

BUSINESS

Motion to approve Agenda Items 3C-1 through 3C-8 made by Trustee Johnson; seconded by 2nd Vice President Dodd. Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 No.

1. Third Party Administrator for Workers' Compensation
2. Fund Raising
3. Use of Facilities
4. Health Service Contracts – Other Schools
5. Motion to Dispose of Fixed Assets
6. Cold War Veterans' Exemption
7. Motion to Increase 2016-17 Budget
8. Budget Transfers

FINANCE

Motion to approve amended Agenda Item 3D-1 made by Trustee Johnson; seconded by 2nd Vice President Dodd. Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

1. Treasurer's Report for October, 2016

SERVICE CONTRACTS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION

Motion to approve amended Agenda Item 3E-1 through 3E-7 made by 1st Vice President Santos; seconded by 2nd Vice President Dodd. Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

1. Just Kids
2. Alternatives for Children
3. Brookville Center for Children's Services
4. UCP Suffolk
5. New York Therapy Placement Inc.

6. Bellmore UFSD
7. Adults and Children with Learning and Developmental Disabilities

CURRICULUM

Motion to approve amended Agenda Item 3F-1 made by Trustee Johnson; seconded by 2nd Vice President Dodd. Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

1. Approval of Conferences

REPORTS

Legal Matters discussed in Executive Session include negotiations.

Superintendent Dr. Kelly began with highlighting individual students' accomplishments in sports.

The high school has started a new tradition by naming Students of the Month. This idea came from the faculty as a way to recognize students. Teachers nominate students who qualify for the Character Award to students who complete homework and class work assignments, have good attendance and display a positive attitude. To earn the Leadership Award students must show the ability to be a team player and be involved in the school, achieve mastery in their course materials and demonstrate excellence at a sporting event, club or school sponsored activity. Three students each month will receive the Character Award and three the Leadership Award

At the Park Avenue spelling bee the word quintessential was the word that made 6th grader Shamire Rose the repeat champion in the annual spelling bee. She will advance to the Scripps Howard spelling bee at Hofstra in February. And the bilingual spelling bee with 6 students competing Jose Garcia won with the word tarantula.

The Hispanic Heritage club under Mrs. Maria Leon Pineros will be hosting their first Latina Cultural Night Thursday, December 15th at 7:00 pm and invited the elementary students and parents. When the elementary children arrive they will receive a passport so that they can travel across Latin America. And at each country they visit they will get to learn the customs, dances, geographically locations and other important facts. They will also be able to taste the local food and perhaps even see a dance from the county they are visiting and there will receive souvenirs from the countries they visit.

As always, please consult the calendar and check the website for all events including upcoming holiday performances.

Mrs. Santos complimented all the students on their achievements. Mrs. Santos asked if we have full day Pre-Kindergarten. Dr. Kelly responded we do not at this time because we don't have the space. And we anticipate once the renovations of the buildings are completed we will be able to accommodate full day Pre-Kindergarten.

Board Ms. Johnson asked regarding tomorrow night Latina Cultural Night is this open to anyone. Dr. Kelly responded yes it is but is focused on the elementary children.

COMMUNITY INPUT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

Toni Bean 58 Jefferson Avenue, Amityville inquired as to why we have a turnover in administration. Dr. Kelly explained the process of hiring and challenges to finding qualified people are willing to invest in our District.

Ms. Bean expressed concern to discipline at Park Avenue where it trickles down to the Middle and High School. Discipline situations are handled and swiftly giving the student the guidance needed.

Ms. Bean expressed concern to have a newly appointed Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction also fill in as Acting Principal at the High School, both demanding jobs. Dr. Kelly assured the audience, while Dr. Etzel is new to the district, she is a experienced school administrator and in her capacity with Right Reason Technologies is very familiar with the dynamics of our District.

Dr. Etzel has done a fabulous job and we plan on going out in January on a full advertising campaign to put a principal in place effective July 1st. In the meantime we have the building very much stabilized. Again we are in very good hands and good shape and that's what we intend to continue to do.

Ms. Bean asked about the parent portal and what information can we see information on it. And with respect to the lunch money when students send in lunch money can there be someplace in the parent portal to know how much is in the child's account and how much is taken out.

Dr. Kelly with regards to the lunch money, the student management system does not speak to the lunch program at all so that's not something we can provide in the portal. We are looking at Point of System (POS) programs more user friendly for parents where they can actually add money to accounts. We are hoping to have that in place to make it easier for parents.

Mr. Fulton interrupted that Ms. Bean has exceeded the three minute time limit and to make an appointment with Dr. Kelly to discuss further any other concerns.

Michael Sterling, 9 Emily Street, Massapequa, brought up the Reading scores regarding his son. Dr. Kelly asked that we do not discuss his son specific grades and that she is aware of the situation and Mr. Sterling, Mrs. Santiago and Dr. Kelly are in communication to rectify this type of situation going forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn Open Session at 8:04 p.m. made by Trustee Johnson; seconded by 2nd Vice President Dodd.