

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701  
Special Meeting Minutes – March 1, 2017

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The Meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by President Fulton at Park North Administration Building, Board Room.

A motion made by Mrs. Santos; seconded by Ms. Johnson to go into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. for the purpose of discussing student suspension and teacher retirement. Mrs. Castonguay was appointed Clerk Pro Tem.

IN ATTENDANCE: Terry Fulton, President  
Jeannette Santos, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Carolyn Dodd, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Susan Benard-Handler, Trustee  
Lisa Johnson, Trustee  
Laura Pawlewicz, Trustee  
Dr. Mary T. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Lois Etzel, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Diane Castonguay, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations  
Carole Polney, Assistant Superintendent for Technology and Administrative Services  
Anthony Fasano, Esq., Guercio & Guercio, LLP

Motion to resume Open Meeting 7:38 p.m. in the Park Avenue School Auditorium.

IN ATTENDANCE: Terry Fulton, President  
Jeannette Santos, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Carolyn Dodd, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, Assistant Superintendent for Technology and Administrative Services  
Eileen Becker, District Clerk

COMMUNITY: 11 Present

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. Budget Workshop #3 – Capital Component

Board questions regarding presentation:

2. non instructional clerical - we budgeted \$49,972, same as last year and YTD we have spent \$15,807. There will be an increase in staff to accommodate the paperwork, purchase orders as the bond work begins.

3. does the custodial overtime connected to snow removal. Snow removal is a separate line, this includes employees out sick, vacation, workman's compensation cases where we need to bring in substitute custodians.
4. The budget for natural gas vs oil. The oil is in case the heating system fails, it's a back up.
5. Any funds budgeted for and not used to transfer to the reserve fund.
6. We will start doing asbestos testing and abatement and go through WSBOCES to get some aide back
7. The maintenance staff was increased by .5 FTE to bring repairs in house and not contract out.
8. The question came up again why we have a maintenance repair budget and the bond issue. Again it was explained the maintenance repair budget is for day to day operational repairs such as plumbing, electricity for the air conditioners, bathroom tile replacement, maintenance of the kitchens and heating systems, etc. The bond is for the reconfiguration of existing building and improvement of structure, adding wings to accommodate the increase of enrollment.
9. The process for building the budget starts with the Principals and Directors and a review of their perspective buildings in what the short term repairs, needs for the students' academics, etc. It is based on last years expenses and the anticipation of the aide the state allows. The requests include a "wish list" and prioritize the immediate needs of the building and/or department. It is a collaborative effort.

### **COMMUNITY INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Toni Bean

- Is documentation is provided to the board regarding the meetings with the Principals/Directors. Historically, no but if the Board wishes to receive such information, the Administration will provide it.

Melissa Asbell

- What are the plans for a/c in Northwest and Park Avenue? As of this date, the district is up to date in terms of providing a/c to all children and staff members who require it and will continue to do so.
- Will water fountains be in each classroom and adequate number of bathrooms to accommodate Kindergarten moving to Northwest? These issues have been addressed with the bond.
- Will we have summer school? This is pending if the 21st CCLC grant will be awarded to the district.

Lisa Johnson

- Can we accept donations for air conditioners. The answer would be no. We cannot just accept people dropping off their old air conditioners.

Terry Fulton

- Can we accept donations from P.C. Richards or Home Depot? That does not happen and again the wiring is the issue. We handle the need for air conditioning on an on-going need.

Jeannette Santos

- Isn't the bond going to include upgrading the wiring? Yes, but only for the additional wings and reconfigured rooms, not each and every room in each and every building.

Nate King

- Asked about the cost of central air vs individual units.
- Regarding the March 8th agenda
  - can the public view the academic calendar?
  - what is a unified basketball intramural coach?
  - asked about the criteria for fund raisers and use of facilities
  - asked the financial report be made public

**ACTION**

1. Review of Draft Agenda – Regular Meeting – March 8, 2017  
Discussion: Ms. Johnson asked about the School Lunch Report, we are in the black.

**PERSONNEL AND BUSINESS**

Motion to do Agenda Items 3B-1 and 3F-1 together made by Mrs. Santos; seconded by Ms. Johnson.  
Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7 yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

Motion to approve Agenda Items 3B-1 and 3F-1 made by Ms. Johnson; seconded by Mrs. Santos.  
Discussion: None. Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

3B-1 FMLA: Music Teacher/NW – Tannenbaum, R.

3F-1 Approval of Conferences

**REPORTS**

Legal No Report

Superintendent No Report

**Board Report**

- The policy committee met earlier this evening and reviewed the updates that the Board needs to review and these will be on the March 8th agenda.
- Mrs. Santos asked the Board to place an ad for the Drama Production and Central Administration will also place an ad.

**Lisa Johnson**

- Have the notices been sent out regarding Transportation for the Parocihal and Private Schools with the April 1st deadline. They will be going out shortly.
- As Mr. Leon was to attend the Capital Conference in Albany but due to the snow the conference was cancelled. However Ms. Johnson was already up there as part of the NYS Caucus for Black School Board Members and met with other attendees who were already there. Specifically a discussion to have a summit that looked at addressing the lack of African-Americans and Latino males in the education field. More information should be coming out in the near future.
- Ms. Pawlewicz asked when will the information for Pre-K registration be sent out. It will be coming out shortly from the Central Registration Office.

**Jeannette Santos**

- Thanked everyone for their participation in reading to the students for Dr. Seuss' Birthday and the Town of Babylon Black History Celebration

**COMMUNITY INPUT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS**

**Mercedes Daniels Reed**

- asked about plans to expand the parking lot at NE
- regarding AMHS facade not as important as air conditioning
- concerned as the bond work begins, unexpected costs may occur
- if the bond work comes in under budget, we will know that and what happens to those funds
- NE door repairs

**Madeline Quintyne**

- Can we get a report as to how many minorities in each building?

- Referenced the last meeting, where a person spoke to the audience addressing what was interpreted as negative with community members' comments and questions. All the community has the right to ask questions and expect answers and did so in a respectful manner.
- Thanked everyone who came out to attend the Black History Program sponsored by the Town of Babylon.

Tynese Hobson

- Expressed concerned the experience at the AMHS Basketball game with the Blue Point Cheerleaders. Dr. Kelly addressed this was investigated.

Robert Claps

- Referencing Ms. Quintyne's comment regarding negative comments, Mr. Claps clarified that the person who was not a teacher but a parent of the district who likewise has their right to express their concerns of the district.
- This Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> from 10-12 there will be a march for education justice sponsored Alliance for Quality Education.

Susan Heenan

- Spoke of traffic safety regarding buses and walkers at the Middle School with the snow.

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn Open Session at 9:35 p.m. made by Mrs. Santos; seconded by Ms. Johnson.  
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain

AMITYVILLE U F S D  
APPROVED  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
DATE 5-10-17  
DISTRICT CLERK SIGNATURE  
*J. Wood Decker*