

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701 Regular Session Minutes –
January 10, 2024 Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School | Auditorium

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by 1st Vice President Jeannette Santos at Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School in Art Room 107.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Lisa Johnson, President (Arrived at 5:47pm)
(Trustees) Mrs. Jeannette Santos, 1st Vice President
Ms. Carol Seehof, 2nd Vice President
Mr. David Heller, Trustee
Mrs. Leslie Kretz, Trustee
Mr. Juan Leon, Trustee (Arrived at 5:40pm)

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/Deputy District Clerk
Mr. John Sheahan, Esq., Guercio & Guercio
Mrs. Melissa Durnin, District Clerk

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter to Executive Session at 5:35 p.m. made by 1st Vice President Santos and seconded by Trustee Heller for the purpose of speaking to Legal counsel was carried off camera at the start of Executive Session.

Motion to Approve 1st	Motion to Approve 2nd
Jeannette Santos	David Heller

Motion **CARRIED YES: 4 | NO: 0**

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was a consensus of the Board of Education to enter the open meeting at 7:38 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Lisa Johnson, President
(Trustees) Mrs. Jeannette Santos, 1st Vice President
Ms. Carol Seehof, 2nd Vice President
Mr. David Heller, Trustee
Mrs. Leslie Kretz, Trustee
Mr. Juan Leon, 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/Deputy District Clerk
Mr. John Sheahan, Esq., Guercio & Guercio
Mrs. Melissa Durnin, District Clerk

A. EMERGENCY EXIT, NO SMOKING STATEMENT

In the unlikely event of an emergency, you need to note that exits are clearly marked. Take a moment to note the exit nearest to where you are seated. Smoking is not allowed on school grounds. As a courtesy, please turn off cell phones during the meeting

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Johnson asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. PRESENTATIONS (Summarized)

1. SoundThinking- Gregory Green gave a presentation regarding a Safety Program.

(See Video Link for Complete Details)

D. COMMUNITY INPUT REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

The following person(s) gave community input:

- Wendy Canestro

2. BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. Approval of Board Minutes

1. Work Session - December 6, 2023
2. Regular Session - December 13, 2023

Motion to Approve 1st	Motion to Approve 2nd
Carol Seehof	Leslie Kretz

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 | NO: 0**

B. Board Action Recommended by Board Policy Committee

N/A

C. Board Action Recommended by Board of Education

1. Social Media Litigation

Class action lawsuit brought to enable school districts to recover expenses incurred associated with the youth Mental Health crisis that is ongoing in this country and the litigation is against social media companies that may have contributed to the crisis and therefore school districts should be entitled to funds for expenses incurred.

Motion to Approve 1st	Motion to Approve 2nd
Carol Seehof	Leslie Kretz

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 | NO: 0**

Motion to Amend the Agenda to add 2C | 2 to authorize the hiring of a Special Investigator to perform an internal investigation into a complaint reviewed in Executive Session

Motion to Approve 1st	Motion to Approve 2nd
Leslie Kretz	Jeannette Santos

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 | NO: 0**

2. Motion to approve 2C | 2 - Hiring of Special Investigator

2. Motion to Approve 1st	Motion to Approve 2nd
Carol Seehof	David Heller

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 | NO: 0**

D. Audit Committee

N/A

3. Board Action Recommended by the Superintendent of Schools

A. General

N/A

B. Personnel

1. Personnel Action Report
2. Employment Agreements- Confidential Employees

Motion to Approve 1st	Motion to Approve 2nd
Jeanette Santos	Leslie Kretz

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 | NO: 0**

C. Business

1. Corrective Action Plan in Response to External Audit
2. Corrective Action Plan in Response to Internal Audit
3. Use of Facilities
4. Donations

Motion to Approve 1st	Motion to Approve 2nd
Leslie Kretz	Carol Seehof

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 | NO: 0**

D. Finance

N/A

E. Contracts for Special Education Services

1. Connetquot Central School District- Federal Part B Flow- Through Allocations 2023/2024
2. Appointment of Impartial Hearing Officer

Motion to Approve 1st	Motion to Approve 2nd
David Heller	Jeannette Santos

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 | NO: 0**

F. Curriculum and Instruction

1. 2024-2025 Secondary Course Catalogs

Motion to Approve 1st	Motion to Approve 2nd
Carol Seehof	Leslie Kretz

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 | NO: 0**

4. Reports

A. Legal Counsel for the District

N/A

**B. Superintendent of Schools (Summarized)
(See Video Link for Complete Details)**

**C. Board of Education
(See Video Link for Complete Details)**

- Trustee Juan Leon
- President Lisa Johnson

5. Community Input Regarding Non Board Agenda Items Only

(See Video Link for Complete Details)

- Margaret Shuff
- Wendy Canestro
- Patricia Hobson
- Megan Messmann

6. Adjournment

Motion to Approve 1st	Motion to Approve 2nd
David Heller	Carol Seehof

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 | NO: 0**

Respectfully submitted,

Minutes recorded & transcribed by:



Melissa Durnin
District Clerk