

APPROVED  
7/10/2013

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Amityville Union Free School District**  
**Amityville, NY 11701**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2013**  
**Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School – Auditorium – 7:00 PM**

**LOCATION:** Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School - Auditorium

**IN ATTENDANCE:** President Juliet Jordon-Thompson Vice President Lisa Johnson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Ron Moss Trustee Jeannette Santos  
Trustee Michele Sikhrangkur

**BOE ABSENT:** Trustee Nathan King  
Trustee Mark Epps

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Dr. John R. Williams, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Kathleen Gulbin – Asst. Supt. Curriculum & Instruction  
Dr. William Fanning-Interim Asst. Supt. Finance & Operations  
Dr. Mary Kelly-Asst Supt. Technology  
Dr. Stephen Neidell-Interim Asst. Supt. Human Resources  
Mr. Gary Steffanetta, Esq. Guercio & Guercio  
Ms. Nancy Hark, Esq., - Guercio & Guercio

**ADMINISTRATION** Mr. Anthony Cerullo, Director of Athletics, Phys Ed. And Health  
Ms. Fran Fernandez, Director of Fine Arts  
Mr. Michael Fusaro, Director of Science  
Mr. Claude Irwin, Director of Mathematics  
Daniel Noviello-Director Social Studies  
Dana Musso, Director of English  
Mr. Peter Paternostro, Administrator - Pupil Personnel Services  
Elizabeth Reveiz, Director of ELS

**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION** Pauline Collins, Principal, N.E. Elementary School  
Mr. Scott Bullis, Principal PAMES  
Ms. Rose Hutcherson, Asst. Principal, PAMES  
Dr. Mary DeRose, Principal-AMHS  
Dr. Michele Darby, Principal – EWMMS  
Mr. Ted Tsirigotis, Asst. Principal - EWMMS

**CLERK IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs. Judith O’Neill/District Clerk

**COMMUNITY:** 40 members present

1. **Meeting Called to Order** by President Jordon-Thompson at 7:07 PM.

**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 and pagers during the meeting.*

**B. Pledge of Allegiance** The Board and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

At this time Dr. Williams introduced Ms. Fran Fernandez who introduced the Middle School Drama Club. They will perform the “Music Man Junior” under the direction of Director Carl Ferarra. Performances will be on 5/17 & 5/18 at 7:30 PM at the Middle School Auditorium.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Ms. Elizabeth Reveiz gave a presentation on ESL and World Languages Programs. (see Attachment #1)

**C. Community Input Regarding Board Agenda Items Only**

Melissa Asbell asked the Board for permission to do a small presentation. 5 Kindergarten students thanked Trustee Santos for her efforts on behalf of education for all students and wished her a happy birthday.

**2. Board Action Recommended by the Board of Education**

**A. Approval of Board Minutes**

1. Draft #1 – Regular Meeting – November 14, 2012
2. Draft #1 – Regular Meeting – January 9, 2013
3. Draft #1 – Special Meeting – January 11, 2013
4. Draft #1 – Special Meeting – January 15, 2013
5. Draft #1 – Special Meeting – March 6, 2013

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Items 2A-1 through 2A-5 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Vice President Johnson. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

**B. Board Action Recommended by Board Policy Committee**

1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Section 3000

President Jordon-Thompson noted that this was the second reading for Section 3000.

**C. Board Action Recommended by Board of Education**

1. Approval of Membership Dues – NYSSBA
2. Approval of Workers for Budget Vote/Trustee Election

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Items 2C-1 and 2C-2 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Vice President Johnson. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

**D. Audit Committee – TBA**

**3. Board Action Recommended by the Superintendent**

**A. Superintendent**

1. Establish Date for Annual Organization Meeting

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Item 3A-1 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Trustee Sikhrangkur asked if Mr. Steffanetta had been informed of the date. Mr. Steffanetta responded that he would be there. **Motion CARRIED:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

**B. Personnel**

1. Abolish SAAD Club Advisor; Create Debate Club Advisor
2. Intentionally Left Blank
3. Termination: Groundskeeper I/DW – Vanable, A.
4. Resignation for Retirement: Teaching Assistant/PA – Liszewski, L.
5. Resignation for Retirement: Teaching Assistant/MS – Rizzo, M.
6. Resignation for Retirement: Teaching Assistant/NW – Dietrich, J.
7. Resignation: Senior Clerk/Typist/PN – Muniz, D.
8. Leave of Absence W/O Pay: English Teacher/MS – Pentangelo, J.

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9. Leave of Absence W/O Pay: Music Teacher/HS – Recher, J.
10. Appointment: Summer School Principal/Secondary – Agostino, J.
11. Appointment: Summer School Principal/Elementary – Reveiz, E.
12. Appointment: Summer School Principal/Elementary – Bullis, S.
13. Appointment: Summer School Principal/Elementary – Reiner, H.
14. Appointment: Summer School Guidance/Secondary – Murphy, S.
15. Appointment: Summer School Principal/Secretary – Lynch, B.

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Items 3B-1 through 3B-15 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

*President Jordon-Thompson noted to the community that the Board meets twice a month. The agenda for the Regular meeting is reviewed at a meeting the week prior to the Regular Meeting.*

16. Appointment: Part Time Athletic Director – Cardone, J.
17. Appointment: Mentor Coordinator – Engler, M.
18. Appointment: Step Coordinator & Liaison – Levine, D.
19. Appointment: RCT/Regents Review – Social Studies – Levine D.
20. Appointment: RCT/Regents Review – Social Studies – Seubert, J.
21. Appointment: RCT/Regents Review – Social Studies – Piccirilli, J.
22. Appointment: RCT/Regents Review – Mathematics – Dauria, D.
23. Appointment: RCT/Regents Review – Mathematics – Golub, R.
24. Appointment: RCT/Regents Review – Mathematics – Brooks, G.
25. Appointment: RCT/Regents Review – Living Environment – Charles, D.
26. Appointment: RCT/Regents Review – Living Environment – Quigley, C.
27. Appointment: Virtual Academy w/Common Core Curriculum Writing – Math Teacher – Romeo, R.
28. Appointment: Virtual Academy w/Common Core Curriculum Writing – English Teacher – Riordan, K.
29. Appointment: Virtual Academy w/Common Core Curriculum Writing – Science Teacher – O’Hagan, J.
30. Appointment: Virtual Academy w/Common Core Curriculum Writing – Social Studies Teacher – Western, I.
31. Appointment: Constitutional Law – Teacher – Levine, D.
32. Appointment: 9/11 & Global Terrorism – Teacher – Powell, A.
33. Appointment: Pre-AP World History – Teacher – O’Hagan, J.
34. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Komsic, K.
35. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Brooks, M.
36. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Cottone, M.
37. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Reddin, M.
38. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Heavey, L.
39. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Karounos, O.
40. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Finizio, N.
41. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Graham, D.
42. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Stein, A.
43. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Persaud, A.

44. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Faulkner, K.
45. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Peshler, J.
46. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Brown, H.
47. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Lee, D.
48. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Rubin, J.
49. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Lanser, N.
50. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Gafarian, S.
51. Appointment: ELA/Social Studies Integrated Curriculum – Teacher – Rutigliano, S.
52. Appointment: Art Curriculum Writing Teacher – Keaveny, N.
53. Appointment: Art Curriculum Writing Teacher – Robinson, L.
54. Appointment: ESL/Bilingual Teacher for Elementary Summer School – Skaliotis, X.
55. Appointment: ESL/Bilingual Teacher for Elementary Summer School – Wunderlich, C.
56. Appointment: ESL/Bilingual Teacher for Elementary Summer School – Dillahunt, R.
57. Appointment: ESL/Bilingual Teacher for Elementary Summer School – Meisser, P.
58. Appointment: ESL/Bilingual Teacher for Elementary Summer School – Gomez, R.
59. Appointment: Bilingual Teacher to Test Incoming Kindergarten Students – Brown, H.
60. Appointment: Bilingual Teacher to Test Incoming Kindergarten Students – Cottone, M.
61. Appointment: Bilingual Teacher to Test Incoming Kindergarten Students – Lievano, M.
62. Appointment: Mathematics Curriculum Writing Teacher – Naso, K.
63. Appointment: Mathematics Curriculum Writing Teacher – Reddin, M.

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Items 3B-16 through 3B-63 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Trustee Santos questioned why an agenda item was missing on tonight's agenda from last week's agenda. President Jordon-Thompson responded that last week these agenda items they were TBD and this week the names have been added and one of the subject areas was changed to Agenda Item 3B-85. **Motion CARRIED:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

64. Appointment: Mathematics Curriculum Writing Teacher – Tortorici, H.
65. Appointment: Mathematics Curriculum Writing Teacher – Turchi, J.
66. Appointment: Mathematics Curriculum Writing Teacher – Thomas, L.
67. Appointment: Mathematics Curriculum Writing Teacher – Rubin, J.
68. Appointment: Summer 2013 Guidance Counselor – Akapnitis, A.
69. Appointment: Summer 2013 Guidance Counselor – Murphy, S.
70. Appointment: Summer 2013 Guidance Counselor – Noon, J.
71. Appointment: Nurse Update Protocol/Guideline Manual – Johnson, M.
72. Appointment: Nurse Update Protocol/Guideline Manual – Johnson, P.
73. Appointment: Summer 2013 Nurse for Sports Physicals – Johnson, M.
74. Appointment: Translator – Hurst, J.
75. Appointment: Translator – Archaga, I.
76. Appointment: Translator – Velez, R.
77. Appointment: Translator – Gandarillas, T.
78. Appointment: Translator – O'Brien, M.
79. Appointment: Translator – Castro, E.
80. Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher/HS – Volkomer, K.
81. Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher/HS – Western, I.
82. Appointment: Substitute Teacher/Social Studies 7-12 – Weiss, R.

83. Appointment: Substitute Teacher/Phys Ed K-12 – Cardone, P.

84. Appointment: Black Literature & Creative Writing Teacher – Keenan, K.

85. Appointment: Virtual Academy w/Common Core Writing Lead Teacher – Kilfoil, C.

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Items 3B-64 through 3B-85 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

**C. Business and Finance**

1. Budget Transfers – Items 1 through 7

2. Fund Raising – Items 1 through 6

3. Health Service Contracts – Other Schools – Items 1 through 2

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Item 3C-1 through 3C-3 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Mr. Steffanetta had reviewed the contacts. **Motion CARRIED:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

4. Transportation Request – Rodriquez

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Item 3C-4 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion FAILED:** 1 Yes, 4 No (Santos, Jordon-Thompson, Moss and Sikhrangkur voted no) 0 Abstain.

5. Transportation Request – Waller

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Item 3C-5 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion FAILED:** 1 Yes, 4 No (Santos, Jordon-Thompson, Moss and Sikhrangkur voted no) 0 Abstain.

6. Use of Facilities – Item 1

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Item 3C-6 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

**D. Monthly Finance Report**

1. Report for January, 2013

2. Report for February, 2013

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Items 3D-1 & 3D-2 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

**E. CSE & CPSE Action/Meetings – None**

**F. Curriculum and Instruction**

1. Approval of Conferences – Items 1 through 6

**MOTION to APPROVE** Agenda Items 3F-1 made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

**4. Reports**

**A. Legal Counsel for the District** – Mr. Steffanetta had several items for discussion in Executive Session – negotiations and two potential legal matters.

**B. Superintendent of Schools**

Dr. Williams informed the Board regarding a program that would serve non college bound students well. We have been researching and found a cadet core program which is entry level but it is very expensive and is not covered in the budget. We have been investigating possible sources of funds. Dr. Kelly and I will send a fund request letter to all local veteran groups to see if they will make some contribution to us to get the program started. We will keep the Board apprised of the progress. Trustee Santos asked if DuWayne Gregory had been consulted about funds. Dr. Williams responded that is a possibility. We will also look into requesting that our federal representatives make contributions. Dr. Kelly said that she spoke to DuWayne Gregory and he gave us some leads at the federal level as well as some other local officials. He continues to be very supportive of our district.

Another announcement, Mr. Cerullo has been investigating some non profit organizations and found one that gives away free sneakers to children in need. He obtained 75 pairs sneakers from an organization called “Shoes that Fit”. Northeast, Northwest and Park Ave. schools will each receive 25 pairs of sneakers.

Dr. Williams also reported that Mr. Weber will be at the National Forum on Character Education in Washington DC next October to talk about his approach to teaching character education. Also, the Babylon Citizen Council on Arts informed that Amityville High School has been nominated for several teen awards for the production of “Grease”. The awards will be given out at a public presentation on 5/17 at 7:00 PM at the North Babylon High School.

Dr. Williams then talked about the partnership between Brookhaven and the Long Island Matrix of Science and Technology. They will be conducting 4 week science research program called STEM Prep (science, technology, engineering and math) designed to stimulate a broader interest and awareness among minority students. 24 seats were made available for all of Nassau and Suffolk County and 5 of those seats are going to Amityville students.

Stonybrook lost the funding for HCOP and has now secured funds for a successor program called HCARE. Dr. Williams then introduced Michele Darby with her new title of Dr. Michele Darby.

Dr. Darby said that this year we are running the HCARE program from the Middle School during the last two weeks in July. President Jordon-Thompson congratulated Dr. Darby.

Community questions on non agenda items.

Jackie Allen, 8 Floral Dr., Amityville – Ms. Allen discussed the budget cuts.

Mr. Robert Claps, ATA – Mr. Claps – Mr. Claps informed the Board that the teachers were prepared to encourage everyone to go out and vote. The ATA Awards Ceremony is tomorrow night. On 6/8 NYSET is having a rally demanding fair funding for our schools. Transportation will be provided.

Olivia Pedraza, 101 Plymouth Dr., Amityville – asked about renting school property.

Mr. McDaniels, 111 Bayview Ave., Amityville – Mr. McDaniels discussed the school report card.

Terry Fulton discussed a plan to assist teachers with the overflow of students.

Trustee Santos discussed obtaining money to replace the broken sign in front of the high school.

Melissa Asbell discussed getting some alumni together to do some fund raisers for a new sign.

*Vice President Lisa Johnson left at 8:42 PM.*



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Dr. Stephen Neidell-Interim Asst. Supt. Human Resources  
Mr. Gary Steffanetta, Esq. Guercio & Guercio  
Ms. Nancy Hark, Esq., - Guercio & Guercio

**MOTION to ADJOURN** Regular Meeting at 9:54 PM made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Motion CARRIED:** 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

Respectfully submitted,

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Michele Sikhrangkur, District Clerk Pro Tem