

APPROVED
11/13/2013

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Amityville Union Free School District
Amityville, NY 11701

Special Meeting Minutes– July 23, 2013

Park North Administration Building – Board Room – 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Park North Administration Building – Board Room

IN ATTENDANCE: President Lisa Johnson 2nd Vice President Ron Moss
Trustee Jeannette Santos Trustee Dr. Kathleen Corbett
Vice President Trustee Nathan King Trustee Fulton

BOE ABSENT: Trustee Mark Epps

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. John R. Williams, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Mary Kelly-Asst Supt. Technology

Dr. Stephen Neidell-Interim Asst. Supt. Human Resources

ABSENT: Dr. William Fanning-Interim Asst. Supt. of Finance & Operations.

Dr. Kathleen Gulbin – Asst. Supt. Curriculum & Instruction

1. **Meeting Called to Order** by President Johnson at 7:00 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**

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

Trustee King arrived at 7:02 PM.

Dr. Kathleen Gulbin arrived at 7:02 PM.

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

A. **Approval of Board Minutes** – None

B. **Board Action Recommended by Board Policy Committee** – None

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

D. **Audit Committee** – TBA

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

A. **Superintendent** – None

B. **Personnel** – None

C. **Business and Finance** – None

D. **Monthly Finance Report** – None

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

F. **Curriculum and Instruction** – None

4. **Reports**

A. **Legal Counsel for the District** – TBA

B. **Superintendent of Schools** – TBA

C. **Board of Education** – TBA

President Johnson appointed Trustee Dr. Corbett as District Clerk Pro Tem

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Board wants a job description that best suits the position and then the “title” will be applied. Trustee Dr. Corbett discussed combining Curriculum & Instruction with Personnel and Personnel Assistant position be considered. President Johnson stated that the new HR position does not have to be Assistant Superintendent, could be Director. Combining the two areas was not favored. Dr. Williams to provide the board with the best job description without a title.

Board to visit schools four times a year. They want to visit next week to see where the buildings are in repairs and/or maintenance.

President Johnson to forward email to all Board members regarding training on Board Docs. President Johnson was firm either paper or on line.

Dr. Williams updated the Board on ECG assessment – energy efficiency. ECG has finished their assessment and is preparing for bids/proposals for companies to reply. It is expected to have such information in 30 days.

Dr. Williams brought up the Board Retreat and is looking at Saturdays in September. We are waiting to hear back from NYSSBA’s representative, Jaimie McPherson.

Trustee Dr. Corbett brought up adding another language to the curriculum. Some thoughts came up to:

- Survey student body for what languages they are interested in
- Sign language, Chinese were some suggestions from KC
- Pursuing other than Virtual but through BOCES
- Adding such classes would not be until the January scheduling per SN
- Starting for MS students and then adding to HS as they move up
- Dr. Williams to prepare options for the Board

The Board asked about the 21st CCLC grant. The district is waiting for the funds to be delivered before filling the positions. Postings will be prepared with the phrase “anticipated openings pending funding”. Trustee Dr. Corbett brought up that there were positions approved for 21st CCLC. Dr. Neidell explained that was for the Summer program that was included in the previous grant for 21st CCLC. Trustee Dr. Corbett wanted to know why this program is not offered to NW. Dr. Gulbin explained that Sonji Clark did another grant for NW that was not approved. The district cannot have two grants for one purpose. The writing of the grant is specific and because of Sonji’s grant, NW could not be added to the PA/MS/HS.

There was discussion that a full time Custodian was approved at the 7/10 meeting but no posting has been done. President Johnson will check the minutes and report back to the board. Trustee Fulton asked the difference between full and part time custodians and Dr. Williams was prepared to explain salary, benefits, etc. for the two positions.

At the 7/3 board meeting, the resolution for Priority Substitute Teacher Service was tabled. Dr. Neidell had investigated a BOCES service at Trustee Corbett’s suggestion that is more cost effective for the district. Dr. Neidell has arranged for training and setting up the program that will tie in with Finance Manager. The webinar is scheduled for 7/30. The question came up can TAs, Monitors, Custodial staff be added to such a program? Dr. Neidell will look into that but it

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will still be Amityville approved subs for all the positions. The current sub service costs \$15,800, the BOCES, which will fall under a COSER, is \$8,200 but we will have added costs of \$750 to set up; \$2,500 for training.

The Board asked about the status of the interviews for the HS AP. Dr. Neidell and Dr. Williams updated the Board that the 2nd round was completed today and three candidates will meet with Dr. Williams on July 31. Vice President King and Trustee Fulton asked how many resumes had been received.

- 28 resumes received
- 11 candidates were selected from the panel that included 9 teachers/? Administrators/1 parents
- 1 person declined; 10 were interviewed by Dr. Neidell, Dr. Gulbin and Dr. Kelly.
- 4 were moved forward and of the 4; 3 were selected for the next round with Dr. Williams on July 31.
- All candidates were asked the same questions.
- The Board would like to see the questions and the resumes prior to meeting them at the Board meeting in August. Dr. Williams will consult with Guercio and Guercio on the legal dos and donts of what questions can be asked.

At the July 10 meeting, Dr. Fanning was asked about the insurance premiums from the July 3 meeting. He is to have that information for the next board meeting in August.

Trustee Dr. Corbett brought up Home and Career courses. Dr. Gulbin explained we do not have certified teachers in that area. Options - bring back a teacher that was excessed or blend portions of this subject in other courses.

Scaffolding at PA – Dr. Fanning to have answers

Vice President King wants a presentation from Ron Weber on the Character Education Program.

Trustee Dr. Corbett asked for specific details regarding virtual art. Dr. Gulbin explained the various programs so that no one was confused that it was all the same thing. There are different programs. The art course by Ms. Grasso does require the students to meet with Ms. Grasso but their work is individual and they are to prepare portfolios as they work to get grades. The program with Mr. Akapnitis requires the student to work on computers but Mr. Akapnitis tracks the time they log in and out as well as the work being completed. Vice President King suggested some type of pilot program and not upset the master schedule

Vice President King asked about the cameras and swipe cards. Dr. Kelly will have concrete information at the August 7 meeting. They just completed their walk through today, July 23.

President Johnson asked Dr. Williams about the tables, linens and microphones. They did have a preliminary cost but it was not bid out. It roughly comes to \$5,000 not including the microphones/sound system – just tables, chairs, linens.

The subject of Hopefulness to Helpfulness from the July 3 meeting was raised by Trustee Fulton. It's a mistake. The reorganizational agenda is just copied over from year to year with little review.

Priority #1

Can no longer procrastinate as to the plan of replacing the Directors. Dr. Williams will consult with Guercio & Guercio and the Board wants something by August 2. The stakeholders (per Trustee Dr. Corbett include teachers, principals, community)

Priority #2

Job description of Personnel position.

The meeting was adjourned and opened to the public for comments at 9:00 PM:

Edward McDaniels reiterated defining the virtual Art class/Mr. A. etc.

Harvey Marrow brought up again that the full time custodial position was approved but not posted but satisfied that the board would look into it.

Melissa Asbell reiterated the Substitute Service and to include TAs and Custodians. She also brought up the plan to replace the responsibilities of the Directors and keep in mind the difference of Grade Level Leaders vs Lead Teachers.

Susan Heenan brought up the lack of communication to the public regarding added board meetings. Connect Ed messages were promised but not happening. It was suggested only added board meetings be on connect ed. Everyone knows about the standard meetings from the calendars and repetitiveness.

Trustee Dr. Corbett brought up again the possibility of exploring the Nassau BOCES service for ads for central office positions.

MOTION to ADJOURN Special Meeting at 9:12 PM made by 2nd Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Fulton. **Motion CARRIED:** 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

Respectfully submitted,

Trustee Dr. Kathleen Corbett, District Clerk Pro Tem