

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701
Regular Meeting Minutes – October 8, 2014
Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School – Auditorium – 7:00 PM

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisa Johnson, President
Ron Moss, 1st Vice President
Terry Fulton, 2nd Vice President
Carolyn Dodd, Trustee
Nathan King, Trustee
Jeannette Santos, Trustee

PRESENT VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE:

Dr. Kathleen Corbett, Trustee

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Mary T. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Joan Lange, Interim Ass't Sup't for Curriculum and Instruction
Sydney Freifelder, Interim Ass't Sup't for Finance and Operations
Bridgette Wilson, Director for Human Resources
Victoria Cantrella, Esq. Guercio & Guercio
Dr. Mary DeRose, Interim Principal/AMHS
Rod Wilkins, Associate Principal/AMHS
Ed Plaia, Principal/EWMMS
Kristy Middleton, Assistant Principal/EWMMS
Scott Bullis, Principal/PAMES
Rose Hutcherson, Assistant Principal/PAMES
Vincent Todisco, Principal/NW
Dr. Pauline Collins, Principal/NE
Peter Paternostro, Administrator/PPS
Sandra Parmentier, Assistant Administrator/PPS
Dr. Fran Fernandez, Director for Fine Arts
Ted Tsiriogits, Director for Phys.Ed/Athletics
Susanne Pena, District Coordinator/ESL

CLERK IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Eileen Becker, Deputy District Clerk

AUDIENCE:

50 Community/Staff Present

Trustee Dr. Kathleen Corbett joined the meeting via video conference at the Indian River College of Florida, Martin County Library in Stuart, Florida. This facility is open to the public.

1. Meeting Called to Order at 7:02 PM by President Johnson

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 – There were no comments from the audience regarding agenda items.

President Johnson turned the meeting over to Dr. Kelly who presented the following recap of district news.

There was a facilities update from BBS Architects, Landscape Architects & Engineers, P.C., Mr. Roger Smith and Mr. Kevin Walsh. The power point presentation is attached. Some conversation included: the study is based on NYSED guidelines as to how big a classroom needs to be to accommodate the number of students. Northeast Elementary school will have increased enrollment over the next ten years. The plan will adjust to accommodate the growth of enrollment. The high school shows the most growth. Music, Art and Computer Rooms were not included in the study. Trustee King asked if portables are being considered in the plan. Northeast and Northwest do have the land to extend the building/portables. Trustee Santos asked if the high school could have a third floor added. It was explained it is too costly to do so with the equipment on the roof. All that would have to be rerouted. It is their intent to make the most of the current space as there is not enough land to expand the building. President Johnson asked for an update with additional information within the next few weeks.

Gary Steffanetta, Esq. arrived at 7:10 PM.

2. Board Action Recommended by the Board of Education

A. Approval of Board Minutes

1. Draft #1 – Special Meeting – September 23, 2014

MOTION TO APPROVE Agenda Item 2A-1 made by President Johnson; seconded by Trustee Santos.

DISCUSSION: Floor opened for discussion **MOTION CARRIED:** 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

B. Board Action Recommended by Board Policy Committee – None

C. Board Action Recommended by Board of Education

1. Approval of Attendance for Conference – 2014 Leadership Academy & Policy Workshop

MOTION TO APPROVE Agenda Item 2C-1 made by President Johnson; seconded by Trustee Dodd.

DISCUSSION: Floor opened for discussion. **MOTION CARRIED:** 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

D. Audit Committee – TBA

3. Board Action Recommended by the Superintendent

A. Superintendent

1. Board Recognition Week

MOTION TO APPROVE Agenda Item 3A-1 made by President Johnson; seconded by Trustee Santos.

DISCUSSION: Floor opened for discussion **MOTION CARRIED:** 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

B. Personnel

1. Resignation: Bench Substitute Teacher/HS – Stratman, A.
2. Resignation: Part Time Spanish Teacher/MS – Stratman, A.
3. Resignation: Virtual I Academy Substitute Teacher – Stratman, A.
4. Resignation: Virtual II Academy Spanish Teacher – Stratman, A.
5. Resignation: Bench Substitute Teacher/HS – Ramos, S.
6. Resignation: Activity Advisor/ECHO/HS – Ramos, S.
7. Resignation: Activity Advisor/Jazz Band/HS – Maccarone, J.
8. Resignation: Bench Substitute Teacher/HS – Happ, C.
9. Resignation: Bench Substitute Teacher/PA – Walsh, J.
10. Resignation: Teaching Assistant/NW – Munoz, D.
11. Resignation: Bus Monitor/HS – Powell, B.
12. Rescind Appointment: School Monitor/NW – Church, C.
13. Rescind Appointment: Substitute Teacher – Mahoney, E.
14. Revised Appointment: Substitute Guidance Counselor – Mahoney, E.
15. Increased Appointment: Bench Substitute Teacher/NW – Turano, R.

16. Appointment: After School Detention/MS – Zider, J.
17. Appointment: Intramural Coach/MS – Karafantis, G.
18. Appointment: Intramural Coach/MS – Hamilton, I. (01/06/15-02/05/15)
19. Appointment: Intramural Coach/MS – Hamilton, I. (10/09/14-11/07/14)
20. Appointment: Intramural Coach/MS – Hamilton, I. (11/10/14-12/11/14)
21. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor – McGowan, J.
22. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor – Cardone, J.
23. Appointment: Athletic Supervisor – Duguay, P.
24. Appointment: Chaperone – Cardone, J.
25. Appointment: Chaperone – Kretz, A.
26. Appointment: Activity Advisor – ECHO/HS – Morenus, K.
27. Appointment: Activity Advisor – Sophomore Class/HS – Morenus, K.
28. Appointment: Activity Advisor – Freshman Class/MS – Zider, J.
29. Appointment: Activity Advisor – K-Builders/MS – Kaiser, G.
30. Appointment: Activity Advisor – Gay, Straight Alliance/MS – Kraljic, B.
31. Appointment: Activity Advisor – Video Announcement Club/MS – Weber, R.
32. Appointment: Activity Advisor – Book Review/PA – Ross, D.
33. Appointment: Substitute Teacher – Howard, M.
34. Intentionally Left Blank
35. Leave Replacement: Special Ed Teacher/PA – Romeo, C.
36. Revised Extension Leave of Absence w/o Pay: Special Ed Teacher/MS – Schmertzler, D.
37. Part Time Appointment: Art Teacher/NE – Piersa, E.
38. Appointment: Bench Substitute Teacher/MS – Piersa, E.
39. Appointment: Fall Coach Volunteer Football Coach – Kretz, G.
40. Appointment: Fall Coach Volunteer Football Coach – Williams, J.
41. Appointment: Virtual II Academy – Art Teacher – Grasso, J.
42. Appointment: Virtual I Academy – Art Teacher – Grasso, J.
43. Revised Appointment: Special Education Coordinator/HS – Feehan, R.
44. Revised Appointment: Special Education Coordinator/MS – Clairborne, L.
45. Resignation: Virtual I Academy – Social Studies Teacher – Kretz, A.
46. FMLA Leave: Teaching Assistant/NE – Rousseau, K.
47. Leave Replacement Appointment: Music Teacher/PA – Tomek, C.
48. Revised Appointment: Instructional Coach – Persaud, A.
49. Appointment: Activity Advisor – Jazz Ensemble Advisor/HS – O'Connor, J.
50. Appointment: Bench Substitute Teacher/HS – Bueno, R.
51. Appointment: Part Time Spanish Teacher/MS – Bueno, R.

MOTION TO APPROVE Agenda Item 3B-1 through 3B-51 made by President Johnson; seconded by Trustee Moss. **DISCUSSION:** Floor opened for discussion **MOTION CARRIED:** 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

C. Business and Finance

1. Budget Transfer – Items 1 through 4
2. Fund Raising – Items 1 through 22
3. Use of Facilities – Items 1 through 6
4. Donations – Item 1

MOTION TO APPROVE Agenda Item 3C-1 through 3C-4 made by President Johnson; seconded by Trustee King. **DISCUSSION:** Floor opened for discussion **MOTION CARRIED:** 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

D. Monthly Finance Report

1. August, 2014

MOTION TO APPROVE Agenda Item 3D-1 made by President Johnson; seconded by Trustee King.
DISCUSSION: Floor opened for discussion **MOTION CARRIED:** 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

E. CSE & CPSE Action/Meetings/Contract Approval

1. Wyandanch UFSD
2. Metro Therapy, Inc. SEDCAR
3. UCP Suffolk SEDCAR

MOTION TO APPROVE Agenda Item 3E-1 through 3E-3 made by President Johnson; seconded by Trustee King. **DISCUSSION:** Floor opened for discussion **MOTION CARRIED:** 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

F. Curriculum and Instruction – None

4. Reports

A. Legal Counsel for the District – None

B. Superintendent of Schools

October is Hispanic Heritage month, and there are many celebrations throughout the District. The Town of Babylon's 16th Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival was held last Saturday, and Amityville Memorial High School Sophomore Chris Gonzalez received a Special Recognition Award for his participation in the Ujima Summer Internship Program. Congratulations to Chris Gonzalez and his family.

Amityville athletes were once again recognized by their peers on opposing teams for outstanding sportsmanship during the Spring Season last year. These teams are: the Varsity Baseball Team, coached by Mr. Chris Diot, The Amityville Grey Junior Varsity Softball Team, coached by Mr. Bob Western, and the Junior Varsity Baseball team coached by Mr. Matt Greiss. Congratulations to the teams and their coaches on this well-deserved recognition.

Aidan McGlone (Soprano, 12th grade) has been selected to represent our district as a member of the highly selective 2014 All-State Vocal Jazz Ensemble as the NYSSMA All-State Conference in Rochester this December. Thousands of students auditioned for this honor last spring at NYSSMA Solo and Ensemble Festivals throughout the state. Students were chosen to participate based on their proficiency score achieved at the festival and teacher recommendations. Congratulations to Aidan, her family, and her present/former music teachers on this outstanding achievement.

Artwork created by High school seniors Josue Reyes and Tiffany King will be on display in a state-wide student art exhibit during the New York State School Boards Association Conference in Manhattan on October 26th and 27th at the Sheraton New York in Times Square. The exhibit, co-sponsored by the New York State Art Teachers Association and the New York State School Boards Association, is intended to highlight achievement in Visual Arts across the state. The work on display demonstrates a high level of student ability on every grade level, in a spectacular range of mediums, techniques, and genres. Congratulations to Josue, Tiffany, their families, and their art teachers on this wonderful recognition!!

Thirty-two students at the Amityville Memorial High School participated in the Historical Black Colleges Tour, which is sponsored by COMPASS from September 23rd through 26th. The students, who were accompanied by Mr. Hawkins, Mrs. King, and Mr. Moss, visited 4 colleges: Virginia State and Virginia Union in Virginia, and Lincoln University and Chaney State University in Pennsylvania. The students were introduced to admissions counselors, participated in guided tours, and visited area museums. This is the eighth year that Amityville students have had the opportunity to participate in the tour. Special thanks to Mr. Hawkins, Ms. King, Mr. Moss, Mr. Velez, and COMPASS for their support of this popular program for our students.

The 19th Annual – La Visión Hispanic Youth Conference was held on Thursday, October 2, 2014 at Stony Brook University. During the conference, English Language Learner Students from Amityville Memorial High School participated in bilingual workshops that addressed topics pertaining to their education, as well as social, developmental, and economic issues. Students also had the opportunity to listen to and interact with Latino college students and professionals and share similar immigration stories. Students were able to speak

with various college and financial aid experts about college credits, courses, majors and financial aid. Thanks to Ms. Suzanne Pena, our District Coordinator for ESL and Bilingual Programs, Dr. DeRose, and the ESL faculty for coordinating this field trip.

I am pleased to announce that the District, in partnership with Farmingdale State College, has been awarded the College Access Challenge Grant. We were just recently notified of the award and we are awaiting additional information regarding the details of its implementation. The focus of this grant is College Access for Middle School and High School students. Some of the projects that may be addressed include: Academic Enrichment in STEM and ELA disciplines, Model United Nations programs with a STEM emphasis, Career oriented field trips with a STEM focus, Saturday Academies in Biology, Engineering, Environment Studies and Film, College classes, and field trips to various colleges, to name a few. This new partnership opportunity is in addition to existing partnerships between the District and Farmingdale State College that include the Smart Scholars Program and the Science and Technology Entry Program.

The Amityville Memorial High School Guidance Department will be hosting a College Fair tomorrow evening, Thursday, October 9th from 7 to 9 PM in the gym. Over 100 colleges will be in attendance, including the Military Academies and Armed Forces. This event is open to the entire district, and recruiters and counselors will be available. It's never too early to get kids thinking about college.

There are a number of events that are coming up this month. On Tuesday October 14th the Marching Band will be participating in the Newsday Marching Band Festival.

On October 24, the Amityville Sports Hall of Fame will hold its Annual Sports Hall of Fame Induction. Alumni athletes who are being recognized include: Kenny Young, Richard Maur, Oliver Hinckson, Albert Leftenant, Cheres Hinkson, Reynolds Hawkins, Coach/Athlete, Victor Niemi, Coach/Athlete, and Jeannette Santos, Athletic Contributor. Contact Coach Reynolds Hawkins for tickets.

The Homecoming Parade and Game is on Saturday, October 25. The parade starts at 2 PM at the train station parking lot. The Varsity Football game starts at 3 PM against Westhampton Beach.

The Amityville Parent Teacher's Council is sponsoring a student faculty basketball game on Friday evening, October 10, at the Middle School at 7 PM and a skating party on October 30th from 6:30 PM – 8:45 PM at United Skates of America.

C. Board of Education – None

COMMUNITY INPUT ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

Bob Claps -still concerned lack of materials; lesson format. Representing the ATA, Bob conveyed their commitment to keep open dialogue on these topics as with all topics. Dr. Kelly reiterated her commitment to working with the ATA on these matters. The follow up is to continue to work together and getting the necessary materials in place with training quicker.

Leah Rogers - parent of HS senior - stressed the importance of education and college and how she encourages her daughter to work hard. She has a good relationship with Mr. Akapanitis and the importance of the guidance counselors. No follow up needed.

Susan Heenan - parent of PAMES student - asked where were we with bullying - what is the result of the survey - will parents be notified of the results of the survey - what plans are there for continuing on this issue. Dr. Kelly responded that the next meeting for the task force is this month. The follow up needed is to hear what the results of the survey was, how it impacts the plans going forward to address the bullying issue.

Mrs. Heenan also commented on the comments from Mr. Claps. She is concerned also about the curriculum. If the teachers do not have what they need, what are the students learning? Parents need to come to the meetings and most parents are not aware of the situation of materials and curriculum. Mrs. Heenan did not specify the need for any follow up on this topic.

Crystal Rodriguez - parent and APTC building rep - is concerned with bullying as well. No discipline or punishment to those children who do not follow the Pillars. She feels the Pillars of Character is a good plan but what are the consequences when not followed. She has emailed the Principal with a cc to Dr. Kelly. Mrs.

Johnson encouraged her to follow through with the Principal (Mr. Bullis) and to make an appointment with Dr. Kelly on this topic to find out Ms. Rodriguez' specific concerns. The follow up will be a meeting with Dr. Kelly.

Rose Torres - parent and TA staff member - brought up the change in the calendar for May 22nd. Her concern was the Grade 4 & 8 NYS Science Performance Tests. Dr. Kelly assured her that those dates are a range and does not follow the exact dates. The follow up is that the parents/community is aware of the change in dates and the scheduled tests will not be affected.

Lisa Thomas - parent and teacher at Northeast - her concern is the lack of monitors for the NE students. One monitor per 25-29 students is not enough. Her daughter was seriously injured last year resulting in surgery. The follow up will be to address this issue and respond to her.

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:15 made by President Johnson; seconded by Trustee Moss. **DISCUSSION:** Floor opened for discussion. **MOTION CARRIED:** 7 Yes; 0 No; 0 Abstain.

At 8:15 PM, Trustee Dr. Kathleen Corbett exited the video conference feed.

President Johnson appointed 1st Vice President Ron Moss as Clerk Pro Tem

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Becker, Deputy District Clerk

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Called to order at 8:30 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisa Johnson, President

Ron Moss, 1st Vice President

Terry Fulton, 2nd Vice President

Carolyn Dodd, Trustee

Nathan King, Trustee

Jeannette Santos, Trustee

ABSENT:

Dr. Kathleen Corbett, Trustee

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Mary T. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Joan Lange, Interim Ass't Sup't for Curriculum and Instruction

Sydney Freifelder, Interim Ass't Sup't for Finance and Operations

Bridgette Wilson, Director for Human Resources

Gary Steffanetta, Esq. Guercio & Guercio

Victoria Cantrella, Esq. Guercio & Guercio

ACTION TAKEN: None

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Moss, District Clerk Pro Tem

RESUME OPEN SESSION at 9:24 PM.

LOCATION: Park North Administration Building – Board Room

IN ATTENDANCE: President Lisa Johnson 1st Vice President Ronald A. Moss

Trustee Jeannette Santos Trustee Nathan King

2nd Vice President Terry Fulton

Trustee Carolyn Dodd via video conference

ABSENT: Trustee Dr. Kathleen Corbett

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Mary T. Kelly, Superintendent of Schools

Mrs. Sydney Freifelder, Interim Asst. Supt. Finance & Operations

Dr. Joan K. Lange, Interim Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Inst.

Ms. Bridgette Wilson, Director for Human Resources

Ms. Bonnie Gorham, Esq. Guercio & Guercio

Ms. Victoria Cantrella, Esq. Guercio & Guercio

MOTION to ADJOURN Regular Meeting at 9:25 PM made by 1st Vice President Moss, seconded by Trustee Santos. **Motion CARRIED:** 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Moss, District Clerk Pro Tem

Board Approved: 01/14/15