

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701
Regular Session Minutes – December 13, 2023
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 5:30 p.m. by President Lisa Johnson at Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School in Art Room 107.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Lisa Johnson, President
(Trustees) Mrs. Jeannette Santos, 1st Vice President
Ms. Carol Seehof, 2nd Vice President
Mr. David Heller, Trustee

ABSENT: Mrs. Leslie Kretz, Trustee
(Trustees) 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. Christian D. Code, District Clerk Consultant

Legal Counsel was not present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter to Executive Session at 5:31 p.m. made by 2nd Vice President Seehof and seconded by 1st Vice President Santos for the purpose of matters pertaining to particular person's employment history, to receive advice from counsel regarding confidential secretaries and an update and discussion of negotiations for the Amityville Teachers' Association.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Lisa Johnson, President
(Trustees) Mrs. Jeannette Santos, 1st Vice President
Ms. Carol Seehof, 2nd Vice President
Mr. David Heller, Trustee

ABSENT: Mrs. Leslie Kretz, Trustee
(Trustees) 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

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Mr. John Sheahan, Esq.- Guercio & Guercio (arrived at 5:48p.m./left at 7:28pm)

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was a consensus of the Board of Education to enter the open meeting at 7:32 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
Mr. Juan Leon, Trustee (arrived at 8:00p.m.)

ABSENT: Mrs. Leslie Kretz, Trustee
(Trustees)

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. Christian D. Code, District Clerk Consultant
Mrs. Lisa Hutchinson, Esq., Legal Counsel (arrived at 7:35p.m.)
Mr. Peter Paternostro, Administrator for Pupil Personnel Services
Dr. Virginia Figueroa, Asst. Administrator for Pupil Personnel Services
Mr. Evan Farkas, Director of Athletics, Physical Education & Health
Ms. Angela Garcia, Director of English as a New Language and World Languages
Dr. Frances Fernandez, Director of Fine Arts
Dr. Pauline Collins, Principal- Northeast ES
Ms. Kathleen Hyland, Principal- Northwest ES
Ms. Sonia Rodrigo, Asst. Principal- Northwest ES
Mr. Edward Plaia, Principal- Park Avenue Memorial ES
Mrs. Denise Graham, Asst. Principal- Park Avenue Memorial ES
Ms. Lurdez Berrios, Asst. Principal- Edmund W. Miles MS
Ms. Mary Stephens, Principal- Amityville Memorial HS
Dr. John Cardone, Asst. Principal- Amityville Memorial HS
Ms. Natasha Lim, Dean of Students- Amityville Memorial HS
Mr. Kenneth Coard, Acting Asst. Principal- Amityville Memorial HS
Mrs. Nicole Gigante, ELA Supervisor

COMMUNITY: Approx. 100

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. Choral Presentation
2. Curricular Presentation
 - a. Secondary Course Catalog
 - b. Professional Learning Plan
 - c. Digital Literacy Software Applications

D. COMMUNITY INPUT REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

The following person(s) gave community input:

- Wendy Canestro
- Margaret Shuff

2. BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

1. Work Session- November 1, 2023
2. Regular Session- November 8, 2023
3. Audit Committee- November 8, 2023

Motion to approve 2A| 1-3 made by 1st Vice President Santos, seconded by Trustee Heller.

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

B. BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD POLICY COMMITTEE

1. Workplace Violence Prevention Policy

Discussion: President Johnson stated that this policy was created after a legal mandate and has been reviewed and crafted by legal counsel. There was also a timeline that the District must complete.

Motion to approve 2B| 1 made by 2nd Vice President Seehof, seconded by 1st Vice President Santos.

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

C. BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

1. Consultant Services Agreement- District Clerk

Discussion: President Johnson stated the hours of the consultant will be monitored. The Board recognized that there are multiple opportunities for learning for the new District Clerk. The Board President introduced the new District Clerk, Mrs. Melissa Durnin, to the community.

Motion to approve 2C| 1 made by 1st Vice President Santos, seconded by 2nd Vice President Seehof.

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

D. AUDIT COMMITTEE

3. BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A. GENERAL

B. PERSONNEL

1. Personnel Action Report
2. Services Agreement- Comply Corporation

Motion to approve 3B| 1-2 made by Trustee Heller seconded by 1st Vice President Santos.

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

C. BUSINESS

1. Change Order No.1

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves Change Order No. 1 dated November 3, 2023 to the Agreement between the Board of Education and Honeywell International, Inc. dated July 2, 2022 and authorizes the Board President and Superintendent of Schools to execute Change Order No. 1 and related documents and to take those steps necessary to implement the Energy Performance Contract dated July 2, 2022 as modified by Change Order No. 1.

Motion to **AMEND** the agenda to include 3C| 1 into consideration made by 1st Vice President Santos, seconded by 2nd Vice President Seehof.

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

Motion to **APPROVE** 3C| 1 made by 1st Vice President Santos, seconded by 2nd Vice President Seehof. Discussion: President Johnson read the resolution as listed above.

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

D. FINANCE

1. Treasurer’s Report- October 2023

Motion to approve 3D| 1 made by 1st Vice President Santos seconded by Trustee Heller.

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

E. CONTRACTS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

1. Farmingdale UFSD- Special Education Services Contract 2022/2023
2. The Hagedorn Little Village School- Consultant Evaluation Contract 2023/2024
3. St. James Tutoring- Addendum to Contract 2023/2024
4. Syosset Central School District- Special Education Agreement 2023/2024
5. Massapequa UFSD- Special Education Contract 2022/2023
6. West Islip UFSD- Special Education Contract 2023/2024
7. Plainedge UFSD- Special Education Contract 2023/2024
8. Judge Rotenberg Educational Center- Special Education Contract 2023/2024

Motion to approve 3E| 1-8 by 2nd Vice President Seehof, seconded by 1st Vice President Santos.

Motion **CARRIED YES: 5 | NO: 0**

F. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

1. Conferences & Travel
2. Professional Learning Plan
3. Digital Literacy Software Applications

Motion to approve 3F| 1-3 by Trustee Heller, seconded by 2nd Vice President Seehof.

Motion **CARRIED YES: 5 | NO: 0**

4. REPORTS

A. Legal Counsel for the District

B. Superintendent of Schools (Summarized)

5. COMMUNITY INPUT REGARDING NON BOARD AGENDA ITEMS (Summarized)

The following persons gave community input:

- Megan Messmann
- Wendy Canestro
- Donelle Cronin
- Matthew Greiss

- Francis O’Brienn
- Nakia Wolfe
- Margaret Shuff

6. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS (SUMMARIZED)

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:48 p.m. by 1st Vice President Santos, seconded by Trustee Leon
Motion **CARRIED YES: 5 | NO: 0**

Respectfully submitted,

Minutes recorded & transcribed by:

Olivia T. Buatsi
Deputy District Clerk