

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701
Work Session Minutes – September 7, 2022
Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School | Auditorium

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Lisa Johnson at Park North 1st Floor Board Room.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter to Executive Session at 5:31 p.m. made by Trustee Heller and seconded by 1st Vice President Santos for the purpose of matters pertaining to particular persons.

Motion **CARRIED YES: 4 No: 0.**

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Lisa Johnson, President
(Trustees) Mrs. Jeannette Santos, 1st Vice President
Carol Seehof, 2nd Vice President
Mr. David Heller, Trustee
Mr. Juan Leon, Trustee ***Arrived during executive session***
Mrs. Leslie Kretz, Trustee ***Arrived during executive session***

APPROVED
October 19, 2022

ABSENT: Dr. Terry Fulton, Trustee
(Trustees)

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Edward Fale, 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

Legal Counsel was not present.

RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and resume Open Meeting at 7:30 p.m. made by 2nd Vice President Seehof; seconded by Trustee Heller

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 No: 0.**

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

ABSENT: Dr. Terry Fulton, Trustee
(Trustees)

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Edward Fale, Superintendent of Schools

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Dr. Joan Lange, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
 Dr. Bridgette Waite, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
 Ms. Olivia Buatsi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations
 Mr. Christian D. Code, District Clerk

COMMUNITY: 20

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. Grants

Dr. Lange made a presentation regarding grants, providing a brief overview for the community and the Board of Education Title I- IV grants- how they are created and tracking. This presentation will be made available on the District website and there will be another presentation at the September 14 regular meeting. This was followed by questions from Board members.

D. COMMUNITY INPUT REGARDING BOARD AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (Summarized)

Community Member's Name	Community Input
Amanda O'Connor	The August 10 th meeting minutes are incorrect in reference to what the attorney stated. The Board President responded that it is up as draft, which makes it open for changes. The District Clerk was asked to review the audio of the meeting to ensure that it is accurate. How many teachers are we looking to hire at this current time?
Dina Rosenberg	Regarding the Personnel Action Report (PAR), what positions are funded by grants and what is the cost benefit analysis? She also asked if the community can learn more about grants and its process.
Terry Holman	Will we have a guidance counselor? Will we be getting more teachers.
Margaret Shuff	What is the delay to the hiring of personnel?
Wendy Canestro	Were the July 20 th meeting minutes approved? Why are there so many business being conducted at special meetings? Will the presentations for tonight be made available? Who are the District's grant writers and what is the explanation for the use of each grant and can that be shared with the community?

2. BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION

A. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

B. BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED BY BOARD POLICY COMMITTEE

C. BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED BY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1. Review of Draft Agenda- Regular Monthly Meeting- September 14, 2022

Discussion: For the PAR for the 14th, should be made available for the public. Dr. Fale commented that the PAR for the 14th is in the midst of changes and new PAR will be sent to the Board for review this week. Regarding a voided check and the profit/loss found in Food Services. Board President said that she will reach out to legal to see if the contracts are ok.

2. Football Physician Appointment

Motion to approve Agenda Item 2C-2 made by Trustee Kretz, seconded by 2nd Vice President Seehof.

Discussion: Dr. Fale stated that there were no athletic trainers available and Districts are contracting with their District Physicians to cover the home games. He will be given a stipend.

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 No: 0**

D. AUDIT COMMITTEE

3. BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A. GENERAL

B. PERSONNEL

1. Personnel Action Report

Motion by 2nd Vice President Seehof and seconded by Trustee Heller to approve the Personnel Action Report (PAR) with the exception of I-C-9 (Certified Appointment(s)- Probationary / Tenure) and III-A-1 (Personnel Matters- Non Instructional | Non-Certified Rescind(s)).

Discussion: President Johnson the reasoning behind the exceptions as follows: 1-C-9 (Certified Appointment(s)- Probationary / Tenure) as that particular person has accepted another position somewhere else and III-A-1 (Personnel Matters- Non Instructional | Non-Certified Rescind(s)) as this particular item is blank.

Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 No: 0**

C. BUSINESS

1. SEQRA
2. Disposal of Fixed Assets

Motion to approve Agenda Item 3C-1 & 3C-2 made by Trustee Kretz and seconded by 2nd Vice President Seehof.

Discussion: None. Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 No: 0**

3. Use of Facilities

Motion to approve Agenda Item 3C-3 items 1-6 made by Vice President Seehof and seconded by Trustee Leon.

Discussion: None. Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 No: 0**

4. Use of Facilities- Item 7

Motion to TABLE Agenda Item 3C-3 item 7 made by Vice President Seehof and seconded by Trustee Heller.

Discussion: Further information was requested and submitted; the vote for this particular item will take place on next week. Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 No: 0**

D. Finance

E. Contracts for Special Education Services

F. Curriculum and Instruction

4. REPORTS

A. Legal Counsel for the District

B. Superintendent of Schools

1. Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
2. Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
3. Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

Ms. Buatsi stated that the Board of Education will be conducting interviews with architects at the Board's next scheduled meeting. She also stated that Dr. Fale and herself have met with the Whitson's, the District's Food Service provider, and shared with them their dissatisfaction with the food services program. The high school is an area of focus regarding this matter. In regards to transportation, it has been a very busy time, and is in constant communication regarding transportation. She stated that if there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the District's transportation person.

C. Board of Education

President Johnson shared with the community that with a new District Clerk being in place, the matter regarding draft minutes being posted in its two week window will be handled in a timely matter.

For live streaming and audio, we are testing a new system, however, a policy will need to be created and full discussion will be done next week.

The Board's policy committee will also be reviewing the policy regarding community input soon.

5. REPORTS

COMMUNITY INPUT REGARDING NON BOARD AGENDA ITEMS (Summarized)

Community Member Name	Comment/Community Input
Terry Holman	<p>Is there a plan to get an advisor the Drama Club?</p> <p>For the first day of school in the high school, students were missing a lunch period and students should have an opportunity for lunch.</p>

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	<p>Student schedule changes- students are waiting for changes to be made to their schedule and they were told that it can take up to a week. Also, there are long lines to make these changes and they cannot do it during class-time, they can only do it during class changes, which is why there are long lines outside of the guidance office.</p>
<p>Wendy Canestro</p>	<p>Why did community members have to reach out to BOCES about schedule changes?</p> <p>For Executive Session, the community should not have to leave- the Board should go into another room.</p> <p>Be proactive in postings for the position.</p> <p>Asked for the Board to review Babylon UFSD policy 9150 (Student Relations)</p>
<p>Amanda O’Connor</p>	<p>In speaking with Mr. Michael Flynn for ESBOCES, it was shared with community members that from ESBOCES had people on standby to do schedules.</p> <p>August Meeting Notes- counsel stated that it was an inappropriate and that is not true. She provided what was said verbatim.</p> <p>Pay raise was given to a person who had the responsibility of staffing the District- however, the District is not fully staffed.</p> <p>High School Lunch: Can an announcement be made regarding lunch?</p> <p>Reams of paper- return the paper.</p> <p>Welcome back for her 5th grader was amazing and gave examples of statements made from the letter.</p>
<p>Eileen Baumgarther</p>	<p>How does a schedule get finalized? Whose idea was it to go to the hybrid schedule? Who is responsible for managing the hybrid schedule? Why was the guidance department not properly staffed before the opening of school?</p>
<p>Nancy Jones</p>	<p>Acknowledged the High School principal. Want to see what we can do to be better to help the children be great. All staff need a mental health day.</p>
<p>Nakia Wolfe</p>	<p>Congratulated a particular person on receiving tenure.</p>

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	Offer real support instead of backhanded support. Schedules and acknowledge that there is more work to do.
Dina Rosenberg	When will a Faculty Advisor for the National Honor Society be appointed?
Margaret Shuff	What is the average retention rate for personnel and where do we stack?
Louise Santana <i>Received via email & read by the District Clerk</i>	District Clerk acknowledged that he is in receipt of the correspondence- however, it cannot be read in public as it pertains to matters pertaining a particular person. However, the Board is in receipt of this message.
Amy Daly <i>Received via email & read by the District Clerk</i>	<p>1. Why is it that the High School students can't have lockers? They were told it was because they don't have books and everything is on Chromebook. That simply isn't true! My daughter was given a rather large text book for one of her classes that she must carry back and forth every day. And also 3 other classes are requiring them to bring 3 ring binders to class every day. Plus her sports bag, plus a jacket, plus lunch. Plus inclement weather will just bring more things to carry. It's ridiculous. It seems that not allowing lockers is just easy for administration but it's extremely difficult for the kids. I would like my daughter assigned a locker.</p> <p>2. When will Guidance Counselors be hired for the high school? As of June they were supposed to be hiring others. Here we are first day of school. Nothing. I heard that Guidance was working late on Labor Day just to get schedules done. When will we expect to see Guidance Counselors. As of today my daughter doesn't have a counselor assigned to her!</p>
David Bruner <i>Received via email & read by the District Clerk</i>	<p>Dear Board,</p> <p>My Daughter attends St. Martin of Tours School located at 30 Union Ave here in Amityville. We live approximately just shy of a one mile walk from her school. For the last two years she has been provided transportation to and from school via a local bus route. This year she has been denied transportation and has been deemed a walker. I was given the explanation that she will no longer be given transportation because she is entering the 3rd Grade and must live at least a mile away from the school in order to receive transportation. I find this unacceptable for the reasons that Merrick Rd and Broadway are one of the most highly trafficked roads in Amityville. In the last 6 months we have had a dozen car accidents involving cars driving on to the sidewalks and crashing into store fronts. Drivers are</p>

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	speeding and not paying attention to the road. I feel it is unsafe to let a 7 yr. old child walk to school in these conditions. Denying our child transportation puts a big burden on our family since I commute to work 2 hours each way Monday to Friday and my wife does not drive. We also have a 4-year old daughter who will have to walk each and every day with my wife down these dangerous streets. I hope something can be done to provide my daughter the transportation that she has received in the past and deserves in the future.
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ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:43 p.m. made by 2nd Vice President Seehof; seconded by Trustee Leon.
Motion **CARRIED YES: 6 NO: 0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Minutes recorded & transcribed by:

Christian D. Code
District Clerk