

**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701**  
**Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School - Auditorium**  
**Special Session Meeting – June 28, 2024 – 5:30PM**

---

09/11/24

President Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

**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**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ms. Lisa Johnson, President

Mrs. Jeannette Santos, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Ms. Carol Seehof, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Mrs. Leslie Kretz, Trustee

Mr. Juan Leon, Trustee

Mrs. Wendy Canestro, 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/

Mr. Carl Fraser, Consultant

Ms. Lisa Hutchison, Esq., Guercio & Guercio

**ABSENT:** Melissa Durnin, District Clerk

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion to enter to Executive Session at 5:31pm. made President Lisa Johnson for a major issue to discuss with Legal Counsel

Motion made by Mrs. Kretz; seconded by Mrs. Santos

Motion Carries: 6 Yes; 0 No

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ms. Lisa Johnson, President

Mrs. Jeannette Santos, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Ms. Carol Seehof, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Mrs. Leslie Kretz, Trustee

Mr. Juan Leon, Trustee

Mrs. Wendy Canestro, 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/

Mr. Carl Fraser, Consultant

Ms. Lisa Hutchison, Esq., Guercio & Guercio

There was a consensus of the Board of Education to enter the open meeting at 5:36pm

**Approved Minutes – Special Meeting – June 28, 2024**

---

- IN ATTENDANCE:** Ms. Lisa Johnson, President  
Mrs. Jeannette Santos, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Ms. Carol Seehof, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Mrs. Leslie Kretz, Trustee  
Mr. Juan Leon, Trustee  
Mrs. Wendy Canestro, Trustee  
Mr. Chris Nehring, *Appointed as Trustee at this meeting*
- 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/  
Mr. Carl Fraser, Consultant  
Ms. Lisa Hutchison, Esq., Guercio & Guercio
- ABSENT:** Melissa Durnin, District Clerk

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

**A. Approval of Minutes**

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

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

1. Culvert Replacement Project Property Release Form

Motion to Approve **2C-1** made by Mrs. Canestro; seconded by Ms. Seehof

Discussion: See Video

Motion Carries: 6 Yes; 0 No

2. Independent Investigation

Motion to Approve **2C-2** made by Mrs. Kretz; seconded by Mrs. Santos

Discussion: See Video

Motion Carries: 5 Yes; 0 No; 1 Abstain (J. Leon)

3. Consideration of Candidate for Board Vacancy and Potential Board Action

This was not a resolution to vote on but to have an open session discussion as the circumstance is unusual and Legal Counsel will further explain. For those wishing to hear more, please refer to the audio for this meeting.

Motion to Amend the Agenda to add **2C4, 2C5 and 2C6** made by Mrs. Santos seconded by Mrs. Kretz

Motion Carries: 6 Yes; 0 No

4. Vacancy Appointment #1

Motion to Approve **2C-4** for Wendy Canestro to fill open seat vacated by Dr. Terry Fulton and be administered the Oath of Office

Made by Mrs. Kretz; seconded by Mrs. Santos

Motion Carries: 5 Yes; 0 No; 1 Abstain (Mr. Leon)

Mrs. Canestro took the Oath of Office

5. Vacancy Appointment #2

Motion to appoint Wayne Thompson to the open board seat vacated by Mr. David Heller made by Wendy Canestro; seconded by Mrs. Kretz

Motion Fails: 1 Yes (W. Canestro); 4 No (L. Johnson, J. Santos, C. Seehof, L. Kretz), 1 Abstain (J. Leon)

**Approved Minutes – Special Meeting – June 28, 2024**

---

Motion to appoint Jacqueline Stevenson to the open board seat vacated by Mr. David Heller made by Mrs. Canestro; seconded by Ms. Seehof

Motion Fails: 1 Yes (W. Canestro); 4 No (L. Johnson, J. Santos, C. Seehof, L. Kretz), 1 Abstain (J. Leon)

Motion to appoint Christopher Nehring to the open board s seat vacated by Mr. David Heller made by Ms. Seehof; seconded by Mrs. Santos

Motion Carries: 4 Yes (L. Johnson, J, Santos, C. Seehof, L. Kretz); 1 No (W. Canestro), 1 Abstain (J. Leon)  
Mr. Nehring was administered the Oath of Office.

6. Vacancy Appointment #3 to approve Melissa Durnin as District Clerk

Motion to Approve **2C-6** made by Mrs. Canestro; seconded by Mrs. Kretz

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

**D. Audit Committee**

**E. Abolishments**

1. Rescind Excessed Music Teacher Position

2. Rescind Excessed Custodial Position

Motion to Approve **2E-1 and 2E-2** made by Mrs. Canestro; seconded by Mrs. Santos

Motion Carries: 6 Yes; 0 No; 1 Abstain (C. Nehring)

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

**A. General**

**B. Personnel**

1. Personnel Action Report

Motion to Approve **3B-1** made by Mrs. Kretz; seconded by Mrs. Canestro

Motion Carries: 6 Yes; 0 No; 1 Abstain (C. Nehring)

**C. Business**

**D. Finance**

**E. Contracts for Special Education and PPS Services**

**F. Curriculum and Instruction**

1. Overnight Out of State Field Trip: Pine Forest Road Cheer Camp

Motion to Approve **3F-1** made by Mrs. Kretz, seconded by Mrs. Canestro

Motion Carries: 6 Yes; 0 No; 1 Abstain (C. Nehring)

**4. Community Input Regarding Non-Board Agenda Items Only**

- Debra McQuillan
- Jacqueline Stevenson
- Margaret Shuff

**5. Reports**

**A. Legal Counsel for the District**

**B. Superintendent of Schools**

**C. Board of Education**

**6. Adjournment**

President Johnson makes a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:47PM

Motion to Adjourn made by Ms. Seehof; seconded by Mrs. Canestro

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Becker

Interim District Clerk

September 5, 2024

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701**  
**Special Session Meeting- June 28, 2024– 5:30 PM**

---

Revised post meeting on 06/29/24

1. **Meeting Called to Order**
  - 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**
  - C. **Presentations**
  - D. **Community Input Regarding Board Agenda Items Only**
2. **Board Action Recommended by the 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. Culvert Replacement Project Property Release Form
    2. Independent Investigation
    3. Consideration of Candidates for Board Vacancy and Potential Board Action
    4. Board Vacancy Appointment #1
    5. Board Vacancy Appointment #2
    6. Board Vacancy Appointment #3
  - D. **Audit Committee**
  - E. **Abolishments**
    1. Rescinding Excessed Music Teacher Position
    2. Rescinding Excessed Custodial Position
3. **Board Action Recommended by the Superintendent of Schools**
  - A. **General**
  - B. **Personnel**
    1. Personnel Action Report
  - C. **Business**
  - D. **Finance**
  - E. **Contracts for Special Education and PPS Services**
  - F. **Curriculum and Instruction**
    1. Overnight Out of State Field Trip: Pine Forest Road Cheer Camp
4. **Community Input Regarding Non-Board Agenda Items Only**
5. **Reports**
  - A. **Legal Counsel for the District**
  - B. **Superintendent of Schools**
  - C. **Board of Education**
6. **Adjournment**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING – JUNE 28, 2024**

---

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**AGENDA ITEM #  
2-C | 1**

**RESOLUTION – AMITYVILLE CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation has requested that the District execute a “New York State Department of Transportation Permission to Perform Contract Work on Private Land” Form (“Property Release Form”) in connection with the Department of Transportation’s Amityville Culvert Replacement Project; and

WHEREAS, the Property Release Form grants permission to the Department of Transportation, its contractors or designees to enter District property at the District’s High School and provides consent to the performance of certain work as identified in the Property Release Form.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Property Release Form and authorizes the Board of Education President to execute the Property Release Form.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING – JUNE 28, 2024**

---

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**AGENDA ITEM #  
2-C | 2**

**RESOLUTION – INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education received a complaint by the individual identified on Confidential Schedule “A;” and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has had the complaint investigated by independent counsel.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby determines the complaint to be unsubstantiated.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL SESSION MEETING – June 28, 2024**

---

**BOARD ACTION**

**2C-3**

**RESOLUTION: CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATES FOR BOARD VACANCY AND  
POTENTIAL BOARD ACTION**

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education will discuss candidates for three vacancies on the Board of Education.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING – JUNE 28, 2024**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**AGENDA ITEM #  
2-C | 4**

**RESOLUTION – VACANCY APPOINTMENT #1**

WHEREAS, effective June 22, 2024, the seat of Board member Wendy Canestro seat became vacant as an oath of office was not filed with the office of the District Clerk by that date; and

WHEREAS, Education Law Section 1709 authorizes the Board of Education to fill such vacancy by appointment;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby appoints Wendy Canestro to the aforesaid vacant seat and authorizes the oath of office to be administered to said individual, effective immediately, and said Board member shall serve until the next regular school district election on May 20, 2025.

CERTIFIED ON 6-28-24



MELISSA DURNIN | DISTRICT CLERK



**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING – JUNE 28, 2024**

---

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**AGENDA ITEM #  
2-C | 5**

**RESOLUTION – VACANCY APPOINTMENT #2**

WHEREAS, effective April 19, the seat of Board member David Heller became vacant due to his resignation from the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Education Law Section 1709 authorizes the Board of Education to fill such vacancy by appointment;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby appoints \_\_\_\_\_ to the aforesaid vacant seat and authorizes the oath of office to be administered to said individual, effective immediately, and said Board member shall serve until the next regular school district election on May 20, 2025.

CERTIFIED ON 6-28-24



MELISSA DURNIN | DISTRICT CLERK

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING – JUNE 28, 2024**

---

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**AGENDA ITEM #  
2-C | 6**

**RESOLUTION – VACANCY APPOINTMENT #3**

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby appoints Melissa Durnin to serve as district clerk for the balance of the 2023-2024 school year and authorizes the oath of office to be administered to said individual, effective immediately,

CERIFIED ON 6-28-24



MELISSA DURNIN | DISTRICT CLERK

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING – JUNE 28, 2024**

---

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**AGENDA ITEM #  
2-E | 1**

**RESOLUTION – RESCIND EXCESSED: MUSIC TEACHER POSITION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education abolished (2) positions in the special tenure area of music on March 6, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to rescind the abolishment of one (1) of the two (2) positions,

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby rescinds the abolishment of one (1) position in the special subject tenure area of music as per the March 6, 2024 agenda and the excess of the most senior teacher in such tenure area listed on confidential schedule “A” to the March 6, 2024 resolution.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING – JUNE 28, 2024**

---

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**AGENDA ITEM #  
2-E | 2**

**RESOLUTION – RESCIND EXCESSED: CUSTODIAL POSITION**

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby rescinds the action taken on March 13, 2024 abolishing one (1) custodial position and excessing the least senior custodian in such title effective immediately.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING - JUNE 28, 2024**

**PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

**AGENDA ITEM**

**PERSONNEL MATTERS - TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE**

**A. Appointment(s) - Summer 2024 Program(s)**

	NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE	ASSIGNMENT/SCHOOL	RATE OF COMPENSATION
1.	Duguay, Paul	7/01/24 - 8/22/24	Substitute Site Coordinator - Summer programs	\$75/hr - Grant
2.	Postiglione, Mary	7/01/24 - 8/22/24	Substitute Site Coordinator - Summer programs	\$75/hr - Grant
3.	Brodack, Marily	7/01/24 - 8/01/24	SASP Social Worker / NE & NW	\$55/hr - RECOV Grant
4.	Reid, William	7/01/24 - 8/01/24	SASP Teacher / EWMMS	\$55/hr - RECOV Grant
5.	Nurse, Fatamela	7/01/24 - 8/01/24	SASP Teaching Assistant / NE & NW	\$30/hr - RECOV Grant
6.	Pariser, Rachel	7/01/24 - 8/22/24	SASP Substitute Teacher / DW	\$55/hr Grant
7.	McPhee, Kelly	7/01/24 - 8/22/24	TA - Summer Programs / DW	\$30/hr - Grant
8.	Labrador, Shamese	7/01/24 - 8/22/24	TA - Summer Programs / DW	\$30/hr - Grant
9.	Romanelli, Amanda	7/01/24 - 8/22/24	TA - Summer Programs / DW	\$30/hr - Grant

**B. Athletic/Sport Assignments**

	NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE	ASSIGNMENT/SCHOOL	RATE OF COMPENSATION
1.	Epps, Jason	2024-25 School Year	Varsity Football Head Coach / AMHS	ATA Contract - \$7,747

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING - JUNE 28, 2024**

**PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

**AGENDA ITEM**

**B. Instructional Resignation(s)**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>TENURED</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT/SCHOOL</b>	<b>REASON</b>
1.	Hunter, Abbey	06/30/2024	Yes	Elementary Teacher / NW	Resignation
2.	Vasquez, Sarah	09/02/2024	No	Spanish Teacher/AMHS	Resignation

**I. PERSONNEL MATTERS - NON INSTRUCTIONAL**

**A. Non-Instructional Resignation(s)**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT/SCHOOL</b>	<b>REASON</b>
1.	Porter, Miguel	07/03/2024	Office Assistant Spanish Speaking / PAMES	Resignation

**B. Non-Instructional Appointment(s) - Summer 2024**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENT/LOCATION</b>	<b>RATE OF COMPENSATION</b>
1.	Gray, Adriana	07/08/2024 - 08/30/2024	Summer Sub Custodial Worker	\$16/hr.
2.	Goldsby, Keaton	07/08/2024 - 08/30/2024	Summer Sub Custodial Worker	\$16/hr.
3.	Taylor, William	07/08/2024 - 08/30/2024	Summer Sub Custodial Worker	\$16/hr.
4.	Davis, Darion	07/08/2024 - 08/30/2024	Summer Sub Custodial Worker	\$16/hr.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING - JUNE 28, 2024**

**PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

**AGENDA ITEM**

**C. FMLA**

	NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE	ASSIGNMENT/LOCATION	REASON
1.	Tanbasi, Nicole	On or about 09/04/2024 - 11/22/2024	Elementary Teacher /PAMES	Medical
2.	Johnson-Dematos, Jaclynn	On or about 09/04/2024 - 11/25/2024	Elementary Teacher /NW	Medical

**D. Revisions**

	NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE	ASSIGNMENT/LOCATION	REASON	RATE OF COMPENSATION
1.	Joseph, Emelda	Mon. - Fri. 07/08/24 -08/16/24	Summer program - Nurse /PAMES - 8:00am - 3:00pm	Start and end times corrected	\$50/hr
2.	Tetrault, Samantha	Mon. - Fri. 07/08/24 -08/16/24	Summer program - Nurse /EWMMS - 8:00am - 3:00pm	Start and end times corrected	\$50/hr

**E. Rescind Appts**

	NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE	ASSIGNMENT/LOCATION	REASON
1.	Armenia, Michele	07/01/24 - 08/31/24	PPS Summer position as needed - Mental Health Counselor	Rescind

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING - JUNE 28, 2024**

**PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

**AGENDA ITEM**

2.	Bayne, Amanda	Mon. - Thurs. 07/08/24 - 08/01/24	Summer Arts & Sports Camp 8:30am - 3:30pm / Teacher / PA	Rescind
3.	Miller, Patricia	Summer 2024	NW -SASP - Teaching Assistant	Rescind

Superintendent of Schools \_\_\_\_\_

*Jina Talbert*



**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
AMITYVILLE UFSD  
SPECIAL MEETING – JUNE 28, 2024**

**CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION**

**AGENDA ITEM #  
3-F | 1**

**RESOLUTION: OUT OF STATE/OVERNIGHT STUDENT FIELD TRIP-PINE FOREST  
ROAD CHEER CAMP**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Gina Talbert, that the Board of Education approve the request for an out of state/overnight field trip for the Amityville Memorial High School Varsity Cheerleaders to attend Cheer Camp at Pine Forest Road Cheer Camp to be held in Beach Lake, Pennsylvania from 8/22/24 – 8/25/24.

Superintendent of Schools \_\_\_\_\_



JKL/bh