

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Amityville Union Free School District, Amityville, NY 11701
Combined Session Meeting – February 26, 2025
Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School Auditorium

Meeting Called to Order by President Johnson at 5:35 PM

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Johnson, President
Carol Seehof, 1st Vice President
Megan Messmann, 2nd Vice President
Wendy Canestro, Trustee
Caroline Fanning, Trustee
Leslie Kretz, Trustee remove
Christopher Nehring, Trustee (Absent)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Gina Talbert, Superintendent of Schools

Motion to enter into executive session at 5:36 PM for the purposes of advice from legal counsel and matters pertaining to particular person's employment history made by C. Seehof; seconded; M. Messmann
Vote: 6-0

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Johnson, President
Carol Seehof, 1st Vice President
Megan Messmann, 2nd Vice President
Wendy Canestro, Trustee
Caroline Fanning, Trustee
Leslie Kretz, Trustee
Christopher Nehring, Trustee (arrived at 5:42PM)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Gina Talbert, Superintendent of Schools
John Sheahan, Esq., Guercio & Guercio, LLP (arrived at 5:38PM)
Mark Snyder from NYSSBA entered executive session via phone at 5:40 PM for advice regarding Superintendent Evaluation (Left at 6:15PM)
The Cabinet returned at 6:55PM
Mary Stephens, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Olivia Buatsi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Dr. Bridgette Waite, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Consensus of the Board to reconvene Open Session at 7:50 PM

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Johnson, President
Carol Seehof, 1st Vice President
Megan Messmann, 2nd Vice President
Wendy Canestro, Trustee
Caroline Fanning, Trustee
Leslie Kretz, Trustee
Christopher Nehring, Trustee

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Gina Talbert, Superintendent of Schools
Mary Stephens, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Olivia Buatsi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Dr. Bridgette Waite, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
John Sheahan, Esq., Guercio & Guercio, LLP
Lynn Larson, District Clerk

Public Attendance: 60

Attendees by Zoom: 139

1. **Meeting Called to Order** – It was the consensus of the Board to resume Open Session at 7:50 PM
 - A. **The Emergency Exit/No Smoking Statement Read** *Please note the emergency exits closest to you, there is no smoking on school grounds and please silence cell phones during the business of the board.*

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Presentation(s)

Dr. Gina Talbert presented the Amityville Varsity Cheerleading Team

Mary Stephens, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction shared Mid-Year Update: iReady

Nate Spence shared Transportation Update Presentation – board requested for the Child Safety Study to be followed up on

D. Community Input Regarding Board Agenda Items Only

2. Board Action Recommended by the Board of Education

A. Approval of Board Minutes

1. Draft #1 - January 15, 2025 - Policy Committee Meeting
2. Draft #1 - January 21, 2025 - Special Meeting
3. Draft #1 - January 22, 2025 - Combined Monthly Meeting
4. Draft #1 - February 6, 2025 - Special Meeting

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 2A-1 through 2A-4 made by C. Nehring; seconded M. Messmann
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

B. Board Action Recommended by the Board Policy Committee

1. Review Policy #4533 – Second Reading for 3/26/2025 Board Meeting
- 2.

C. Board Action Recommended by the Board of Education

1. Polling Place Agreements from the Suffolk County Board of Elections

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 2C-1 made by C. Seehof; seconded by W. Canestro

Motion Carriers: 7 Yes; 0 No

2. Nomination For Western Suffolk BOCES Trustees

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 2C-2 made by C. Nehring; seconded by M. Messmann

Motion Carries 3 Yes; 4 Abstain – Nomination does not move forward

3. Appointment of Workers for the 2025 Library Budget Vote and Trustee Election

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 2C-3 made by W. Canestro; seconded by C. Nehring

Motion Carries 7 Yes; 0 No

3. Board Action Recommended by the Superintendent of Schools

A. General

1. Non-Resident Student Request

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3A1 made by W. Canestro; seconded M. Messmann

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

B. Personnel

1. Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher - McKiski, James
2. Appointment: Foreign Language/Spanish Teacher - Probationary - Castiblanco, Belinda
3. Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher - Faiella, Danielle

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3B-1 through 3B-3 made by C. Seehof; seconded by C. Nehring

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

5. Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher - Pietrzak, Victoria
6. Additional Assignment: Math Building Level Leader - Fallot, Ryan
7. Additional Assignment: Teacher Mentor - 1st year 30 hours - Wilson, Kelly
8. Additional Assignment: 6th Period Class-ELA Special Ed (S.Arrington)- Fishman, Josh
9. Additional Assignment: 6th Period Class-ELA Special Ed (S.Arrington)- Rochester, Seth
10. Additional Assignment: 6th Period Class-ELA Special Ed (S.Arrington)- Tesoro, Katie
11. Additional Assignment: 6th Period Class-ELA Special Ed (S.Arrington)- Herz, Dana
12. Additional Assignment: 6th Period Class-ELA Special Ed (S.Arrington)- Klindworth, Daniel
13. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Fallot, Ryan
14. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Galasso, Jennifer
15. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Gordon, Lindsey
16. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Grillo, Janice
17. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Howard, Margot
18. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Louis, Gerde
19. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Madigan, Thomas
20. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Reichel, Allison
21. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Rivera, Jennifer
22. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Rochester, Seth
23. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Westphal, Cara
24. Additional Assignment: AP Exam Proctor - Whitney, Sandra
25. Additional Assignment: McKinney Vento Tutors - Boell, John
26. Additional Assignment: McKinney Vento Tutors - Byrd, Jessica
27. Additional Assignment: McKinney Vento Tutors - DelGiorno, Alyssa
28. Additional Assignment: McKinney Vento Tutors - Faber, Nicole
29. Additional Assignment: McKinney Vento Tutors - Grasso, Jayne
30. Additional Assignment: McKinney Vento Tutors - Karounos, Olimpia
31. Additional Assignment: McKinney Vento Tutors - Kretz, William
32. Additional Assignment: McKinney Vento Tutors - Tesoro, Katie
33. Additional Assignment: McKinney Vento Tutors - Thomson, Laurie
34. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - Cammaroto, Tricia
35. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - Davi-Ortiz, Nancy
36. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - Ellahi, Khudeja
37. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - Entin, Shayla
38. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - Geiger, Deborah

39. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - Grasso, Jayne
40. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - Kuletsky, Krystle
41. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - McGowan, Jason
42. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - Olsen, Sheila
43. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - Ruggiero, Leighann
44. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - Thomson, Laurie
45. Additional Assignment: Home Instructor - Zanchelli-Tutku, Kristen
46. Additional Assignment: After School STEAM Academy Administrator - Dr. Collins, Pauline
47. Additional Assignment: After School STEAM Academy Teacher - Varas, Lissa
48. Additional Assignment: After School STEAM Academy Teacher - Randolph, Lisa
49. Additional Assignment: After School STEAM Academy Teacher - Smith, Tina
50. Additional Assignment: After School STEAM Academy Teacher - Dady, Jane
51. Additional Assignment: After School STEAM Academy Teacher - Carey, Lisa
52. Additional Assignment: After School STEAM Academy TA- Khan, Sabiha
53. Additional Assignment: After School STEAM Academy TA- Popovych, Iryna
54. Additional Assignment: After School STEAM Academy TA- Powell, Roushelle
55. Additional Assignment: After School STEAM Academy TA- Christopher, Tia
56. Additional Assignment: After School STEAM Academy TA- Christopher, Tamia
57. Additional Assignment: Saturday Parent Empowerment Program Administrator - Dr. Collins, Pauline
58. Additional Assignment: Saturday Parent Empowerment Program Social Worker - Bermudez, Jessenia
59. Additional Assignment: Saturday Parent Empowerment Program Teacher - Carey, Lisa
60. Additional Assignment: Saturday Parent Empowerment Program Teacher - Carman, Yvette
61. Additional Assignment: Saturday Parent Empowerment Program TA- Powell, Roushelle
62. Additional Assignment: Saturday Parent Empowerment Program TA- Christopher, Tamia
63. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Bueno, Reynaldo
64. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Castro, Elisa
65. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- George, Berten
66. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Gordon, Lindsey
67. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Jordan, Constance
68. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Keenan, Kara
69. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Madigan, Thomas
70. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Ramirez, Maria Isabel
71. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Rivera, Jennifer
72. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Whitney, Sandra
73. Additional Assignment: LoT Substitute Teacher- Herz, Dana
74. Additional Assignment: LoT Substitute Teacher- Reichel, Allison
75. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Boell, John
76. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Brietfeller, Jacklyn
77. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Katsigiorgis, John
78. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- LaBarca, Rebecca
79. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Palmer, Maria
80. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Quinn, Timothy
81. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Reid, William
82. Additional Assignment: LoT Substitute Teacher- Bibi, Rabia
83. Additional Assignment: LoT Substitute Teacher- Naso, Keryn
84. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Altamura, Nicole

85. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Blando, Luigina
86. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Chandler, Renee
87. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- DelGiorno, Alyssa
88. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Haber, Mackenzie
89. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Komsic, Kristina
90. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Lee, Debra
91. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Litras, Victoria
92. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Lovett, Kristie
93. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Meisser, Patricia
94. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Robinson, Lydia
95. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Smith, Jenny
96. Additional Assignment: LoT Substitute Teacher- Critelli, Anthony
97. Additional Assignment: LoT Substitute Teacher- Pariser, Rachel
98. Additional Assignment: LoT Substitute Teacher- Soto, Kenia
99. Additional Assignment: LoT Substitute Teacher- White, Brian
100. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Button, Kristen
101. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Cammaroto, Tricia
102. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Casey, Annemarie
103. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Charles, Coleen
104. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Dispenziere, Michael
105. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Frank, Katharine
106. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Hartung, Adrienne
107. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- McCormack, Theresa
108. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Replak, James
109. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Sarlo, Christopher
110. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Stein, Amy
111. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Tandy, Jeannette
112. Additional Assignment: LoT Teacher- Tsunis, Jordan
113. Additional Assignment: LoT Substitute Teacher- Conboy, Joanna
114. Coaching Assignment: Varsity Girls Flag Football Assistant Coach- Epps, Jason
115. Coaching Assignment: Junior Varsity Baseball Head Coach - Manley, Daniel
116. Coaching Assignment: Middle School Baseball Head Coach- Kretz, William
117. Coaching Assignment: Middle School Softball Head Coach- Daley, Kimberly
118. Coaching Assignment: Varsity Girls Outdoor Track and Field Head Coach- Kreuscher, Brooke
119. Coaching Assignment: Varsity Boys Outdoor Track and Field Assistant Coach- Johnson, Kyree
120. Retirement: Foreign Language Teacher - Hernandez-Belar, Aida
121. Resignation: Perm Sub Teacher - Lazio, Jessica
122. FMLA Extension: Special Ed Teacher - Trotman, Jennifer
123. FMLA: Physical Ed Teacher - Karafantis, George
124. FMLA: Teaching Assistant - Borycki, Justyna
125. Intermittent FMLA: Teaching Assistant - Lewis, Shayla
126. Unpaid Leave: Special Ed Teacher - Lisle, Daniel
127. Revised Probationary Appointment: ENL Teacher - Kaplan, Christina
128. Revised Probationary Appointment: Math Teacher - Ramirez, Maria
129. Appointment: Special Education 1:1 Aide - Higgins, J.
130. Appointment: Substitute Office Assistant - Bethea, K.
131. Appointment: Substitute Custodian - Finn, S.
132. Appointment: Substitute Custodian - Hoffman, T.

133. Appointment: Substitute Custodian - Miller, D.
134. Appointment: Substitute Nurse - McBride, S.
135. Appointment: Security Guard Per Diem - Lepore, A.
136. Appointment: Saturday Parent Empowerment Program - Pomare Davis, C.
137. Appointment: After School STEAM Academy Monitor - Hargwood, K.
138. Appointment: After School STEAM Academy Nurse - Lorefice Rivera, C.
139. Resignation: Custodial Worker - Abrahams, R.
140. Resignation: Monitor - Bidetti, C.
141. Resignation for Retirement: Senior Office Assistant - Olivera, I.
142. Resignation for Retirement: Custodial Worker - Wexler, S.
143. FMLA: Custodial Worker - Schnorr, C.
144. Resignation: Confidential Office Assistant - Gunther, J.
145. Resignation: Head Custodian - Camelliri, J.
146. Resolution: Interim Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources - TBD
147. Resignation: Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations - Buatsi, Olivia

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3B-5 through 3B-147 made by W. Canestro; Seconded by C. Seehof
Discussion for Agenda Item 3B-146 Resolution added the name Dr. Bridgette Waite
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3B-146 Resolution: Interim Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources – Dr. Bridgette Waite made by W. Canestro; seconded by C. Seehof
Motion Carries: 7 Yes, 0 No

C. Business

1. Donations

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3C1 made by W. Canestro; seconded C. Nehring
Motion Carries: 7 Yes, 0 No

2. Use of Facilities

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3C2 –a-d and 3c 2a to approve use pending the submission of the roster and the signed affidavit made by W. Canestro; seconded L. Kretz
Motion Carries: 7 Yes, 0 No

3. Health Services Contracts (other schools) 2024-25

4. Disposal of Fixed Assets

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3C3 - 3C4 made by C. Seehof; seconded L. Kretz
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

D. Finance

1. Treasurer's Report : December 2024

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3D-1 made by C. Nehring; seconded C. Fanning
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

E. Contracts for PPS & Special Education Services

1. ACDC – Federal- Part B Sedcar Contract 2024-2025
2. Little Angels Center – Consultant Service Agreement 2024-2025
3. South Huntington UFSD – Special Education Contract 2024-2025

Motion to Approve Agenda Items 3E-1 through 3E-3 made by C. Seehof; seconded W. Canestro
Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

F. Curriculum and Instruction

1. Approval of Conferences A-E

Motion to Approve Agenda Item 3F-1 made by W. Canestro; seconded by L. Kretz

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

4. Old Business – See Video for Discussion (1:39:12)

5. New Business – See Video for Discussion (1:52:25)

6. Community Input Regarding Non-Board Agenda Items Only -See Video for Discussion (9:49 PM)

- Rev. Saba Mchunguzi
- Morgan Tralbatte
- Jacqueline Stevenson
- Ms. Mchunguzi

7. Reports

A. Legal Counsel for the District – No report

B. Superintendent of Schools Community Forum Highlights (10:20 PM)

C. Board of Education – No report

Motion to enter into 2nd Executive Session at 10:45 pm for the purposes of advice from legal counsel made by W. Canestro; seconded by C. Fanning

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Johnson, President
Carol Seehof, 1st Vice President
Megan Messmann, 2nd Vice President
Wendy Canestro, Trustee
Caroline Fanning, Trustee
Leslie Kretz, Trustee
Christopher Nehring, Trustee

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Gina Talbert, Superintendent of Schools
Mary Stephens, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Olivia Buatsi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Dr. Bridgette Waite, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
John Sheahan, Esq., Guercio & Guercio, LLP

Consensus of the Board to resume Open Session at 11:33 PM

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Johnson, President
Carol Seehof, 1st Vice President
Megan Messmann, 2nd Vice President
Wendy Canestro, Trustee
Caroline Fanning, Trustee
Leslie Kretz, Trustee
Christopher Nehring, Trustee

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Gina Talbert, Superintendent of Schools
Mary Stephens, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Olivia Buatsi, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations
Dr. Bridgette Waite, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
John Sheahan, Esq., Guercio & Guercio, LLP

Motion to Approve 100 Black Women Mentor Organization Program made by L. Johnson

Motion Carries: 0 Yes; 7 No

8. Adjournment:

Motion to Adjourn at 11:35 PM made by C. Nehring; seconded W. Canestro

Motion Carries: 7 Yes; 0 No

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Larson