

APPROVED
7/11/2012

MINUTES
Board of Education
Amityville Union Free School District
Amityville, NY 11701
Special Meeting – June 6, 2012
Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School – Auditorium – 7:00 PM

LOCATION: Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School - Auditorium

IN ATTENDANCE: President Michele Sikhrangkur Vice President Juliet Jordon-Thompson
2nd Vice President Lisa Johnson Trustee Nathan King
Trustee Kathleen Ward Trustee Ron Moss
Trustee Mark Epps

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. John R. Williams, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. William Fanning-Interim Asst. Supt. Finance & Operations
Dr. Mary Kelly-Asst. Supt. Technology
Dr. Stephen Neidell-Interim Asst. Supt. Human Resources
Mr. Ed. Mercurio, Plant Facilities Administrator

COMMUNITY: 9 members present

1. Meeting Called to Order by President Sikhrangkur at 7:03 PM.

- 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 to others, please turn off cell phones and pagers during the meeting.*
- B. **Pledge of Allegiance** The Board and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. **Community Input Regarding Board Agenda Items Only**

Jonathan Tisk, Amityville asked for an explanation of agenda item 3B7 on the July 13 Agenda. . President Sikhrangkur confirmed that the question was regarding the position and not the person and asked Dr. Neidell to provide an explanation. Dr. Neidell explained that the tenure date was advanced as tenure had already been granted. However, the person would be excessed prior to the previously approved date. President Sikhrangkur added that on any tenure granted prior to the tenure date, the tenure decision could be revisited if circumstances warranted.

Jeannette Santos, Amityville – Mrs. Santos asked how supervision of maintenance workers would be handled if the Board voted to abolish the Maintenance Crew Leader Position (Agenda Item 3B1). Dr. Fanning explained that there would only be two maintainers (previous years there were as many as 9) requiring supervision and that Mr. Mecurio would most likely handle that function.

The Board then proceeded with the Agenda.

2. Board Action Recommended by the Board of Education

- A. **Approval of Board Minutes** – None
- B. **Board Action Recommended by Board Policy Committee:**
 - 1. 2nd Reading – Code of Conduct
 - 2. 2nd Reading – District-wide RTI Policy

Vice President Jordon-Thompson asked that Dr. Kelly review the information provided to the Board earlier in a memo regarding the Dignity for All Act. Dr. Kelly related the fact that Ms. Hark advised that the Anti Bullying Harassment policy needs to be updated to be in compliance with the new Act. However, because this policy is in place and the Board is updating code of conduct, that policy can be updated after July 1.

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President Sikhrangkur stated that she felt that all employees should sign off that they read and understand the new policies. Discussion ensued with Dr. Williams. Not all employees would need to be familiar with all policies and that the sign off suggested by the Board might be done strategically based on the employee group that was most affected by a particular policy. The Code of Conduct, Anti Bullying etc., would affect most if not all employees. He suggested since the Board will continue to update all policies customizing the NYSSBA documents, that those requirements be reviewed by section. He suggested that at the 3rd reading of a policy, a decision could be made as to the audience requiring coverage. Ms. Jordon-Thompson advised that she and Mr. Moss would be doing policy review during the summer.

C. Board Action Recommended by Board of Education

1. Review of Draft of Regular Agenda – June 13, 2012.

Dr, Neidell advised names for Items 3B-60-62 (TBD) should be available in the Friday transmittal to the Board.

Vice President Jordon-Thompson confirmed that Agenda Items related to the 21st Century Grant are contingent upon Grant Approval. Mr. King requested information on how the program was audited. Dr. Williams and Dr. Fanning provided information regarding the grant requirement for program audit by a third party and that our auditing firm conducts an audit of the program as part of the District Audit.

Agenda Item 3C-2 – 2nd Vice President Johnson asked for an explanation of the budget transfer. Dr. Fanning advised that information would be included in the Friday transmittal.

Agenda Item 3C-5 – Trustee Ward asked if there was an advisor for the ECHO for next year based since that publication was included in the printing bid award. Dr. Neidell will research and advise.

Agenda Item 3C-7 – Trustee Ward asked for an explanation of the use of EWMMS for elections. Dr. Fanning advised it was his understanding the Gym would be used for the elections. Mr. Tisk asked if the Board of Elections would pay for the use of the gym. Ms. Sikhrangkur replied that it was her understanding that traditionally there was no payment for the use of the facilities as the community has a right to vote. She further explained that the exception would be if and when a District was on austerity.

Agenda Items 3C-8 and 3C-9 – Trustee King asked for a review of these items. Dr. Fanning provided the details. President Sikhrangkur explained the process and that if an application is made after the deadline and there is a cost associated with the request, it must be reviewed and voted on by the Board.

Section 3E – Dr. Williams confirmed for President Sikhrangkur that all contracts had been sent to the attorney for review.

President Sikhrangkur asked for information on the assignment of a school nurse for the summer program. Dr. Neidell advised that will be included in the Friday transmittal.

Vice President Jordon-Thompson asked for information on posting requirements for open positions in the District. Dr. Neidell explained that the process varies based on the position, urgency to be filled, etc. He explained the Civil Service process (2500+ positions) could be as long as 8 weeks while an administrator or teacher posting might be 3-4 weeks. Discussion moved to the opening for a Food Services Director and Dr. Neidell explained that process and the requirement to request all candidates with the same score to apply. He also advised that they will be finalizing that information and should have a recommendation for the Board in the Friday transmittal.

President Sikhrangkur reminded Board members that next week's meeting conflicted with the ATA end of the year celebration and asked that the Board get all the questions into Administration as soon as possible to allow time for answers and review. Since that meeting will also include Staff Recognition, she would like to move through the Agenda to allow time for the recognition and accommodate anyone who wishes to attend the ATA event.

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President Sikhrangkur then asked the Community for comments on Non Agenda Items. As there were none, the Board moved on with the June 6 Agenda.

C. Board Action Recommended by Board of Education

2. Approval of APPR Litigation

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 2C-2 made by Vice President Jordon-Thompson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Discussion:** Dr. Williams reviewed the information from Guercio and Guercio as well as the fact that the District would have \$1.4M at risk if the APPR was not approved by July 1 by all parties. Although he feels we will make the deadline, he was concerned about the risk to the District if the deadline was missed.

Vice President Jordon-Thompson withdrew her motion and Trustee Moss withdrew his second.

MOTION to TABLE Agenda Item 2C-2 by Vice President Jordon-Thompson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

President Sikhrangkur left the meeting to contact District Counsel. Vice President Jordon-Thompson chaired the meeting in her absence.

D. Audit Committee - The Audit Committee met in Executive Session. *(See Separate Minutes.)*

3. Board Action Recommended by the Superintendent

A. Superintendent –

1. Donation of Sick Days – Pelligrino, J.

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 3A-1 made by 2nd Vice President Johnson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Motion CARRIED:** 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

2. Approval of MOU – Tsigotis, T.

MOTION to TABLE Agenda Item 3A-2 made by 2nd Vice President Johnson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Motion CARRIED:** 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

B. Personnel

1. Appointment: Virtual Academy Coordinator – Kilfoil, C.

2. Appointment: Virtual Academy Coordinator – Katsigiorgis, J.

3. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Living Environment – Quigley, C.

4. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Living Environment – Poulin, A.

5. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Living Environment – Marchino, M.

6. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Living Environment – Schmertzler, D.

7. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Living Environment – Charles, D.

8. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Living Environment – DelGiorno, A.

9. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Algebra – Golub, R.

10. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Algebra – Przech, U.

11. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Algebra – Dauria, D.

12. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Algebra – Allen, E. Roberto

13. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Algebra – Brooks, G.

14. Appointment: RCT/Regents Prep – Substitute – Castagna, D.

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Items 3B-1 through 3B-14 made by 2nd Vice President Johnson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

C. Business and Finance

1. Amend Terms of Bradford McColgan Stein Memorial Scholarship

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 3C-1 made by 2nd Vice President Johnson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Discussion** – Dr. Fanning asked that the Board pull this item as well as 3C-4 to allow him to review the specifics of the trust arrangements further with the Attorney. 2nd Vice President Johnson withdrew her motion, Trustee Moss withdrew his second.

Motion to PULL Agenda Item 3C-1 made by 2nd Vice President Johnson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Motion CARRIED:** 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

2. Appropriate from Workers Comp Reserve

3. Appropriate From ERS Retirement Reserve

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Items 3C-2 and 3C-3 made by 2nd Vice President Johnson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Discussion:** Dr. Fanning had reviewed the decision to appropriate these funds during the budget review. **Motion CARRIED:** 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

4. Amend Terms of Melvin Feinberg Memorial Scholarship Award

MOTION to PULL Agenda Item 3C-4 made by 2nd Vice President Johnson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

D. Monthly Finance Report – None

E. CSE & CPSE Action/Meetings – None

F. Curriculum and Instruction

1. Approval of Conferences – Items 1 through 3

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 3F-1 made by 2nd Vice President Johnson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Discussion:** Floor opened for discussion. **Motion CARRIED:** 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

President Sikhrangkur returned at 8:25 PM and resumed Chair of the meeting. She asked if there were any community comments on Non-Agenda Items. Mr. Foreman reviewed the sportsmanship awards attained by the Varsity and JV Baseball and Track Teams. He also advised that two students from the Spring Track Team competed at the State level.

2nd Vice President Johnson asked about all scholarships awarded to District students. Dr. Fanning advised in light of the two items that were pulled from the Agenda, he would proactively review them all.

President Sikhrangkur updated the Board on her conversation with Mr. Stephanetta regarding the class action lawsuit discussed earlier. Mr. Stephanetta advised that there are a total of five law firms sharing costs and there will be no duplication of efforts. He estimated the costs to be \$15 to \$20k and could be less if more firms join the suit. Dr. Williams asked what would happen if we make the July 1st deadline but have voted to participate in the suit. President Sikhrangkur stated based on her understanding from Mr. Stephanetta that if we made the deadline, we would not meet the criteria required for participation in the action.

2C-2 – Approval of APPR Litigation (*Tabled earlier in the meeting.*)

MOTION to APPROVE Agenda Item 2C-2 as amended by the Board as read by Vice President Jordon-Thompson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain. .

G. Data and Technology – None

H. 21st Century Community Learning Center – None

4. Reports

A. Legal Counsel for the District – None

B. Superintendent of Schools – None

Dr. Williams was recognized for being Grand Marshall at the North Amityville Day parade.

Trustee King left at 9:04 PM.

MOTION to RECESS to Executive Session at 9:05 PM for Particular Person and Negotiations and Board Policy as it relates to a Particular Person made by Vice President Jordon-Thompson, seconded by Trustee Moss. **Motion CARRIED:** 7 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Ward, District Clerk Pro Tem

EXECUTIVE SESSION called to order by President Sikhrangkur at 9:06 PM.

LOCATION: Park Avenue Memorial Elementary School - Auditorium

IN ATTENDANCE: President Michele Sikhrangkur Vice President Juliet Jordon-Thompson
2nd Vice President Lisa Johnson Trustee Kathleen Ward
Trustee Ron Moss Trustee Mark Epps

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. John R. Williams, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. William Fanning-Interim Asst. Supt. Finance & Operations
Dr. Mary Kelly-Asst. Supt. Technology
Dr. Stephen Neidell-Interim Asst. Supt. Human Resources

Trustee King arrived at 9:10 PM.

Trustee Moss left at 9:07 PM and returned at 9:12 PM.

Trustee Epps left at 9:07 PM and returned at 9:20 PM.

At 10:40 PM, the Audit Committee commenced. *See separate minutes.*
The Audit Committee adjourned at 10:45 PM.

Trustee King left at 10:45 PM and returned at 10:50 PM.

ACTION TAKEN: None

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Ward, District Clerk Pro Tem

