

Emergency Board of Education Meeting Transcript 10/12/2020

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00:02:28.860

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00:03:07.410 --> 00:03:19.620

Amy O'Brien: Hey, we're all here. I'll do it for the delay. Good evening. Welcome to the show. The fourth word of education emergency meeting October 12th 2020 will the Clerk, please conduct roll call.

6

00:03:20.190 --> 00:03:21.090

Erin McMullen:

Amy O'Brien-here

Lynn Lockwood-here

Spyros Dimatos-here

Mike Vavra-here

Mary Collins-here

14

00:03:31.800 --> 00:03:34.290

Amy O'Brien: We have a quorum. I call this meeting to order.

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00:03:37.080 --> 00:03:44.730

Erin McMullen: I, Erin McMullen board clerk have confirmed with Counsol that this meeting is being held in compliance with executive order 202.1

Issued by Governor Andrew Cuomo. On March 12 2020 the executive order suspends Article seven of the public officers law.

To the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take any action authorized by law. Without permitting in public in person, access to meetings in authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call, or similar service.

This meeting is being held remotely via zoom virtual meeting software. The public has the ability to view or listen to this meeting live via the zoom app web browser and or by telephone, this meeting is being recorded and will be transcribed at a later date.

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00:04:24.810 --> 00:04:25.830

Amy O'Brien: Please stand for the pledge.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

22

00:04:43.260 --> 00:04:44.850

Amy O'Brien: 2.1 board report.

23

00:05:03.360 --> 00:05:07.110

Amy O'Brien: Okay, who was speaking on this topic. It's the eighth grade closing

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00:05:08.190 --> 00:05:09.990

Amy O'Brien: Spyros where you going to speak or Joe

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00:05:10.440 --> 00:05:16.230

Spyros Dimatos: Yeah, I just wanted to touch base on it. I didn't know Joe, do you want to say anything about the other the

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00:05:16.320 --> 00:05:35.700

Lloyd L. Peck, Ed.D.: Other yeah just really quick. I a last conversation or email had with Catherine Kacyvenski elementary principal. We had a elementary student with a diagnosis as well and that quarantine right now and again the last conversation. I was a 213 10 students in the fifth grade.

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00:05:40.560 --> 00:05:42.780

Amy O'Brien: You cut out. Could you repeat those numbers, please.

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00:05:43.140 --> 00:05:45.960

Lloyd L. Peck, Ed.D.: Sure 3 adults 10 students in elementary school.

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00:05:50.160 --> 00:05:53.130

Amy O'Brien: Now it's three adults and 10 students positive

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00:05:55.770 --> 00:05:58.110

Lloyd L. Peck, Ed.D.: Positive some quarantined.

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00:05:58.470 --> 00:05:58.920

Okay.

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00:06:02.130 --> 00:06:08.640

Amy O'Brien: So we have only one positive case in the elementary three adults and 10 students who are quarantined.

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00:06:09.060 --> 00:06:09.480

Correct.

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00:06:12.390 --> 00:06:19.350

Spyros Dimatos: And what I wanted to say about the eighth grade also to you know it dovetails right into this to something that I just

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00:06:19.740 --> 00:06:32.040

Spyros Dimatos: Think the rest of the board needs to be aware of and and maybe some of the public eye pump some people probably already know I'm you know because of the eighth grade and the quarantine there and the teachers involved, um,

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00:06:33.270 --> 00:06:43.530

Spyros Dimatos: I got very first hand knowledge of the quarantine rules and it's almost like quarantine is kind of law, the word quarantine kind of lost some of its meaning.

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00:06:43.800 --> 00:06:49.140

Spyros Dimatos: Because a lot of people when you can say quarantine, think about what's happened since March, which has been inconvenient.

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00:06:49.680 --> 00:06:58.620

Spyros Dimatos: This quarantine rules. If your quarantine because you're one of like the teachers again first hand knowledge. It's quarantined. Um, this is house arrest.

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00:06:59.280 --> 00:07:07.230

Spyros Dimatos: And I think everyone needs to keep that in mind. I know we have you know a lot of people that want to keep students in school and

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00:07:08.160 --> 00:07:20.010

Spyros Dimatos: Trust me, I want things to go back to the way they were more than any well done more than everyone, everyone wants to think to go back to it, you know, and I'm not advocating for anything. I'm just saying something to be aware of. I'm

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00:07:21.300 --> 00:07:28.860

Spyros Dimatos: To quarantine rules. If you've been exposed are pretty draconian um I have some real concerns with

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00:07:29.460 --> 00:07:43.170

Spyros Dimatos: I mean, you can't go on public, you can't go on the sidewalk. If you go outside. You can't leave your yard. If you live in an apartment. You can't leave your apartment, you live in a trailer. You're stuck in your trailer, um,

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00:07:44.340 --> 00:07:52.890

Spyros Dimatos: They weren't don't want people to share bathrooms, um, they want you to wear your mask all the time and the house and I know there's other people

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00:07:53.280 --> 00:08:07.110

Spyros Dimatos: You know that are probably in the zoom call and you know other people on the board that know and very good details what the health department they call they check up on you, they have the ability to come to your house and make sure you're there. I'm

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00:08:08.370 --> 00:08:09.240

Spyros Dimatos: I just

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00:08:10.860 --> 00:08:20.880

Spyros Dimatos: I know there's been a lot of people, especially on Facebook or whatever, you know, that have said early on it over the summer about childcare. Well, something to keep in mind if we get more cases.

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00:08:21.630 --> 00:08:34.260

Spyros Dimatos: Of men, you know, people not being able to go to work, because a child care. Well, if your kid is quarantined not only you can't get child care for a kid that's core team, you will be home with your kid, um,

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00:08:35.940 --> 00:08:38.580

Spyros Dimatos: These rules are really, really strict

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00:08:39.630 --> 00:08:45.840

Spyros Dimatos: And it's, it's not that you can go and get tested. But it doesn't matter. Your quarantine until the date.

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00:08:47.250 --> 00:08:59.400

Spyros Dimatos: So that's, you know, I just, I know early on that people have said, you know, oh no, we're not going to close unless we absolutely have to. Well, I think we just and again I'm not advocating that

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00:08:59.790 --> 00:09:06.870

Spyros Dimatos: But I just think there's needs to be a discussion and people really need to think that as. Hopefully we don't get more cases.

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00:09:07.380 --> 00:09:20.070

Spyros Dimatos: But if we do we really need to think this whole thing through because there's going to come a point. Well first off that we can't do business because the wrong, you know, we're going to lose too many teachers, but another point is

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00:09:20.820 --> 00:09:28.380

Spyros Dimatos: And there's no good solution, but this is going to be. There's a burden on families. Either way, there's going to be a burden.

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00:09:30.840 --> 00:09:31.590

Spyros Dimatos: Because

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00:09:33.090 --> 00:09:34.680

Spyros Dimatos: If a kid is quarantined.

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00:09:35.880 --> 00:09:37.650

Spyros Dimatos: How do parents take care of them.

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00:09:38.760 --> 00:09:50.700

Spyros Dimatos: People are not going to be able to work. People are knocking and then God forbid if the quarantine turns into a covert case that everyone in the household is quarantined. Because right now, it's just like the initial contact

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00:09:52.740 --> 00:10:01.230

Spyros Dimatos: It's a much bigger picture than what we discussed earlier. And again, the word quarantine has lost a lot of its meaning because

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00:10:01.740 --> 00:10:08.250

Spyros Dimatos: What's, what's going on now is more of a house arrest in a quarantine but just I can't stress it long enough, I shared

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00:10:09.150 --> 00:10:15.030

Spyros Dimatos: Some of the rules with other board members earlier that we typed up that from the phone conversation we had with the do ah

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00:10:15.600 --> 00:10:28.680

Spyros Dimatos: It, it's rough. I mean, and if you if you get quarantine. You have to take it seriously. You're not going to go to Lowes, you're not going to go to the grocery store. If the whole household is corn James It's Instacart time. You're not leaving the house.

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00:10:29.910 --> 00:10:38.520

Spyros Dimatos: And that's it. I just didn't know where everybody else was it if everyone else has thought. I mean, the ramifications about kids that might be good. Here's the thing, a

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00:10:39.180 --> 00:10:47.910

Spyros Dimatos: Little Johnny is in a classic it's quarantined and he lives in an apartment little Johnny's going to be stuck in that apartment for 20 days or 14 days.

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00:10:50.580 --> 00:10:53.190

Spyros Dimatos: Stuff, we have to think about when we make decisions.

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00:10:55.050 --> 00:10:57.840

Spyros Dimatos: That's what I had. I don't, you know, I really love to see what

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00:10:58.320 --> 00:11:09.450

Spyros Dimatos: You guys have to think about it because I know you know a lot of people think we have conversations, all the time about this stuff you don't get a chance, and we can't because it's a board meeting, then this is the only time we really get to talk about things like this.

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00:11:15.000 --> 00:11:16.410

Amy O'Brien: Does anyone want to add anything

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00:11:20.730 --> 00:11:28.260

Amy O'Brien: And Joe, I know you guys have been great about getting information out regarding the eighth grade, but since we have this forum and the participant level. Can you just

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00:11:29.310 --> 00:11:32.250

Amy O'Brien: Give a blurb on where we're standing with the eighth grade. And when they can return

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00:11:36.300 --> 00:11:45.660

Lloyd L. Peck, Ed.D.: Yeah, so there's October 20 again off the top of my head. I'd have to go back and check. I think it's October 20 they can return the letter is on the web page.

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00:11:47.220 --> 00:11:50.400

Lloyd L. Peck, Ed.D.: For the, for the middle school and the elementary case.

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00:11:52.950 --> 00:11:55.230

Amy O'Brien: Thank you. Did anyone have anything else to add,

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00:11:56.430 --> 00:11:57.270

Amy O'Brien: Or questions.

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00:11:58.920 --> 00:12:03.000

Lynn Lockwood: I appreciate Spyros sharing this is first hand experience with us.

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00:12:05.370 --> 00:12:18.780

Lynn Lockwood: And I think we've done a great job so far containing within the school like we haven't had a breakout in the high school from our high schools doing in or a breakout in the elementary school from our first grade students so

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00:12:19.260 --> 00:12:24.780

Lynn Lockwood: I think the school is doing an excellent job of making sure everyone's following the rules and keeping things clean and

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00:12:27.090 --> 00:12:36.180

Lynn Lockwood: I still, you know, preferred to keep the kids in school, as long as we can, but I do understand what spirits are saying. So we may have to consider those down the road.

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00:12:40.350 --> 00:12:48.240

Mike Vavra: Completely agree with everything you say Spyros so also got first hand knowledge myself with my son now be under quarantine as the eighth grade there but

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00:12:49.080 --> 00:13:00.450

Mike Vavra: We could, what if what if this to death. There's really no easy no easy answer to this, and I agree with Lynn there that you know the teachers staff custodial staff maintenance staff everybody up and down.

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00:13:01.020 --> 00:13:10.440

Mike Vavra: Years ago for us has done a wonderful job since we opened up school and I i still think we should wait till we absolutely positively have to close and

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00:13:10.830 --> 00:13:27.330

Mike Vavra: Again, that could come. Seems like any day now with what's been going on. But I think the longest we have enough staff to cover. I say we stay open. But I completely agree with how draconian the rules are here with quarantine because it's kind of ridiculous what they have, for sure.

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00:13:31.410 --> 00:13:44.190

Mary Collins: If that's so, somewhere on the website that quarantine list that you just gave us Ferris is that listed anywhere. Is that something just because of you experienced it, you know.

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00:13:44.760 --> 00:13:56.250

Spyros Dimatos: The only reason I got this is because when they called Nicole, because in close quarantined. She had like a half hour conversation with and you know her being an English teacher. She takes takes notes.

84

00:13:56.520 --> 00:13:57.420

Spyros Dimatos: Sarah. She gave me

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00:13:57.600 --> 00:14:08.490

Spyros Dimatos: So basically, she typed up her notes from it. And that's where I got this all from so you know that came from her conversation with the you know the rules that were given to her Orly they were supposed to send a packet

86

00:14:09.060 --> 00:14:18.660

Spyros Dimatos: Um, she has not received it yet and I don't believe you know everyone's even been contacted yet the Delta palm is swamped and, you know, they told you that I mean they're

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00:14:18.720 --> 00:14:19.440

Absolutely.

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00:14:22.980 --> 00:14:27.480

Mary Collins: Yes, it'd be worth putting that on our web page, these, these are the

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00:14:28.620 --> 00:14:28.800

Spyros Dimatos: I

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00:14:29.520 --> 00:14:30.600

Spyros Dimatos: Mean, I would like to get something

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00:14:30.600 --> 00:14:32.940

Spyros Dimatos: Official from the health department because again this

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00:14:32.940 --> 00:14:33.900

Spyros Dimatos: Was Nicole's notes.

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00:14:34.200 --> 00:14:35.880

Spyros Dimatos: I mean, I'm sure they're accurate but

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00:14:35.970 --> 00:14:49.590

Spyros Dimatos: You know, this is what she got verbally. So I mean, as long as we, you know, put the disclaimer that they were verbally given because you know I don't want you know maybe there might be a mistake in there, you know, things get because he wanted to give it directly from the health department.

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00:14:49.920 --> 00:14:52.950

Mary Collins: Well, I'm thinking of the one directly from the health department.

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00:14:54.090 --> 00:14:57.480

Spyros Dimatos: Yeah, we've received that packet. I don't know. Mike, did you get the packet

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00:14:58.500 --> 00:15:06.240

Mike Vavra: A packet. Again, my wife was wanting to talk to them and basically said all the same things you did. I'm sure it's probably on their website, if people want to look there.

98

00:15:07.230 --> 00:15:15.690

Mike Vavra: I mean, let me just tell people, that's where you can go look instead of putting on our domain trophy kind or not, but I be sure that's probably on their health department website.

99

00:15:20.670 --> 00:15:22.470

Amy O'Brien: I have nothing to add at this time.

100

00:15:24.930 --> 00:15:26.370

Amy O'Brien: Okay 3.1

101

00:15:28.140 --> 00:15:33.240

Amy O'Brien: A motion for consideration of executive session to discuss personnel matters, may I have a motion.

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00:15:36.120 --> 00:15:36.540

Spyros Dimatos: Motion.

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00:15:37.200 --> 00:15:38.820

Amy O'Brien: Thank you, Spyros. May I have a second

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00:15:39.990 --> 00:15:40.530

Mary Collins: Second,

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00:15:41.370 --> 00:15:42.420

Thank you Mary. discussion.

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00:15:43.650 --> 00:15:44.280

Amy O'Brien: Roll call.

107

00:15:44.940 --> 00:15:47.580

Erin McMullen:

Amy O'Brien-aye

Lynn Lockwood- aye

Spyros Dimatos-aye

Mike Vavra-aye

Mary Collins-aye

113

00:15:56.850 --> 00:16:13.800

Amy O'Brien: Motion passed, will we be taking any action. When we return, no. Okay, so anyone in the audience who wishes to stay. They may, but when we come back out. I will only be a journey in the meeting. Have a good night. Thank you.

114

00:17:51.090 --> 00:17:53.700

Amy O'Brien: Spyros, we did it again, two weeks in a row, or to me.

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00:17:56.820 --> 00:17:59.760

Amy O'Brien: Alright, well, we'll pretend we did it that way for clerical purposes so

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00:17:59.760 --> 00:18:00.630

Erica.

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00:18:02.160 --> 00:18:08.280

Amy O'Brien: Motion. Thank you. Motion to reconvene and open sessions for us motion may have a second please

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00:18:11.850 --> 00:18:15.510

Amy O'Brien: Mike, thank you and discussion and roll call.

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00:18:16.410 --> 00:18:17.280

Erin McMullen:

Amy O'Brien-aye

Lynn Lockwood-aye

Spyros Dimatos-aye

Mike Vavra-Aye

Mary Collins-aye

123

00:18:25.740 --> 00:18:26.220

Right.

124

00:18:27.630 --> 00:18:28.410

Amy O'Brien: Motion passed.

125

00:18:29.580 --> 00:18:32.370

Amy O'Brien: A motion to adjourn the meeting, maybe motion, please.

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00:18:33.780 --> 00:18:35.880

Amy O'Brien: Thank you, Spyros may have a second

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00:18:37.710 --> 00:18:37.980

Mike Vavra: Second,

128

00:18:43.320 --> 00:18:43.740

Spyros Dimatos: Hi.

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00:18:46.140 --> 00:18:46.620

Amy O'Brien: Everyone

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00:18:46.680 --> 00:18:47.850

Lynn Lockwood: Good night