

**MINUTES**  
**RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room**  
**February 9, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Board of Education President Katy Keohane-Glassberg at 7:10 p.m. on Tuesday February 9, 2016.

**Present:**

Ms. Katy Keohane-Glassberg, President  
 Mr. Christopher Repetto, Vice President  
 Ms. Karen Belanger  
 Ms. Nancy Pasquale  
 Ms. Nicole Weber  
 Mr. Blake Jines-Storey  
 Ms. Kelly Smith Powers  
 And

**Excused:**

Dr. Frank Alvarez, Superintendent of Schools  
 Dr. Betty Ann Wyks, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
 Ms. Gabriella O'Connor, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
 Ms. Elaine Cuglietto, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

On a motion by Ms. Belanger, seconded by Ms. Pasquale and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 7:10 p.m. to move immediately into executive session to review the employment history of current and prospective employees, discuss negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law and review current litigation.

On a motion by Ms. Weber, seconded by Ms. Belanger and carried unanimously (7 -0) it was voted at 7:40 p.m. to reconvene in public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Board of Education President Katy Keohane Glassberg welcomed members of the public. She announced that tonight we would begin the formal process of the discussion on the Superintendent's recommended school budget for the 2016-17 school year. These discussions will continue throughout the next several meetings.

Ms. Glassberg stated that the district is encouraging you to advocate on behalf of our school district to our State representatives in Albany for educational funding. The District is working on advocacy materials for the public to have templates to communicate with the Governor, State Education Department and our legislators.

## **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Superintendent Dr. Frank Alvarez announced that the District received communication from the State Education Department earlier in the week relative to Rating Day. We can now continue working on finalizing the calendar. He stated he would be meeting with the teacher union representatives this week for discussion on the calendar. The district calendar for the 2016-17 school year should be finalized shortly.

Dr. Alvarez extended his thanks to Dr. Edwards and Dr. Wyks for orchestrating Middle School English Language Arts teachers visiting the 5<sup>th</sup> grade ELA classes. These visits are set throughout the District to observe how literacy is being carried out in the elementary level as we move the program to the Middle School.

### **PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION**

#### **American Sign Language II Curriculum (Attachment # I)**

Dr. Wyks introduced Mr. Peter Gouveia to present to the Board of Education and the Public a description of the American Sign Language II curriculum. Previously, the Board of Education approved Mr. Gouveia to develop the curriculum for American Sign Language II, to be implemented during the 2015-2016 school year. Mr. Gouveia presented the completed curriculum to the Curriculum Council in December 2015 and is presenting the curriculum to the Board this evening.

Rye Middle School Principal Dr. Ann Edwards and Foreign Language Chair Mr. Mark McWilliams were present for the presentation and participated in the discussion. A detailed Board discussion followed together with input from administration as to the possibility and/or necessity for the expansion of this program in the 2016-17 school year in the middle and high school.

Ms. Glassberg asked for public comment on the American Sign Language Program. Parents Ms. Alissa Minio and Ms. Sue Wexler addressed the Board of Education expressing their support of the continuation and expansion of the American Sign Language Program in the middle and high schools.

#### **2016-2017 Superintendent's Recommended Budget (Attachment # II)**

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Frank Alvarez and Assistant Superintendent for Business Gabriela O'Connor presented the 2016-17 Superintendents' Recommended Budget in the amount of \$85,064,873. This is the first of several budget conversations that will take place over the next few months. Dr. Alvarez explained that his process actually begins in August and proceeds through the school year.

Members of the Board of Education commented on the proposed budget by the administration regarding the limitations of the tax cap, tax cap override, increase of retirement costs of both the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS, the Employees' Retirement System (ERS), utility tax, state aid, anticipated staffing district wide, district

wide efficiencies, enrollment growth, Growth Elimination Adjustment (GEA), revenue, and the use of cash reserves for the 2016-17 school budget.

Ms. Glassberg asked for comments from the Public regarding the presentation of the Superintendent's recommended Budget for the 2016-17 school year. The following community members addressed the Board of Education and Administration regarding the presentation:

The following is a list of dates that are relevant to the continued discussion and the adoption of the 2016-17 Superintendent's recommended school budget:

- February 23: Continued Discussion of Budget
- March 8: Continued Discussion of Budget
- March 29: Open Topics Forum/ Budget Hearing I
- April 12: Board of Education Budget Adoption
- April 26: Budget Hearing II
- May 17: Budget Vote/Board Election

### **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC ON NON AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no communications from the public.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Mr. Repetto seconded by Ms. Pasquale, and carried unanimously (7-0) to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

#### **GENERAL**

##### **Consent Agenda General 7.01**

##### **Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the January 12, 2016 Minutes as presented.

#### **FISCAL**

##### **Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.01**

##### **Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves Participation in Cooperative Bids through SW BOCES. (Attachment # III)

##### **Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.02**

##### **Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Contract for Health Services with the Bedford Central School District for \$1,035.58 for the 2015/16 school year. (Attachment # IV)

##### **Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.03**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Rental Agreement with Playland Ice Casino for \$545/hour for hockey practices and games during the 2015/16 season. (Attachment # V)

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.04****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the amendment to the 2015/16 Consulting Services Agreement with Westchester Therapy Solutions. (Attachment # VI)

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.05****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Contract with Neuropsychological Consulting Services for \$2500 for the 2015-16 school year. (Attachment # VII)

**PROFESSIONAL****Consent Agenda Professional 9.01****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the request by Leanne Janos for a Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as a Special Education Teacher, assigned to Rye Middle School, effective on or about her estimated due date of May 13, 2016 through the first semester of the 2016-2017 school year

**Consent Agenda Professional 9.02****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Four Year Probationary Appointment of Marisa Cuomo as a School Psychologist, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification as a School Psychologist, assigned to Rye High School and Rye School of Leadership, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 7 of the 2015-2016 Teacher Salary Schedule \$80,116\* (pro rated amount of \$34,449.88\*) (pending proof of level of education), effective February 22, 2016 – February 21, 2020 (unless extended in accordance with the law) (a) (b).

(Marisa Cuomo will be replacing Iris Knight Arest whose resignation due to retirement was previously approved, effective February 1, 2016 at the December 15, 2015 Board of Education Meeting.)

\*salary pending contract settlement

(a) This individual must receive three (3) annual APPR composite ratings of Effective or Highly Effective, in at least three (3) of the preceding four (4) years and cannot have an APPR Composite rating of Ineffective in the last year of his or her probationary appointment to be granted or considered for tenure.

(b) The Education Transformation Act amended Section 3012 of the Education Law amended to include classroom teachers appointed on or after July 1, 2015 with prior tenure (from either another district or from another tenure area in the district) may be

eligible for a reduced probationary term provided they have received an APPR score in their final year and produces the score to the Rye City School District. Upon receipt and review probationary period may be amended.

### **Consent Agenda Professional 9.03**

#### **Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Leave Replacement Appointment of Joel Jenson as a .9 FTE Teaching Assistant, assigned to Rye School of Leadership, Step 1 of the 2015-2016 Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Salary Schedule \$21.12\* per hour, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective February 22, 2016 - June 24, 2016.

(Joel Jenson will be replacing Christopher Skowronski who was previously approved for a Leave of Absence, effective February 8, 2016 – June 30, 2016.)

\*salary pending contract settlement

### **Consent Agenda Professional 9.04**

#### **Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Amendment of the Leave Replacement Appointment of Ann Fogarty Stanton as a Science Teacher, for which she holds New York State Professional Certification in Biology 7-12 and New York State Permanent Certification in Chemistry 7-12, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 10 of the 2015-2016 Teacher Salary Schedule \$88,060\* (pro rated amount of \$61,642\*), effective December 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

(Ann Fogarty Stanton was previously approved for a Leave Replacement Appointment, effective December 1, 2015 – February 26, 2016.)

\*salary pending contract settlement

### **Consent Agenda Professional 9.05**

#### **Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment Amendment of the following 6th Assignment or Additional Pay Beyond Annual Salary:

These additional assignments have been recommended in accordance with the current collective bargaining agreement. They include the Middle School Elective Program, science labs above the 25 limit, and additional class assignments.

Name	Assignment	Frequency	% of Base Salary	Contract Rate
Ann Fogarty Stanton (12/1/15-6/30/16)	Science	3 extra class/week	6%	\$3,699

(Ann Fogarty Stanton was previously approved effective 12/1/15 – 2/26/16.)

\*salary pending contract settlement

**Consent Agenda Professional 9.06****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment Amendment of Lauren Cope as a .9 FTE Teaching Assistant for Special Education, assigned to Milton School, Step 1 of the 2015-2016 Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Salary Schedule, \$25.62\* per hour, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days a week, effective February 8, 2016 – June 24, 2016.

(Lauren Cope will be replacing Ashley Bruno whose resignation was previously approved effective at the close of business January 29, 2016. Lauren was previously approved effective February 4, 2016 – June 24, 2016.)

\*salary pending contract settlement

**Consent Agenda Professional 9.07****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the following Appointments for Extra Pay for Extra Work, for the 2015-2016 school year:

2015/2016

EPEW

	ACTIVITY	INDEX	STEP	RATE
Middle School - Clubs				
RMS Club Sports- Session 3	Club Sports Deen, Cynthia	0.00910	0	511
RMS Club Sports- Session 3	Club Sports Gobbo, Lauren	0.00910	1	536

**Consent Agenda Professional 9.08****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves Peter Panagos, who applied for and has been selected, to mentor the new Physical Education teacher for Midland School and Osborn School, in accordance with the District Mentorship Plan. A pro-rated stipend of \$675 for the remainder of the school year will be provided through the Curriculum Budget.

**CLASSIFIED****Consent Agenda Classified 10.01****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Leave of Absence for Ann Mackey from her position as a Teacher Aide for Special Education, assigned to Osborn School, effective February 22, 2016 through June 24, 2016.

**Consent Agenda Classified 10.02****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Provisional Appointment of Janet O'Neill as a Secretary to School Principal, a twelve (12) month position, assigned to Midland School, 0.5 FTE Step 2, \$26,651 (pro rated amount of \$9,460.09) of the 2015-2016

Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit Salary Schedule, effective February 23, 2016. Appointment to be in accordance with Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

(Janet O'Neill has met the requirements for this position.)

**Recommendation:** That the Board approves the Provisional Appointment of Ann Mackey as a Secretary to School Principal, a twelve (12) month position, assigned to Osborn School, 0.5 FTE Step 4, \$28,803.50 (pro rated amount of \$10,334.08) of the 2015-2016 Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit Salary Schedule, effective February 22, 2016. Appointment to be in accordance with Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

(Ann Mackey has met the requirements for this position.)

### **Consent Agenda Classified 10.03**

#### **Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Testing Proctor at the rate of \$102.00 per day for the 2015-2016 School Year:

Wendy Dolce

### **Consent Agenda Classified 10.04**

#### **Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Amendment of the Resignation of Mary McCarthy from her position as a Teacher Aide for Special Education, assigned to Midland School, effective at the close of business January 21, 2016.

(Mary McCarthy's resignation was previously approved effective at the close of business December 9, 2015.)

### **Consent Agenda Special Education 11.01**

#### **Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Preschool Special Education recommendations as attached. (Attachment # VIII)

## **COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM THE BOARD**

Mr. Repetto congratulated Midland School on the implementation of a new recycling program. He congratulated the school administration, the custodial and cafeteria staffs, Green Committee members Emily Keenan and Cali Gibbs for this wonderful initiative. The school worked in conjunction with "We Future Cycle." Mr. Repetto asked for further details and information regarding this wonderful recycling program.

On a motion by Mr. Repetto seconded by Ms. Pasquale and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:08 p.m. to adjourn to Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Jines-Storey seconded by Ms. Pasquale and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:55 p.m. to adjourn the meeting.

Elaine Cuglietto  
District Clerk

Video of this meeting can be found on the District's website ([www.ryeschools.org](http://www.ryeschools.org)). Click on District and on Board of Education.