

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
March 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Board of Education President Katy Keohane-Glassberg at 7:10 p.m. on Tuesday March 8, 2016.

Present:

Ms. Katy Keohane-Glassberg, President
 Mr. Christopher Repetto, Vice President
 Ms. Karen Belanger
 Ms. Nancy Pasquale
 Ms. Kelly Smith Powers

And

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

Excused:

Ms. Nicole Weber
 Mr. Blake Jines-Storey

On a motion by Ms. Belanger, seconded by Ms. Pasquale and carried unanimously (5-0) 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. Smith Powers, seconded by Ms. Belanger and carried unanimously (5 -0) it was voted at 7:55 p.m. to reconvene in public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Board of Education President Katy Keohane Glassberg welcomed members of the public.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Alvarez extended congratulations on behalf of the entire Rye City School District to the following four students on having met all the requirements to advance to Finalist status in the National Merit Scholarship program. Of the more than 16,000 Finalists, 8,000 will be selected for Merit Scholarships this spring:
 Congratulations to: William D. Colwell, Julia H. Donovan, Christopher A. Julian and Su-Lynn Kok.

Superintendent Alvarez announced that on tonight's agenda is the approval of the Web Journalism Curriculum for implementation in the High School next year. This is the curriculum which was presented at the February 23, 2016 meeting by Mr. Anthony Campbell, and is advancing our efforts in that area.

Dr. Alvarez stated that on tonight's agenda is the continued discussion of the proposed 2016-17 School Calendar. This discussion will be held at a later portion of the meeting.

Dr. Alvarez announced that we have five competent finalists for the Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics administrative position, and we will hopefully have a recommendation for the Board of Education at the next Board of Education meeting.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no communications from the public.

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION

We Future Cycle: The Midland Recycling Program (Attachment # I)

A detailed power point presentation was shown to the Board of Education and the public describing the new recycling program at Midland School by Parents Cali Gibbs and Emily Keenan and Principal Mr. Jim Boylan. The Midland Green Committee has been working together with We Future Cycle since a pilot program began last year. The statistics presented on the difference in the amount of trash waste in the Midland School cafeteria are astonishing. The children, administration, custodial staff members, food service staff members, teachers, teacher aides and assistants and all of the volunteer parents have been working closely together through training, planning, implementation, routine and dialog to make this new program such a great success.

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 Superintendent's Recommended Budget in the amount of \$85,064,873. Highlighting the elements of the budget, proposed budget by expenditure, the elements of the tax levy and rate, and looking ahead to upcoming Board of Education Meetings and budget discussions.

Rye Middle School Principal Dr. Ann Edwards and Rye High School Principal Ms. Patricia Taylor were present for discussion on the enrollment and staffing needs that have been built into this tax compliant budget for next school year.

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:

- March 29: Open Topics Forum/ Budget Hearing I
- April 12: Board of Education Budget Adoption
- April 26: Budget Hearing II This date was later changed.
(Actual date of Budget Hearing II is May 10, 2016)
- May 17: Budget Vote/Board Election

Board President Ms. Katy Keohane-Glassberg asked for any comments on the Budget Presentation.

Rye resident and former Board of Education member Jim Culyer addressed the Board cautioning them about the use of fund balance for the district's operating costs. His suggestions would be for the Board to enforce a moratorium on new programs and possibly come forward with another tax cap override this year.

Rye Fund for Education Board Member and Co-Chair of Rye Friends of Rye City Schools Mary Emery addressed the Board. She expressed support for a budget override if it were presented but does respect the Board's desire to adhere to the promise made last year that we would not be going for an override again this year.

Ms. Emery commended Superintendent of Schools Frank Alvarez for the advocacy effort in place to communicate with our legislatures in Albany and encourages everyone to participate in this advocacy effort relative to the gap elimination adjustment. A Sample letter is available on the school district's website and she is asking all residents to please participate in this advocacy effort. We need to put the pressure on Albany to return these valuable funds to the school districts.

Ms. Emery encouraged everyone to get out and vote on May 17, 2016. Voter Registration in district will be held on Tuesday April 19, 2016 from 4 – 8 pm.

Mr. Bertrand deFrondeville thanked the Board and Administration for keeping this budget under the tax cap and asked the Board to limit some of the choices offered to our students.

Board President Ms. Katy Keohane- Glassberg explained that Ms. Gabriella O'Connor, Assistant Superintendent for Business would discuss the budget transfer included in

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.12

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves Budget Transfer #15-16, #5 in the amount of \$169,227.00 from the surplus of Foil Oil Funds to DW Maintenance.

CONSENT AGENDA

After discussion and explanation of this budget transfer by Ms. O'Connor relative to Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.12, On a motion by Ms. Pasquale, seconded by Mr. Repetto, and carried unanimously (5-0) to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

GENERAL

Consent Agenda General 7.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the January 26, 2016 Minutes as presented.

Consent Agenda General 7.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the February 9, 2016 Minutes as presented.

Consent Agenda General 7.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board adopts the Web Journalism Curriculum for implementation in the High School during the 2016-2017 school year.

Consent Agenda General 7.04

Recommended Action:

That the Board adopts the Revised Resolution to establish May 17, 2016 Budget Vote and Election Procedures. (Attachment # III)

Consent Agenda General 7.05

Recommended Action:

That the Board adopts the Resolution for Establishment of Board of Registration for the 2015-2016 School Year. (Attachment # IV)

FISCAL

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the contract with Runa Camilla Hartwall for the 2015-2016 school year. (Attachment # V)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the \$17,861 gift from the RMS Parents Organization to purchase 30 I-pads, Apple Care, covers & and an I-Pad cart.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the \$5,000 gift from the RMS Parents Organization for the Band Room Renovation Project.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.04**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the \$5,996 gift from the RMS Parents Organization for the purchase and installation of 2 Elkay Water Bottle Filler Station

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.05**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the \$47,766 gift from the Rye Fund for Education for the High School Band Room Project.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.06**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the \$46,680.88 gift from the Rye Fund for Education for Literacy Project.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.07**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the \$25,171 gift from the Parents Organization of Rye High School to purchase and install seven water bottle filler stations.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.08**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the \$3,000 gift from Mr. & Mrs. Tony Kao for two Yedowiz-McGee Scholarships to be awarded for the class of 2016.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.09**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the establishment of standard work day as listed below for reporting purposes only for New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System. The Rye City School District establishes the following standard work day for New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System, reporting purposes only:

Six (6) hours for General Education Teacher Aides

Six and a half (6.5) hours for General Education Teacher Assistants

Six and a half (6.5) hours for Special Education Teacher Aide/Assistants

Seven (7) hours for all other employees (Includes: District Treasurer and District Clerk)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.10**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Contract for Health Services with the White Plains School District for \$9,810.24 for the 2015/16 school year. (Attachment # VI)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.11**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves Budget Transfer #15-16, #4 in the amount of \$20,000.00 from Paper Products to Food Supplies to pay for continued purchases of food and beverage products. (Attachment # VII)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.12**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves Budget Transfer #15-16, #5 in the amount of \$169,227.00 from the surplus of Foil Oil Funds to DW Maintenance. (Attachment # VIII)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 8.13**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Contract with Smart Move for Transport of Voting Machines for Budget Vote & Candidate Election on May 17, 2016. (Attachment # IX)

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

That the Board approves the Resignation due to Retirement of Sophie Kent from her position as a French Teacher, assigned to Rye Middle School, effective at the close of business June 30, 2016.

Consent Agenda Professional 9.02**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the request by Amy Reitzig for a Personal Leave of Absence from her position as an Elementary Teacher, assigned to Osborn School, effective July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

Consent Agenda Professional 9.03**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Leave Replacement Appointment of Megan Chumentti as an Elementary Teacher, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Pre Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Grades 1-6, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 11 (pending proof of level of education) of the 2015-2016 Teacher Salary Schedule \$78,660* (pro rated amount of \$30,932.70*), effective March 14, 2016 - June 30, 2016.

(Megan Chumentti will be replacing Dana King who is on a medical leave.)

*salary pending contract settlement

Consent Agenda Professional 9.04**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of the following for 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*
Jennifer Fall	Spanish	½ semester/spring	5%	\$ 6,163

*salary pending contract settlement

Consent Agenda Professional 9.05

Recommended Action:

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

EPEW

	ACTIVITY		INDEX	STEP	RATE
Athletic-SPRING					
LACROSSE (Boys)	Asst. to JV Prog.	McReddie, Adam	0.05500	6	4,138
TRACK	Asst. to Var. Prog. (Boys)	Ciociu, Adrian	0.07500	6	5,643

Consent Agenda Professional 9.06

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Appointment of Patrizia Guzzo as a Teacher of Home Instruction on the Elementary Level, for which she holds New York State Professional Certification in Early Childhood Education (Birth – Grade 2) and New York State Professional Certification in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), not to exceed ten (10) hours per week at the Home Instruction Rate of \$49.89 per hour, effective February 4, 2016 – March 31, 2016.

Consent Agenda Professional 9.07

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the following Per Diem Substitute Teachers and Teaching Assistants to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2015-2016 school year at the approved per diem rates:

Per Diem Rate as follows:

Per Diem Substitute Teacher - \$102.00

Per Diem Substitute Teaching Assistant for Special Education - \$102.00

Per Diem Substitute Teaching Assistant - \$102.00

Megan Chument
Diedre Kelly

Consent Agenda Professional 9.08**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye City School District herewith authorizes the Board President and the Superintendent of Schools to execute a Settlement Agreement and General Release between the Board and a certain staff member (Employee #6647) discussed in Executive Session.

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

That the Board approves the Probationary Appointment of Joanna Tobing as Secretary (School Districts), an eleven (11) month position, with a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifty-two weeks, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE Step 4 of the 2015-2016 Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit Salary Schedule, \$52,804 (pro rated amount of \$14,899.05, effective March 28, 2016 with a delayed start of March 29, 2016.

NOTE: Joanna Tobing is being appointed from Eligible List #61-283, Established 06-20-14, Certification #000022802, Issued 01-29-16.

(Joanna Tobing will be replacing Maria Carlucci who resigned due to retirement at the close of business February 26, 2016.

Consent Agenda Classified 10.02**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of Gabriel de Varona as a Videographer for Spring musical performances at Rye High School and Rye Middle School at the rate of \$35.00 per hour, not to exceed the aggregate total of 15 hours.

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 # X)

Board President Katy Keohane- Glassberg reviewed some of the business and personnel items that were approved on the agenda. In particular, she wanted to point out the following very generous and remarkable donations received and accepted by the Board tonight:

- A \$17,861 gift from the RMS Parents Organization to purchase 30 I-pads, Apple Care, covers & and an I-Pad cart was happily accepted.
- A \$5,000 gift from the RMS Parents Organization for the Band Room Renovation Project.

- A \$5,996 gift from the RMS Parents Organization for the purchase and installation of 2 Elkay Water Bottle Filler Station
- A \$47,766 gift from the Rye Fund for Education for the High School Band Room Project.
- A \$46,680.88 gift from the Rye Fund for Education for Literacy Project.
- A \$25,171 gift from the Parents Organization of Rye High School to purchase and install seven water bottle filler stations.
- A \$3,000 gift from Mr. & Mrs. Tony Kao for two Yedowiz-McGee Scholarships to be awarded for the class of 2016.

Ms. Glassberg announced that at this evening's meeting the Board of Education sadly accepted the resignation due to retirement of Ms. Sophie Kent as a Foreign Language Teacher at the Rye Middle School. She has served in both the middle and high schools for nineteen years. Ms. Kent will surely be missed at the middle school and wish her all the best in her retirement.

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION II

Dr. Alvarez explained that next year's school calendar is ready for discussion. The district was waiting for finalization of some testing and rating dates from the State Education Department and needed to negotiate the calendar with the RTA. The plan is to have the school calendar adopted at the next Board of Education Meeting on March 29, 2016. He encouraged input on any items on the calendar. (Attachment # XI)

The first day of school for students is Wednesday September 7, 2016. The last day for students will be Thursday June 22, 2017.

There are four Superintendent's Conference Days during the school year. Please refer to attachment for details surrounding school holidays and recess periods.

Hopefully, the calendar will be adopted at the next Board of Education Meeting on March 29, 2016 and, if adopted, will be posted to the website after that evening's meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM THE BOARD

Ms. Nancy Pasquale reported that the Facilities Committee met on March 1, 2016 reviewing the new five year building condition survey to plan for strategic planning going forward. The committee can look at the survey and focused on the \$775,000. transfer to capital included in the upcoming budget. The next Committee Meeting will be on April 5th and Mr. Sam Carder will present to the Board of Education at the April

12, 2016 Board of Education Meeting. Some long term facilities need planning is being looked at by the Committee. Future presentations by Mr. Sam Carder are expected by the end of the school year.

Ms. Keohane-Glassberg announced that Board Members intention to seek reelection was planned for this evening. However, due to the absence of some Board of Education Members, the announcements will be postponed until the next meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Repetto seconded by Ms. Belanger and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted at 9:40 p.m. to adjourn to Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Repetto seconded by Ms. Pasquale and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted at 9:56 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). Click on District and on Board of Education.