

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING/BUDGET HEARING I
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
March 24, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Board of Education President Laura Slack at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday March 24, 2015.

Present:

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

Excused:

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

On a motion by Mr. Jines-Storey, seconded by Ms. Pasquale and carried unanimously (7 -0) it was voted at 7:00 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 Mr. Jines-Storey, seconded by Ms. Belanger and carried unanimously (7 -0) it was voted at 8:05 p.m. to reconvene in public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Alvarez began his report with a statement regarding the recent bomb threat investigations. He stated that here was an arrest early this morning. Although it brings us one step closer to a resolution it is still an ongoing investigation. The Police have advised us there may be more arrests coming. It is still nothing that we are at liberty to discuss. But we feel we are continuing to get an appropriate level of support. Things are moving in the direction we would like.

As many people are aware, we are experiencing troubles with our Internet. If you are

sending us emails within the last day and we are not responding, it is not because we are ignoring you. We will receive them eventually and will respond to you. We are suffering a number of denial of service attacks. We are working with our providers to resolve this issue and tonight we are awarding an RFP for tech services. We hope that in the future, some of this will be much improved for us.

Dr. Alvarez stated that the Board of Education will be approving the 2015-16 calendar at this evening's meeting. The school year for students begins immediately following Labor Day, and the teachers returning the Wednesday and Thursday of the week the before. The calendar has the last day of school as June 24; the last day for students is the 23rd. It allows for the typical breaks we are used to; not the 2 week break in December that we experienced this year. It does allow us a 4 day break around Memorial Day.

Dr. Alvarez reminded everyone that there is a Literacy Workshop for Parents at Osborn School on Thursday at 11:30 a.m. It is focused primarily on students in grades 3-5.

OPEN TOPICS FORUM

The Open Topics Forum was held as an opportunity for the public to share their concerns, questions, and feedback regarding the recommended 2015-16 school budget as well as any other concerns they wanted addressed or gather information about. This Budget Hearing enables Board Members to join members of the audience at their tables for these discussions. Members of the Board then return back to the Board table and reported the key topics that were addressed in their conversations. The Open Topics Forum began at 8:15 p.m.

The Board of Education reconvened their meeting after open topic discussions were held with community members at 9:20 p.m. A summary of the topics, as well as responses prepared by Dr. Alvarez, will be sent out and posted on the District's website, www.ryeschools.org, hopefully by the next BOE Meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Jines-Storey seconded by Mr. Repetto and carried unanimously (7-0) to approve the following agenda items:

GENERAL

Consent Agenda General 6.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the March 10, 2015 Minutes as presented.

Consent Agenda General 6.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the March 19, 2015 Minutes as presented.

Consent Agenda General 6.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the 2015-16 school calendar as presented. (Attachment #I)

Consent Agenda General 6.04**Recommended Action:**

That the Board adopts Regulation 9610-R, Staff Substance Abuse Regulations, as recommended. (Attachment #II)

Consent Agenda General 6.05**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves a Side Letter Agreement between the Board of Education of the Rye City School District and the Rye Teachers Association (Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit) concerning part-time health insurance benefits; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said Side Letter Agreement. (Attachment #III)

FISCAL**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.01****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Award of RFP for Internal Claims Auditing Services to Anna K. Provenzano at the rate of \$60/hour, effective March 25, 2015 - June 30, 2015.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.02**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Award of RFP for Technology Services to Edu Tek Ltd. at an annual cost of \$315,000.00, effective July 1st 2015 for the 2015/16 school year.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.03**Recommended Action:**

That the Board accepts the Risk Assessment Update Report prepared by Cullen & Danowski, LLP dated March 17, 2015 and Approval of the Agreed-upon Procedures for 2014/15, Area: Payroll and the Financial System Application (including security access) (Attachment #IV)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.04**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the \$5,000 donation from Mr. and Mrs. Nuculaj for the Special Education Department.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.05**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the increase \$6,000 to the General Fund budget for a previously approved donation from the Rye Youth Rugby Inc.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.06**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Contract for Health Services with White Plains Public Schools for \$11,973.92 for the 2014/15 school year. (Attachment #V)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.07**Recommended Action:**

That the Board adopts this resolution to declare attached items as surplus for the purpose of disposal in accordance with Policy #6900 - Disposal of District Property. (Attachment #VI)

PROFESSIONAL**Consent Agenda Professional 8.01****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Resignation due to Retirement of Judy Greenberg from her position as a Special Education Teacher, assigned to Midland School, effective at the close of business June 30, 2015.

Consent Agenda Professional 8.02**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Resignation of Vanessa Lawson, from her position as an English Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, effective at the close of business June 30, 2015.

Consent Agenda Professional 8.03**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the request by Joanna Diaco for a Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as a School Psychologist, assigned to Milton School, effective September 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Consent Agenda Professional 8.04**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the request by Marisa Junta for a Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as a Mathematics Teacher, assigned to Rye Middle School, effective September 1, 2015 to the end of the 1st Semester.

(Marisa Junta was previously approved for Child Care Leaves of Absence, effective January 17, 2014 – June 30, 2014, September 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015 and February 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015.)

That the Board approves the request by Dawn King for a Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as a Foreign Language Teacher, assigned to Rye Middle School, effective September 1, 2015 to the end of the of first semester.

Consent Agenda Professional 8.05**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Leave Replacement Appointment of Adam Ballard as a Science Teacher, for which he holds New York State Professional Certification in Biology 7-12, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 4 of the 2014-2015 Teacher Salary Schedule, \$70,628 (pro rated amount of \$25,454.44), effective March 18, 2015 – June 30, 2015.

(Adam Ballard will be replacing Danielle Pizzuto who is on a Medical Leave.)

Consent Agenda Professional 8.06**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves 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
Adam Ballard (eff. 3/18/15)	Science	3 extra class/week all year	6%	\$1,441

Consent Agenda Professional 8.07**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the following Appointment for Extra Pay for Extra Work, for the 2014-2015 school year:

EPEW	ACTIVITY	NAME	INDEX	14/15 STEP	14/15 RATE
Athletic-SPRING	Modified 7/8	Poccia,	0.06500	4	4,436
SOFTBALL	Coach	Rachel			

Consent Agenda Professional 8.08**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the following Appointments for ELA K-8 Literacy Curriculum Development beginning June 29, 2015 through June 30, 2015 at the curriculum rate of \$40.00 per hour, not to exceed 12 hours per person, or an aggregate total of \$1,920.00.

Rosemary Marszycki	3rd	June 29 & June 30, 2015
Allison Bily	3rd	June 29 & June 30, 2015
Elly Short	2nd	June 29 & June 30, 2015
Kathryn Ridley	2nd	June 29 & June 30, 2015

Consent Agenda Professional 8.09**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the following Appointments for ELA K-8 Summer Literacy Curriculum Development beginning July 1, 2015 through July 14, 2015 at the curriculum rate of \$40.00 per hour, not to exceed 12 hours per person, or an aggregate total of \$8,160.00.

Sarah Bailey	K	July 1 & July 2, 2015
Amanda Massett	K	July 1 & July 2, 2015
Karen Kozan	1st	July 1 & July 2, 2015
Michelle Ring	1st	July 1 & July 2, 2015
Jennifer Tavolacci	4th	July 7 & July 8, 2015
Debra Fishman	4th	July 7 & July 8, 2015

Thomas Bailey	5th	July 9 & July 10, 2015
Julie Vinci	5th	July 9 & July 10, 2015
Amy Carman	5th	July 9 & July 10, 2015
Suzanne Adams	MS	July 13 & 14, 2015
Peter Gouveia	MS	July 13 & 14, 2015
Michele Haiken	MS	July 13 & 14, 2015
Noreen Kennedy	MS	July 13 & 14, 2015
Michael Massett	MS	July 13 & 14, 2015
John O'Donnell	MS	July 13 & 14, 2015
Abby Tuttle	MS	July 13 & 14, 2015
Leslie Webb	MS	July 13 & 14, 2015

Consent Agenda Professional 8.10

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Appointment of Raymond Zirkel as a Substitute School Psychologist to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2014-2015 school year at the rate of \$49.89 per hour, effective March 25, 2015. - June 30, 2015.

Consent Agenda Professional 8.11

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 2014-2015 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

Brian Crawley

Harold Levine

Raymond Zirkel

Consent Agenda Professional 8.12

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes and approves a certain Settlement Agreement and General Release between Employee No. 7069 and the Board of Education of the Rye City School District, a copy of which has been previously reviewed by the members of the Board of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of the Board of Education is authorized to execute said agreement on behalf of the Board.

CLASSIFIED**Consent Agenda Classified 9.01****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Resignation of Raymond Colwell as a Food Service Worker, assigned to Rye High School, effective at the close of business February 13, 2015.

Consent Agenda Classified 9.02**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Substitute School Monitor/Traffic Control for 2014-2015 School Year:

NAME	Pay Per Hour	Position	Effective Date
Steven Colletti	\$30.00/hr.	School Monitor/Traffic Control	3/11/15

Consent Agenda Classified 9.03**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of Linda Carpenter as a Substitute Claims Auditor at the rate of \$90.00 per hour, effective March 25, 2015 – June 30, 2015.

Consent Agenda Classified 9.04**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Substitute Teacher Aides to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2014-2015 school year at the approved rates:

Rates as follows:

Per Diem Substitute Teacher Aide for Special Education - \$102.00

Substitute Teacher Aide \$13.95 per hour

Brian Crawley

Harold Levine

Consent Agenda Classified 9.05**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Testing Proctor at the rate of \$102.00 per day for the 2014-2015 School Year:

Ann Moller

Consent Agenda Special Education 10.01**Recommended Action:**

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

Ms. Slack also announced that the Board had accepted a \$5,000.donation from Mr. and Mrs. Nuculaj for the Special Education Department. She thanked them for the generosity and collaboration with the Special Education Department.

Ms. Slack announced that the Board accepted the resignation due to retirement of Judy Greenberg from her position as a Special Education Teacher in the Rye City School District. Ms. Slack thanked Ms. Greenberg for all of her contributions to the Rye City School District over the last 17 years and wished her good luck and health in her retirement.

Presentation/Discussion I

Superintendent's Recommended 2015-16 School District Budget (Attachment #VIII)

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Frank Alvarez and Assistant Superintendent for Business Gabriela O'Connor continued their detailed discussions of the elements around the 2015-16 Superintendents' Recommended Budget indicating that this recommended budget will be supporting current programs and includes specific additions to the district's programs. Ms. O'Connor's presentation included various components of the budget and detailed information on expenditures, revenue, 2015/16 Tax Levy Impact on Reserves dependent on the amount of usage, tax levy & rate, support of class size guidelines, transportation costs, BOCES support services and dates for future discussions of the budget.

Dr. Alvarez presented to the Board and Public what could possibly happen if the budget did not pass on the first round in May. He presented potential cuts in the instructional, support, and operations portion of the budget as well as discussing such issues as guidelines for class sizes and the impact to programs for students. Dr. Alvarez stated that this is not where we would like to go with the budget, but may not have a choice. A discussion commenced among the Members of the Board of Education who commented on the proposed budget by the administration regarding the limitations of the tax cap, tax cap override, enrollment increase and flaws in the Governor's proposal.

Ms. O'Connor further presented a preliminary first look at the budget for the 2016-2017 school year.

Future discussions on the proposed budget to be held as follows:

- **April 14: Continued Budget Discussion**
- **April 21: Board of Education Budget Adoption**
- **May 5: Budget Hearing II**
- **May 19: Budget Vote/Board Election**

Presentation/Discussion II

Ms. Karen Belanger and Ms. Glassberg discussed this legally required policy and regulation relative to educating Homeless Children according to what is required by law.

Homeless Children.5151

5151-R Homeless Children Regulation

COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM THE BOARD

Ms. Slack announced that this is the time when current Board of Education Members announce their intention to seek re-election as a member of the Rye City School District Board of Education. There are three terms that will be expiring this year on June 30, 2015; those of Mr. Chris Repetto, Ms. Nancy Pasquale and Ms. Laura Slack.

Board of Education Member Mr. Chris Repetto announced that he would be seeking re-election as his term ends this year on June 30, 2015.

Board of Education Member Ms. Nancy Pasquale announced that she would be seeking re-election as her term ends this year on June 30, 2015.

Board of Education President Ms. Laura Slack announced that she would not be seeking re-election as her term ends this year on June 30, 2015 after serving on the Board of Education for the last nine years (three terms of office).

On a motion by Mr. Repetto seconded by Ms. Belanger and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:40 p.m. to adjourn into Executive Session to review the employment history of current and prospective employees.

On a motion by Mr. Jines-Storey seconded by Ms. Belanger and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 11:15 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.