

**MINUTES**  
**RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room**  
**December 9, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by Board of Education President Laura Slack at 7:04 p.m. on Tuesday December 9, 2014.

**Present:**

Ms. Laura Slack, President

Ms. Katy Keohane Glassberg, Vice President

Ms. Karen Belanger

Ms. Nancy Pasquale – Arrived at 7:06 p.m.

Mr. Christopher Repetto – Arrived at 7:07 p.m.

Ms. Nicole Weber – Arrived at 7:15 p.m.

Mr. Blake Jines-Storey

And

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. Glassberg and carried unanimously (4 -0) it was voted at 7:04 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 8:16 p.m. to reconvene in public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Alvarez thanked community members, staff, faculty members and students for attending the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of the new Rye High School Science Wing on Saturday December 8, 2014.

Dr. Alvarez advised the community that on Wednesday December 10, 2014 thirty eight of our students would be participating in an anniversary celebration at Rye City Hall for the Celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of City Hall.

Dr. Alvarez stated that the Rye City School District's 2015-2016 budget development has already begun. Budget deliberations have been on-going with central office administrators meeting with each building principal and program directors to discuss their specific needs and wants.

Dr. Betty Ann Wyks, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment stated there are parent sessions presently being conducted to create some parent opportunities to discuss curriculum development, to understand what is occurring in our schools and discuss new initiatives on various grade levels.

Dr. Wyks announced that there will be a parent session on December 16, 2014 regarding our ST Math Program and its home component currently being used by our AIS and ELL students.

Dr. Wyks announced that a workshop will be held on January 29, 2015 for administrative staff as well as department coordinators on data analysis and student performance as well as looking at the different types administered during the school year.

Teachers on elementary grade levels continue to meet with Shelley Klein continuing their work in Literacy.

A presentation on the Grade 8 Spanish Curriculum will be held at the next regular Board of Education Meeting on January 13, 2015.

Dr. Alvarez congratulated Rye Middle School teacher Mr. Peter Gouveia, who has been chosen as one of 18 teachers state wide to provide review and have some input into the 2015 New York State ELA examinations.

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

The following community member addressed the Board of Education referencing the teacher that has been administratively reassigned and testing irregularity allegations:  
Ms. Boukje Van den Bosch – Smits.

Mr. Jim Culyer addressed the Board of Education congratulating them on a well attended Rye High School Science Wing ribbon cutting. He wanted to congratulate the teachers for an excellent job in the classrooms. Mr. Culyer stated that he wanted to encourage the Board to seriously consider, both from an environmental perspective and from an educational perspective, the installation of solar panels and/or other means that would enhance the science curriculum.

## CONSENT AGENDA

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

### GENERAL

#### **Consent Agenda General 6.01**

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

That the Board approves the November 18, 2014 Minutes as presented.

#### **Consent Agenda General 6.02**

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

That the Board adopts the policies listed: (Attachment #I)

1530 Smoking and Other Tobacco Use on School Premises

This revised policy also replaces policies 5312.3 Student Use of Tobacco  
and 9330 Tobacco Use on School Premises by Staff

6150 Budget Transfers

#### **Consent Agenda General 6.03**

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

That the Board approves the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves a Settlement Agreement and Release in connection with Case No. 84245, 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 Education is authorized to execute said agreement on behalf of the Board.

### FISCAL

#### **Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.01**

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

That the Board approves the District-wide Consulting Services Agreement with Education, Inc. for the 2014-15 school year. (Attachment # II)

#### **Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.02**

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

That the Board approves the revised Consulting Services Agreement with Westchester Therapy Solutions for the 2014-2015 school year. (Attachment # III)

#### **Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.03**

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

That the Board approves the \$5,000 gift from Rye Country Day School for Heard in Rye.

#### **Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.04**

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

That the Board approves the Amendment to the Consulting Services Agreement with Audiology and Speech Solution, PC for the 2014-2015 school year. (Attachment # IV)

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.05****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves Budget Transfer 2014-15, #5 for \$59,000 to cover costs associated with public information officer services (Attachment # V)

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.06****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves an increase to the General Fund budget by \$2,800 for an approved gift.

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

That the Board approves the request by Mary Bellofatto for a Personal Leave of Absence, from her position as an Elementary Teacher, assigned to Midland School, effective February 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015.

(Mary Bellofatto was previously approved for a Personal Leave of Absence effective September 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015 at the August 29, 2014 Board of Education Meeting.)

**Consent Agenda Professional 8.02****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of Xu Yang as a Teacher of Home Instruction for Mandarin for which she holds New York State Professional Certification in Mandarin 7-12, 2 hours weekly at the Home Instruction Rate of \$49.89 per hour, effective November 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

**Consent Agenda Professional 8.03****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the following Appointment as a Special Education Teacher – IEP Development, effective June 30, 2014 – August 30, 2014.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SUMMER POSITIONS  
SUMMER 2014

Name	Assignment	Stipend
Nora Webber	Special Education Teacher – IEP Development	\$39.39 per hour

**Consent Agenda Professional 8.04****Recommended Action:**

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

EPEW	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>INDEX</u>	<u>14/15 STEP</u>	<u>14/15 RATE</u>
<b>ATHLETICS - WINTER</b>					
WRESTLING	Assistant to Program	Jenson, Joel	0.05500	4	3,709
SKI TEAM	Varsity	Crowley, Christine*			-----
WEB ADVISOR	Athletic Department	Clark, Karen	0.03500	1	2,048

**Middle School - Clubs**

Intramural Middle School	Coordinator	Sweeney, Elieen	0.01500	0	830
RMS Club Sports-Session 2	Basketball	McCumber, Randall	0.01360	6	1,008
RMS Club Sports-Session 2	Soccer	Santoro, Ashley	0.00910	0	503

**Osborn School**

Clubs	Maker Space	O'Leary, Laura	0.03000	0	1,672
Club	Yearbook	Toppo, Marshall	0.02500	6	1,867

## Osborn - Musical

Special Performances	Choreog.	Lipari, Cara	0.01750	0	975**
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\*Christine Crowley is being paid by Mamaroneck High School.

\*\*Rates may be adjusted due to contract language

**Consent Agenda Professional 8.05****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

Cicely Greaves  
Kate Hernandez  
Janine Morris  
Justin Vallarelli

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

That the Board approves the Resignation of Beth LaBella from her position as a Library Clerk, assigned to Osborn School and Midland School, effective at the close of business January 2, 2015.

**Consent Agenda Classified 9.02****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Resignation of Inez Carling from her position as a Lunch Time Aide, assigned to Midland School, effective at the close of business December 22, 2014.

**Consent Agenda Classified 9.03****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Termination of Employee #3938 from her position as a Teacher Aide, effective at the close of business November 26, 2014.

**Consent Agenda Classified 9.04****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Substitute Cleaner to be used on an as needed basis: Step 1 of Custodial Unit Contract for cleaner

July 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014

\$20.20 per hour for days and \$21.21 per hour for nights

January 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015

\$20.45 per hour for days and \$21.47 per hour for nights

Hubert Hall

**Consent Agenda Classified 9.05****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Substitute Secretarial Clerical Worker to be used on an as needed basis:

Rate of pay is dependent upon the civil service title of the position being substituted for –

Hourly rate of pay is as follows:

Step 1 of Secretarial Clerical School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit Contract for the 2014-2015 School Year is:

Column A - \$16.61\*

Column B - \$22.22\*

Column C - \$23.09\*

Column D - \$25.25\*

Column E - \$27.41\*

Column F - \$30.73\*

Bonnie Manheimer

**Consent Agenda Classified 9.06****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

Cicely Greaves

Kate Hernandez

Janine Morris

Justin Vallarelli

**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 # VI)

Ms. Slack acknowledged and thanked everyone on behalf of the Board of Education that contributed to a fantastic ribbon cutting ceremony. She thanked everyone including teachers, administrators, past and present Board of Education members, local and state politicians, our previous Superintendent of Schools Dr. Edward Shine, representatives from many local organizations, senior citizens and community members that gave up a Saturday morning to be in attendance and answer questions of the attending guests. Ms. Slack remarked that everyone was honored to have the students of the string quartet entertain those in attendance and thanked the district's custodial staff for their extraordinary work and John Rubbo's food service staff for providing refreshments.

### **PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION**

#### **2015-2016 Budget Constraints**

Assistant Superintendent for Business Ms. Gabriella O'Connor presented to the Board of Education a report on Fiscal Constraints and Challenges for the 2015-16 school year. (Attachment #VII). She discussed budget drivers, which include the tax cap conditions, TRS and ERS retirement system contributions, enrollment growth, collective bargaining unit provisions, health insurance premiums, continued testing and reporting requirements, technology, facility needs and concerns, State aid Tax Certiorari Refunds, Mandated Testing, Reporting APPR and Training/Support RTI, Technology Plan Requirements, Debt Service Changes and Non-Tax Revenues.

Board of Education members engaged in lengthy discussions that will continue at future meetings regarding the 2015/2016 school district budget. Community members were invited to discuss the budget process. Mr. Jim Culyer addressed the Board regarding upcoming and future facilities needs and changing technology needs. Ms. Mary Emery addressed the Board of Education regarding the district's high enrollment growth. She also spoke about the newly formed Rye Fund for Education Foundation and has raised over \$640,000 in monies and pledges. Ms. Emery encouraged everyone to visit the website. [www. Ryefundforeducation.com](http://www.Ryefundforeducation.com) and a new fund raiser for an Amazon smile link. Amazon will then donate \$5 for every \$1000 spent.

The 2015/16 Budget analysis and preparation will continue at future Board of Education Meetings with the Board of Education adopting the Superintendent's Recommended Budget on April 21, 2015. Budget Vote/Trustee Election Day is May 19, 2015

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

Dr. Betty Ann Wyks, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment announced that the district is partnering with the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) to administer a voluntary survey to our middle and high school student at the end of November. The statewide survey is designed to help our community understand the risks our students may face regarding smoking, underage drinking, drug use and other high-risk behaviors.

Ms. Nancy Pasquale announced this is truly a community issue and responsibility. She is working with the local Community Coalition on alcohol and drug abuse prevention throughout the community and working with other organizations such as St. Vincent's Hospital, Port Chester Cares, Mamaroneck Larchmont Radar, Student Assistance Services. The community conversation will be on-going and the public will be included in future discussions.

On a motion by Mr. Repetto seconded by Ms. Pasquale and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:38 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.