

**MINUTES**  
**RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION**  
**Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room**  
**March 1, 2005**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 7:07 p.m. and the roll was called.

Present

Mr. James Culyer, *President*

Mr. Stephen Feeney, *Vice President*

Ms. Sarah Mariani

Mr. George Pratt

Ms. Victoria Sterling

Mr. Robert Zahm

Excused

Mr. Joshua Nathan

And Dr. Edward Shine, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Daniel McCann, Deputy Superintendent  
Mr. Robert Walsh, Assistant Superintendent;  
Ms. Shirley Klein, Director, Special Educational Services  
Mr. Robert Castagna, Director, Athletics, Health and Physical Education  
Dr. Angela Grille, Principal Midland School  
Dr. Joann Nardone, Principal, Milton School  
Ms. Clarita Zeppie, Principal, Osborn School  
Ms. Carole Andreasen, Director of Technology  
Dr. Ann Edwards, Principal, Rye Middle School  
Dr. Jim Rooney, Principal, Rye High School

On a motion by Ms. Mariani, seconded by Mr. Pratt and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to adjourn immediately into executive session for the discussion of pending litigation.

On a motion by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Ms. Sterling and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 7:45 p.m. to reconvene in public. Mr. Culyer called for a recess until the published start time of the meeting, 8:00 p.m. At 8:00 p.m. Mr. Culyer opened the work session.

Dr. Shine welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance and began by introducing and reviewing information that had been placed on the table for each Board member and administrator, noting that copies were available for the public. The information provided by Dr. Shine was as follows:

1. Major Drivers to the Budget
2. Elementary School Enrollment as of March 1 provided by the elementary school principals;
3. Staffing Summary using the March 1 data as projections for September 2005;
4. A spreadsheet of staffing in the 2005-06 budget, noting requests which were not included.

*(continued)*

Mr. Culyer asked Dr. Shine to review the three-page background information prior to the review of each cost center by principals or directors. Board members asked questions and shared opinions on issues. In the process, Board members generated a list of 14 issues for follow-up by the administration as noted below.

1. Clarify the school manager position. How would a sunset work so that these do not automatically continue as positions in the District? Sunset provision should also be defined for the Elementary School construction-related positions.
2. Clarify the 2.0 FTE teacher aides at Milton. How many aides will remain and what will their responsibilities be? What will responsibilities be of 2.0 FTE teachers aides?
3. Review the additional custodial position at Milton and justify the need after construction. What would be the impact of decommissioning the portables at Midland and Osborn? Would that be sufficient to reduce janitorial services at those facilities?
4. Monitor Osborn and Midland enrollment variance and student composition . Gather information on the middle school locker room renovations that are included in the 5-year Facilities Plan. What would impact be if added to 05-06 budget?
5. Clarify middle school class size information; i.e., ACS/range and projection for grade 8 in 05-06. Do the same for the high school.
6. Reduce high school 1.4 FTE as requested by Dr. Rooney.
7. Fully explain the SAT prep (Ivy Bound) and the EPEW SAT Writing Prep with cost comparisons to 2003-04. Include cost of college writing.
8. Provide complete analysis of EPEW; i.e., a listing of clubs, the number of students involved in each and the cost associated with each. This was a general request for all areas of EPEW usage / spending. Include SAT Writing Prep and athletic program requests as components of the EPEW.
9. Of the total dollars assigned to athletics [coaches, transportation, equipment, etc.], what is the total cost of each program and the cost per athlete (number of athletes in each program).
10. Provide information on the total number of program assistants in the athletic budget and explain where program assistants are assigned in the athletic program and the cost per athlete.
11. Do general counsel services cover labor relations? Can we reduce legal costs?

*(continued)*

12. Please review "single point failure" issues with the technology committee. To address this issue, are there budgetary considerations that should be included in the 05-06 budget?
13. Review June 30, 2004 audit to identify end of fiscal year surplus. Explain how it was used in FY 2004. Assuming that same surplus is factored into the 05-06 budget with escalation, what is the estimated surplus for 04-05 and, assuming that the Board directs the administration to eliminate that surplus, show how it would be resolved.

The Board agreed that budget discussion would continue at the regularly scheduled Board meeting on March 22. Working with principals and program directors, Dr. Shine will provide answers to all issues and questions prior to the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

On a motion by Ms. Mariani, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 11:50 p.m. to adjourn the meeting.

Edward J. Shine  
Superintendent of Schools