

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
October 19, 2004

After touring Midland school beginning at 6:15, the Board convened in the middle school multipurpose room for it's regular meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 7:00 P.M. and the roll was called.

Present

Mr. James Culyer, *President*
Mr. Stephen Feeney, *Vice President*
Ms. Sarah Mariani
Mr. Joshua Nathan
Mr. George Pratt
Ms. Victoria Sterling
Mr. Robert Zahm

And Dr. Edward Shine, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Daniel McCann, Deputy Superintendent
Mr. Robert Walsh, Assistant Superintendent

On a motion by Ms. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Pratt and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to adjourn into executive session for the review of the employment history of current and prospective employees, and the discussion of pending litigation.

Upon reconvening in public at 8:10 P.M., on a motion by Ms. Mariani, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (7-0), Mr. Culyer welcomed those present to the October 19th business meeting of the Board to which the public is invited..

Mr. Culyer asked Mr. Feeney to present the Board's extra mile award to the District's Teacher of the Year, Judy Greenberg. Mr. Culyer noted that many people were present in the room to add their congratulations to Ms. Greenberg. Mr. Feeney noted that perhaps one of the greatest honors anyone can receive is recognition by peers in recognition of one's life work, noting that such an honor is being named Teacher of the Year. He said this represents the highest commitment to the education of Rye's children. Mr. Feeney said that in June, Midland School special education resource teacher, Judy Greenberg had received this recognition and that the Board desired to recognize her, as well, for this award. He presented her with a Teacher of the Year plaque and thanked her for all she did. Ms. Greenberg thanked the Board, saying she was honored to receive the plaque which she received most humbly, thanking the District for the encouragement and support and expressed her belief that doing one's best is expected and encouraged in the District, and that being at Midland reinforces for her the joy of teaching.

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Mr. Culyer then explained for those residents watching the meeting on television who therefore did not have the printed meeting guide as a reference the purpose of the hearing of the public on non-agenda items and then called for the hearing of the public on non-agenda items.

Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

A member of the public who identified herself as a Midland PTO Co-President offered thanks to Dr. Shine and the administration for the time they had taken over the past two weeks to research playgrounds and options at Midland School pre-additions and alterations construction. She said it had been made clear that the options they requested are expensive, but asked the Board to remember the importance of preservation of playground and of ensuring play space for first through third graders. She asked the Board to prioritize dealing with playground space when planning, including flat ball-playing space, the BigToy, and equivalent black top space. She said Midland parents continued to look forward to working together in this with the administration and Board.

Mr. Culyer thanked her for her suggestions and comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Ms. Mariani, seconded by Mr. Pratt and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve the following items:

Action – General

1. The minutes of the September 21, 2004 meeting of the Board, as revised subsequent to the October 5, 2004 meeting of the Board..
2. The minutes of the October 5, 2004 meeting of the Board, as written.

Action – Fiscal

1. The Treasurer's Summary Report for the period ending August 31, 2004. (Attachment I)
2. Budget Transfer #5 in the amount of \$42,000.00 to cover the cost of change orders related to capital reserve projects as a result of re-grading and sodding the upper practice field at Rye High School and the renovation of the high school gym resulting in overages to the initial revised budget estimates. Funding is transferred from the budget line allocated to design and engineer installation of additional portable classrooms, paid from prior year funds. (Attachment II)
3. A Change Order for the refurbishment of the upper field at Rye High School in the amount of \$13,300.00 under the capital reserve projects for 2004-2005 made up of additional catch basins to prevent added run-off to neighboring property at

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\$3,400.00; additional fencing for safety and security at \$6,000.00, and curbing and catch basin to prevent run-off onto the parking area that would create a winter freezing hazard at \$3,800.00 with funding for the Change Order to be addressed as part of Budget Transfer #5, above. (Attachment III)

4. A Change Order to Xavier Contracting, LLC for the high school gymnasium work in the amount of \$16,200.00 under the capital reserve projects for 21004-2005 made up of the following items: welding lintel to column (latent construction defect), \$1,200.00; change in type and location of backstop winches (\$3,200.00; disputed areas of painting, \$4,900.00; and dispute over scope of demolition, \$12,650.00. Funding for the Change Order is addressed as part of Budget Transfer #5, above. (Attachment IV).

Action - Personnel

1. The resignation of Amy Denault, as Mathematics Teacher assigned to Rye Middle School, effective November 7, 2004.
2. The appointment of Andrea Hecht, as Teaching Assistant, .9 FTE, assigned to Rye High School Academic Intervention Center, Step 1 of the 2004-2005 Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Salary Schedule, 6.5 hours/day, 5 days/week, effective September 30, 2004.
3. The appointment of Giovanna Bellantoni as a Teacher Aide, with a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifth-two weeks, assigned to Osborn School, Step 1 of the 2004-2005 Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Salary Schedule, 6.5 hours/day, 5 days/week, effective October 12, 2004.
4. The appointment of Food Services Helpers with a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifty-two weeks, as follows:

NAME	04/05 HRLY. RATE	HRS. PER DAY	DAYS PER WEEK	POSITION	SCHOOL	EFFECTIVE DATE
Lorenzo Macua	\$9.50	5.5	5	Food Service Helper	Rye Middle School	9/7/04
Melissa Bongiorni	\$9.50	5	5	Food Service Helper	Osborn School	9/7/04
Thomas Flynn	\$11.80	7	5	Food Service Helper	Rye High School	10/4/04
Robert DeRosa	\$9.50	5	5	Food Service Helper	Midland	9/7/04

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Action – Special Education

1. The recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from its meeting of September 8, 2004 for Student ID#442; from its meetings of September 23, 2004 for Students ID#456 and 468; and from its meeting of October 6, 2004 for Student ID#431.
2. The recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from its meeting of March 3, 2004 for Student ID#913037; from its meeting of March 25, 2004 for Student ID#199; from its meetings of March 31, 2004 for Students ID#294 and 189; and from its meetings of April 14m 2004 for Students ID#346 and 372.
3. The appointment of Mrs. Gayle Regan, 50 Cowles Avenue, Rye, NY 10580 as a parent member for the Committee on Special Education/Committee on Preschool Special Education.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine offered congratulations to Milton Media Specialist, Carol Seltzer and Osborn fifth grad teacher, Peggy Gelman, who were presented with Educators of Excellence Awards from the New York Council of the Teachers of English. He noted the return of a Native American re-enactor to seventh grade classrooms to bring their curriculum to life, and the work of high school social studies department chair, Bob Steel, in organizing a Decision 2004 school wide project involving students in projects centered around the election process. Dr. Shine also noted that the week of November 8 was American Education Week and that the schools would have open houses for parents during the week. Dr. Shine said that he had received a report that over 2,000 people had attended the Osborn Carnival, the goal of which was to bring parents and students together for a day of fun, as well as to achieve some revenue to fund projects in and for the school. Dr. Shine then said that the week of October 29 had been declared Board of Education recognition week and on behalf of the schools and the community, he thanked the members of the Board for their volunteer efforts, on behalf of the community.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Culyer asked Ms. Mariani if she wished to present her communication to the Board. She said that at its July planning meeting the Board had expressed concern that the Open Topic Forum was not accomplishing the goals the Board hoped it would and had decided not to hold this type of meeting this school year, but that she would like to have this reconsidered and the meeting should be reinstated in this school year with identified goals and objectives declared. After discussion by members of the Board, and since there was not consensus to return this meeting to the Board's meeting schedule, Mr. Culyer suggested that this topic be placed on the list for in depth discussion at the Board's July planning meeting the following summer. Mr. Pratt suggested that the Board include in its considerations resuming holding meetings at the three elementary schools, forgoing having those meetings taped for cablecast to enable meeting off-site.

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Dr. Shine noted that a live, interactive, satellite teleconference would be held Tuesday, October 26th with the broadcast airing between the hours of 6:30 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. on the topic of using accountability to build trust. He noted he had distributed the registration information prior to the beginning of the Board meeting.

Dr. Shine said in his communication he had indicated he would like to plan work sessions for the board, with the first on enrollment and attendance zones and asked if November 16th would be convenient for the members of the Board. Some Board members suggested this instead be a topic on the agenda of the November 9th meeting of the Board. Dr. Shine replied that he would investigate this against the agenda for that meeting and if it was possible he would do that rather than schedule a separate meeting.

Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Mariani, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried (6-1) with Mr. Nathan voting no, it was voted at 8:59 p.m. to adjourn into executive session for the discussion of pending litigation.

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Feeney and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:22 p.m. to reconvene in public. There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Feeney, seconded by Ms. Sterling and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:22 p.m. to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Ferrari
District Clerk