

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
December 21, 2004

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 7:44 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. Mariani, 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 and negotiations.

Upon reconvening in public at 8:08 p.m., on a motion by Ms. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Feeney and carried unanimously (7-0), Mr. Culyer welcomed those present. He noted that Consent Agenda Items Action-Fiscal 2, bid for Performing Arts Center Piano, and Action-Personnel Item 2, Leave Replacement Position, would be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Culyer then announced the Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items.

Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

There were no questions or comments from the public.

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 November 16, 2004 meeting of the Board, as written.
2. The minutes of the December 7, 2004 meeting of the Board, as written.

(continued)

3. The resolution to accept a gift to Heard in Rye in the amount of \$2,000.00 from the Rye Middle School Parents' Organization; in the amount of \$1,500.00 from the Osborn School PTO; and in the amount of \$1,500.00 from the Midland School PTO. (Attachment I)
4. The resolution to accept a gift from the Rye High School and Rye Middle School Japanese Parents' Group in the amount of \$2,100.00 to be shared at \$700.00 per category among ELL programs, the school library, and the guidance department. (Attachment II)
5. The resolution to accept a gift from Bill Friesell to the Rye High School of the equipment listed on the attached, at a total estimated replacement value of \$6,335.00. (Attachment III)

Action - Fiscal

1. The award of the Audio/Visual Production Equipment Bid for the Rye City School District to On Location Video in the amount of \$49,992.00. (Attachment IV)
2. The Treasurer's Summary Report for the period ending October 31, 2004. (Attachment V)

Action – Personnel

1. The resignation due to retirement of Deanne Moynahan as Special Education Teaching Assistant assigned to Rye Middle School, effective February 1, 2005.
2. The request by Amy Leahy for an unpaid Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as Science Teacher assigned to Rye High School, effective on or about her approximate expected due date of March 14, 2005 – June 30, 2005.
3. The request by Hillary Wade for an unpaid Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as Fourth Grade Teacher assigned to Milton School, effective on or about her approximate expected due date of April 2, 2005 – June 30, 2005.
4. The resignation of June Lynch as a Special Education Teacher Aide assigned to Rye Middle School, effective December 23, 2004.
5. The appointment of Edwin O. Portillo as Night Cleaner with a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifty-two weeks, assigned to Rye High School, on Step 1 of the 2004-2005 Custodial Unit Salary Schedule, including night differential, pro-rated, for the 2004-2005 school year, effective January 3, 2005.
6. The Extra Pay for Extra Work position for the 2004-2005 school year per the attached. (Attachment VI)

(continued)

Action – Special Education

1. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meetings of October 19, 2004 for Students ID#911317 and 357; from its meetings of October 27, 2004 for Students ID#911547 and 911697; from its meetings of November 3, 2004 for Students ID#470, 476, and 175; and from its meeting of November 4, 2004 for Student ID#061820.
2. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meetings of November 22, 2004 for Students ID#911407 and 911409; from its meeting of November 23, 2004 for Student ID#130; from its meeting of November 30, 2004 for Student ID#912103; and from its meetings of December 8, 2004 for Students ID#911669 and 911773.

ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**Piano Bid**

Mr. Pratt moved and Ms. Mariani seconded the motion to return the piano bid to the table.

Ms. Mariani stated her position that she felt the recommendation was an economic one because she felt it was not a good deal for the district. Further discussion ensued and Mr. Culyer also welcomed public comment. Ms. Mariani also listed health and safety reasons she felt were substantive reasons not to purchase of the piano as recommended.

Upon conclusion of discussion, on a motion by Ms. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Feeney, carrying 4-3 with Mr. Zahm, Ms. Mariani and Mr. Pratt voting no, it was voted to accept the recommendation put forth by the music department for piano purchase for the Performing Arts Center at Rye High School. (Attachment VII)

Mr. Culyer noted that within the Consent Agenda was the retirement of De Moynahan, a Teacher Aide/Assistant with the District since 1988. He extended thanks to Ms. Moynahan for her dedicated service and wished her well in her retirement.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine reported that three students had been selected to participate in this year's All-County Intermediate and Elementary Music Festival. He also commended the 94 employees who have become certified AED responders. Dr. Shine reported that Midland families, faculty and staff had collected 2,048 books and given them to P.S. 138 in the Bronx; that Osborn families and faculty and staff had provided personal gifts in response to the personal wish lists of students at P.S. 204 in the Bronx; that middle school families, faculty and staff had collected toys for Toys for Tots, donated food to a Port Chester shelter and donated items in excellent condition to the Salvation Army; and that high school students were donating cell phones to be reprogrammed to call 911 to My Sister's Place and donated to gift cards for at risk children. Dr. Shine extended seasons' greetings to the Board and thanked them for their service to the community, and extended greetings to the entire Rye City School District community.

(continued)

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

Facilities Committee Reports

Mr. Walsh presented an overview of the Facilities Committee and explained the work of the committee. Mr. Valentine reviewed the documentation provided for the Board, highlighting the Five-Year Plan for the list of Capital Projects and the results of the annual visual inspection reports. Mr. Walsh reported that the Facilities Committee requested that the Board consider having the Borrowing and Investment Sub-Committee review bonding to support the Capital Projects.

Health and Safety Committee Proposal

Dr. Shine reviewed the documentation provided for the Board in response to a review of Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, Part 155 (8 NYCRR 155) that became effective in October 1999. He noted that the administration had developed a host of processes and procedures in response to the regulations, with the Facilities Committee active in the lead position in fulfilling the role required of the Committee in 155.4.d.1 of the regulations. He noted that if the Board wished to expand the committee and broaden its representation as noted in the SED Guidelines, the outline provided by Mr. Walsh could be utilized in determining a sub-committee structure to focus on construction at individual schools. He said that after discussion, if the Board concurred with the proposal, a recommendation will be made at the January 11, 2005 Board meeting and the formation of a larger committee would begin immediately, anticipating a first meeting by March 1, 2005.

Mr. Culyer polled the Board on their wishes, with four Board members indicating that they would accept a structure enfolded into the current committee and three indicating that they would prefer a separate committee. Dr. Shine said he would return to the January 11 meeting with a recommendation.

Communications to/from the Board

Mr. Pratt noted that the stadium lights committee would be convened to discuss the use of lights, per previous suggestion by the Board.

Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Mariani, seconded by Ms. Sterling and carried (7-0) it was voted at 10:18 p.m. to adjourn into executive session for the review of the employment history of current and prospective employees and the discussion of negotiations. Mr. Culyer announced that the Board did not intend to resume the meeting in public but rather that the Board would adjourn the meeting following its executive session.

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to return to public session at 10:45 p.m. and there being no further business, on a motion by Ms. Mariani, seconded by Mr. Feeney and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Ferrari
District Clerk