

**MINUTES**  
**RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room**  
**January 24, 2006**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 7:09 p.m. in the Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room and the Board adjourned immediately into Executive Session on a motion by Ms. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Feeney and carried unanimously (4-0), for the review of the employment history of current and prospective employees, pending litigation, and negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law.

**Present**

Mr. James Culyer, *President*  
Mr. Stephen Feeney, *Vice President*  
Mr. Edward Fox\*  
Mr. Joshua Nathan\*  
Ms. Victoria Sterling  
Mr. Robert Zahm

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

*\*arrived subsequent to start of Executive Session*

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Ms. Sterling and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 8:00 p.m. to reconvene in public. Mr. Culyer welcomed those present and called for the Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items.

**Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items**

A member of the public said he recommended that the Board replace Mr. Pratt since they were entering the budget session and a seventh person would be useful as the Board had a lot of work to do.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Culyer noted that Action-General Items 1 (Board Minutes); 4 (Adoption of Middle School Curriculum Elective), and 6 (Resolution to Install a Temporary Boiler at Rye High School) would be removed from the Consent Agenda).

(continued)

On a motion by Ms. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve the following recommendations and items:

**Action – General**

1. The Resolution ratifying the Memorandum of Agreement with the Rye Administrators Association. (Attachment I)
2. The 2006-2007 School Calendar, as present. (Attachment II)
3. The appointment of Daniel G. Vincelette, Esq. as one of the attorneys of record in the Matter of the Miriam Osborn Home Association v. the Assessor of the City of Rye, The Board of Assessment Review, The City of Rye and The Rye City School District. (Attachment III)

**Action – Special Education**

1. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meeting of December 13, 2005 for Student ID#912052; from its meeting of December 21, 2005 for student ID#479; and from its meeting of January 4, 2006 for Student ID#642.
2. The recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from its meeting of October 13, 2005 for Student ID#581; from its meeting of November 30, 2005 for Student ID#641; from its meeting of December 12, 2005 for Student ID#451; and from its meeting of December 15, 2005 for Student ID#673.

Mr. Culyer announced that on the Consent Agenda was the ratification of the contract with the Rye Administrators Association extending from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2010, ahead of schedule. He thanked everyone involved in the negotiations process for the hard work on both party's parts.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Shine announced that twelve Osborn fifth graders would be participating in a Dancing Classrooms competition in Queens the next day. He said that there would be a Career Exposition by the Beyond Rye Middle School students in the Multipurpose Room between 9:45 and 10:30 a.m. also the next day, and that the Middle School was promoting "No Name Calling Week". He said that Dr. Dituri, Ms. Zeppie, Dr. Grille, all the English Language Learner teachers and five Midland classroom teachers had all spent a good part of Saturday at the Japanese Weekend School of New York, and that all believed that gained excellent materials to share collegially in the District's continuing efforts to solve any problems Japanese children have in our American schools.

(continued)

**PRESENTATION – DISCUSSION****Presentation of the Three-Year Technology Plan**

Carole Andreasen, the District's Director of Technology, provided an overview of some of the software and hardware being used in the schools, defined new initiatives and needs, and a summary of budgetary requests she anticipated over the next three years. Board members asked a variety of questions regarding data and assessment of the effectiveness of technology. Dr. Shine said the administration will respond to these questions at future meetings.

A member of the public commented that it was exciting to see the tools the children were using.

**Preliminary 2006-2007 Budget Assumptions and Forecast**

Dr. Shine and Mr. Walsh reviewed the components of the standstill budget and budget drivers anticipated for the next school year.

A member of the public asked why actual, audited numbers from the year 2003-2004 were not used in presenting the budget; asked that debt service be separated from transfers as a category; referenced an adjustment and a note that said it would be amended in the budget and wanted to know if that was the CPI or standstill budget; and asked why Milton costs were increasing in face of a declining enrollment. Mr. Feeney said the resident was reading the wrong column, noting that Milton costs were decreasing. The resident agreed that Mr. Feeney was correct and withdrew his comment. The member of the public also asked for up-to-date enrollment figures and figures relating to what a contingency budget would be.

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA****Minutes of January 10, 2006 Meeting of the Board**

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried 4-2 with Mr. Feeney and Ms. Sterling voting no it was voted to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2006 meeting of the Board of Education as amended and presented for approval.

**Middle School Curriculum**

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Ms. Sterling and carried 5-1 with Mr. Feeney voting no it was voted to approve the curriculum for Media Savvy Kids, a one-semester elective for seventh and eight grade students, as proposed. (Attachment IV)

**Temporary Boiler Installation**

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve the resolution to install a temporary boiler at Rye High School. (Attachment V)

(continued)

**COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM THE BOARD**

Mr. Culyer asked Ms. Sterling to review her communication to the Board. Ms. Sterling recommended that Board Policy 5110 on school attendance be upgraded to provide the Board with a broader context in which to consider attendance options that promote using district wide capacity. Subsequent to Board discussion, Mr. Culyer determined that at least four members of the Board agreed to refer this recommendation to the Policy Committee.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 10:49 p.m. to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Ferrari  
District Clerk