

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING & WORK SESSION
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
November 8, 2005

Subsequent to a tour of Midland School, the meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 7:30 p.m. in the Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room.

Present

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

* *Departed 11:30 p.m.*

And Dr. Edward Shine, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Daniel McCann, Deputy Superintendent of Schools

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

On a motion by Mr. Feeney, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 8:28 p.m. to reconvene in public.

Mr. Culyer welcomed those present, apologized for the Board's delay in beginning its meeting, and introduced Mr. Feeney to present the Board's Extra Mile Award.

EXTRA MILE AWARD

Mr. Feeney, upon expressing the Board's and District's appreciation for all they and their organizations do for the children of the schools and of the community, presented the Extra Mile Award to Mr. William Rodriguez and Ms. Sally Rogol of the Rye Recreation Department and to Mr. Gregg Howells of the Rye YMCA. Mr. Rodriguez was not able to be present but both Ms. Rogol and Mr. Howells thanked the Board and expressed their appreciation for the cooperative programs between the schools and their organizations.

Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

There were no comments or questions from the public.

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Communication from Board

Mr. Culyer read a letter from him, on behalf of the Board, and from Dr. Shine, on behalf of the administration, that would be delivered the following day to the Milton, Midland and Osborn Faculty members, thanking them for their patience and tolerance during difficult days of construction. The letter read:

Dear Midland, Milton and Osborn Administrators, Faculty and Staff,
On behalf of the Board of Education and the Central Administration, we are writing to say thank you. Every job in our schools is challenging at all times. When this challenge is compounded by the kind of construction we have had at all our elementary schools, it can seem insurmountable. We regret the circumstances under which you have had to work, and can only ask you to persevere. Conditions can only improve, and the result will be more space and better conditions for you, for the District, and for the students in your care.

In the meantime, we know your jobs are made extremely difficult by all the elements of construction, from dust, drafts, noise, leaks and extra personnel in the buildings, to limited grounds use and space constraints. Your efforts under these circumstances have been extraordinary. To everyone at Milton School we add extra thanks for dealing with and overcoming the relentless noise, annoyance and distraction of the rock removal process. Thankfully, this job is nearing completion and Milton construction will be moving to a quieter and less intrusive phase.

Thank you all for your support at this time, and for helping us build a better place for our children.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Culyer noted that Action-General item 1, minutes; 2, Strategic Plan; and 3, litigation authorization; Action –Fiscal item 1, fuel oil bid; and Action – Personnel item 1, employee agreement and 6, administrator contracts, would be removed from the Consent Agenda.

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

Action – General

1. The gift in the amount of \$2,400.00 from the Japanese Parents' Group in the high and middle schools to be used, 1/3rd each for ELL programs, the high school, and the middle school. (Attachment I)
2. The gift in the amount of \$1,500.00 from the Midland School Parent Teacher Organization for the 2005-2006 Heard in Rye speaker series. (Attachment II)

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Action – Fiscal

1. Budget Transfers #3 in the amount of \$11,321.00 from Testing to BOCES' Charges for Test Scoring to cover the cost of BOCES charges for test scoring. This item was budgeted on another line that was not a BOCES' expense code. (Attachment IIIa)
2. Budget Transfer #4 in the amount of \$7,220.00 from Unused Workers' Compensation (Admin.) to the BOCES Finance Manager account to cover the cost of additional users on Finance Manager to properly operate the requisition module. This amount was not previously budgeted; the cost is primarily for a one-time licensing fee. (Attachment IIIb)

Action – Personnel

1. The request by Alisha Miller for an unpaid Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as 2nd Grade Teacher assigned to Osborn School, effective on or about her approximate anticipated due date of January 3, 2006 – June 30, 2006.
2. The appointment of Annette Keslinger as speech and Language Pathologist 0.4 FTE, assigned to the Rye City School District, MA+30, Step 11, of the 2005-2006 Teacher Salary Schedule, pro-rated, effective November 9, 2005 – June 30, 2006.
3. The tenure recommendation of Shannon Thiele Gold, in the General Elementary Tenure Area, for which she holds New York State Provisional Certification in Elementary N-6, effective December 2, 2005.
4. The resignation of Susan Stemmer, effective at the close of business on June 30, 2007 as set forth in a letter dated August 30, 2005.
5. The resignation of Susan Weeks Little as a teacher aide assigned to Milton School effective September 30, 2005.
6. The resignation of Paul Basciano, as a Cook Manager, assigned to Rye High School Food Service Department effective November 4, 2005.
7. The Temporary Appointment of Cara Barnhardt, as a Senior Office Assistant (Automated Systems) assigned to Rye High School, 12 month position, 1.0 FTE, Step 4 (prorated) as per the 2000-2005 Secretarial Clerical Salary Schedule effective October 17, 2005.
8. The 1.0 FTE assignment, increased from 0.7 FTE assignment, of Charles Thomas, Night Cleaner assigned to Osborn School, effective November 1, 2005.
9. The Appointment of Frank Reames as a Cleaner (Nights) with a probationary

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period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifth-two weeks, assigned to Rye High School, on Step 1 of the 2005-2006 custodial Unit Salary Schedule, plus night differential, pro-rated, plus night differential, effective November 7, 2005.

10. The Appointment of Anthony Maida as a Cleaner (Nights) with a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifth-two weeks, assigned to Rye High School, on Step 1 of the 2005-2006 custodial Unit Salary Schedule, plus night differential, pro-rated, plus night differential, effective November 7, 2005.
11. The resolution to approve Extra Pay for Extra Work assignments for the 2005-2006 School Year for the Rye Middle School Jr. National Honor Society, per the attached. (Attachment IV)

Action – Special Education

1. The recommendation of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from its meeting of May 9, 2005 for Student ID#552; from its meeting of September 7, 2005 for Student ID#618; and from its meeting of September 6, 2005 for Student ID#567; and from its meeting of October 3, 2005 for Student ID#494.
2. The recommendation of the Section 504 Committee from its meeting of September 15, 2005 for Student ID#520.
3. The recommendation of the Committee on Special Education from its meeting of September 19, 2005 for Student ID#330; from its meetings of September 20, 2005 for Students ID#911664 and 911409; from its meetings of October 03, 2005 for Students ID#061820, 911499, and 911937; from its meetings of October 6, 2005 for Students ID#911378, 642, 911607, 911882, and 911514.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

The minutes of the October 11, 2005 and October 25, 2005 were removed to be brought back with suggested changes at the next meeting of the Board.

Strategic Plan Components

It was decided to move this action item to the Presentation/Discussion portion of the meeting.

Litigation Authorization

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously, 7-0, it was voted to approve the recommendation to authorize LePatner & Associates to initiate legal action against Xavier Contracting, LLC. (Attachment V)

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Fuel Oil Bid

It was determined that the action item regarding the fuel oil bid would be removed from the agenda entirely.

Personnel Item Regarding Employee 505

On a motion by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Ms. Sterling and carried 5-1-1 with Mr. Feeney voting no and Mr. Nathan abstaining, it was voted to accept an agreement with Employee #505 that reads "Be it resolved that the Board hereby approves the terms of and authorizes its President to execute an Agreement with the Rye Teachers Association on behalf of one of its member teachers (Employee No. 505) dated the 28th day of October, 2005, as presented to the Board at this meeting. A copy of said Agreement shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting." (Attachment VI)

Personnel Item Regarding Administrator Contracts

It was decided to table this agenda item and possibly return to it following an executive session.

SEPARATE ACTION ITEMSSchool District Audit

Mr. Les Storch of the Bennett Kielson Storch DeSantis Division of O'Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins, LLP, reviewed the audit of the 2004-2005 school year financial audit.

On a motion by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Ms. Sterling and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to accept and approve the Audit as submitted. (Attachment VII)

Financial Reports

With thanks to Ann Povella and the business office for their work, on a motion by Mr. Zahm, noting the importance of both statutory and operational reports, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0), it was voted to accept the School District Monthly Financial Reports, per the attached. (Attachment VIII)

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine reported on Lion's Club and Con Edison named athletes, and other student awards and athletic accomplishments. He thanked Dr. McCann and Dr. Dituri, department chairs and coordinators, and principals for all their work leading to a successful Professional Development Day, and closed with the reminder that all schools would be holding open houses the next day in honor of American Education Week.

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PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

It was suggested and agreed to by the Board to reverse the agenda order of discussion items to begin with the construction project update.

Construction Update

Representatives of Andron Construction gave an oral report on the time line of work at the elementary schools.

ADDITION TO AGENDA

Osborn Driveway Change Order

On a motion by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Ms. Sterling and carried unanimously (7-0) it was agreed to add a change order for work on the Osborn driveway on the Post Road to the agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve a change directive for work on the rear driveway of Osborn school in an amount not to exceed \$19,999.99.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

Milton School Timeline

Representatives of Andron continued with their presentation, reviewing the timeline for work at Milton School.

Mr. Shunter, of Andron, indicated that the new construction schedule indicates that Milton will not be complete until October 2006. Board members requested a commitment to completion for the opening of school in September. Mr. Shunter responded by indicating that Andron was exploring ways to tighten the schedule but the weather is unpredictable. Andron will have a better idea around March, 2006.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Feeney, seconded by Ms. Sterling and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:40 to adjourn into executive session for the discussion of particular personnel and negotiations.

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 11:05 p.m. to reconvene in public.

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ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDAAdministrator Contracts

On a motion by Mr. Pratt, seconded by Ms. Sterling and carried 5-0-2 with Mr. Nathan and Mr. Fox abstaining, it was voted to approve the resolution authorizing the President of the Board to execute an agreement setting forth the terms and conditions of employment for Dr. Edward J. Shine. (Attachment IXa); and the resolution authorizing the President of the Board to execute an agreement setting forth the terms and conditions of employment for Dr. Daniel T. McCann. (Attachment IXb) and the resolution authorizing the President of the Board to execute an agreement setting forth the terms and conditions of employment for Mr. Robert G. Walsh, Jr.. (Attachment IXc).

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Mr. Pratt and carried unanimously, it was voted at 11:11 p.m. to adjourn into executive session for the discussion of particular personnel.

On a motion by Ms. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously, it was voted at 11:42 p.m. to reconvene in public.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSIONStrategic Plan

After a series of failed motions on the mission, beliefs, objectives and parameters of the recommended Strategic Plan, it was determined, on a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Zahm, and carried 5-1 with Ms. Sterling voting no, to table further discussion and action on the Mission, Beliefs, Objectives and Parameters of the recommended Strategic Plan previously removed from the Consent Agenda.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Feeney, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried 5-1 with Ms. Sterling opposed it was voted at 1:05 a.m. to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Ferrari
District Clerk