

**MINUTES**  
**RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION**  
**Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room**  
**November 22, 2005**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 7:32 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

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

On a motion by Ms. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted to adjourn immediately into executive session for the discussion of a negotiations item under the Taylor Law.

\* *arrived 7:45 p.m.*

\*\* *arrived 9:40 p.m.*

At 7:55 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Pratt, 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**

There were no questions or comments from the public.

**WORK SESSION**

Mr. Culyer invited Dr. Shine to introduce the agenda item, Enrollment Projections and Middle School/High School Space, and to provide an overview of the information provided in the Board agenda packet.

Dr. Shine indicated that the presentation of this information on enrollment and space issues was an annual event in the District, providing important information used for staffing and space needs. Dr. Shine provided the following summary of information:

(continued)

- The October 2005 October enrollment was 2,830, with a projection of 2,844.
- Midland's actual enrollment was 523 [P=559]; Milton's enrollment was 328 [P=333]; and Osborn's enrollment was 573 [P=551].
- The middle school enrollment was 661 [P=669].
- The high school enrollment was 745 [P=733]
- The elementary school enrollment will be flat for a few years and then decline to 1363 in 2010.
- The middle school enrollment will continue modest growth from 661 to 698 in 2010.
- The high school, currently at 745, will grow to 851 in 2010 and 885 in 2014.
- With the additions and alterations to Midland and Osborn now completed classroom [homeroom] space for the enrollment now exists and so does other space to support the educational program
- The current Milton construction schedule places construction there complete in October 2006.
- Fletcher Thompson's 2003 middle school/high school capacity study indicated that, with the current program, the middle and high school would be at 85% capacity when the enrollment reached 1,455.
- The administration should develop a plan to place space into use for classrooms by September 2007, consider a staggered scheduled for 2008 or a zero and 10<sup>th</sup> period to the school day and/or some combination thereof; and finally portable classrooms may be needed for the peak enrollment of 1550, based on current projections.
- Dr. Shine indicated that the administration would provide additional information to the Board on a timeline for the middle school and high school and estimated costs to re-claim rooms for instruction by the end of January 2006 and on the elementary schools options to balance enrollment by the end of June 2006.
- Board member discussion on the elementary schools encouraged investigations into flexible attendance areas-re-districting rather than the traditional methodology; a review of the Princeton plan, bussing, balancing the enrollment of the schools; a historical preference for neighborhood schools and looking a the special treatment /placement of kindergarten students.

At the conclusion on the Work Session Topic Mr. Culyer reminded the Board that there was one action item to considered.

### **ACTION ITEM**

#### **Approval of the 2005-2006 Strategic Plan and Resolution**

Dr. Shine reviewed the issues of the Strategic Plan discussions at previous meetings and noted his recommendation to the Board that the members vote to approve all seven items in his recommendation (as attached).

(continued)

Mr. Nathan moved and Mr. Pratt seconded the motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation, noting the additions made to the parameters.

Mr. Zahm asked for discussion of the parameter concerning the Rye City School District's performance always being among the best in Westchester, asking if that was the highest standard. He asked if the standard should be schools in the State of New York. After discussion, Board members agreed that the present language would stay, noting a suggestion for the Strategic Planning Team to look at this matter at its next meeting.

Mr. Culyer called for the vote on the motion which was approved 5-1-1 with Mr. Feeney voting no and Ms. Sterling abstaining.

Adjournment

At 9:56 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded to Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to adjourn the meeting.

Edward J. Shine  
Superintendent of Schools