

**MINUTES**  
**RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room**  
**February 27, 2007**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 7:10 PM and the roll was called.

Present

Mr. James Culyer, *President*  
Mr. George Cady  
Mr. Edward Fox  
Ms. Laura Slack  
Mr. Michael White

Excused

Mr. Joshua Nathan  
Mr. Robert Zahm

And Dr. Edward Shine, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Steven Cohen, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Karen Chapman, Assistant Superintendent

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted to adjourn immediately into Executive Session for the review of the employment history of current and prospective employees, the discussion of negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law, and litigation strategy.

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted at 8:13 PM 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

Ms. Kim Abate, Midland School PTO Co-President, addressed the Board on the subject of enrollment balance.

Mr. Bertrand de Frondeville asked the Board to revisit the utility service tax and suggested that it be made a question on the ballot.

Ms. Lisa Murphy, Rye realtor, reiterated the support the Board could get from the realtor community in terms of enrollment information.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Culyer announced that Action-Fiscal Items 2, Approval of Treasurer's Report for the Period ending December 31, 2006 and 5, Approval of Contract with Indian Head Camp, would be removed from the consent agenda.

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On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted to approve the following items:

**Action – General**

1. The gift of weight training equipment valued at \$15,470.00 as listed on the attached. (Attachment I)

**Action – Fiscal**

1. The Financial Statements required by the Single Audit Act OMB Circular A-133 for the year ended June 30, 2006. (Attachment II)
2. Budget Transfer Schedule for the month of December, 2006. (Attachment III)
3. Warrants #22, 23, 24 and 25 for the month of December, 2006. (Attachment IV)

The Board discussed but was not required to act on the Cost Center summary of Adjusted Appropriations and Disbursements and Encumbrances as of December 31, 2007.

**Action – Personnel**

1. The request by Alison Gordon for an unpaid Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher assigned to Osborn School, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
2. The resignation of Michelle Ruiz as a food Service Worker effective February 12, 2007.
3. The appointment of Timothy Lester as a Cleaner (Days) 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 2006-2007 custodial Unit Slary Schedule, Pro-Rated, effective February 26, 2007.
4. The probationary Appointment of Lynn Ferguson-Mastalli as a Senior Office Assistant (Automated Systems), with a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifty-two weeks effective February 28, 2007.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Shine commended three middle school students who qualified for the next level of the Reader's Digest Work Power Challenge, the New York State championship. They will next compete with 97 other state students for the title of State champion. Dr. Shine noted that the varsity ice hockey team was playing at the same time as the meeting

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in the Section 1 championship. He thanked Community Service Coordinator, Jane Mickatavage, for her work with high school students in planning and providing an all day sports event for Rye elementary students, saying that the sport day was coming up Sunday in the next weekend. Dr. Shine reminded those present that the following weekend, March 9 and 10, was the performance of Rye High School Theater's "Once Upon a Mattress" and provided ticket information, noting that the curtain would be at 8 p.m. both evenings/. In closing, Dr. Shine commended Osborn Music Teacher, Mashall Toppo, for planning a special dress rehearsal event and inviting Rye's Senior Citizens to attend.

### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEM**

#### **Continuing Discussion of the 2007-2009 Draft Budget**

1. Dr. Shine presented information and responded to Board questions on information individual members had requested, as did Dr. Chapman.
2. Dr. Shine presented a new way to evaluate programs on a per capita basis and also reviewed a sheet with similar information prepared by Mr. Zahm.\

Mary Beth Lubeck reiterated previous requests for budget detail to include teachers, grade levels and sections; Martin Gerson said that he felt the Board had overbudgeted expenses and underbudgeted revenue and that a 4% tax rate increase would be adequate; Bertrand de Frondeville requested that the Board re-stand the Budget Analysis Committee and advocated for the inclusion of the International Baccalaureate Degree program at Rye High School. Kendall Egan said she agreed with the way the audit reflected district finances as pertained particularly to tax certioraris and the Osborn Home litigation.

### **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

The Board determined that it wished to remove the Treasurer's Report for the Period ending December 31, 2007 and the contract with Indian Head Camp from the agenda entirely.

### **COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM THE BOARD**

Mr. Culyer reviewed Mr. Zahm's communication to the board regarding the timing of the report to the Board by the Math Committee. A majority of Board members did not wish to consider this change.

#### **Adjournment**

On a motion by Mr. White, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 10:18 p.m. to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Ferrari  
District Clerk