

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
April 17, 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. Joshua Nathan, *Vice President*
Mr. George Cady
Mr. Edward Fox
Ms. Laura Slack
Mr. Michael White*
Mr. Robert Zahm

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

* Arrived 9:00 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to adjourn into executive session for the review of the employment history of current and prospective employees and negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law.

On a motion by Mr. Cady, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 8:25 p.m. to reconvene in public.

Hearing of the Public

John Cotter, representing the Rye Fire Department, thanked the Board for its time in learning about the mock drunk driving accident program they offered, and expressed their disappointment that they received no response from any Rye High School official. He said they felt they had exhausted all avenues to try to make this program available to the high school and said the offer would always be on the table for the future.

Dr. Shine said that he did have a conversation and communicated with Dr. Rooney, asking him to follow up. He said he would like to believe that there had been a discussion about the program, and that all he could do was go back to Dr. Rooney and enquire. He said he knew that Athletic Director, Rob Castagna, had been involved in discussion of this and other programs.

Mr. Culyer thanked Mr. Cotter and said he and Dr. Shine would look into it and get back to him.

Kim Abate and Mary Beth Lubeck, Midland and Osborn PTO Co-Presidents, said

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they wanted to reiterate to the Board how important class size is to their schools and parents. They noted specific classes that were at guideline and that parents were very concerned about this.

Mr. Culyer responded that class size is very important to the Board and that Dr. Shine made them aware of every change that occurred.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Culyer said that Action-General items 1, 4, and 5, and Action-Fiscal items 4 and 5 would be removed from the Consent Agenda for later discussion or action, and that Action-Fiscal item 1, Approval of contract with Fuller & D'Angelo, would be removed entirely since it was previously approved by the Board.

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (6-0) the following items were approved:

Action-General

1. The minutes of the meeting of the Board of March 15, 2007 as amended to show that Mr. Fox was present.
2. The minutes of the meeting of the Board of March 27, 2007.

Action – Fiscal

1. The contract with the Harrison Central School District for student health services for the 2006-2007 school year. (Attachment I)
2. The contract with the Mamaroneck Union Free School District for student health services for the 2006-2007 school year. (Attachment II)
3. The contract with Educational Data Services, Inc. for the 2007-2008 school year for consumable school supplies. (Attachment III)

Action – Personnel

1. The tenure recommendation of Shirley K. Klein, as Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification as School Administrator/Supervisor (SAS) and School District Administrator (SDA), effective August 1, 2007.
2. The tenure recommendation of Clarita Zeppie, as an Elementary School Principal, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification as School Administrator/Supervisor (SAS), effective July 1, 2007.

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3. The tenure recommendation of Jennifer Keegan, as a Reading Teacher, assigned to Midland School, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Pre-Kindergarten – 6 and New York State Permanent Certification as a Reading Teacher, effective September 1, 2007.
4. The tenure recommendation of Michele McCumber in the General Education Tenure Area assigned to Midland School, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Pre-Kindergarten – 6 and Special Education K-12, effective September 1, 2007.
5. The tenure recommendation of Jacquelyn Benfari in the General Education Tenure Area assigned to Osborn School, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Pre-Kindergarten – 6, effective September 1, 2007.
6. The tenure recommendation of Frances Coleman in the School Psychologist Tenure Area assigned to Osborn and Rye Middle School for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification as School Psychologist, effective September 1, 2007.
7. The tenure recommendation of Cheryl Gelsomino in the General Education Tenure Area assigned to Osborn School, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification Pre-Kindergarten – 6, effective September 1, 2007.
8. The tenure recommendation of Katherine Hoffmann as an English Language Learner Teacher assigned to Osborn School, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Teacher of English to Speakers of Other Languages, effective September 1, 2007.
9. The tenure recommendation of Randall McCumber as a Physical Education Teacher assigned to Osborn School, for which he holds New York State Provisional Certification in Physical Education, effective September 1, 2007.
10. The tenure recommendation of Deborah Sherman in the General Education Tenure Area assigned to Osborn School, for which she holds New York State Provisional Certification in Pre-Kindergarten – 6, effective September 1, 2007.
11. The tenure recommendation of Amy Young in the General Education Tenure Area assigned to Osborn School, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Pre-Kindergarten – 6, effective September 1, 2007.
12. The tenure recommendation of John Aguilar as a Mathematics Teacher assigned to Rye Middle School, for which he holds New York State Permanent

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Certification in Mathematics 7-12, effective September 1, 2007.

13. The tenure recommendation of April Colarusso as an English Teacher assigned to Rye Middle School, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in English 7-12, effective September 1, 2007.
14. The tenure recommendation of Marilyn Marzo as a Foreign Language Teacher assigned to Rye Middle School, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Spanish 7-12, effective September 1, 2007.
15. The tenure recommendation of Paul Blank as a Special Education Teacher assigned to Rye School of Leadership, for which he holds New York State Permanent Certification in Special Education, effective September 1, 2007.
16. The tenure recommendation of Stephanie DeMartini as a Social Studies Teacher assigned to Rye High School, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Social Studies 7-12, effective September 1, 2007.
17. The tenure recommendation of Brittany Foster as an English Teacher assigned to Rye High School, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in English Language Arts 7-12, effective September 1, 2007.
18. The tenure recommendation of Diane Harrington as a School Library Media Specialist assigned to Rye High School, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in School Media Specialist (Library), effective September 1, 2007.
19. The tenure recommendation of Jennifer Johnson as a Spanish Teacher assigned to Rye High School, for which she holds New York State Provisional Certification in Spanish 7-12, effective September 1, 2007.
20. The tenure recommendation of Geri Jones as a Social Studies Teacher, assigned to Rye School of Leadership, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Social Studies 7-12, effective September 1, 2007.
21. The tenure recommendation of Alanna Kramerson as a Social Studies Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, for which she holds New York State Provisional Certification in Social Studies 7-12, effective September 1, 2007.
22. The tenure recommendation of Judd Rothstein as a Social Studies Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Social Studies 7-12, effective September 1, 2007.

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23. The tenure recommendation of Sara Teimorzadeh, as a Social Studies Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Social Studies 7-12, effective September 1, 2007.
24. The resignation due to retirement of Mary Mooney as a Science Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, effective June 30, 2007.
25. The resignation of Susan Barr, a 3rd Grade Teacher, assigned to Midland School, effective June 30, 2007.
26. The resignation of Megan Medeiros, a Math Teacher, assigned to Rye Middle School, effective June 30, 2007.
27. The request by Monica Goldstein for an unpaid Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as an English Teacher assigned to Rye High School, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
28. The following appointments for 6th Assignment or Additional Pay Beyond Annual Salary in accordance with the current collective bargaining agreement:

6th ASSIGNMENT OR ADDITIONAL PAY BEYOND ANNUAL SALARY

NAME	START DATE	END DATE	ACTIVITY	CONTRACT RATE	% of BASE SALARY
Matthew Beckley	1/2/07	3/30/07	Wellness	\$1,591.00	2.5%
Michael Bruno	1/2/07	3/30/07	Wellness	\$1948.00	2.5%
Kelly Duffy	1/29/07	3/30/07	Wellness	\$1,664.00	2.5% prorated
Mary Henwood	1/2/07	3/30/07	Wellness	\$2,799.00	2.5%
Total				\$8,002.00	

29. The termination of Eugenia Vita as a Food Service Worker, effective April 9, 2007.
30. The resignation of Michael McSherry as a Food Service Worker, effective April 17, 2007.
31. The resignation of Marco Ruesta as a Food Service Worker, effective April 25, 2007.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine reported on the impact of flooding on school buildings, including leaks
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in some sections of new roofs and windows at Milton School, the water seepage from the courtyard at Osborn into the building, flooding in the north wing tunnel at Midland School, the disconnection of electricity at the administration building, and the damage to the turf field at Rye High School/Middle School. He said the field house boiler was under water and it was unknown yet if it could be salvaged or would have to be replaced, and that there was a foot and one-half of water in the fitness center and four feet of water under the stage in the Performing Arts Center. He said the boiler room at the high school was pumped out into the parking lot but that water went right back in; but that it was now dry. He said the roof over the Rye Middle School gym had leaked. He also noted that Nextel service was out, making the District's emergency communication system inoperable.

Dr. Shine then thanked Dan Valentine for going to Teeterboro New Jersey to pick up the equipment required by Con Edison to restore electricity to the administration building so that it could be repaired immediately, Steve Freer for his swift response to the problems created by the flooding, and the District custodians for working through the night to ensure that the District didn't lose its mechanical systems through the flooding.

Dr. Shine said that in the next four weeks a written report would be provided on these situations so that there could be an evaluation of what need to be done to rectify any problems.

Mr. Culyer thanked Dr. Shine, District administrators, and the custodians for keeping the District "afloat" and working hard to enable schools to be open that day, stating that the community is lucky to have the staff it has in the schools.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Culyer noted that approved within the Consent Agenda was the retirement resignation of Mary Mooney, science teacher at Rye High School, effective at the end of the school year. He expressed appreciation and gratitude for Ms. Mooney's 32 years of dedication and commitment and said that, on behalf of the Board, he wished her well in her retirement.

April 12, 2007 Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried 5-0-1 with Mr. Zahm abstaining because he was not present at the meeting, the minutes of the April 12, 2007 meeting of the Board were approved.

Banking Services

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve the recommendation to name Commerce Bank as the District's primary bank of record and to move the General Fund Accounts to Commerce Bank and any others as deemed appropriate for July, 2007. (Attachment IV)

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Bids for Infrastructure Projects, \$10 Million Bond

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve the bids for HAC, Plumbing and Electrical Contracts for the Infrastructure work at all four buildings in the District in accordance with the recommendation letters from Greyhawk; awards for HVAC to Mengler Mechanical Inc. for \$3,260,000.00; for plumbing to Mengler Mechanical, Inc. for \$163,000.00; and for electrical to Solar Electrical systems, Inc. for \$2,253,400.00. (Attachment V)

Board Policy 5110

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to table further discussion on proposed changes to Board policy 5110 to the next meeting of the Board.

2007 – 2008 School District Budget

Dr. Jim Rooney explained the process of student enrollment at Rye High School. Doug Tuttle, Chair of the Rye High School Math Department and Coordinator of the Math Committee, reviewed the recommendations of the Committee pertaining to the budget.

Dr. Shine reviewed the staffing changes in the preliminary budget.

Subsequent to Board discussion on the proposed 2007-2008 School District budget, Mr. Culyer opened discussion to members of the public, with Bertrand de Frondeville and Martin Gerson speaking in favor of a reduced budget-to-budget increase, Josephine Tice, Kim Abate, Kendall Egan, Young Kim, and Sheri DeGraw expressing support for the budget, and Catherine Pacos speaking in favor of reallocating funds.

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to adopt the 2007-2008 school year budget in the amount of \$64,949,000.00 to support the educational program of the district for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. (Attachment VI)

Adjournment

Mr. Culyer reminded those present that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled for April 24, 8:00 PM in the Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room.

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 11:30 PM to adjourn into executive session to continue discussion begun at the prior executive session.

On a motion by Mr. White, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 12:00 AM to reconvene in public and adjourn the meeting..

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Ferrari
District Clerk