

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
April 24, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 7:06 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

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to adjourn into executive session for the discussion of litigation strategy and to review the employment history of current and prospective employees.

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to reconvene in public.

Extra Mile Award

Mr. Culyer welcomed those present and said that Mr. Nathan would present the Board's Extra Mile Award.

Mr. Nathan presented the Award to the Midland Caring Committee in appreciation of all the families and individuals they had helped over the past four years, to founding coordinators, Susan Gould and Arlana Anderson, and current coordinators, Sandy Samberg and Paola Ballentine.

Ms. Gould, on behalf of all the recipients, thanked the Board and expressed their appreciation for everyone who had helped respond to the needs of Midland families over the years.

Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

Jeanne Sinnott said she asked Board members to be role models to young people, to dress appropriately, look professional, and salute the flag before every meeting. She requested the development of a school dress code, a concentration on English before the study of other languages, an evidence of more morality and respect for others, and an enforcement of laws that keep young people safe.

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Robert Schubert said he had never received written comment or rebuttal on remarks he had made to the Board. He said that the community had suffered with the weather and it was time for the administration to rethink the budget and expenditures and review priorities, asking if it was appropriate to continue with budget increases and with the plans to construct the Milton School gymnasium. He said he implored the Board to re-evaluate the budget with an eye to amelioration by reducing it to a 4% increase.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Culyer announced that Action-General items 2, 3 and 5 would be removed from the Consent Agenda.

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

Action – General

1. The minutes of the April 14, 2007 joint meeting of the Rye City Council and the Board of Education.
2. Mr. Culyer's request to attend the National School Boards Association Teaching and Learning Technology Conference October 17-19, 2007 in Nashville, Tennessee. (Attachment I)
3. The gift from an anonymous donor in the amount of \$10,000.00 to the Burke Family Scholarship for the Rye City School District. (Attachment II)
4. The gift from the Midland School PTO in the amount of \$2,243.43 for the Jarrid Amico Scholarship Fund. (Attachment III)
5. A gift in the amount of \$5,000.00 from Mr. Bob Neihaus and Mr. George Cady to upgrade approximately 40 yards of chain link fence and gate along the Post Road at Rye High School with a black clad aluminum fence that would look like wrought iron. This donation would cover the incremental expense for this type of fence above the cost of replacing the chain link fence damaged by the flood of April 2007. (Attachment IV)

Action – Fiscal

1. The Treasurer's report for the period ending March 31, 2007. (Attachment Va)
2. Budget Transfer #14 and 15 to cover the cost of the SAT prep course and Budget Transfer #16 to cover the cost of homebound instruction, in hospital and out-patient tutoring for various students. All three transfers are for the 2006-2007 school year budget. (Attachment Vb)

(continued)

3. The Budget Transfer Schedule for the month of March, 2007. (Attachment Vc)
4. Warrants #35, 36, 37 and 39. (Attachment IId)
5. A contract with the Scarsdale Union Free School District for student health services for the 2006-2007 school year. (Attachment Ve)

Action – Personnel

1. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Mary Anzalone as a 2nd Grade Teacher, assigned to Midland School, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certifications in Nursery-Grade 6 and in Special Education, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 13 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule (prorated) effective April 23, 2007 – June 30, 2007
2. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Nicole Guerra as a 3rd Grade Teacher, assigned to Midland School, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Pre Kindergarten-Grade 6, 1.0 FTE MA Step 5 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule (prorated) effective April 23, 2007 – June 30, 2007
3. The resignation due to retirement of Elizabeth Savage as a Senior Library Clerk, assigned to Rye High School, effective June 30, 2007.

Action – Special Education

1. The recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from its meetings of January 25, 2007 for Students ID#817 and 819; from its meetings of January 29, 2007 for Students ID#696 and 614; from its meeting of February 1, 2007 for Student ID#821; from its meeting of February 8, 2007 for Student ID#825; from its meetings of February 15, 2007 for Students ID#721 and 748; from its meeting of March 14, 2007 for Student ID#851; from its meeting of March 15, 2007 for Student ID#841; from its meeting of March 28, 2007 for Student ID#845, from its meeting of March 29, 2007 for Student ID#835; from its meeting of March 30, 2007 for Student ID#829; and from its meeting of March 14, 2007 for Student ID#850.
2. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meeting of March 23, 2006 for Student ID#318; from its meeting of May 8, 2006 for Student ID#689; from its meeting of September 28, 2006 for Student ID#709; from its meeting of November 20, 2006 for Student ID#706; from its meeting of January 3, 2007 for Student ID#911582; from its meetings of March 26, 2007 for Students ID#846 and 402.

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REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine reported on an English Language Arts program at Rye Middle School, gave the Board an update on the turf field and noted that he had spoken to City Manager, Paul Shew who informed him that the federal government had made a partial declaration that Rye is a disaster area but that this declaration covered families, not entities, with financial help. Dr. Shine said he would like to thank all the families in Rye who were helping those who suffered in the storm and that he especially thanked the Osborn School PTO for those help to families in need.

Dr. Shine reminded everyone that voter registration would take place the next day between 4 and 8 p.m. in the administration building. He also said that it is hard to believe that the schools are in the fourth quarter of the school year, and that the office would compile a list of the many events and activities that traditionally take place in the last months of school for Board member review.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Culyer noted that on the Consent Agenda the Board had approved the retirement resignation of Elizabeth Savage as Senior Library Clerk assigned to Rye High School effective June 30, 2007, thanking Ms. Savage for her years of dedicated service to the District.

Mr. Culyer said that the Board had also approved three gifts to the District, listing the gifts and thanking the donors for their generosity.

2007 – 2008 Estimated Administrative Budget for the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES)

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve the BOCES 2007-2008 Estimated Administrative Budget in the amount of \$7,739,933.00. (Attachment VI)

BOCES Board Members

On a motion by Mr. Cady, seconded by Mr. White and carried 4-0-3 with Mr. Nathan, Mr. Fox and Mr. Zahm abstaining, it was voted to approve the election of Nancy A. Fisher, Georgia Riedel and Joseph Wooley as trustees on the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services for the time period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010. (Attachment VII)

Board of Education Policy 5110

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to table action on proposed revisions to Board of Education Policy 5110 to the next meeting and suggested that the Board Policy Committee review wording suggested during discussion to further revise the policy.

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INFORMATION ITEMS

The Board discussed the financial items presented for information.

COMMUNICATION ITEMS

Mr. Zahm announced that he will run for re-election to the Board. Mr. White announced that he will not run for re-election.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:40 p.m. to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Ferrari
District Clerk