

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
May 15, 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

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Zahm 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, the discussion of negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law, and the discussion of legal strategy.

On a motion by Mr. Cady, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 8:09 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

There were no questions or comments from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Culyer called for a motion to add a personnel item to the agenda. On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to add the appointment of Ms. Kathleen Ryan as School Business Official to the agenda as Personnel Item 5.

Mr. Culyer noted that Action-General Item 2, Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement with the Rye Teachers' Association Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit; and Action-Fiscal Item 5, Budget Transfer #20, would be removed from the Consent Agenda.

(continued)

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

Action – General

1. The minutes of the meeting of the Board of May 1, 2007, as written.
2. The construction change directives for Milton School as listed on the attached. (Attachment I)
3. The Advanced Placement Biology Curriculum, as presented. (Attachment II)
4. The gift of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Niehaus of \$20,000.00 to the Niehaus Family Scholarship Fund for the Rye City School District to be given to five students at \$4,000.00 each, three students from the Class of 2006 and two students from the Class of 2007. (Attachment III)
5. The gift of the Rye High School Parents' Organization of a SMART Board for the Art Lab, valued at \$4,363 including installation and set up. (Attachment IV)
6. The appointment of Pat Basso and Regina Wilkes as additional election inspectors for the May 15, 2007 Board of Education election and budget vote. (Attachment V)

Action – Fiscal

1. The Treasurer's Report for the Period Ending April 30, 2007. (Attachment VI)
2. Budget Transfer #17 in the amount of \$5,049.00 to cover the cost of stenographer fees for an impartial hearing with funds transferred from special education summer school. (Attachment VII)
3. Budget Transfer #18 in the amount of \$10,351.00 to cover the cost of consultant work from staff development consultants and mathematics, and curriculum ASC science equipment and ASC equipment. (Attachment VIII)
4. Budget Transfer #19 in the amount of \$7,125.00 to cover the cost of BOCES Institute for Excellence in Education (Coser 555) not budgeted, with funds transferred from staff development consultants and instructional materials. (Attachment IX)
5. Budget Transfer #21 in the amount of \$28,188.00 to cover the cost of BOCES comprehensive support for May and June that was not fully funded for the 2006-2007 school year, with funds transferred from special education public tuition and summer school. (Attachment X)
6. Budget Transfer Schedule #22 in the amount of \$45,400.00 to cover the cost of architectural services for capital repairs planned in the 2007-2008 budget with funds transferred from district-wide maintenance and repairs (to transfer to capital to receive maximum state aid). (Attachment XI)
7. The Budget Transfer Schedule for the month of April, 2007. (Attachment XII)

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8. Warrants # 41, 42 and 43 for the month of April, 2007. (Attachment XIII)
9. The proposal from Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, LLP for Financial Advisory Services for preparation for sale of BANS/Bond for the \$10 million bond passed by the community in October. (Attachment XIV)
10. The agreement with Capital Markets Advisors, LLC for Financial Advisory Services for preparation for sale of BANS/Bond for the \$10 million bond passed by the community in October. (Attachment XV)
11. The contract with the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development for services to commence and terminate on September 4, 2007. (Attachment XVI)

Action – Personnel

1. The resignation due to retirement of Anthony DeCristofaro as a Science Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, effective July 1, 2007.
2. The request by Jennifer Bruton for an unpaid Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as 2nd Grade Teacher assigned to Milton School, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
3. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Rosemary Klein as an Elementary Teacher for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Childhood Education Grades 1-6, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, BA Step 3, of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
4. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Jessica Hollander as an Elementary Teacher, for which she holds New York State Provisional Certification in PreK-6 and New York State Provisional Certification as a Reading Teacher, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, MA+30, Step 5, of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
5. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Christiana Tauss as an Elementary Teacher, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification PreK-6, assigned to Milton School, 1.0 FTE, MA, Step 5, of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
6. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Gregory Moraitis as an Elementary Teacher, for which he holds New York State Initial Certification K-6, assigned to Midland School, 1.0 FTE, MA, Step 4, of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
7. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Jaime Saracino as an Elementary Teacher, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Early Childhood Education Birth – Grade 2 and New York State Initial Certification in Childhood Education Grades 1-6, assigned to Midland School, 1.0 FTE, MA +15, Step 3, of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.

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8. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Dana Emond as an Elementary Teacher, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Early Childhood Education Birth – Grade 2 and New York State Initial Certification in Childhood Education Grades 1-6, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, MA, Step 3, of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
9. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Ellen Litt as an Elementary Teacher, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification N-6 and New York State Permanent Certification as a Reading Teacher, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, MA, Step 7, of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
10. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Melissa Lindsay as an Elementary Teacher, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Early Childhood Education Birth – Grade 2 and New York State Initial Certification in Childhood Education Grades 1-6, assigned to Midland School, 1.0 FTE, MA, Step 3, of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
11. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Amy Carman as an Elementary Teacher, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Pre-K-6, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, MA, Step 7, of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
12. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Thomas Bailey as an Elementary Teacher for which he holds New York State Initial Certification in Childhood Education Grades 1-6, assigned to Milton School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 4, of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
13. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Ori Boyum as an Elementary for which he holds New York State Permanent Certification in PreK-6, 1.0 FTE, MA, Step 6 of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
14. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Noelle Mongello as an Elementary Teacher-At-Large, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Early Childhood Education Birth – Grade 2 and New York State Initial Certification in Childhood Education Grades 1-6, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 2/3 of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, \$59,368*, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
15. The following appointments for Extra Pay for Extra Work. (Attachment XVII)

NAME	STEP	ACTIVITY
Pat DeRosa	6	Environmental Club
Anthony Savarese	6	Assistant to JV Boys LaCrosse
Total		

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16. The appointment of Kathleen Ryan as Probationary School Business Official effective July 1, 2007.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Budget Transfer #20

Mr. Culyer asked District Treasurer, Anne Povella, to review the details of Budget Transfer #20. She did so, indicating that the majority of the funds transferred should be expected to be reimbursed through insurance payments, and subsequent to further Board discussion, on a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve Budget Transfer #20 in the amount of \$121,300.00 to cover the cost of the insurance deductibles for flood damage (2 x \$25,000.00), high school, middle school, Midland and Osborn heating repairs, boiler rentals, district wide maintenance, and high school paper supplies, with funds transferred from high school, middle school, Midland and Osborn electric and high school, middle school, Milton and Midland fuel oil accounts. (Attachment XVIII)

Ratification of Memorandum of Agreement

After discussion, on a motion by Mr. Cady, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to ratify the provisions of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Rye Teachers' Association (Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit, dated April 19, 2007, and appropriate those monies necessary to fund those provisions of the 2005-2010 Collectively Negotiated Agreement between the parties. (Attachment XIX)

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine reported that recently Osborn fifth grade teachers accepted the invitation of Assemblyman George Latimer to tour the State Capitol in Albany. He noted that the fifth graders visited the State Museum and met Mr. Latimer for a personal tour of the State Capitol Building and that later, Mr. Latimer invited the students to sit in the seats of the NY Assembly while he explained how the assembly discusses bills that can someday become laws for New York State. Dr. Shine said that this was a great opportunity for our students and that the District thanked Mr. Latimer.

Dr. Shine said that the previous Monday night, seventy students from Rye Middle School and Louis M Klein Middle School in Harrison participated in the Second Annual Rye-Harrison Spelling Bee organized by Peter Gouviea, Rye Middle School English Language Arts Coordinator and his counterpart in Harrison. Dr. Shine noted that a great time was had by all the competitors, and I am pleased to tell you that Rye took home the top three places in the competition. He said that first place went to Benno Stein, Grade 8, second place went to Taylor Love, Grade 7, and third place went to Roxie Pell, Grade 8. The students received trophies and certificates, and prizes donated by the Rotary Club of Rye.

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Dr. Shine said that also at Rye Middle School, seventh graders, as part of their Living Environment curriculum, have been studying arthropods, with a focus on the complete process of metamorphosis. He said that the students wanted to observe this process first hand, so their teacher, Debra Davis-Galliard, obtained Painted Lady caterpillars, no more than 1 centimeter in length. The students watched them grow, create a chrysalis, watched the chrysalis emerge, turn into a liquid, and reform into a butterfly. He said that the previous week, the students released the butterflies from the middle school courtyard, feeling very fortunate to have personally and scientifically observed the entire process.

Dr. Shine said he was pleased to report that 45 Rye High School juniors received book awards this month in recognition of their achievement throughout their high school career. These awards, he noted, were contributed by colleges, universities and alumni of the sponsoring schools and presented by faculty members. He said that Mr. Cady represented the Board and that it was a very positive evening for all the students.

Dr. Shine said he had just been informed that Rye High School senior, Lindy Smalt, is receiving a Girls Scout Gold Award, scouting's highest achievement equivalent to the Boy Scout Eagle Award. He said that Lindy's project was "The History of the Future." She interviewed current Rye teenagers and plans to preserve their history and experience, donating her research to the Rye Historical Society, so there is a record for future generations of Rye residents about their ancestors, presently teenagers.

In closing, Dr. Shine reminded everyone present that because the allotment of emergency closing days had been used, there are no extra vacation days over the Memorial Day weekend, so schools will be closed only Monday, May 28th, the official day to recognize this holiday.

RECESS

Ms. Slack moved at 8:50 PM and Mr. Nathan seconded the motion that the Board take a recess and adjourn to the gymnasium to hear the results of the Board of Education election and budget vote. The motion carried 7-0.

RECONVENE

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:16 PM to reconvene the meeting.

ELECTION RESULTS

Mr. Culyer presented the results of the election and budget vote, as follows: 2,358 people voted, with 1,196 voting yes on the budget, and 1,046 voting no. Steven Feeney received 951 votes, Kendall Egan 1,570, Bob Zahm 1,262, and Robert Schubert 1.
(Attachment XX)

(continued)

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to ratify the results of the election.

Adjournment

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:29 PM. to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Ferrari
District Clerk