

**MINUTES**  
**RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room**  
**June 5, 2007**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 7:05 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  
Ms. Kendall Egan, Board Member-Elect

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

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 8:11 PM to reconvene in public.

Mr. Culyer welcomed those present, and extended a welcome to Kendall Egan, Board member-elect.

Extra Mile Award

Mr. Nathan presented the Board's Extra Mile Award to Mariann Ferretti, Midland School secretary, expressing the deep appreciation of the Board for her professionalism, commitment, and dedication.

Mr. Culyer called for the Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items.

Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

Bertrand de Frondeville expressed his belief that the District newsletter, Focus on Excellence, should not have been distributed nor available at the polling place during the May 15 election. He requested a debate with the Board on the subject.

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Mary Beth Lubeck and Tena Schlingmann, Osborn School PTO Co-Presidents, commented on Osborn School enrollment and class size.

Kim Abate and Sheri Degraw, Midland School PTO Co-Presidents, commented on Midland School enrollment and class size.

Martin Gerson expressed his opinion that the tax certiorari reserve should be used to reduce the burden on taxpayers.

Bertrand de Frondeville said he disagreed with the philosophy of waiting to see if there would be an appeal from the Osborn Memorial Home before dispersing the tax certiorari fund.

#### Introduction of Kathleen Ryan

Dr. Shine said that when Robert Walsh resigned the District was fortunate to find Karen Chapman, who had been serving as interim Assistant Superintendent since that time, and at the same time had conducted many, many interviews to find a permanent replacement for that position. He said that the District was also fortunate to have found Kathleen Ryan, who had accepted the position as school business official and would officially begin with the District on July 1. He introduced Ms. Ryan and expressed thanks to Dr. Chapman.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Culyer noted that Action-General Items 1 and 3 and Action-Fiscal items 2, 3, 4, 8, and 11 would be removed from the consent agenda.

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

#### **Action – General**

1. The Grade 11 Advanced Placement English Language and Composition curriculum. (Attachment I)

#### **Action – Fiscal**

1. Formula-One Driving School for the in-car component of the Rye City School District Driver Education class offerings for the 2007-2008 school year. (Attachment II)
2. The Consulting Services Agreement with CC Computer Center for Business Management Systems at an annual cost of \$95,000.00 for the 2007-2008 school year. (Attachment III)
3. The contract for Instructional Classroom Local Area Network Support from CCC Computer Center for the period July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008, at a fixed annual cost of \$200,340.00. (Attachment IV)

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4. The Extra Classroom Activity Report for the period ending March 31, 2007. (Attachment V)
5. The proposal from Eberlin & Eberlin for the initial phase of the site analysis of the Midland School site on an hourly basis not to exceed \$9,500.00. (Attachment VI)
6. The refuse removal contract award to Suburban Carting for pickups at the Rye City School District for the 2007-2008 school year for their bid amount of \$42,900.00. (Attachment VII)

**Action – Personnel**

1. The resignation due to retirement of Charles Northshield as a Technology Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, effective June 30, 2007.
2. The resignation due to retirement of John Antonecchia as a Physical Education Teacher, assigned to Milton School, effective June 30, 2007.
3. The Three-Year Probationary Appointment of Nicholas Apiscopa as an Elementary Teacher for which he holds New York State Provisional Certification in Pre-K-6, assigned to Rye Middle School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 4, of the 2006-2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2010.
4. The Three-Year Probationary Appointment of Connor Dowling as a Science Teacher for which he has applied for New York State Initial Certification in Biology and New York State Initial Certification in Chemistry, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 3, of the 2006-2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2010.
5. The Two-Year Probationary Appointment of Julio Rodriguez as a Science Teacher for which for which he holds New York State Permanent Certification in Physics & General Science 7-12, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE, MA +30 Step 13, of the 2006-2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2009.
6. The Three-Year Probationary Appointment of Michelle Tobias as a Special Education Teacher for which for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Special Education and New York State Permanent Certification in Pre-K-6, assigned to Rye Middle School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 7, of the 2006-2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2010.
7. The Two-Year Probationary Appointment of Cindy Weichert as a Foreign Language Teacher for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Spanish 7-12, New York State Permanent Certification in English to Speakers of Other Languages, New York State Permanent Certification in French 7-12 and New York State Permanent Certification in Italian 7-12, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 13, of the 2006-2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2009.

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8. The Three-Year Probationary Appointment of Catherine Flynn as a Special Education Teacher for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Special Education, assigned to Milton School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 10, of the 2006-2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 20, 2010.
9. The Three-Year Probationary Appointment of John Murolo, Jr. as a Math Teacher for which he holds New York State Permanent Certification in Mathematics 7-12, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE, MA +15 Step 5, of the 2006-2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007- June 30, 2010.
10. The Three-Year Probationary Appointment of Reina McGoldrick as an Elementary School Spanish Teacher for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Spanish 7-12, and New York State Permanent Certification in Spanish N-6/Pre K-6 Extension and New York State Permanent Certification in ESOL K-12, assigned to The Rye City School District, 1.0 FTE, MA +60 Step 4, of the 2006-2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2010.
11. The Three-Year Probationary Appointment of Lauren Gobbo as an Elementary School Spanish Teacher for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Spanish 7-12, assigned to The Rye City School District, 1.0 FTE, BA +15 Step 2, of the 2006-2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2010.
12. The Two-Year Probationary Appointment of Anthony Campbell as an Art Teacher for which he holds New York State Permanent Certification in Art, assigned to rye High School, 1.0 FTE, MA +30 Step 10 of the 2006-2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2009.
13. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Catherine Rose as an English Teacher for which she holds New York State Conditional Initial Certification in English Language Arts 7-12, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 9 of the 2006/07 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
14. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Gerald Chisholm as an English Teacher for which he holds New York State Internship Certificate in English Language Arts 7-12, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE BA +30 Step 3 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.

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15. The following appointments for GLIT Facilitators (Grade Level Instructional Facilitators) effective September 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008:

| <u>NAME</u>          | <u>GRADE</u> | <u>RATE*</u>       |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Midland              |              |                    |
| Jaime Saracino       | K            | \$400 per semester |
| Michelle McCumber    | 1            | \$400 per semester |
| Jessica Burden Roine | 2            | \$400 per semester |
| Mary Bellofatto      | 3            | \$400 per semester |
| Heather Castellani   | 4            | \$400 per semester |
| Mary Partington      | 5            | \$400 per semester |
| Milton               |              |                    |
| Karen Kozan          | K            | \$400 per semester |
| Therese McDonough    | 1            | \$400 per semester |
| Carol Havlin         | 2            | \$400 per semester |
| Dana Coppola         | 3            | \$400 per semester |
| Hillary Wade         | 4            | \$400 per semester |
| Tom Bailey`          | 5            | \$400 per semester |
| Osborn               |              |                    |
| Dina Gelman          | K            | \$400 per semester |
| Elizabeth Napoleon   | 1            | \$400 per semester |
| Rebecca Ledwith      | 2            | \$400 per semester |
| Anne Swenson         | 3            | \$400 per semester |
| Jessica Hollander    | 4            | \$400 per semester |
| Richard Savage       | 5            | \$400 per semester |

16. The following appointments as Summer School Teachers and Site Coordinator, effective July 9, 2007 – July 27, 2007.

| <u>Name</u>       | <u>Stipend*</u> | <u>Assignment</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Meghan Donovan    | \$3,058.83*     | Elementary School |
| Therese McDonough | \$3,058.83*     | Elementary School |
| Ruthann Comstock  | \$3,058.83*     | Elementary School |
| Rebecca Ledwith   | \$3,058.83*     | Elementary School |
| Erika Katz        | \$3,058.83*     | Elementary School |
|                   | \$800.00*       | Site Coordinator  |
| Mary Bellofatto   | \$3,058.83*     | Elementary School |
| Fred Illium       | \$3,058.83*     | Elementary School |
| Jessica Hollander | \$3,058.83*     | Elementary School |

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Total \$25,270.64 \* pending contract settlement  
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17. The resignation due to retirement of Elizabeth Northshield as a Senior Office Assistant (Automated Systems), assigned to Rye High School, effective June 30, 2007.
18. The resignation of Sharon Marro as a Special Education Teacher Aide, assigned to Midland School, effective June 30, 2007.

#### **Action – Special Education**

1. The recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from its meeting of April 12, 2007 for Student ID#788; from its meeting of April 18, 2007 for Student ID#789; from its meeting of April 19, 2007 for Student ID#730; and from its meeting of May 2, 2007 for Student ID#764.
2. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meetings of March 16, 2006 for Students ID#911694, 488, and 124; from its meeting of April 19, 2006 for Student ID#548; from its meeting of April 20, 2006 for Student ID#599; from its meeting of May 4, 2006 for Student ID#482; from its meeting of May 24, 2006 for Student ID#11979; from its meeting of June 8, 2006 for Student ID#912000; from its meeting of June 15, 2006 for Student ID#335; from its meeting of June 16, 2006 for Student ID#511; from its meeting of June 19, 2006 for Student ID#738; from its meeting of June 21, 2006 for Student ID#911664; from its meeting of October 27, 2006 for Student ID#771; from its meeting of November 20, 2006 for Student ID#205; from its meeting of November 21, 2006 for Student ID#159; from its meeting of December 5, 2006 for Student ID#549; and from its meeting of March 20, 2007 for Student ID#837.

#### **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Shine reported that the boys varsity lacrosse team had defeated Johnstown in a regional lacrosse contest and would next play in the New York State semifinal game on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Culyer noted that on the Consent Agenda were the retirement resignations of Charles Northshield and John Atonecchia which the Board had accepted with regret. He expressed thanks to Mr. Northshield and Mr. Antonecchia for their years of dedicated service to the District.

#### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

##### Middle School/High School Enrollment/Space and Traffic/Safety Issues

Dr. Shine reported that there was no new information regarding enrollment, but

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that it would be necessary to continue to watch the numbers, and focus on solutions. He noted that such possibilities as staggered schedules would be further evaluated. The Board agreed that it would like to have a work session on the subject in the fall.

During the discussion, Mr. Zahm requested feedback from the middle and high school principals about whether 85% utilization was too high to be able to assemble coherent student schedules.

Mr. Cady asked for an understanding of what 85% utilization means and for information on the percent of utilization of peer districts.

Mr. Fox asked how the use of core spaces, such as the cafeteria, would be handled with staggered schedules.

Ms. Slack asked how many parents would have children at the middle and high school and an elementary school.

#### Flood Damage Assessment

Mr. Freer reported on the damage caused by flooding, across the District, and Mr. Castagna reviewed damage to the fitness center and the field., as well. Mr. William Squires of the District's insurance company, NYSIR, answered Board questions about damage and coverage.

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

#### Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0) the minutes of the May 15, 2007 meeting of the Board were approved as amended to include Board comments on Budget Transfer #20 on page 5 of the minutes.

#### Declaration of Emergency

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to adopt the declaration that the flooding incident of April 15, 2007 was an emergency, with the phrase "subject to Board approval" added to the resolution. (Attachment VIII)

#### E-Rate Exchange Contract

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve a contract, subject to changes requested by the Board, with E-Rate Exchange to help facilitate the e-rate application process for recurring tele-

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communication services, digital transmission services, cellular/paging, and internet access service. (Attachment IX)

#### Tuition Rates

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried 6-1 with Mr. Zahm voting no, it was voted to approve the 2007-2008 Rye School of Leadership and Rye City School District Non-Resident tuition rates at \$31,879.00 and \$17,588.00 respectively. (Attachment X)

It was recommended that policies related to tuition rates be referred to the policy committee.

#### Nugent Stadium Fence Replacement Bid

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to award the repair/replacement of the Rye High School/Rye Middle School Athletic Field Fence to Fence by Fabian in the amount of \$9,875.00. (Attachment XI)

### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEM**

Mr. White reported on the work of the Borrowing and Investment Committee including the presentation of the analysis of actual needs regarding the \$10 million bond.

Mr. Zahm requested an analysis of the exact amount of funds needed for the “boiler bond” work plus the 2007-2008 facilities work identified in the budget.

Mr. Fox requested that a 30-year amortization schedule be assembled.

### **FIRE ALARM RECESS**

At 11:25 PM the fire alarm sounded and the meeting was suspended to permit those present to evacuate the building. The meeting resumed at 11:41 PM.

### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEM**

The Board discussed proposed new and revised policies as presented, specifically the policy on home schooling and district credit cards, suggesting modifications to both, specifically the replacement of “the board” with “the district” in areas where responsibility for certain actions is listed.

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**COMMUNICATION ITEMS**

Mr. Fox asked whether an effort had been made to encourage pre-schoolers to enroll at Milton School regardless of their elementary enrollment area. Dr. Shine said that this had been done. Mr. Fox suggested that renters be welcomed to Milton since they would not be investing through purchase in a specific neighborhood.

Mr. Nathan requested an update on the Milton gym bid. Dr. Shine responded that a contract was being finalized for Greyhawk to be the construction manager. Dr. Shine also indicated that bid documents were being developed with a target distribution date of June 15.

Mr. Culyer said that according to the Board's Bylaws, anyone interested in serving as a Board officer had to declare that interest at the first meeting after the election. Mr. Culyer said he would be pleased to be considered as president for the coming year. Mr. Nathan said he would accept a nomination as a Board officer, and Ms. Slack indicated an interest as serving as vice president.

**Closing**

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 12:54 AM to adjourn into executive session to continue the discussion of topics discussed in the executive session held prior to the start of the public meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Cady, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 1:35 am to reconvene in public and immediately adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Ferrari  
District Clerk