

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
June 12, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 6:37 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

* arrived 6:45 PM

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to adjourn immediately into Executive Session for the review of the employment history of current and prospective employees, legal strategy 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 8:05 PM to reconvene in public.

Mr. Culyer welcomed those present, and noted that the meeting would begin with a thank you to retiring PTO and PO Presidents. He said, that former President Bill Clinton once said, "Volunteering is an act of heroism on a grand scale. And it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds; it changes the odds."

Mr. Culyer then said, "We are lucky to live in a community of volunteers. We all benefit from the caring and the creativity, and nowhere is this ethic truer than in our schools. No school volunteers are more tireless or devoted than the members of our Parents' Organizations and PTOs. What they do matters profoundly. What they give does change the odds for a great number of students, for our teachers, and for our community."

He noted a few examples and said that also the list of gifts from the District's PO's and PTO's, from SmartBoards to theater curtains to acoustical enhancements to improve students' ability to hear is a long one, and included warm welcomes to new families and encouragement to be a part of each school family.

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He added that at the helm of each of these organizations are tremendously dedicated people who encourage participation and lead by example, the Parents' Organization and PTO Presidents.

Mr. Culyer said that six of parent leaders were retiring from the presidency of their various organizations, and that their commitment and passion has been evident, and will be missed. He said that the Board of Education, on behalf of all the schools and the entire community, thanks all school parents for thousands of hours of volunteering, but wanted particularly to thank each of the retiring PO and PTO presidents for all that they have done for the students of the schools, for the schools, and for the community of Rye.

He asked Susan Olsen, Rye High School PO, Megan Keough and Pam Keller, Rye Middle School PO, Kim Abate, Midland PTO, Jo Tice, Milton PTO, and Mary Beth Lubeck, Osborn PTO, to accept the thanks of the Board.

Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

There were no questions or comments from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Shine noted that Action-Fiscal item 7, contract with Jeffrey Marx, and the entire Personnel Agenda would be removed from the Consent Agenda.

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

Action – General

1. The revised school district calendar for the 2007-2008 school year. (Attachment I)
2. The gift of the David E. Retik and Christopher D. Mello Charitable Foundation, Inc. of \$5,000.00 for the Christopher D. Mello Scholarship fund, with the donors of the gift Doug and Ellen Mello, Rye, New York. (Attachment II)
3. The gift of the Rye Youth Soccer Club of \$4,000.00 for the Artificial Turf Maintenance Fund. (Attachment III)
4. The gift of an additional \$4,000.00 from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Niehaus for the Niehaus Family Scholarship Fund to cover the cost of one additional scholarship. (Attachment IV)
5. The gift of the Parents' Organization of the Rye Middle School of one SmartBoard valued at \$4,363, one Smart Board Math Software, value to be determined, and one digital movie camera, \$750.00 value. (Attachment V)
6. Proclamations recommended to be sent to the schools, districts and organizations who provided practice and game space to Rye High School teams subsequent to the flood damage to District facilities and the John

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- Nugent Stadium field. (Attachment VI)
7. New and revised Board of Education policies 1120, School District Records; 1120-R, School District Records Regulation; 1500-S!, Schedule I, Policy 1500; 2111, Defense and Indemnification; 4136, Professional Conferences and Meetings; 5275, Eligibility for Middle School/High School Extra-Curricular Activities; 5313.3, Student Suspension; 6670, Petty Cash Accounts; and 9645, Disclosure of Wrongful Conduct. (Attachment VII)

Action – Fiscal

1. The Treasurer's Report for the period ending May 31, 2007. (Attachment VIII)
2. Warrants for the Month of May, 2007, General Fund. (Attachment IX)
3. Budget Transfer #23, Lunch Fund, for costs for May and June, 2007, from Contractual Improvements budget. (X)
4. Budget Transfer #24, Special Education, to cover the cost of therapeutic support, BOCES, from BOCES Assessment & Intervention Budget Codes. (XI)
5. Transportation Contracts for special education student transportation to and from school; for interscholastic and athletic events; and school field trips for the 2007-2008 school year. (Attachment XII)
6. The resolution to amend the contract with Diane Newman approved at the February 13, 2007 meeting of the Board to include and make part of terms included under Paragraph 2 of the agreement. (Attachment XIII)
7. Bennett Kielson Storch DeSantis as Independent Auditor for the period beginning July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010. (Attachment XIV)

Action – Special Education

1. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meeting of March 30, 2007 for Student ID#314; from its meeting of April 17, 2007 for Student ID#911790; from its meetings of April 23, 2007 for Student ID #281 and 912070; from its meeting of April 24, 2007 for Student ID#911294; from its meeting of April 27, 2007 for Student ID #677; from its meetings of May 10, 2007 for students ID#200 and #431; from its meeting of May 11, 2007 for Student ID#911913; from its meetings of May 16, 2007 for Students ID#253, 818, 10390, and 570; and from its meeting of June 4, 2007 for Student ID#481.
2. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meetings of April 30, 2007 for Students ID#300 and 569; from its meeting of May 2, 2007 for Student ID#162; from its meeting of May 3, 2007 for Student ID#632; from its meeting of May 8, 2007 for Student ID#664; from its meetings of May 9, 2007

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- for Students ID#188 and 283; from its meeting of May 10, 2007 for Student ID#805; from its meeting of April 19, 2007 for Student ID#062040; from its meeting of April 25, 2007 for Student ID#855; from its meeting of May 3, 2007 for Student ID#857; and from its meeting of May 11, 2007 for Student ID#911876.
3. The recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from its meeting of March 14, 2007 for Student ID#792; from its meeting of March 21, 2007 for Student ID#779; from its meeting of April 17, 2007 for Student ID#790; from its meeting of May 3, 2007 for Student ID#700, from its meeting of May 9, 2007 for Student ID#797; and from its meetings of May 23, 2007 for Students ID#491 and 615.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine reported that there were any number of events and activities taking place in the District that one rarely has a chance to reflect upon, and that some of those are the extra curricular opportunities that abound for students. He said two that recently have made the news were the publication of the Zephyr at Rye High School, noting that professional publishers who have had a chance to see it say that it is an example of the very finest in the presentation of the arts, including writing; and the culminating exam for the middle school martial arts club that saw the promotion of members to the next rank, with one student achieving the black belt level. He said that extra praise and thanks go to the club members and their advisor Craig Sandhaus, who met faithfully at 7 o'clock in the morning in order to have the time they needed to develop their skills and work on achieving their promotions to the next level.

He said that there is a long list of other opportunities that give students a chance to explore interests and develop talents and that it seemed like a good time, as the school year draws a close, to thank the advisors to all the clubs, organizations and activities for their generosity in advising, assisting and guiding our students.

Dr. Shine said that the previous Thursday, Jim Culyer and he attended the Rye High School Senior Recognition night where almost \$200,000 in scholarships were presented to graduating seniors. He suggested that it was important to take a moment to comment on this, and express thanks to the enormously generous civic and service organizations and parents and friends of Rye High School who contribute to or give these scholarships.

Dr. Shine also noted that the Rye High School Awards assembly was held the preceding week and that it is generally taped and shown on Channel 77 if Board members hadn't had the chance to attend one and would like to see one in action. He noted that it is a very nice program of tribute to student effort and achievement in class and in extracurricular work. He added that of note, and not previously reported, were the

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number of students who achieved honors in sports. Among them, 20 all-league, 15 all-section, and one All American athletes, and three section one champions, one in golf and two in tennis. Dr. Shine said that it was a strong spring season despite the difficulties involved in finding fields for practice and matches, and said that great credit goes to Rob Castagna, the coaches, and our students who had to put in extra hours and extra effort in travel to other districts' and communities' fields and facilities because of the storm damage to our own fields and facilities.

Dr. Shine reminded those present that the Rye High School graduation ceremony would begin at 10 a.m. the following Saturday, at John Nugent Stadium.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Activate America

Mr. Gregg Howells of the Rye YMCA reviewed the Y's Activate America program and the use of grants by all five schools in the District. Mr. Culyer thanked Mr. Howells for his presentation.

Mr. Culyer noted all the gifts that had been accepted within the Consent Agenda, thanking the donors for their generosity.

Food Service Budget

Mr. Rubbo was present to review his budget with the Board and answer any questions. Mr. Culyer thanked Mr. Rubbo for his report and for being there.

Board Policies on Use of Electronic Mail, Non-Represented Employees

Mr. Nathan suggested that the suggested policy on the Use of Electronic Mail be discussed by the Policy Committee first.

Dr. Shine provided background on the proposed Non-Represented Employee policy. The Board discussed specific points of interest.

ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Contract with Jeffrey Marx

After discussion, on a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve a contract with Jeffrey Marx. (Attachment XIV)

COMMUNICATION ITEMS

Mr. Culyer said that a communication was received from Mr. Fox indicating his interest in discussing mandatory test dates at the June 28th meeting.

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Mr. White provided information to the Board on a 20 versus a 30-year schedule for the \$10 million bond.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Cady, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:23 PM to adjourn into Executive Session for a continuation of discussion begun before the regular meeting was convened. Mr. Culyer stated that the Board may reconvene in public following the continued Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted AT 11:10 PM to reconvene in public.

ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried 6-1-0 with Mr. Zahm abstaining the following items were approved:

Action – Personnel

1. The Appointment of Carole Andreasen as a Teacher on Special Assignment//Director of Technology, assigned to the Rye City School District, 1.0 FTE, MA +60 Step 15 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, plus Longevity Payment plus Supervisory Ratio (.20 of base salary) effective July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
2. The Appointment of Mary Gould as a Teacher on Special Assignment/CPSE Chairperson, assigned to the Rye City School District, 1.0 FTE, MA +60 Step 15 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, plus Longevity Payment effective July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
3. The Appointment of Catherine Sales as a Teacher of Special Assignment/ 0.4 FTE Special Education Teacher and 0.6 FTE CSE Chairperson, assigned to the Rye City School District, Ph.D. Step 15 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, plus Longevity Payment of effective July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
4. The Appointment of Debra Fishman as a Teacher on Special Assignment/ Elementary Staff Developer, assigned to the Rye City School District, MA +60 Step 15 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, plus Longevity Payment effective July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
5. The Appointment of Tracey Orzo as a Teacher on Special Assignment/Elementary Staff Developer, assigned to the Rye City School District, MA +15, Step 12 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, effective July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.
6. The Appointment of Peggy Gelman as a Teacher on Special Assignment/Elementary Staff Developer Mathematics, assigned to Rye City

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School District, MA +60 Step 15 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, plus Longevity Payment effective July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.

6. The One-Year Probationary 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.
7. The One-Year Probationary 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.
8. The One-Year Probationary 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.
9. The One-Year Probationary 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.
10. The following appointments as Special Education Summer School Teachers, Aides/Assistants, CSE Evaluators, CSE Attendees, Support Staff and IEP Readers, effective July 9, 2007 – August 17, 2007.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
<u>Stipend</u>	
Catherine Sales \$3,545.10*	CSE Chairperson/IEP Development 90 hours @ \$39.39/hr.
Mary Gould \$5,908.50*	CPSE Chairperson 150 hours @ \$39.39/hr.

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Deb Coyle \$5,714.65*	Special Education Teacher (6 weeks) [(90 hours x 1.5=135 hours) @ \$39.39/hr] + \$400 (prep)
Naomi Falco \$2,013.30	Special Education Teaching Assistant 90 hours @ \$22.37/hour
Cami Tallerico \$1,467.00	Special Education Aide 90 hours @ \$16.30/hour
Diane Garris \$1,467.00	Special Education Aide 90 hours @ \$16.30/hour
Sally Sciavillo \$1,467.00	Special Education Aide 90 hours @ \$16.30/hour
Ligia Rende \$1,467.00	Special Education Aide 90 hours @ \$16.30/hour
Meg Dornbusch \$3,708.00**	Nurse 90 hours (6 weeks @ \$41.20/hr)
Jennifer Montesano \$1,200.00	Occupational Therapist (15 hours x \$80/hr)
Kim Wilson-Gerardi \$ 960.00	Physical Therapist (12 hours x \$80/hr)
<u>Psychologists and Teachers</u>	
Robert Schechter	Psychologist‡ \$39.39 per hour*
Fran Coleman	Psychologist‡ \$39.39 per hour*
Chrissy Connor	Teacher - IEP Development‡ \$39.39 per hour*
Heather Castellani	Teacher – CSE Attendance‡ \$39.39 per hour*
Meg Stotsky	Teacher – Student Evaluations‡ \$39.39 per hour*

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- * Pending contract settlement between the RTA Unit
- ** Pending contract settlement between SCNCA Unit
- ‡ Number of hours depending on CSE requirements.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. White and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 11:11 PM to adjourn into Executive Session for continued discussion.

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 12:30 AM to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Ferrari
District Clerk