

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
May 20, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 7:00 PM and the roll was called.

Present

Mr. James Culyer, *President*
Mr. Joshua Nathan, *Vice President**
Mr. George Cady
Ms. Kendall Egan
Mr. Edward Fox
Ms. Laura Slack
Mr. Robert Zahm

And Dr. Edward Shine, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Stephen Cohen, Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Kathleen Ryan, Business Official

* Arrived 9:20 P.M.

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously, (5-0) (Mr. Fox was not in the room) the Board adjourned immediately into executive session for the review of the employment history of current and prospective employees, negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law, and litigation strategy.

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 8:05 PM to reconvene in public.

Mr. Culyer welcomed those present and called for the hearing of the public on items not on the agenda.

Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

Dennis McCord, resident, spoke regarding Kevin Kelly as a field hockey coach, requesting that the Board reconsider the decision not to hire him as coach.

Jeffrey Feldman, resident, spoke regarding Kevin Kelly as a field hockey coach, requesting the formation of a committee to review related matters and consider him as a candidate.

Becky McGuire, resident, requested that the Board reinstate Kevin Kelly as field hockey coach.

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Charmian Neary, resident, said that not all people in the audience were of the same mind on the issues related to Kevin Kelly as field hockey coach.

Kevin Burke, resident, stated that he would like to propose a solution that a small group meet to discuss reinstating Kevin Kelly as field hockey coach.

Mr. Culyer responded that the Board had listened and had discussed the matter to the extent that it could, but that although Mr. Kelly had signed a waiver permitting discussion of the matter, he also had served the district with a Notice of Claim, rendering the Board, because of potential matters of litigation, unable to share information, also noting that matters of personnel are not discussed in public at any time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Culyer announced that Action-General Items 1, 3 and 4 and Action-Fiscal items 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7 would be removed from the consent agenda.

On a motion by Ms. Egan, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve the following items:

Action – General

- The minutes of the meeting of the Board of April 29, 2008, as written.

Action – Fiscal

1. An agreement for hourly architectural and engineering services by Fuller D'Angelo for May 21, 2008 through May 20, 2009. (Attachment I)
2. An agreement for Special Education Legal Services with Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP at the rate of \$180/hour for the 2007-2008 school year and \$190/year for the 2008-2009 school year. (Attachment II)
3. The Treasurer's Report for the period ending March 31, 2008. (Attachment IIIa)
4. The Budget Transfer Schedules for the month of March, 2008. (Attachment IIIb)
5. Warrants #35, 36, 37, 38 and 39 for the month of March, 2008. (Attachment IIIc)
6. The Student Activity Account for the Periods ending 12/31/07 and 3/31/08. (Attachment IIId)

Action – Personnel

1. The Resignation due to Retirement of Sandy Weissberg from her position as an Elementary Teacher, assigned to Midland School, effective at the end of business June 30, 2008.
2. The request by Jaime Degina (Stabile) for a Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as a Teaching Assistant/Academic Intervention Intern, assigned to Rye High School, effective September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.
3. The Three Year Probationary Appointment of Julie Divi, as a Science Teacher, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Biology – General Science 7-12 and New York State Permanent Certification in Chemistry

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- 7-12, assigned to Rye Middle School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 13 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, pending contract settlement, effective September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2011.
4. The Three Year Probationary Appointment of Vanessa Franco as an Elementary School Spanish Teacher for which she holds New York State Provisional Certification in Spanish 7-12, and New York State Provisional Certification in Spanish Grades 1-6 Extension, assigned to The Rye City School District, 1.0 FTE, MA +15 Step 7 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, pending contract settlement, effective September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2011.
 5. The Three Year Probationary Appointment of Robyn Kaminer as a Health Education Teacher, pending New York State Initial Certification in Health Education, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE, MA +15 Step 7 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, pending contract settlement, effective September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2011.
 6. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Stacy Beitler as an ELL Teacher, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in English To Speakers Of Other Languages, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 3, of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, pending contract settlement, effective September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.
 7. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Lisa Libertucci as an Elementary Teacher-At-Large, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Childhood Education Grades 1-6, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 3 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, pending contract settlement, effective September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.
 8. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Patricia Farrell as an Elementary Teacher-At-Large, for which she holds New York State Provisional Certification in Pre K, Kindergarten and Grades 1-6, assigned to Midland School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 5 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, pending contract settlement, effective September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.
 9. The following appointments as Summer School Teachers and Site Coordinator, effective July 7, 2008 – July 25, 2008.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Stipend*</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Meghan Donovan	\$3,058.83*	Elementary School
Christina Tauss	\$3,058.83*	Elementary School
Kristen Madden	\$3,058.83*	Elementary School
Ruthann Olsen	\$3,058.83*	Elementary School
Rebecca Ledwith	\$3,058.83*	Elementary School
Erika Katz	\$3,058.83*	Elementary School
	\$800.00*	Site Coordinator
Nicole Manfredi	\$3,058.83*	Elementary School
Anne Swenson	\$3,058.83*	Elementary School
Deb Sherman	\$3,058.83*	Elementary School
Fred Illium	\$3,058.83*	Elementary School
Jennifer Keegan	\$3,058.83*	Elementary School

10. The Appointment of Meredith Adams as a Per Diem Substitute Teacher, to be used only on as needed basis effective May 12, 2008 – June 23, 2008.
11. The Resignation of Alaina Cuglietto from her position as a Special Education Teacher Aide, assigned to Osborn School, effective June 25, 2008.
12. The Increase in Assignment of Elizabeth Carty from her position as a School Nurse, from a 0.5 FTE at Osborn School to 1.0 FTE, assigned to Rye High School Step 8 of the 2008/2009 Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2008.
13. The Probationary Appointment of Beth LaBella, as a Library Clerk, with a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifty two weeks, assigned to Milton School, 0.7 FTE Step 2, (Pro-rated) of the 2007/2008 Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit Salary Schedule, effective May 19, 2008.

Action – Special Education

1. The recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Education from its meeting of February 7, 2008 for Student ID#920.
2. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meeting of Marchh 7, 2008 for Student ID#417; from its meetings of March 25, 2008 for Students ID#220 and 837; from its meeting of April 14, 2008 for Student ID#218; from its meeting of May 12, 2008 for Student ID#985; from its meeting of March 26, 2008 for Student ID#552; from its meeting of April 8, 2008 for Student ID#988DOL; and from its meeting of May 9, 2008 for Student ID#884.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine extended commendation to Dan Brown, secondary band teacher, for the concert performed the previous evening, noting that there were 150 students participating. He noted that two students had received area theater arts awards, Danielle Reidenberg, and Robbie Keller; and that TJ Carter and Jessica Jenke had been presented with Physical Education awards at a recent county-wide ceremony. He reminded those present that the third annual Rye-Harrison spelling bee would take place June 10th at 7:30 PM in the Rye High School Performing Arts center and encouraged everyone to attend. Dr. Shine concluded by announcing that Rye High School had again been named in the top 100 high schools out of 17,000 school measured in the country by Newsweek Magazine.

Mr. Culyer announced that on the consent agenda was the retirement resignation of Sandy Weissberg, elementary teacher. He expressed thanks to Ms. Weissberg for her years of service and wished her well in her retirement.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of April 12, 2008 Joint Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (6-0), it
(continued)

was voted to approve the minutes of the Joint Board of Education/Rye City Council meeting of April 12, 2008 as amended to include that the topic of the meeting was on traffic safety and not on student safety, and that a statement should be inserted in the minutes that the priority should be on student and pedestrian safety above other concerns

Minutes of April 29, 2008 Meeting of the Board

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried 5-0-1 with Mr. Zahm abstaining, it was voted to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2008 meeting of the Board of Education.

Request to use Rye High School Name for Scholarship Fund

After discussion and recommendation that the District needed a license agreement appropriately developed by counsel that would protect against any inappropriate use of the Rye High School name, this matter was tabled.

License Agreement with Centrifuge Solutions, LLC

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve a license agreement with Centrifuge Solutions LLC for SchoolFusion software and modules and implementation. (Attachment IV)

Kids' S.P.A.C.E. Contract

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve the Kids' S.P.A.C.E. contract for the 2008-2009 school year. (Attachment V)

Rye School of Leadership Program Tuition

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve the tuition rate for the 2008-2009 school year of \$33,677.00, in keeping with Board of Education Policy 6254, an annual increase strictly for tuition of approximately \$637.00 per student. (Attachment VI)

Change Order #GC-006

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve Milton School Gym Change Order GC-006 in the amount of \$9,526.00 for acoustic wall panels. (Attachment VII)

Mr. Culyer suggested that the Board recess at this point and adjourn to the Rye Middle School gym to hear the results of the Board of Education Candidate election and budget vote.

The Board returned and Mr. Culyer resumed the meeting at 9:20 PM and continued its discussion of items removed from the Consent Agenda.

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Midland School Rooftop HVAC Unit Replacement

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve the bid for Rooftop HVAC Unit Replacement at Midland School submitted by Atlantic-Westchester, Inc. in the amount of \$30,310.00 with any asbestos work, if discovered, handled by a change order at the rates provided in the bid. (Attachment VIII)

ELECTION RESULTS

Mr. Culyer read the results of the budget vote and Board of Education candidate election:

With 1,746 people voting, 1,182 votes were cast for Edward M. Fox and 1,443 votes cast for Young Kim, with 1,049 voting yes on the budget and 671 voting no.

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0) the Board certified the results of the election.

Mr. Culyer expressed thanks to all who worked at the polls and participated in the voting process.

Communication Items

Mr. Zahm referenced a flier mailed to Rye residents by an attorney suggesting that residents file tax certiorari claims. Mr. Zahm said that this was annoying and questioned whether revaluation of properties is needed to stop this practice. He reminded the Board that the tax certiorari reserve is under-reserved.

Mr. Zahm said that the city streams video via their web site and said if the city can do this the school district should be able to do this as well.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:31 PM to adjourn into executive session for a review of the employment history of current and prospective employees; discussion of negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law, and litigation strategy.

On a motion by Mr. Cady, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:10 P.M. to reconvene in public and adjourn the meeting.

Lynn Ferrari
District Clerk