

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
June 24, 2008

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Culyer at 7:01 p.m. 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
Ms. Young Kim, Board Member-Elect – Ms. Kim joined the Board in open session at 9:24 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Egan, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously, (7-0) 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 Mr. Cady, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:24 PM to reconvene in public.

Before addressing agenda items, Dr. Shine asked for a moment to speak. He said that this would be the last official time that Mr. Culyer would serve with the Board, noting that Mr. Culyer had been on the Board when he was hired and that he has always appreciated his support, help and advice. He thanked Mr. Culyer for his twelve years of service, including the past four years as President of the Board.

Mr. Culyer thanked Mr. Nathan for serving with him as Vice President, and Mr. Nathan thanked Mr. Culyer for his four years as President and his 12 years of service.

Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

There were no questions or comments from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Culyer noted that Fiscal Items 2, Food Service Budget, 5, Tax Certiorari
(continued)

Reserve Transfer, 6, Authorization to Increase the Tax Certiorari Reserve, and 12, Calculator and Computer Center, Inc. Agreement Extension, would be removed from the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Action – Fiscal

1. The agreement with the Rochelle Group, LTD for Food Service Consulting Services for the 2008-2009 school year in the amount of \$11,880.00. (Attachment I)
2. The Food Service Capital Improvement Plan in the amount of \$100,000.00. (Attachment II)
3. A four-month contract extension for ARAMARK Management Services at \$30,350.00 per month. (Attachment III)
4. The appointment of Greyhawk Construction Management for Summer, 2008 Construction. (Attachment IV)
5. The resolution to approve Clarkstown CSD as Lead Agent for Cooperative Bids coordinated through Educational Data Services, Inc. (Attachment V)
6. A contract with Lindsay Bates for Senior Survey in the amount of \$2,800.00. (Attachment VI)
7. A contract with Kimberly LaRue for the 2007-2008 school year in the amount of \$2,000.00. (Attachment VII)
8. Savin Engineers PC Proposal for \$92,000.00 for 2008-2009 Owner's Representative and Annual Visual Inspection Services. (Attachment VIII)

Action – Personnel

1. A Salary Action effective July 1, 2008- June 30, 2009 for Kathleen Ryan, School Business Official, per the attached. (Attachment Xa)
2. A Salary Action, effective July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009 for Elaine Cuglietto, Director of Personnel, per the attached. (Attachment Xb)
3. The amendment to Special Education Summer School, per the attached. (Attachment Xc)
4. The corrected stipend of Department Coordinators James Rinaldi and Shawn Amdur for the 2007-2008 school year, per the attached. (Attachment Xd)
5. The appointments for Department Chairpersons, Team Leaders, Level Leaders and Coordinators, effective September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009, per the attached. (Attachment Xe)
- 6.

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7. The Termination of Stephen Basteri as a Kitchen Manager, effective at the close of business June 27, 2008.
8. The Resignation of Rosalba Torres as a Food Service Worker, effective at the close of business June 17, 2008.
9. The Resignation of Cami Tallerico as a Special Education Teacher Aide, assigned to Milton School, effective at the close of business August 15, 2008.
10. The Probationary Appointment of Dorothy Bykowski as a Secretary to School Principal, with a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifty two weeks, assigned to Midland School, 1.0 FTE Step 4, (Pro-rated) of the 2008/2009 Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit Salary Schedule, effective July 8, 2008.
11. The Correction of the Salary Increase for Maria Pantori for 2007/2008 per the attached. (Attachment Xf)
12. The Managerial/Confidential and Non-Represented Employee Salary Increases and Health Contribution Percentage July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009, per the attached. (Attachment Xg)
13. The Safety and Security Officer and School Monitor Salaries July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009, per the attached. (Attachment Xh)
14. The Food Service Worker Hourly Rates for the 2008/2009 School Year, per the attached. (Attachment Xi)
15. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Jennifer Hartnett as a Special Education Teacher, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Students with Disabilities Grades 1-6 and New York State Initial Certification in Childhood Education Grades 1-6, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 6 – 5 months and MA Step 7 – 5 months, of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, pending contract settlement, effective September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.
16. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Bendis Mani as an Art Teacher, for which he holds New York State Initial Certification in Visual Arts, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 2 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, pending contract settlement, effective September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.
17. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Joanna Truslow as a School Psychologist, for which she holds New York State Provisional Certification as a School Psychologist, assigned to Milton School, 0.6 FTE, MA Step 2 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule (pro rated), pending contract settlement, effective September 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.
18. The Part Time Appointment of Joanna Truslow as a School Psychologist, for which she holds New York State Provisional Certification as a School Psychologist, assigned to Milton School, 0.4 FTE, MA Step 2 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule (pro rated) pending contract settlement, to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

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19. The Appointment of Lisa Mount as a Mentor Coordinator District wide at a contract rate of \$4,062.00, 5% base salary, pending contract settlement.
20. The Appointment for Special Education Summer School of Naomi Falco, Special Education Teaching Assistant, 90 hours at \$22.37/hour, pending contract settlement, effective July 7, 2008 – August 15, 2008.
21. The Resignation of Lynda Barchetta as a Special Education Teacher Aide for Summer School 2008.
22. The Appointment for Special Education Summer School of Helaina Winnicki, Special Education Teacher Aide, 90 hours at \$16.30/hour, pending contract settlement, effective July 7, 2008 – August 15, 2008.
23. The Appointment for Special Education Summer School of Hirantha Dissanayake, Substitute Special Education Teacher Aide, at \$16.30/hour, salary pending contract settlement, effective June 30, 2008 – August 8, 2008.
24. The Appointment of Tracey A. Barnett as School Nurse/Director of Health Care Services with a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifty two weeks, assigned to Rye High School, at Step 5, of the 2008/09 Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit Salary Schedule, effective September 1, 2008, plus an additional \$5,000.00 stipend for the Director of Health Services position.
25. The following Appointments for summer work:
 - Bonnie Manheimer, CAB – Personnel, \$27.95/hour, not to exceed 30 hours.
 - Janice Mottarella, CAB – Business Office, \$20/hour, June 30 – August 3.
 - Douglas Goldman, Athletic Department, \$12/hour, not to exceed 90 hours.

Action – Special Education

1. The recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from its meeting of December 20, 2007 for Student ID#912; from its meeting of January 24, 2008 for Student ID#951; from its meeting of March 20, 2008 for Student ID#625; from its meetings of March 27 for Students ID#821 and 826; from its meetings of April 10, 2008 for Students ID#870, 871, 785, and 850; from its meeting of May 29, 2008 for Student ID#992.
2. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meeting of April 17, 2008 for Student ID#911697; from its meeting of April 29, 2008 for Student ID#912915; from its meeting of May 29, 2008 for Student ID#987; and from its meeting of June 4, 2008 for Student ID#721.
3. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meeting of March 28, 2008 for Student ID#689; from its meeting of April 3, 2008 for Student ID#599; from its meeting of April 9, 2008 for Student ID#376; from its meetings of April 10, 2008 for Students ID#911947, 298, and 672; from its meetings of April 11, 2008 for Students ID#911768 and 911907; from its meeting of April 14, 2008 for Student ID#511; from its meeting of April 16 for Student ID#581; from its meeting of April 28, 2008 for Student ID#756; from its meetings of May 2, 2008 for Students

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- ID#820 and 709; from its meeting of May 6, 2008 for Student ID#549; from its meeting of May 9, 2008 for Student ID#811; from its meetings of May 12, 2008 for Students ID#546, 832 and 911845; from its meeting of May 21, 2008 for Student ID#967DOL; from its meeting of May 30, 2008 for Student 912063; and from its meeting of June 2, 2008 for Student ID#955.
4. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meeting of March 19, 2008 for Student ID#861.
 5. The recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from its meeting of March 27, 2008 for Student ID#873; from its meeting of May 1, 2008 for Student ID#626; from its meeting of May 2, 2008 for Student ID#903; and from its meeting of May 22, 2008 for Student ID#699.
 6. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meeting of June 3, 2008 for Student ID#900080; from its meeting of June 11 for Student ID#586; from its meeting of June 12, 2008 for Student ID#335; from its meeting of June 17, 2008 for Student ID#481; and from its meetings of June 19, 2008 for Students ID#187; and 423.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine reported on moving up ceremonies and the Rye High School graduation ceremony. He noted that part of the music at the elementary ceremonies were songs sung in Spanish by the District's first fifth grade class to have Spanish instruction. He reviewed the following two days, Superintendent's Conference Day and Professional Development Day, for faculty.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

2008-2009 Proposed Food Service Program Budget

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve the 2008-2009 Food Service Budget of \$1,573,998.00. (Attachment XI)

Increase to General Fund Appropriation

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve an increase of the 2007-2008 General Fund Appropriation by \$2,067,398.41 from the Tax Certiorari Reserve Fund. (Attachment XII)

Increase to Tax Certiorari Reserve

Mr. Zahm moved to modify the recommendation to adjust the increase in the Tax Certiorari Reserve by up to \$1,000,000.00 from the recommended \$830,000.00 as of June 30, 2008. The Board agreed and the motion, seconded by Mr. Fox, carried unanimously (7-0). (Attachment XIII)

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CCC, Inc. Agreement Extension

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously, (7-0) it was voted to approve the Calculator and Computer Center, Inc. Agreement Extension in the amount of \$200,340.00 for 2008-2009 Local Area Network support, as revised by the Board. (Attachment IX)

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSIONReduction in Real Property Tax Estimated Revenues

Ms. Ryan reviewed the basis for the request to the Board for approval to increase the apportionment from fund balance to reduce taxes by \$55,000 (from \$725,000 to \$780,000) for the purpose of maintaining the estimated tax rate increase of 5.64%. She explained that assessments were below what had been anticipated, creating the loss in anticipated revenue.

Draft Tax Warrant and Tax Collection Notices

Ms. Ryan said that the tax warrant and collection notice before the Board were drafts of what would be presented to the Board at its reorganization meeting. She noted that it reflected a reduction of \$55,000 in the tax levy suggested to maintain a 5.64% tax rate estimated in May.

Mr. Fox requested that the attorneys look at the document, believing that the language used was unwieldy and in need of modernization.

New and Revised Board Policies

The Board had no comment on the proposed policies which would be presented for action at the reorganization meeting of the Board.

Communication Items

Mr. Zahm said he had written a letter to the Rye Record and that he wanted the list of tax certiorari motions posted on the web site. A majority of the Board did not agree with this suggestion.

Mr. Fox reviewed his suggestions for communication to legislators and others regarding the proposed tax cap.

Mr. Culyer noted that he had attended a meeting the previous evening and alerted the Board to be cognizant of enrollment increases, be in contact with other districts, and look at all factors and to plan a strategy as to what they would do with a tax cap.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:30 p.m. 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.

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On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (7-0) the Board reconvened in public.

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Ms. Slack, it was voted unanimously (7-0) to add the Superintendent's contract as an agenda item

On a motion by Ms. Egan, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to amend the Superintendent's contract per the attached.

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 12:04 a.m. to adjourn the meeting.

Lynn Ferrari
District Clerk