

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
April 28, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Nathan at 7:04 p.m. and the roll was called:

Present

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

And Dr. Edward Shine, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Steven Cohen, Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Kathleen Ryan, Business Official
Ms. Elaine Cuglietto, Director of Personnel

On a motion by Ms. Kim, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to move immediately into executive session to review the employment history of current and prospective employees and discuss negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law.

On a motion by Ms. Egan, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:03 p.m. to reconvene in public.

Mr. Nathan welcomed those present and apologized for the late start to the meeting, explaining that the Board had to meet with its attorneys who could only meet from 7 to 9 p.m.

Mr. Nathan said that in the past concerns had been expressed and statements made about tenure, and he wanted to state that the Board cannot grant tenure unless it is recommended by the administration. He said that additionally, he wanted to correct the statement that a single Board member had been controversial in tenure decisions. He said that this was not true and that the Board acts as a group, not individually.

Mr. Nathan read a letter from the District librarians thanking the Board for restoring the library clerk positions.

Mr. Fox said it was important for everyone to send a letter to state legislators and the Governor regarding the proposed MTA payroll tax and clearly state that this tax would be unacceptable.

Mr. Nathan called for the hearing of the public on non-agenda items.

(continued)

Hearing of the Public

Dina Gelman and Jane Johnson addressed the Board on what they believe to be the negative tenor in the District and community. Carole Andreasen questioned the Board on the decision not to reappoint her as Director of Technology. Harriet Sessa and Bill Ackerman addressed the Board on what they believe to be the negative tenor in the District and community. Jaime Zung addressed the Board about perceived interference in the tenure process. Susan Hendler addressed the Board about perceived micromanaging and interference in decisions by administrators. Bertrand de Frondeville, Colins Coyne and Maddie Nyrose addressed the Board on similar topics.

Mr. Nathan thanked those who had spoken and said the reason the Board was there was to serve the community.

Mr. Nathan announced a ten minute recess at 10:25 p.m. to permit those who wished to leave to do so.

The Board reconvened at 10:45 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Nathan announced that consent agenda items General 1, Minutes, Fiscal 1, Budget Transfers, Fiscal 2, Warrants, Fiscal 6, Agreement with Crabtree McGrath Associates, and 7, BOCES Estimated Administrative Budget and BOCES Board Candidates; and Personnel 4, Probationary Appointments, would be removed from the Consent Agenda.

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

Fiscal

1. A contract with the White Plains City School District for 2008-2009 Health and Related Services in the amount of \$13,986.72. (Attachment I)
2. A contract with the Scarsdale Union Free School District for 2008-2009 Health and Related Services in the amount of \$2,570.91. (Attachment II)
3. An addendum to the instructional services agreement with the Mamaroneck Union Free School District for related services and a teacher aide, as per an IEP, in the amount of \$26,223.87. (Attachment III)

Personnel

1. The request by Dina Farewell for a Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as a Guidance Counselor assigned to Rye Middle School, effective September 1, 2009 through the end of 1st Semester of the 2009/2010 School Year.
2. The Amendment of the Child Care Leave of Absence for Geri Jones to be effective April 2, 2009 – June 30, 2009.

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3. The resolution that the Superintendent and Board President are authorized to sign an Agreement extending the probationary term of Michael Carey, a Social Studies tenure area probationary employee, for an eight month period, November 2, 2009 – June 30, 2010 as recommended by the Superintendent.
4. The resolution that the Superintendent and Board President are authorized to sign an Agreement extending the probationary term of Steven Finston, a Mathematics tenure area probationary employee, for a one year period, September 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 as recommended by the Superintendent.
5. The resolution that the Superintendent and Board President are authorized to sign an Agreement extending the probationary term of Elizabeth Howell, a Mathematics tenure area probationary employee, for a one year period, September 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 as recommended by the Superintendent.
6. The resolution that the Superintendent and Board President are authorized to sign an Agreement extending the probationary term of Julio Rodriguez, a Science tenure area probationary employee, for a one year period, September 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 as recommended by the Superintendent.
7. The resolution that the Superintendent and Board President are authorized to sign an Agreement extending the probationary term of Elaine Surovich, a Mathematics tenure area probationary employee, for a one year period, September 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 as recommended by the Superintendent.
8. 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 3 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule effective September 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.
9. 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 3 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, to serve at the pleasure of the Board.
10. The Appointment of the following Extra Pay for Extra Work:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Index</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Amt</u>
John Gwardyak	Spring Musical	HS			\$40.55/hr
		Monday –Thursday			rate not to exceed 18 hours
John Gwardyak	Spring Musical	HS			\$52.39/hr.
		Friday – Sunday			rate not to exceed 8.5 hours
<u>Musical Review</u>					
Michael Limone	Set Construction	HS	0.02000	6	\$1,356
Michael Limone	Lighting & Sound	HS	0.02000	6	\$1,356

(continued)

11. The Appointment of the following Accompanists for Rye High School Musical Les Miz for the 2008/2009 School Year:

		<u>Index</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Tom Cuffari	Extra Pay for Extra Work Musical Les Miz 11 days	0.01750	5	\$1,130
Jonathan Meredith	Accompanist Musical Les Miz 2 days			\$ 200

12. The following Per Diem Substitute Teachers to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2008-2009 School Year at a daily rate of \$100.00 per day:

Jean Haluska
Christina Loffredo
Deborah Nye

13. The Resignation due to Retirement of Lynn Ferrari from her position as Coordinator of Public Information & Special Events and as District Clerk, effective June 30, 2009.
14. The appointment of Janice Morgan as a per diem substitute secretarial clerical worker to be used on an as needed basis effective 7/1/08 – 6/30/09 with her rate of pay is dependent upon the civil service title of the position being substituted for.

Special Education

1. The recommendations of the Committee on Preschool Special Education from its meeting of March 19, 2009 for Student ID#1150; from its meeting of March 26, 2009 for Student ID#1158; from its meeting of April 16, 2009 for Student ID#1062; from its meeting of January 29, 2009 for Student ID#1090.
2. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meeting of March 16, 2009 for Student ID#617; from its meeting of March 17, 2009 for Student ID#1138; from its meetings of March 24, 2009 for Students ID#1144 and 179; from its meeting of March 27, 2009 for Student ID#928; from its meeting of April 1, 2009 for Student ID#647; and from its meeting of April 3, 2009 for Student ID#1112DOL.
3. The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education from its meeting of March 16, 2009 for Student ID#571 and from its meeting of March 25, 2009 for Student ID#377.

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BOCES Administrative Budget and Board Candidates

Dr. Robert Monsen, District Superintendent, in attendance with a BOCES Board member and three BOCES administrators, Georgia Reidell, Sandy Simpson, Marcel Vales and Steve Tibbets, explained the BOCES administrative budget and answered Board questions on that budget.

Mr. Nathan invited comment from the public. Bertrand de Frondeville asked for verification of the numbers and Martin Gerson said that the BOCES and special education budgets were not “so automatic.”

At the conclusion of discussion, on a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried 6-0-1 with Mr. Nathan abstaining, it was voted to approve the Estimated Administrative Budget for the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in the amount of \$8,375,445.00. (Attachment IVa)

On a motion by Ms. Kim, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried 6-0-1 with Mr. Zahm abstaining it was voted to cast one ballot for each BOCES Board candidate, Richard Glickstein and James E. Miller. (Attachment IVb)

Mr. Nathan thanked the BOCES representatives for being present at the meeting.

Mr. Nathan announced that the Presentation/Discussion item, Board Policies 1500, 2450 and 6150, would be tabled to another meeting and called for Board action on items removed from the Consent Agenda.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDAMinutes of April 14, 2009 Meeting of the Board

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2009 meeting of the Board as amended to include the sources for identified budget savings, page 4, paragraph 3. (Attachment V)

Budget Transfer Schedule

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve the Budget Transfer Schedules for the month of March, 2009. (Attachment VIa)

Warrants

Mr. Zahm requested that the administration investigate including an expiration date on checks.

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Mr. Zahm requested that the administration investigate recycling of light bulbs and ballast, a cost item he had noted on the Warrants.

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve Warrants #45, 46, 47 and 48 for the month of March, 2009. (Attachment VIIb)

Contract with Crabtree McGrath Associates

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted to approve a contract with Crabtree McGrath Associates, Inc. for a Space and Equipment Study for the School Food Service in the amount of \$6,400.00 as amended to correct the contract to reflect that exact name of the contracting party. (Attachment VII)

Communications To/From the Board

Mr. Nathan expressed appreciation for Dr. Shine and the other central administrators for not accepting a salary increase for the 2009-2010 school year.

Ms. Egan moved and Ms. Slack seconded the motion to express a resolution of appreciation to the central administrators for not accepting a salary increase for the 2009-2010 school year. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Egan, seconded by Mr. Cady and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 11:47 p.m. to adjourn into executive session for the review of the employment history of current and prospective employees and negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law.

On a motion by Ms. Egan, seconded by Ms. Kim and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 12:46 a.m. to reconvene in public and immediately adjourn the meeting.

Lynn Ferrari
District Clerk