

**MINUTES**  
**RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION REORGANIZATION MEETING**  
**Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room**  
**October 28, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Nathan at 7:50 p.m. and the roll was called:

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

Excused  
Mr. George Cady

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

On a motion by Ms. Kim, seconded by Mr. Zahm and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to adjourn into executive session for the review of the employment history of current and prospective employees; negotiations pursuant to the Taylor; and a review of current litigation.

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 8:15 p.m. to reconvene in public.

Mr. Nathan welcomed those present and reviewed the format of the Board meeting. He then called for a hearing of the public on non-agenda items.

Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Shine and Ms. Ryan presented information on District matters and the Milton gym, respectively. Dr. Shine noted that Mr. Cohen would present shortly on the Elementary Staff Developer program.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Nathan announced that a number of items would be removed from the Consent Agenda.

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

(continued)

**Fiscal**

1. The Treasurer's Report for the period ending September 30, 2008. (Attachment I)
2. Student Activity Accounts for the period ending September 20, 2008. (Attachment II)
3. A contract with Gabrielle Marie Hurtubise for speech/language therapy/family training for the 2008-2009 school year at the hourly rate of \$120.00. (Attachment III)
4. A contract with Iris Goldberg for professional development for elementary and secondary school co-teaching teams at the hourly rate of \$150.00. (Attachment IV)
5. A contract with Michael Markisic for "Strategies for Crisis Intervention Prevention - Revised" training at the rate of \$500 per three hour workshop or \$1,000 per six hour workshop. (Attachment V)
6. A contract with Paula Raskin for occupational therapy at the hourly rate of \$80. (Attachment VI)
7. A contract with Laura Strober, Teacher of the Hearing Impaired, for speech/language therapy at the hourly rate of \$90. (Attachment VII)
8. A contract with Kim Wilson for physical therapy services at the hourly rate of \$90. (Attachment VIII)
9. A contract with the Mamaroneck Union Free School District for educational services for one student at the pro-rated yearly rate of \$12,787/50 (Attachment IX)
10. A contract with Kimberly LaRue for dance choreography sessions at Milton School at \$2,000. (Attachment X)
11. Contracts for Translation Services at the hourly rate of \$50 for those listed on the attached. (Attachment XI)
12. A contract with Drew Lamm for Leading the Writerly Life presentation at a cost of \$800. (Attachment XII)
13. A contract with Stephen Maye for Japan – A Study of Art and Music workshop at a cost of \$825. (Attachment XIII)
14. A contract with Alyssa Capucilli for a Writing Children's Stories presentation at a cost of \$500. (Attachment XIX)
15. A contract with Iris Goldberg for Educators as partners workshop at a cost of \$700. (Attachment XX)
16. A contract with Mary Dee Merrell for a Book Making workshop at a cost of \$375. (Attachment XXI)
17. A contract with Karin Reetz for a Book Making workshop at a cost of \$375. (Attachment XXII)
18. The award of a copier lease bid to Ikon Office Solutions for \$63,771. (Attachment XXIII)

**Personnel**

1. The request by Ruthann Comstock Olsen for a Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as an Elementary Teacher, assigned to Midland School effective on or about her estimated due date of January 15, 2009 – June 30, 2009.

(continued)

2. The Amendment of the Child Care Leave of Absence for Courtney Albaum to be effective September 18, 2008 – June 30, 2009.
3. The Amendment of the Child Care Leave of Absence for Michele Haiken to be effective October 8, 2008 – January 23, 2009.
4. The Leave Replacement Appointment of Katy Binder 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 2 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule effective October 27, 2008 – June 30, 2009.
5. The Appointment of William Schrammel as a SAT Supervisor for a total of 10 days at his daily rate of pay.
6. The Appointments for Extra Pay for Extra Work assignments per the attached. (Attachment XXIV)
7. The Appointment of Helaine Miller and Robin Shainberg as Per Diem Substitute Teachers to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2008-2009 School Year.
8. The Provisional Appointment of Maria Novak, as a Junior Account pending eligibility for a Probationary Appointment, assigned to Rye City School District, Central Administration Building, Business Office, effective November 3, 2008. This is a Managerial and Confidential Position.
9. The Appointment of the following PSAT Proctors:  
Rate of pay is dependent upon assignment – Daily rate of pay is as follows:  
Extended Time - \$149.00; Hall Proctor - \$80.00; Room Proctor - \$98.00

Rosa Magnotta  
Diane Garris  
Nesta D'Addario  
Sally Sciavillo  
Joe Brown  
Marijane Schrammel  
Erica Williams  
Amy Carman  
Todd Wagner  
Noreen Kennedy  
Jennifer Skrilow  
Brendan Buschman-Kelly

### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION**

#### **Staff Development Differentiated Instructional Services**

Dr. Cohen and teachers/staff developers, Tracey Orzo, Debra Fishman, Kerri Winderman, and Peggy Gelman explained the work of the staff developers at the elementary schools.

(continued)

Report of the Internal Auditor

Claudia Cabello of Accume Partners presented a report on her firm's risk assessment of the District within budget, financial accounting and reporting and cash areas. She said her firm recommended that the next area of audit be revenue and accounts receivable.

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to adopt the District's Internal Audit Risk Assessment Update by Accume Partners Fiscal Year 2007-2008 and Recommended Audit Plan to engage Accume Partners to conduct an internal audit of Revenues and Accounts Receivable and Cash Deposits during the 2008-2009 school year. (Attachment XXIV)

Review of Revised Board Policies

The Board discussed recommended revised policies 6650, Claims Auditor, and 8334, Use of Credit Cards. It was requested that not only book and material purchases but also fees payable to New York State be added as categories permissible as charges on a credit line.

Miscellaneous Topics

Mr. Nathan asked Mr. Fox to report on his presentation at the October 22 hearing on a tax cap and unfunded mandates. Mr. Fox reviewed his comments which he noted would be posted on the District's web site.

Mr. Zahm offered praise to Mr. Fox. Bertrand de Frondeville spoke from the audience stating that a contingent budget should be considered an essential school budget.

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**Board Minutes

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried 5-0-1 with Mr. Zahm abstaining, the minutes of the Board of Education meeting of October 14, 2008 were approved.

Budget Transfer Schedules

After stating concern regarding a budget transfer made without Board approval, Mr. Zahm moved and Ms. Egan seconded the motion to approve Budget Transfer Schedules for the month of September 2008 with the admonishment that the transfer that should have been presented to the Board for approval before it was made and the stipulation that this be noted as having been processed incorrectly in the records and for the auditors. (Attachment XXV)

Approval of Warrants

After responding to a number of challenges by Mr. Zahm regarding bill payment, Dr. Shine suggested that in the future the warrants would be provided three weeks or so ahead of a  
(continued)

Board meeting to help preclude meeting delay and discussion of individual items. On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve

Warrants #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, #14, and #15 for the month of September 2008. (Attachment XXVI)

#### Budget Transfer

On a motion by Ms. Egan, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve Budget Transfer #3 to cover additional approved contracts for student transportation for the 2008-2009 school year with funds transferred from Summer School 2008 and District-Wide Contractual budget lines. (Attachment XXVII)

#### Contract with AIND/Giant Steps

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried 5-0-1 with Mr. Zahm abstaining, it was voted to approve a contract with AIND/Giant Steps for one student at a tuition rate of \$107,000 for the 2008-2009 12-month program with the stipulation that AIND be spelled out and not listed as an acronym. (Attachment XXVIII)

Mr. De Frondeville, speaking from the audience, challenged the amount of the tuition. Dr. Shine provided an explanation of special education legal obligations to meet the learning requirements of children with special needs, explaining further that some children required greater support than the District programs or local programs could provide, and that when this occurred the best placement often was at a distance and often at a great cost.

#### Contract with TheraCare

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve a contract with TheraCare for physical therapy and special education/consultant teacher services at the hourly rate of \$90, with the stipulation that the legal name of the entity be used in the contract and that the signature lines be corrected. (Attachment XXIX)

#### Contract with NYU Child Study Center

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve a contract with the NYU Child Study Center for behavioral/education consulting services at the hourly rate of \$225 with the provision that NYU be spelled out in the contract to New York University. (Attachment XXX)

#### Contract with TheraCare Preschool Services

Mr. Nathan announced that this item would be tabled.

(continued)

Contract with Kathleen McNeila

Mr. Nathan announced that this item would be tabled.

Contract with Akiko Watanabe

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted to approve a contract with Akiko Watanabe for translation services above and beyond academic support to District Limited English Proficiency students grades 3-12 at an hourly rate of \$50 with the provision that "Japanese" be inserted in the contract to define the language to be translated. (Attachment XXXI)

**COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM THE BOARD**

Mr. Zahm said that the Technology Committee was still in a formative stage and that he was seeking volunteers.

Mr. Zahm requested a summary of the cost of the move of the administrative offices to 411 Theodore Fremd Avenue.

Mr. Zahm requested an aggregate of tuition students versus the budget plan.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 11:33 p.m. to adjourn into executive session for the continuation of discussion of topics discussed during executive session preceding the start of the business meeting of the Board.

On a motion by Ms. Egan, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 12:33 a.m. to reconvene in public and immediately adjourn the meeting.

Lynn Ferrari  
District Clerk