

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
April 27, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Nathan at 7:00 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. Raymond Schmitt
Mr. Robert Zahm

And

Dr. Edward Shine, Superintendent of Schools was excused from executive session
Dr. Steven Cohen, Assistant Superintendent was excused from executive session
Ms. Kathleen Ryan, Business Manager was excused from executive session
Ms. Elaine Cuglietto, Director of Personnel was excused from executive session

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

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 8:05p.m. to reconvene in public.

Mr. Nathan welcomed those present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Writing Project is a special program that began 11 years ago in our school district. It links each 9th, 10th and 11th grade student with a teacher designated as his or her writing mentor. Each student is assigned to his mentor's homeroom so they have an opportunity to see each other every day. The mentors are not involved in the evaluation of their students' work so they can provide valuable feedback in a "neutral" context.

Midland students participated in a "reader's theater" this month. After studying fairy tales and folk tales, the students practiced reading parts from stories such as Little Red Riding Hood,

Hansel & Gretel, Sleeping Beauty and Puss in Boots. They read with fluency and expression and even included some sound effects.

Pam Park's Social Studies classes in the middle school study US history using presentations about life in the 1930's. Students researched movies, advertising, radio broadcasts, toys and other aspects of life during the Depression. They then shared what they learned with their classmates. Also in the middle school, 6th grade science teacher Nick Apiscopa has added a nutrition unit as an extension of the curriculum. His students learned about lipids, carbohydrates, proteins and other essentials. Here, the students use a food journal to keep track of their eating habits.

Midland students have developed a special relationship with students from the Rye School of Leadership. The older students spend time in Midland classrooms, even attending Midland's monthly spirit assemblies. Some took it upon themselves to write a song for Midland's character education program. RSOL students collaborated with Midland students on a rainforest mural project.

Osborn students celebrated Earth Day by participating in a World Wildlife Fund program to save the tiger from extinction. Students collected \$100 for the fund and also held a contest to "name the tiger." The Winners were: Emma Kahle for the name "ASH", Ned Mattison for the name "Tigeritha" and Nichole Verecszkey for the name "Shadow." The students all received a personalized tiger adoption certificate and the satisfaction that they helped to make a difference.

Middle School students are also thinking about making a difference. For Make a Difference Day, the school hosted an all-day expo with vendors from local and national not-for-profit organizations who help to make the world a better place. To kick off the day, all of the students attended a talk given by Kevin and Hannah Salwen, who co-wrote the book Power of Half. "Make A Difference" T-shirts were sold during the expo and proceeds donated to one of the organizations exhibiting in the gym that day.

The 2nd Annual Safe Routes to School Video Contest for Rye High and Middle School students is underway this week. Students were invited to make a Public Service Announcement up to 90 seconds long to encourage fellow students to follow traffic safety rules. Winners will receive prizes and their videos will be posted on Rye City Safe Routes TV. All entries are due this Friday. Here are last year's winning PSA's. Dr. Shine then showed video clips of last year's winners.

Hearing of the Public on Non Agenda Items

Rye High School Psychologist, Dr. Iris Knight Arest; Foreign Language Teacher and Department Chairperson Ms. Lisa Jenner; Foreign Language Teacher Ms. Jennifer Johnson; Music Teacher and Department Chairperson Mr. Dan Brown; English Teacher Ms. Suzanne Short and Rye Middle School Social Studies Teacher and Varsity Football Coach Mr. Dino Garr, each addressed the Board of Education and administration describing their experiences working

in the Rye City School District and asking for the quick return to negotiations and settlement of the Rye Teachers' Association contract.

Mr. Nathan thanked all of the speakers that addressed the Board indicating that the status of negotiations is a confidential matter and that another negotiation session is scheduled in the coming week.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Nathan announced that the following items were pulled from the Consent Agenda:

Consent Agenda 10A – Special Education

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

General

Consent Agenda – General – 6A - Approval of the April 13, 2010 minutes as presented.

Consent Agenda – General – 6B - Adoption of Amended Resolution to establish May 18, 2010 for Budget Election Procedures and Board Positions (Attachment # I)

Consent Agenda – General - 6C - Approval of Resolution to appoint election inspectors for May 18, 2010 (Attachment #II)

Consent Agenda – General 6D - Approval of gift from Mr. & Mrs. Chen in the amount of \$3,921 (Attachment #III)

Fiscal

Consent Agenda – Fiscal – 7A - The Board adopts the attached Property Tax Report card for 2010/11. (Attachment #IV)

Consent Agenda – Fiscal 7B - The Board approves the contract with Mr. Bates for \$2,800. (Attachment #V)

Consent Agenda – 7C - The Board approves the contract with Blythedale Children's Hospital for the 2009/10 school year. (Attachment # VI)

Consent Agenda – 7D - The Board approves the consultant services agreement with John A. Coleman School for 2009-2010 (Attachment #VII)

Consent Agenda – 7E - The Board approves the admission of a non-resident HS student for 2010/11.

Board Minutes

April 27, 2010

Consent Agenda – 7F - The Board approves contracting with Keane & Beane, LLP for the services of Mr. Ralph DeMarco for a particular case, at the rate of \$200 per hour.

Consent Agenda – 7G - The Board designates up to \$5,000 from the Commercial Fund for the purchase and planting of trees in accordance with the MS/HS Tree Planting Plan.

Consent Agenda – 7H - The Board approves the Treasurer's Report for the period ending 3/31/10 (Attachment #VIII)

Consent Agenda – 7I - The Budget Transfer #17 in the amount of \$20,900. to cover Legal expense for Labor Relations (Attachment #IX)

Personnel-Professional

The Board approves the Resignation of Joseph Tito as a Teaching Assistant, assigned to Rye High School Academic Intervention Center, effective at the close of business April 16, 2010.

The Board approves the request of Deborah DioGuardi for a Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as an Elementary Teacher, assigned to Osborn School, effective on or about her estimated due date of September 10, 2010 to the end of the 1st Semester.

The Board approves the request of Christen Klewicki for a Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as an English Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, effective September 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011.

The Board approves the Amendment of the Child Care Leave of Absence for Bruna Mascia to be effective April 16, 2010 – June 30, 2010. (Bruna Mascia was previously approved for a Child Care Leave of Absence to be effective on or about her estimated due date of April 13, 2010 – June 30, 2010 at the January 26, 2010 Board of Education Meeting.

The Board approves the Salary Adjustment Payment of Jennifer Tramaglini from a Permanent Substitute Teacher, at the rate of \$105 per day, to a 1.0 FTE, MA Step 2, of the 2006-2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, \$58,331* (pro rated amount of \$23,332*), for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in English Language Arts 7-12, assigned to Rye High School, effective March 1, 2010 – June 30, 2010. (Jennifer Tramaglini has been substituting in the same assignment for Christen Klewicki who was approved for a Child Care Leave of Absence, effective March 1, 2010 – June 30, 2010 at the March 9, 2010 Board of Education Meeting.)

The Board approves the Appointment of Fred Illium for Home Instruction, 2 hours plus one hour of prep time per week, at the Home Instruction Rate of \$49.89* per hour, effective April 16, 2010.

*Salary pending contract settlement

That the Board approves the following 6th Assignments, effective April 22, 2010 – June 30, 2010.

Name	Rate
Peter Gouveia	\$2,630.97*
Alex Tejera	\$2,186.32*
Christina Balsama	\$2,344.43*
Craig Dreves	\$1,958.07*
Sophie Kent	\$2,382.48*

(Peter Gouveia, Alex Tejera, Christina Balsama, Craig Dreves and Sophie Kent were assigned a 6th assignment to cover Kristie Orlando-Bangali’s classes. Kristie Orlando-Bangali is on a medical leave pending her approved Child Care Leave of Absence, effective on or about her estimated due date of May 7, 2010 – June 30, 2010 at the February 23, 2010 Board of Education Meeting.)

The Board approves the following to work as a timer, supervisor, ticket taker, chain crew, announcer, etc. at athletic events on an as needed basis throughout the 2009-2010 School Year: Jared Small

The Board approves the following Per Diem Substitute Teachers to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2009-2010 School Year at a daily rate of \$100.00 per day:

- Regina Glennon
- Alyssa O’Gallagher
- Lisa Fillat

*Salary pending contract settlement

Personnel – Classified

The Board approves the Termination of Karen Valencia from her position as a Food Service Worker, due to job abandonment, effective April 16, 2010.

The Board approves the Termination of Florante Dalmacio from his position as a Food Service Worker, due to job abandonment, effective April 16, 2010.

The Board not approve the request by Alyson Caminiti for an unpaid Personal Leave of Absence, from her position as a Teacher Aide assigned to Special Education, assigned to Milton School, effective September 1, 2010 – end of the 1st Semester.

That the Board not approve the request by Kathleen Martin for an unpaid Personal Leave of Absence, from her position as a Teacher Aide assigned to Special Education, assigned to Milton School, effective June 4, 2010 – March 2011.

The Board approves the Appointment of the following for Rye High School Graduation for the 2009/2010 school year:

Name	Assignment	Amount
Sara Linehan	Security & Traffic Control	\$30.00/hr.
Lance Lasapio	Security & Traffic Control	\$30.00/hr.
James DeLancey	Security & Traffic Control	\$30.00/hr.
Martin Resendiz	Security & Traffic Control	\$30.00/hr.
Ronald Mosia	Security & Traffic Control	\$30.00/hr.
Joseph Ruggeri	Security & Traffic Control	\$30.00/hr.
Stephan Mylenski	Security & Traffic Control	\$30.00/hr.
William Casailinova	Security & Traffic Control	\$30.00/hr.
John Barrett	Security & Traffic Control	\$30.00/hr.
Donald Tice	Set-up, Filming & Breakdown	\$15.00/hr.
Chris Reifsynder	Set-up, Filming & Breakdown	\$15.00/hr.
Sean Kelly	Set-up, Filming & Breakdown	\$15.00/hr.
Clay Esler	Set-up, Filming & Breakdown	\$15.00/hr.
Chris Alimena	Set-up, Filming & Breakdown	\$15.00/hr.
Robert Rodriguez	Director & Audio	\$25.00/hr.
Ben Chesneau	Director & Audio	\$25.00/hr.
Dan LaTera	Technician	\$50.00/hr.

(Only 6 of the above will be needed for Security & Traffic Control. Set-up, Filming, Breakdown, Director & Audio not to exceed 3 hours each. Technician not to exceed 4 hours.)

The Board approves the Appointment of the following Videographer:

Joel Louis-Ferdinand as a substitute camera person for the taping of Rye City School District Board of Education Meetings for the 2009-2010 school year at the hourly rate of \$35.00 on an as needed basis only.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda – Special Education 10A - On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried (6 – 0 – 1) with Mr. Zahm abstaining to approve the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Preschool Special Education recommendations as attached. (Attachment #X)

Mr. Nathan thanked the Chen Family for their generous donation of \$3,921. to the Rye School Athletic Program for the Ski Team.

Action/Discussion Items**BOCES Administrative Budget and Board Candidates**

Consent Agenda – 12A - 2010/11 Estimated Administrative Budget for the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in the amount of \$8,558.115.

Consent Agenda – 12B –The Board casts three votes, one for Georgia Riedel, one for Joseph Wooley, and one for Nancy Fisher to serve as Trustees of the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services for the time period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013.

Dr. Shine explained the relationship between the Rye City School District and Southern Westchester BOCES. Each year, BOCES is required to seek approval for its estimated administrative budget from component districts' Boards of Education. Dr. Shine advised the Board that they are being asked to approve the 2010-2011 Estimated Administrative Budget for the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in the amount of \$8,558,115.00. representing a 2.18% increase over the current year's budget, and to cast three votes, one for Georgia Reidel, one for Joseph Wooley, and one for Nancy Fisher to serve as Trustees of the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services for the time period July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2013.

Consent Agenda – 12A - At the conclusion of the discussion, on a motion by Ms. Egan, seconded by Mr. Schmitt and carried (6 – 1) with Mr. Zahm voting No to approve the Estimated Administrative Budget for the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in the amount of \$8,558,115.00. (Attachment #XI)

Consent Agenda – 12B - At the conclusion of the discussion, on a motion by Ms. Egan, seconded by Mr. Schmitt and carried (6– 1) with Mr. Zahm voting No to cast three votes, one for Georgia Reidel, one for Joseph Wooley, and one for Nancy Fisher to serve as Trustees of the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services for the time period July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2013. (Attachment #XII)

Dr. Shine presented a power point presentation on his recommended school budget for the 2010-2011 school year. This presentation is available for viewing on the school district website.

COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Zahm reported that last week Osborn School ran a series of drawings for any child who went to school by using his/her own green energy. Each child's name was entered into a raffle. This contest was coordinated by staff members Jean Roman and Kim Potter. By the end of the week, approximately half of the enrollment participated in this competition of getting to

and from school by either walking or by bicycle. Mr. Zahm stated that this was a wonderful way to motivate children to walk to school.

Mr. Nathan commended Mr. Zahm for his contributions for the walking to school and Safe Routes to School and Pedestrian Safety in the schools. Mr. Zahm and Mr. Nathan acknowledged the contributions of Mrs. Elizabeth Zahm in this area as well.

Mr. Zahm read a letter of resignation from his position as a board member after six years of service to be effective at the conclusion of tonight's Board of Education meeting (4/27/10). Although his term runs until the end of June, he indicated that he is resigning as of this date. Mr. Zahm thanked those that elected him to serve on the Board of Education, he thanked those members of the committees that he worked on and chaired, thanked his fellow Board of Education Members and thanked the administration, parents and teachers for his experiences as a Board Member.

Mr. Nathan, Ms. Kim, Mr. Fox, Ms. Slack and Ms. Egan thanked Mr. Zahm for his service to the Rye City School District and wished him well in his future endeavors.

Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Schmitt and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:45 p.m. to move into Executive Session for the continuation of discussion of topics discussed during an earlier executive session this evening to review the employment history of current and prospective employees, discuss negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law and current litigation.

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Nathan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:05 p.m. to reconvene in public and immediately adjourn the meeting.

Elaine Cuglietto
District Clerk

Video of this meeting can be found on the District's website (www.ryeschools.org). Click on District and on Board of Education.