

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
October 27, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Nathan at 7: 35 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. Ray Schmitt
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 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, and discuss negotiations pursuant to the Taylor Law and current litigation.

On a motion by Ms. Kim seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 8:14 p.m. to reconvene in public.

Mr. Nathan welcomed those present and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Nathan reported that the leadership of the Rye Teachers' Association's Negotiating Team and the Rye City School District Board of Education's Negotiating Team met on October 26, 2009 and agreed to a new format for future discussions. Another meeting has been scheduled for early November.

Report of the Superintendent

- Dr. Shine reported on some of the exciting happenings from around our school district:
- A retirement party was held for Dolores Remling who retired this summer after 51 years as an Art Teacher at Midland Elementary School.
 - Several high school students achieved success in music, with some students being selected for All-State/All-Area orchestra, band and choral groups.

- Last weekend the Parson’s Street Players’ performance of Metamorphoses was a success. Congratulations to everyone involved in the play.
- Parents of middle school students were introduced to the parent portal of Power School.
- Milton School - Kindergarten students were on a five senses nature walk on school grounds.
- Osborn School – Students in various grade levels are taking advantage of the “Take your Parent to Lunch Days” at Osborn School.
- Midland School - Fourth grade students researched various explorers for their presentations.

Hearing of the Public on Non Agenda Items

There were no questions or comments from the public

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Tabled - Action General 1 – Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of October 13, 2009.

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

General

1. The Grade 3 Spanish Curriculum (Attachment I)
2. The Rye High School Senior Elective Course Curriculum:
Introduction to Western Philosophy (Attachment II)
3. The Acceptance of Gift Requests:
To Heard in Rye from Rye High School Parents Organization in the amount of \$2,500 and to Heard in Rye from Rye Middle School Parents Organization in the amount of \$1,325 (Attachment III)

To Rye Middle School from Rye Middle School Parents Organization for a Desk and Chair for the Security Station in the amount of \$2,230 (Attachment IV)

Fiscal

1. Approval of Treasurer’s Report ending August 31, 2009 (Attachment V)
2. Approval of Treasurer’s Report ending September 30, 2009 (Attachment VI)
3. Approval of Budget Transfers:
#6-\$12,583 to reclassify Human Resource salary expense from Clerical

- to administrative expense (Attachment VII)
#7-\$306,605 to reclassify Extra Pay for Extra Work to individual school Accounts (Attachment VIII)
- 4. Approval of Student Activity Accounts Report as of September 30, 2009 (Attachment IX)
- 5. Approval of Contract with Lidia Farange for Romanian Translation Services at \$50 per hour. (Attachment X)
- 6. Approval of 2008/09 Final Contract for Southern Westchester BOCES (Attachment XI)
- 7. Approval of Contract with Rye Country Day School for 2009/10 use of their Ice Rink at a rate of \$8,622.50. (Attachment XII)

Personnel – Professional

APPROVE the Appointment of the following Winter Coaches Extra Pay for Extra Work for the 2009-2010 School Year:

| | | | | 09/10 | 09/10 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|---------|-------|-------|
| | ACTIVITY | NAME | INDEX | STEP | RATE* |
| ATHLETICS -WINTER | | | | | |
| ATHLETIC | Assistant to Program (Athletic) | Mazza, John | 0.10000 | 6 | 6,780 |
| BASKETBALL (Girls) | Varsity | Henwood, Mary | 0.11500 | 6 | 7,796 |
| BASKETBALL (Girls) | J.V. | Dowling, Kathryn | 0.08000 | 6 | 5,424 |
| BASKETBALL (Girls) | Assistant to Program | Caulway, Cari | 0.05500 | 6 | 3,729 |
| BASKETBALL (Boys) | Varsity | DiCintio, Chris | 0.11500 | 6 | 7,796 |
| BASKETBALL (Boys) | J.V. | Tuttle, Doug | 0.08000 | 6 | 5,424 |
| BASKETBALL (Boys) | Assist. to Prog. | O'Connor, Kevin | 0.05500 | 6 | 3,729 |
| ICE HOCKEY | Varsity | Friesen, Jason | 0.11500 | 6 | 7,796 |
| ICE HOCKEY | Ass't Varsity | Thomas, Peter | 0.08000 | 6 | 5,424 |
| SWIMMING (Boys) | Varsity | Fierro, Carle | 0.08000 | 6 | 5,424 |
| WINTER TRACK | Varsity-Boys | Yedowitz, Jim | 0.11500 | 6 | 7,796 |
| WINTER TRACK | Varsity-Girls | McGee, John | 0.11500 | 6 | 7,796 |
| WINTER TRACK | Ass't to Varsity | Ciocoiu, Adrian | 0.08000 | 5 | 5,165 |
| WINTER TRACK | Ass't to Varsity | Moynahan, Blair | 0.08000 | 3 | 4,685 |
| WRESTLING | Varsity | Beckley, Matthew | 0.11500 | 5 | 7,425 |
| SKI TEAM | Varsity | Hansen, Jennifer | | | 0 |
| Middle School - Winter | | | | | |
| BASKETBALL (boys) | M.S. (8th) | Masset, Mike | 0.06500 | 6 | 4,407 |

Board Minutes

October 27, 2009

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------|---|-------|
| BASKETBALL (boys) | M.S. (7th) | McCumber, Randall | 0.06500 | 6 | 4,407 |
| BASKETBALL (girls) | M.S. (8th) | Mooney, Kimberly | 0.06500 | 3 | 3,807 |
| BASKETBALL (girls) | M.S. (7th) | Mills, Emily | 0.06500 | 4 | 3,997 |
| WINTER TRACK (7/8) | Modified Coach | Sandhaus, Craig | 0.06500 | 6 | 4,407 |
| WINTER TRACK (7/8) | Assist. To Mod. Program | Carman, Charles | 0.05500 | 4 | 3,382 |
| ICE HOCKEY | Mod 7,8,9 | Bailey, Thomas | 0.06500 | 3 | 3,807 |
| WRESTLING | Mod. (7/8) | Ball, David | 0.06500 | 3 | 3,807 |

(One Rye City School District student will ski alongside the Rye Neck team. The parents will cover all expenses.)

*Salary pending contract settlement

APPROVE the following Appointments for Additional Work for Assistance at Drama Productions for the 2009-2010 School Year:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Assignment</u> | <u>Rate</u> |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Marie Carlucci | Ticket Taker | \$55.44 per night* |
| Joe Carlucci | Ticket Taker | \$55.44 per night* |
| Rosa Magnotta | Ticket Taker | \$55.44 per night* |
| Julianne May | Ticket Taker | \$55.44 per night* |
| Dorothy Sorensen | Ticket Taker | \$55.44 per night* |
| (2 per performance – 2 hours each performance) | | |
| S. DeMartini-Loughren | Extra Supervision Staff | \$55.44 per night* |
| Brittany Foster Rothstein | Extra Supervision Staff | \$55.44 per night* |
| Alanna Kramerson | Extra Supervision Staff | \$55.44 per night* |
| Lynn Kraut | Extra Supervision Staff | \$55.44 per night* |
| Rosa Magnotta | Extra Supervision Staff | \$55.44 per night* |
| Judd Rothstein | Extra Supervision Staff | \$55.44 per night* |
| Robert Steel | Extra Supervision Staff | \$55.44 per night* |
| Kristen Warner | Extra Supervision Staff | \$55.44 per night* |
| (4 per performance – about 2 hours each performance) | | |
| James Angelo | Security | \$20.66/per hour |
| Edward DiNunzio | Security | \$25.54/per hour |
| Richard Kelley | Security | \$19.56/per hour |
| Annette Russo | Security | \$18.44/per hour |
| (1 per performance – 4 hours each performance) | | |
| Security may require Overtime of Time and One-Half or Double Time. | | |

APPROVE 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:

- Laura Anechiarico
- Linda Baker
- Matthew Brown
- Jennifer Bucalo
- Lisa Burroughs
- Chad Charney
- William Glynn
- Jessica Jewitt
- Vera Protano
- Nicholas Stavrides
- Simona Vasile

Personnel – Classified

APPROVE the Appointment for Additional Work of Nancy Dunn to update contact e-mail lists at the rate of \$26.35 per hour not to exceed 15 hours for the 2009-2010 School Year.

(Nancy Dunn will be paid the hourly rate of Step 1 for a Sr. Office Assistant from the 2009-2010 Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Comp. Aide Salary Schedule.)

APPROVE the Appointments for Additional Work of the following Teacher Aides at their hourly rate of pay:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Hourly Rate</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Lisa Albore Genova | \$16.24 |
| Peter Mutino, Jr. | \$20.74 |
| Sarah Shiboski | \$16.24 |

(Lisa Albore Genova, Peter Mutino, Jr. and Sarah Shiboski will be helping with the evening Circus Arts Performance at Milton School. Their hours should not exceed 1 ½ hours each.)

(Sara Shiboski will be an Aide for a child in an After School Club.)

Special Education

The recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and Preschool Special Education from its meetings on:

- October 14, 2009 for Student ID #1178;
- September 24, 2009 for Student ID #1221;
- August 19, 2009 for Student ID #549;
- August 27, 2009 for Student ID #1226
- September 25, 2009 for Student ID #900080;
- October 1, 2009 for Student ID #861;
- October 2, 2009 for Student ID #1199DOL;
- October 6, 2009 for Student ID #1079DOL and #1080DOL;

October 7, 2009 for Student ID #1218;
October 8, 2009 for Student ID #377;
October 13, 2009 for Student ID #911409;
October 14, 2009 for Student ID #718;

Mr. Nathan thanked the Rye High School Parents Organization and Rye Middle School Parents Organization for their Gifts for Heard in Rye and the Rye Middle School parents for their gifts for equipment for the middle school security station.

Presentation/Discussion

The Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Dr. Steven Cohen, presented information on ways students are assessed. Dr. Cohen's report indicated detailed information on the four different ways to assess student performance in Kindergarten – Grade 12. The four main ways that we assess our students are:

- Norm-based Assessment – This type of assessment compares students' performances to each other rather than to a body of knowledge. These tests are built on the famous "Bell-Curve" distribution, where the range of scores does not change, only the place an individual within that range. An example of a Norm based assessment is the SAT Test, developed and administered by the College Board.
- Criterion- referenced Assessment – This type of assessment tells us how well students know a specific body of knowledge and skills. There is no fixed distribution of scores. For this reason, instruction affects outcomes for large numbers of students, either positively or negatively. An example of a criterion-referenced assessment is an end of year test, or advanced placement examination.
- Formative Assessment – This type of assessment allows teachers to monitor student progress day to day. It is a useful tool. Examples: Pop quizzes, projects, homework, etc.
- Authentic Assessment – This type of assessment requires students to be effective performers with acquired knowledge. This assesses a student's ability to apply acquired knowledge using tasks that mirror real-world challenges.

Mr. Nathan asked for some guidance as to how the administration will assess on the key priorities in the summer planning session for this year primarily in math and foreign language.

Mr. Nathan asked the administration to present details at the next Board of Education Meeting of how the priorities of Math and foreign language will be achieved and what specific information will be provided to the Board. Mr. Nathan noted that it is critical that the administration present to the board the type of reporting to be presented to the Board in the spring on the top priorities of math and foreign language.

Mr. Nathan asked the administration to set the Board's expectations on what is realistic to pursue and share with us so there are no surprises or concerns that somehow we did not investigate the right issues at the end of this year.

Business Official, Mrs. Kathleen Ryan gave a report on the Fiscal Constraints & Challenges for 2009-2010 and 2010-2011.

Mrs. Ryan indicated some changes and challenges since the last budget was developed Among the issues addressed were:

- Likely decrease in state aid for next school year, as well as a possible 2009-2010 mid-year cut in state aid imposed by Albany
- Significant increases on the part of employers (Employer's Contribution Rate) in the required contributions to both the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) and the New York State Employees' Retirement System (ERS).
- The likely reduction in revenues from lower assessments, lower sales tax revenue and increase in the number of tax certioraris
- The growing student enrollment in the school district that will drive personnel and facilities costs.
- Status of collective bargaining for all units
- Health Insurance premium increases
- Facilities Maintenance Projects
- Technology Plan Projects
- Tax Certiorari refund
- Utility Cost increases
- Health service costs
- There is a decrease in the current debt service schedule for the 2010-11 school year.

Mrs. Ryan stated that as the 2010-2011 budget preparation continues. The next discussion will include enrollment projections.

Mr. Fox thanked Mrs. Ryan for this useful information for the Board and for the community. Mr. Fox encouraged the public to reach out to Albany to Governor Patterson, to George Latimer our State Assemblyman and Suzi Oppenheimer our State Senator who is also the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee. We need to remind them that they need to keep the state aid in place or they need to cut the program costs that we and other school districts are forced to bear. This has a significant impact on taxes and tax rate that we face. The public needs to go back to the state legislatures.

Mr. Nathan indicated that it is critical that people in the community reach out to the representatives. The aid that we do get from Albany is absolutely needed.

Ms. Egan stated that she is a member of the Westchester Putnam School Boards Association Board who sits on a task force to work with the Westchester Municipal Board's Association. They are hoping to work with Nassau and Dutchess Counties as well with two main goals in mind to go to Albany regarding Tier V for pension reform and a diminution of unfunded state mandates. These are the two issues we need addressed right now.

COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Zahm referenced an article in yesterday's New York Times regarding pedestrians being responsible for their own safety. Mr. Zahm used this as a prelude to discussion regarding subset of city council to discuss some safety issues.

Mr. Nathan indicated he spoke with the Mayor last week and Dr. Shine has been in touch with the city administration to look at the situation around Osborn School. We have looked at traffic and safety issues where there is overlap between the city and the school district. All agreed is not necessary for the full city council and all of the school board to be present to discuss these issues, or that it is only pertaining to Osborn School.

Dr. Shine indicated that he had a meeting with Scott Pickup as a follow up to a meeting with school PTO Co- presidents. They agreed that Scott would call the PTO Co presidents. There are some small things that could occur that could make things a little safer. They agreed that in early December would be a good date to bring the two boards together. Dr Shine suggest that we place all the issues on the table, where some action can be taken in the short term and other issues that may include engineering or staffing into next year.

Mr. Fox commented on a condition regarding a large evergreen tree on the Osborn property that blocks the view. Mr. Zahm submitted a picture to the City and they would address it with the property owner. Mr. Zahm indicated that he has now been told that it is now in process.

Ms. Egan reminded the public at the District wellness page is up and running. There will be a monthly update. There are recommendations for Halloween parties at the elementary level.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Mr. Schmitt and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 9:46 p.m. to adjourn into Executive session.

At 11:55 p.m. the Board returned to Public Session and a motion was made by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Ms. Kim and carried (6-0) to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Slack left the meeting before the meeting ended.

Elaine Cuglietto
District Clerk

TO DO: Mr. Zahm asked the administration if it is possible to ask Dr. Bishop how does the changing enrollment in total compare to what our peer districts are experiencing?

Mr. Nathan asked how we are doing with our key priorities identified in summer planning session on math and foreign language. We are asking for some kind of outline on what the assessment will be and what type of reporting will be given in the spring on top priorities in math and foreign language.

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