

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
November 24, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Nathan at 6:35 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 Manager
Ms. Elaine Cuglietto, Director of Personnel
Mr. Gus Mountanos, Legal Counsel

On a motion by Ms. Slack, 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. Schmitt seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 8:10 p.m. to reconvene in public.

Mr. Nathan welcomed those present and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mr. Nathan reviewed the format of the Board meeting and of the Open Topic Forum.

OPEN TOPIC FORUM

Board Members met with small groups until 9:15 p.m. The Board Members then reported on topics of discussion in their groups. The following is a list among those items discussed:

Technology / Strategic Plan for Smart Boards / Number of Smart Boards at the Middle and the High School

Foreign Language / FLES Program / Latin Program / Regents Honors classes /
AP Foreign Language issues
Traffic Safety

Teacher Contract
High School / Science labs
Middle School Lunch
Elementary Recess
Class Size
Food as Reward
Parent Assistance for identifying energy efficiencies
Middle School / High School campus beautification
Middle School/High School clubs are leadership opportunities

Mr. Nathan stated that he discussed with some of the participants at the Open Topic Forum the issue of the Board and administration helping the parent organizations coordinate with each other around needs and plans. Mr. Nathan encouraged collaboration between the parent organizations including the high school and middle school PTOs meeting to discuss campus issues that they might collaborate on.

Mr. Nathan encouraged that at a portion of a future Board meeting the heads of each of the parent organizations get together with the Board to discuss specific coordination issues.

Mr. Nathan addressed the issue of Safe Routes to School. Mr. Nathan will be meeting with the Mayor Elect Doug French next week. This is a topic on the agenda for discussion. The

Mr. Nathan thanked everyone who participated and indicated that the concerns raised would be given to Dr. Shine. Feedback by the district will be addressed at the next Board meeting. The Superintendent responds to all issues in writing. These are sent to the participants and posted on the District website.

Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

There were no communications from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Action General 1 – Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of November 10, 2009

Action Fiscal 4 - Approval of Contract with Ann Larson for an evening presentation on the College Process - \$500.00

Action Fiscal 6 – Budget transfer #8, \$8,500. transferred from Post-Season Conference to Materials and Supplies (Athletic Department) \$8000 and \$500 to Entry Fees

Action Fiscal 8 – Approval of Consulting Agreement with Peter Voorhees for Lessons in Jazz Improvisation for Jazz Band for \$50.00 per hour for 2009-2010

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

General

1. Accept the following two gifts:
Japanese Parents Group to High School/Middle School in the amount of \$2,400
Midland School PTO to Heard in Rye in the amount of \$1,500

Fiscal

1. Treasurer’s Report for the period ending October 31, 2009. (Attachment #1)
2. Bid Award #09-10-09 for printing of High School Newspaper to Southern Dutchess News Corp. for \$625. or \$575. per issue, up to \$5,000. (Attachment #2)
3. Consulting Agreement with A&T Health Care for \$5,460. (Attachment #3)
4. Contract with Peter Farrell for a Financial Aid Presentation- \$150. (Attachment #4)
5. Bid Award #09-10-012 for Special Education Student Transportation to TLC Transportation for \$3,232. per Month. (Attachment #5)
6. Change Order #4 for Caladri Development Corp. for \$350. (Attachment #6)

Personnel-Professional

The Resignation of Michaela McCabe from her position as a 0.5 FTE School Psychologist, assigned to Midland School, effective at the close of business December 4, 2009.

The Leave Replacement Appointment of Erin Trapasso as an Elementary Teacher, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Pre-K, K and Grades 1-6, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 8, of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, \$75,076.* (pro rated amount of \$54,430*), effective November 23, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

The Leave Replacement Appointment of Dayna Reist as an Elementary Teacher, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 2) and New York State Initial Certification in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6), assigned to Milton School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 4, of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary Schedule, \$63,643.* (pro rated amount of \$44,550*), effective December 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

The Leave Replacement Appointment of Gail Pullman as a Library Media Specialist, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification as a Library Media Specialist, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, MA +60 Step 11 of the 2006/2007 Teacher Salary

Schedule, \$94,603.* (pro rated amount of \$8,987*), effective November 30, 2009 – December 23, 2009.

The following Appointments for Additional Work for Assistance at Middle School Musicals, Drama Productions, Vocal Concerts and Art Exhibit for the 2009-2010 School Year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Marie Carlucci	Ticket Taker	\$55.44 per night*
Joseph Carlucci	Ticket Taker	\$55.44 per night*

(2 per performance – 2 hours for each performance)

Marie Carlucci	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Joseph Carlucci	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Angela Purdy	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Pat Ryan	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Cristina Balsama	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Debby Antonecchia	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Deb Davis-Galliard	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Sophie Kent	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Charlie Carman	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Meg Donohue	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Nancy Maika	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Nick Apiscopa	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Craig Dreeves	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Kristi Orlando	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*
Rosa Magnotta	Extra Supervision Staff	\$55.44 per night*

(3-5 per performance – approximately 2 hours for each performance)

Richard Kelley	Security	\$19.56/per hour
Annette Russo	Security	\$18.44/per hour

(1 per performance – approximately 2 hours for each performance and one night of the Art Exhibit)

Security may require Overtime at Time and One-Half or Double Time.

The Appointment of Lisa Burroughs as a Permanent Substitute Teacher on the Elementary Level, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Pre-K, K and Grades 1-6, assigned to Midland School/Milton School/Osborn School, at the rate of \$105 per day, effective November 30, 2009 – June 25, 2010.

The Appointment of 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:

Claudia Keeler
Kendall Ramsey
Evan Hughes

The Appointment of the following Extra Pay for Extra Work for the 2009/2010 School Year

	ACTIVITY	NAME	INDEX	09/10 STEP	09/10 RATE*
High School - Clubs					
Leadership	H.S. AWARDS ASSEMBLY	Giaquinto, Jenn	0.03463	3	2,028
Leadership	H.S. AWARDS ASSEMBLY	Chiffriller, Nichole	0.03463	2	1,932
Leadership	H.S. AWARDS ASSEMBLY	Giaquinto, Jenn (Shared)	0.03463	3	1,014
Leadership	H.S. AWARDS ASSEMBLY	Chiffriller, Nichole (Shared)	0.03463	2	966
Sports	Outdoor Club	Foster, Britany	0.05000	5	3,228
Clubs	Dojo Club	Rodriguez, Julio	0.02000	2	1,116
Academic	Junior State of America	Chung, Julia		Volunteer	
Social	Social Services Coordinator	Degenhardt, Sandy	0.03500	6	2,373
Clubs	Dance Ensemble	Finder, Barbara	0.04000	0	2,024
Social	Pro-versity	Chung, Julia		Volunteer	
High School Winter Musical					
Plays - Spring	Director	Limone, Mike	0.09500	6	6,441
High School Spring Play Production					
Plays - Spring	Director	Limone, Mike	0.07500	6	5,085
Plays - Spring	Set Construction	Gwardyak, John	0.02000	6	1,356
Plays - Spring	Lighting	Gwardyak, John	0.02000	6	1,356
High School Spring Musical					
Plays - Music Review	Lighting/Sound	Gwardyak, John	0.02000	6	1,356
Senior Directing Project					
Sr. Directing Project	Director	Limone, Mike	0.06500	6	4,407
Sr. Directing Project	Lighting/Sound	Gwardyak, John	0.02000	6	1,356

Personnel – Classified

The Resignation due to Retirement of Norma Bashian from her position as a 0.8 FTE Library Clerk, assigned to Osborn School, effective at the close of business December 31, 2009.

The Appointment of Mandy Frohlich as a Teacher Aide for Special Education, assigned to Midland School, at \$17.14 per hour, Step 1 of the 2009/2010 Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Salary Schedule, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective November 2, 2009.

The Appointment of Juan Allase as a Temporary Food Service Worker at the rate of \$12.00 per hour, effective November 24, 2009.

The Emergency Conditional Appointment of the following Videographer: Junius Hughes as a substitute for the Direction of taping of Rye City School District Board of Education Meetings for the 2009-2010 school year at the rate of \$75.00 per hour on an as needed basis only; and 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 rate of \$35.00 per hour on an as needed basis only.

The Appointment of Mark Paragon as a Per Diem Substitute Cleaner to be used only on an as needed basis effective November 30, 2009 – June 30, 2010 at the following rate of pay: Step 1 of Custodial Unit Contract for Cleaner \$19.03* per hour/days and \$19.98* per hour/ nights for the 2009-2010 school year.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Rye City School District herewith authorizes the Board President and the Superintendent of Schools to executive a Settlement Agreement and General Release between the Board and a certain staff member (Employee #1411) discussed in Executive Session.

Special Education

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

- October 28, 2009 for Student ID #1239
- November 2, 2009 for Student ID #912
- September 25, 2009 for Student ID #911598
- October 7, 2009 for Student ID #1209
- October 23, 2009 for Students ID #729 and #930
- October 29, 2009 for Student ID #1249DOL
- October 30, 2009 for Student ID #959DOL
- November 2, 2009 for Student ID # 792

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Shine presented information on the following happenings around the school district:

- ❖ Anthony McGill, Principal Clarinetist of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra taught a master class for 25 Rye High School and Middle School clarinet students. Later in the day, he visited all three elementary schools.
- ❖ This past weekend, Rye Varsity athletes participated in two state competitions; one in Track and Field and one in Girls' Swimming.
- ❖ Dr. Shine thanked Craig Sandhaus and everyone who participated in or contributed to the Deane Flood Memorial Run.
- ❖ Dr. Shine congratulated Rye Middle School students who impressed audiences with their singing and dancing during two performance of "One on this Island."
- ❖ Congratulations to string students who made Intermediate All-County Orchestra and to others for making the Westchester Elementary All-County Orchestra.
- ❖ The Rye Middle School Parents' Organization hosted its annual fundraiser on Friday November 13 at the Rye Presbyterian Church Assembly Hall. More than \$28,000 was raised at this successful event.
- ❖ Author Tedd Arnold visited Midland and Osborn Schools last week and spoke to kindergarten and first grade students.
- ❖ Students at Osborn School celebrated its 3rd Annual Diversity Day
- ❖ Dr. Shine expressed his thanks to the Rye parents, students, faculty members and community. Over the past few weeks, our parents, students and faculty members have donated food and volunteered their time to help those in need here in Rye, in neighboring Port Chester and in the greater community, Such generosity is the true spirit of Thanksgiving. Dr. Shine wished a very Happy Thanksgiving to the Board, the administrative team, our teachers and the entire Rye community.

Mr. Nathan indicated that in the consent agenda two gifts were accepted. One gift was from the Japanese Parents Group to the High School/Middle School and a second gift was accepted from the Midland School PTO to Heard in Rye. Mr. Nathan thanked those organizations for their support of the district's activities.

Items removed from Consent Agenda:

Action General 1 – Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of November 10, 2009.

After discussion, a correction was made on the minutes, a motion was made by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously (7-0) to approve the Minutes of the November 13, 2009 Board of Education meeting as amended.

Action Fiscal 4 - Approval of Contract with Ann Larson for an evening presentation on the College Process - \$500.00

After discussion and recommended Modification to Action by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried unanimously (7-0) to approve the Contract with Ann Larson for an evening presentation on the College Process - \$500 for services and no more than \$350 for expenses. (Attachment #7)

Action Fiscal 6 – Budget transfer #8, \$8,500 transferred from Post-Season Conference to Materials and Supplies (Athletic Department) \$8000 and \$500 to Entry Fees.

After discussion and clarification by Dr. Shine regarding post season play funding, fund raising by parents and booster clubs, and the recognition that this need will not go away, a motion was made by Ms. Egan, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) to approve the Budget transfer #8, \$8,500 transferred from Post-Season Conference to Materials and Supplies (Athletic Department) \$8000 and \$500 to Entry Fees. (Attachment #8)

Action Fiscal 8 – Approval of Consulting Agreement with Peter Voorhees for Lessons in Jazz Improvisation for Jazz Band for \$50.00 per hour for 2009-2010.

After discussion and recommended Modification to Action by Mr. Zahm, seconded by Mr. Schmitt and carried unanimously (7-0) to approve the Consulting Agreement with Peter Voorhees for Lessons in Jazz Improvisation for Jazz Band for \$50.00 per hour for 2009-2010 not to exceed \$1,000. (Attachment #9)

Presentation/Discussion

Dr. Shine presented information on the current school enrollment for 2009 together with Dr. Bishop's projections for the next ten years 2010-2019. (Attachment #7) Dr. Shine discussed the challenges that the District and the Board face in regard to space issues, personnel/staffing issues and the financial and budgetary implications of the district's growth. Mr. Zahm shared data showing how the movement of small numbers of students could reduce the projected section need and how the lowering and raising of average class size affect the number of sections.

COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Zahm commented on some of the Information Section materials presented to the Board. Mr. Zahm requested that the warrants for October, 2009 be pushed to the next cycle in order to give members of the Board more time to review them.

Mr. Zahm inquired if there was the issue of the cash receipts schedule relative to our real property tax revenue. Mrs. Ryan indicated that we will be better able to access this on November 30. She indicated we are watching this very carefully. There has not been a significant event causing us to have to take action at this time.

Mr. Zahm has requested that the Board begin to receive a year to date tax certiorari report from the administration. Mrs. Ryan indicated that currently the Board receives this information in two forms: one is the short fall in tax revenue and the other is amounts paid in the expenditures.

Mr. Zahm inquired about the charts included in the information report. Mr. Zahm is once again asking for forecasts rather than actual to actual comparisons of revenues and expenditures. Mrs. Ryan stated that a forecast chart is planned, and she will begin to work on this by the end of the December recess.

Mr. Zahm reported that as part of the Board Planning Sessions this summer, he agreed to drive the creation of two RFPs related to technology - one for the development of an Informational Technology Strategy for the district in order to take a look at where the district presently is, the technology it has and identify where we should be going to respond better to curriculum and instructional needs, and increase cost efficiency in technology and instructional operations. The second RFP is related to looking at the operations of how leadership for technology is provided.

The draft of the IT strategy RFP has been provided to the Board. Mr. Zahm is looking for feedback from members of the Board regarding this draft RFP. The timeframe of getting this published is short. The plan is to distribute the RFP in December. Mr. Zahm indicated that they would need an Evaluation Committee to review the responses.

Mr. Zahm attended the League of Women Voter's tenure session last week together with Ms. Kim. Mr. Zahm sent the Board a link and attachment of a report summary of what was presented at the meeting. Mr. Zahm stressed the findings of the report dovetail with the discussions the Board has had around the importance of effective evaluations and staff development and encourages the Board to look at the material he sent to them.

Mr. Zahm stressed that the Board does need to meet with the City Council around the issue of pedestrian and child safety early rather than later. Mr. Zahm shared that on Monday the city took the action of blacking out the painted crosswalk at Playland Access Road which, in his opinion, did nothing to improve the safety of children and pedestrians coming across Playland Access Road and may have even made the situation worse. He has taken some action to bring the County and the City together because this is a case of something that is falling between two governmental bodies. We have no jurisdiction there but we have a vested interest in the health and safety of our students.

Mr. Nathan thanked Mr. Zahm for taking the lead in the RFP process and for raising these issues once again regarding pedestrian and child safety. Mr. Nathan stated that he is looking forward to his meeting with Mayor Elect Doug French to discuss these safety issues.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:42 p.m. to 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.**