

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
February 8, 2011

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. Katy Keohane Glassberg
Ms. Young Kim
Mr. Raymond Schmitt

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

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

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

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine reported on the following events around the district:

- Congratulations to our FLES team!
This afternoon, the entire team presented ideas and information about our highly successful FLES program at a meeting of foreign language educators and administrators from Westchester and Putnam.

- Last Friday, Lia Bellezi, one of the many stars of our successful Girls' Soccer Team, signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer for the University of Virginia. Lia is the 4th Rye High School Senior to sign a National Letter of Intent this year. She joins Michael Collins, Lillian McCabe and Caitlin Campbell in committing to attend a specific college next year and play a specific sport.
- The students in Danielle Pizzutto's Biology class performed a DNA extraction last week on their own DNA. The class then made connections to real world uses of DNA, such as DNA fingerprinting to identify parents or crime suspects, which have recently been in the news. This week the students will be simulating the creation of a DNA "fingerprint" using a paper print-out of a gene to determine the paternity of a hypothetical child.
- Teachers in the high school are using a new electronic slate tool that enhances teaching and learning in their classrooms. The slate enables teachers to walk around the classroom instead of standing at the front of the classroom when using the SMARTBoard. They can also give the slate to students to show work from their seats. Teachers say the slate helps make the classroom dynamic more collaborative instead of teacher dominated.
- The Math Counts Club competed on Sunday at Pace University. The team placed 2nd overall in Westchester County. Masaru Osada placed first overall in Westchester out of over 100 students. By placing 2nd, the team will now move on to the State Competition at RPI in Troy, New York, on March 19th.
- The Squash Team competed in the 2011 U.S. Middle School Team Squash Championships at Yale last week. Apparently, the boys exhibited great sportsmanship as they fought for every point.
- First grade teacher Lisa Libertucci and other teachers are enhancing their classroom Literacy Centers. Literacy Centers are a key component in many first grade classrooms. They are used to teach children the components of reading, writing and comprehension, through various activities and challenges. The objective is for each student to reach his or her highest potential. Staff developer Tracey Orzo is working with the teachers to make each center more meaningful and appropriate for each student's needs.
- The 5th grade students at Milton have had a busy month. Scott Cifone's students are working in the science lab testing various substances for acids and bases. Teddy Bear Day saw the 5th graders working with their Kindergarten buddies. The 5th graders measured the Kindergartners and their teddy bears, and then the students compared the measurements.
- The 3rd Grade students in Mrs. Jeanette Hughes' classroom enjoyed a rousing Chinese New Year celebration. Mrs. Paula Fung, a Milton parent, cooked with the students, and they incorporated math and measurement into the lesson. Then the children paraded through the halls in the traditional Chinese dragon dance.

- Osborn’s Kindergarten students are putting on a play this week. The play is called “It’s Saturday.” The play is about the excitement the children have about completing the school week and then having fun on Saturdays.

Hearing of the Public on Non Agenda Items

There were no communications from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Nathan announced that the following item was removed from the Consent Agenda:

Consent Agenda General 6.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board accepts this gift from the Osborn PTO of seven Ultimate II Pal Classroom Audio Enhancement Systems to the school valued at a total of \$12,600.

Mr. Nathan announced that the following item was pulled from the Consent Agenda for further discussion this evening:

Consent Agenda General 6.04

Recommended Action:

That the Board adopts the Holt Mathematics New York State Course 2 Textbook: Grade 6 for use in the Middle School.

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

General

Consent Agenda General 6.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the January 25, 2011 Minutes as presented.

Consent Agenda General 6.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves all policies and regulations presented as corrected (Attachment # I) See district website to access school district policies.

1500 - Schedule 1 Public Use of District Facilities – Revised

4526-R1 - Regulations for District Employee Computer Network Acceptable Use and Internet Safety – Revised

4526-R3 - Regulations for Rye Middle School/Rye High School Student Computer Use and Internet Safety – Revised

5252 - Student Activities Funds Management – New

5280 - Interscholastic Athletics – Revised

5280-R - Interscholastic Football Regulation – New And Helmet Waiver Form

5280.1 - Physical Education Opt-Out – Revised And Application for Opting-Out of Physical Education

Consent Agenda General 6.05

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the French 3RH Curriculum for use in the High School.

Professional

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Amendment of the Child Care Leave of Absence of Rebecca Hurta, to be effective January 22, 2011 – June 30, 2011.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Appointment of Zandra Llanos as a Permanent Substitute Teacher on the Secondary Level, for which she holds New York State Conditional Initial Certification in English Language Arts 7-12, assigned to Rye High School/Rye Middle School, at the rate of \$107 per day, effective January 31, 2011 - June 24, 2011.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the following Per Diem Substitute Teacher to be used on an as needed basis for the 2010-2011 School Year at a daily rate of \$102.00 per day:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Suzanne Adams	January 31, 2011
Aleksandra Nasi	January 31, 2011
Lucinda Ross	February 9, 2011
Michelle Russo	February 9, 2011

Classified

Consent Agenda – Personnel 9.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Resignation of Lee Slater from her position as a Food Service Worker, assigned to Rye High School, effective at the close of business January 24, 2011.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 9.02

Recommended Action: That the Board approves the appointment of the following Per Diem Substitute Teacher Aide to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2010-2011 School Year:

Hourly rate of pay as follows:

Teacher Aide - \$13.08 is hourly rate of pay, Salary Step 1 of Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Unit Contract for the School Year.

Teacher Aide for Special Education – \$17.58 is hourly rate of pay, Salary Step 1 of Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Unit Contract for the School Year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Caitlyn Santoro	February 9, 2011

Consent Agenda – Special Education 10.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Preschool Special Education recommendations as attached. (Attachment # II)

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda General 6.04

Recommended Action:

That the Board adopts the Holt Mathematics New York State Course 2 Textbook: Grade 6 for use in the Middle School.

After discussion, on a motion by Mr. Schmitt, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried (6 - 1) with Mr. Fox voting No, to adopt the Holt Mathematics New York State Course 2 Textbook: Grade 6 for use in the Middle School.

Presentation/Discussion Items

2011-12 Superintendent’s Recommended Budget (Attachment #III)

Dr. Edward Shine and Mrs. Kathleen Ryan presented the 2011-2012 Superintendent's Recommended Budget. The Board and Administration discussed aspects of the budget recommendations, including enrollment and staffing changes, benefit costs and other expenses and then took comments from the community. The 2011-2012 Budget will continue to be discussed as additional information about State aid and other variables becomes known. The next budget discussion is scheduled for the March 1, 2011 Board of Education meeting. A budget calendar and related budget information are available on the Budget and Election Information page of the District web site.

Report from the Financial Planning and Forecasting Board Committee (Attachment #IV)

A five-year financial forecast was presented by Mrs. Kathleen Ryan on behalf of the Financial Planning and Forecasting Committee, along with the many assumptions that the Committee used. The calculations for the budget impact of various levels of debt issuance were discussed. The development of this model was one of the Board Goals for 2010-11 so that the

Board could take into account the budget impact of added debt as it considers methods for dealing with capital needs.

COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM BOARD

There were no further communications from Board Members.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Ms. Slack seconded by Ms. Keohane-Glassberg and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:05 p.m. to adjourn into Executive Session to review current litigation.

On a motion by Mr. Nathan seconded by Mr. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:45 p.m. to reconvene in public and immediately adjourn the meeting.

Elaine M. 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.