

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
April 12, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Nathan at 7:30 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 Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Fox 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 8:00 p.m. to reconvene in public.

Mr. Nathan called the meeting to order 8:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine expressed his thanks to those who came last month to participate in our Open Topic Forum. He indicated that he provided a written response to address some of the major points from the forum, which was distributed through the District's E-notice system that afternoon. Since the Board's last meeting, many achievements have taken place throughout our District.

- The High School's Parsons Street Players presented the musical, *Grease*, on April 8th and 9th in the Performing Arts Center. The students put on an excellent show, with Connor Antico starring as Danny and Jenna Langbaum playing Sandy.
- Andrew Rochat, a seventh grade student at the Middle School, was named a top 25 finalist in the Blue Man Group National Engineering Contest, "Invent an Instrument." Students throughout the United States entered the contest by submitting photos and videos of their hand-made musical instruments. Andrew worked on his project for 16 weeks in his after-school technology club meetings.
- Midland School was honored by The Academy for Character Education at the Sage Colleges – the New York chapter of the Character Education Partnership. Midland was named an Emerging School of Character and is one of only nine schools throughout the state that was honored at a ceremony on April 6th. Midland's REACH Program – an acronym for **R**espect, **E**mpathy, **A**cceptance, **C**ooperation and **H**onesty – continues to grow as its principles are demonstrated by students, staff, and parents each day.
- Midland also held its annual fair recently, this year's theme being, "Midland Goes Around the World." The fair provided fun activities for all, and also raised money for Japan through an origami chain, Japanese soda sale, and coin drive.
- Congratulations to Milton student Nick Khoo, who won first place in the PEARLS Hawthorne School Chess Tournament in the 2-5 Novice division. Alex Marino came in third in the K-1 division.
- Osborn has raised an impressive \$6,369.85 for its "Save Japan Fund" in the past 3 weeks. Students earned \$1,557.65 in proceeds from "Kids Save Japan Day," and an additional \$1,160. was raised from an afterschool fundraiser featuring afternoon activities clubs during teacher conference days. Staff volunteered their time after school to help out, and parents generously provided donations. Third grade students Daniel Rock and Liam Hickey collected \$140. in donations from a donut and coffee sale they organized.
- Congratulations to Osborn second grade students Nicole and Alexis Francis, who participated in their first National Scholastic Chess Foundation tournament and brought home two trophies. Nicole placed among the top 5 individuals winning 3 out of 4 games, and Nicole and Alexis (who tied one of her games) placed 3rd as a team competing for Osborn in the grades 2-5 novice section.
- Dr. Shine reminded everyone that the spring recess will begin on Monday April 18, 2011. All students and staff return to school on Monday April 25, 2011 and begin their preparations for state assessments, AP exams at the high school, band and orchestra concerts, art shows, spring sports and a host of celebratory dinners and awards programs. Parents are eager participants but it is important for members of the community who do not have children in the schools to know that they are also welcome and encouraged to participate.

Hearing of the Public on Non Agenda Items

Ms. Gabrielle Amaturro, Rye High School student and field hockey player spoke on behalf of other students present regarding Ms. Leslie King, a physical education teacher and Rye High School Field Hockey coach. Ms. Amaturro asked the Board to reconsider the retention of Ms. King as a teacher and coach at Rye High School next year. Ms. Amaturro presented the Board with a list of signatures of individuals in support of Ms. King's retention as a teacher and field hockey coach.

Christine Ackert addressed the Board regarding process for tenure of teachers and policy regarding those teachers who have had their probationary periods extended.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Consent Agenda General 6.01

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

General

Consent Agenda General 6.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the joint resolution on the proposed tax cap and mandate relief.
(Attachment #I)

Fiscal

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board awards the RFP for Special Education Consulting Services to The District Management Council for \$75,000, inclusive of all costs and expenses, and permits Dr. Edward J. Shine to execute a consulting agreement prepared by District's counsel for these services.
(Attachment #II)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board awards the Request for Proposal for contracted Comprehensive Communication Services to Watermoor Group Ltd, d/b/a Syntax Communications Group for \$48,000 for July through June 2012, with an annual fee of up to 2% more upon annual renewal for up to four additional years. The Board approves the execution of a contract for these services prepared by District's Counsel to be signed by the Superintendent of Schools.
(Attachment #III)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Health and Welfare Services Contract with the Union Free School District of the Tarrytowns for \$2,608.00 for the 2010-11 school year.

(Attachment #IV)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.04

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Health and Welfare Service Agreement with the Mamaroneck Union Free School District for \$17,741.20 for the 2010-11 school year.

(Attachment #V)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.05

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the admission of one additional new non-resident application. for 2011/12.

Consent Agenda General 7.06

Recommended Action:

That the Board of Education approves this Budget Transfer # 18 in the amount of \$8,479.30 for Reading A-Z and Science A-Z software licenses. (Attachment #VI)

Consent Agenda General 7.07

Recommended Action:

That the Board gratefully accepts the gift of three SMARTboards for the Milton School from the Milton PTO, including electrical and installation, for \$12,885.

Consent Agenda General 7.08

Recommended Action:

That the Board gratefully accepts the gift of \$2,020. for After-School Sports Club funding for the Milton School from the Milton PTO.

Consent Agenda General 7.09

Recommended Action:

That the Board awards Bid #10-11-015R to TLC Transportation, Inc. for \$4,442.00 per month.

Professional

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Resignation of Brian Mulvihill from his position as a Foreign Language Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, effective at the close of business May 8, 2011.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Amendment of the Child Care Leave of Absence for Merrill Bronson, from her position as a Special Education Teacher, assigned to Milton School, effective March 18, 2011 – June 30, 2011.

(Merrill Bronson was previously approved for a Child Care Leave of Absence effective on or about her estimated due date of April 29, 2011 – June 30, 2011 at the January 25, 2011 Board of Education Meeting.)

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves Rescinding the Resignation of Carole Andreasen from her position as a Teacher on Special Assignment/Director of Technology, effective July 1, 2011.

(Carole Andreasen's Resignation was previously approved effective July 1, 2011 at the June 29, 2010 Board of Education Meeting.)

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.04

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Appointment of Carole Andreasen as a Teacher on Special Assignment/Director of Technology, assigned to the Rye City School District, 1.0 FTE, MA +60 Step 18 of the 2011-2012 Teacher Salary Schedule, \$120,009 plus Longevity Payment of \$3,925, plus Supervisory Ratio (.20 of base salary) of \$24,002 = \$147,936 Total Salary, effective July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.05

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Resignation of Carole Andreasen from her position as a Teacher on Special Assignment/Director of Technology, assigned to Rye City School District, effective at the close of business June 30, 2012.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.06

Recommended Action:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Superintendent and Board President are authorized to sign an Agreement extending the probationary term of Bendis Mani, an Art tenure area probationary employee, for a one year period, September 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012 as recommended by the Superintendent.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Superintendent and Board President are authorized to sign an Agreement extending the probationary term of Danielle Pizzuto, a Science tenure area probationary employee, for a one year period, September 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012 as recommended by the Superintendent.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Superintendent and Board President are authorized to sign an Agreement extending the probationary term of Alexandra Soberon, a Foreign Language tenure area probationary employee, for a one year period, September 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012 as recommended by the Superintendent.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.07

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Extra Pay for Extra Work for the 2010-2011 school year:

	ACTIVITY	NAME	INDEX	10/11 STEP	10/11 RATE
Athletics – Spring					
Crew	Varsity (Girls)	Palermo, Jennifer	0.08000	3	4,972
Crew	Varsity (Boys)	Nelson, Stanley	0.08000	3	4,972
Crew	Asst. to Program	Furest, Peter		Volunteer	
Middle School Clubs					
Clubs	Peer Coaching (Math)	*Vodyanitskiy, Aleksey	0.03000	0	419
Milton Clubs					
After School Co-ed winter	Milton - 2 days per week	Ward, Rebecca	0.03250	3	2,020
Osborn Clubs					
After School Co-ed winter	Osborn - 3 days per week	McCumber, Randall	0.04250	6	3,058

*Effective April 7, 2011

(Aleksey Vodyanitskiy will be replacing Marisa Junta who was previously approved for Peer Coaching (Math) at the September 21, 2010 Board of Education Meeting. Marisa Junta is on FMLA until the birth of her baby.)

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.08

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>
Meghan Lorys	March 24, 2011
Janette-Leigh Taylor	April 13, 2011

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.09

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Appointment for Additional Work of the following Teaching Assistant, assigned to Special Education, at her hourly rate of pay, for the 2010-2011 School Year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>	<u>Not To Exceed</u>
Elizabeth Antinozzi	\$25.83	4 hours

(Elizabeth Antinozzi worked one on one for a child practicing for a play.)

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.10

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Appointment of Maxine Dreckmann as a Substitute Teaching Assistant for Special Education, at the hourly rate of \$28.29, Salary Step 6 of the 2010-2011 Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Unit Contract, effective March 31, 2011, not to exceed three weeks.

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 #VII)

Items removed from consent agenda

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Fox and carried (6-0-1) with Ms. Egan abstaining, to approve the following item:

Consent Agenda General 6.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the March 29, 2011 Minutes as presented.

Mr. Nathan expressed his thanks on behalf of the Board of Education for the gifts that were accepted in the consent agenda this evening. Thanks are extended to the Milton School PTO for funding the gift of three SMARTboards for the Milton School including electrical and installation, for \$12,885 as well as another gift from the Milton School PTO for \$2020. for an After – School Sports Club.

Presentation/Discussion

Dr. Shine presented a power point presentation to focus on critical and bottom lines issue relative to the budget. Dr. Shine also thanked those who participated in the previous meeting's Open Topic Forum, and noted that a response report has been issued and distributed. The Board discussed various aspects of the budget, especially the use of fund balance for one-time facilities expenses. Mr. Nathan asked for public comment on the recommended budget.

The following members of the public also addressed the Board of Education regarding the school district budget proposed. Mr. Bob Zahm, Ms. Lauren Rosen on behalf of all of the district's POs, Rye High School PO Co- Presidents Megan Keough and Terry DeBartolo, Molly Howson on behalf of the Osborn PO, Vicki Edmonds and Mr. Martin Gerson.

Budget Adoption

After clarifying the use of \$200,000. from fund balance for one-time facility projects, raising the total budget to \$71,908.00, the Board took formal action to adopt the 2011-12 budget.

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously (7-0) to approve the following item:

Consent Agenda – 12.01 Superintendent’s Recommended Budget

Recommended Action:

That the Board adopts a 2011-12 General Fund budget of \$71,908.000.

The Board unanimously approved a proposed budget of \$71,908,000 with an estimated tax rate increase of 2.52% after much discussion and following comments from the community. This budget, which carries a tax levy increase of 1.78% and a budget-to-budget increase of 3.14%, will be voted on during the May 17 budget vote and election. More detailed budget information will be shared via the District's newsletters and website, www.ryeschools.org, in the upcoming weeks.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Mr. Fox seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:10 p.m. to adjourn into Executive Session.

On a motion by Mr. Fox seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 11:34 p .m. to 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.

