

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
September 21, 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. 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
Mr. Gus Mountanos, District Counsel

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. Schmitt, seconded by Ms. Slack and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 8:20 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:

- Enrollment on opening day was 872 students at the High School, 759 at the Middle School and a total of 1538 students in our elementary schools.

- 32 new teachers were hired over the summer due to additional enrollment, retirements, resignations, various leaves of absence and some newly created positions. All of our new teachers had a three-day orientation at the end of August. That orientation included a discussion of curriculum, instruction and assessment, and some special education training.
- Over the summer, four “portable” classrooms were installed on the blacktop that used to be tennis courts. Each classroom is equipped with a private restroom and all the modern amenities needed for 21st century learning.
- Over the summer, 46 classroom SMARTBoards were installed. There are now a total of 144 of these Internet-connected, interactive white boards throughout the district.
- Foreign language instruction for students K-12 is now a reality with the addition of FLES Spanish instruction for the 4th grade. FLES was begun four years ago, with instruction for 1st and 5th grade students, and each year an additional grade has been added. This year’s 4th grade students will be the first cohort to complete five years of elementary Spanish before entering middle school.
- For secondary students, we have a Mandarin elective. This course is offered at both the middle school and the high school and is taught by a new teacher Ms. Sheau-Yuann Huang.
- John Borchert is teaching a new middle school science elective this year called “Striving for Sustainability.” This ecology class includes lessons in the new sustainable garden outside of the school.
- Our social studies teachers are planning to incorporate elements of the popular “Facing History” program in their classroom lessons. Our two new technology teachers are bringing new elements to the middle school technology curriculum developed by Bill Schrammel and Charles Northshield.
- We received news a few days ago that Rye High School Seniors Peter Julian and Benno Stein have been named National Merit Semifinalists, achieving among the highest scores in the state on the PSAT exam. Congratulations to both Benno and Peter on this exceptional achievement.
- Also deserving of recognition are the 178 Rye High School students and Class of 2010 graduates who earned AP Scholar Awards for 2010. These awards recognize exceptional achievement on the Advanced Placement exams administered by the College Board.
- Milton students had a visit yesterday from Ben Franklin who helped celebrate Constitution Day. They learned about Franklin’s role in the Revolution as well as about his many inventions.

- We have two events in late October that I want to alert the community to. The first is a Heard in Rye lecture entitled “Crazybusy: Overstretched, Overbooked and About to Snap.” The lecture will be given by Dr. Edward Hallowell, an expert on attention deficit disorder and managing in our distracted society. The location is Rye Country Day School. October 20th at 7:30 p.m.

The second event follows a week later. The District is bringing a provocative documentary to the community. Called “Race to Nowhere”, it examines the pressures faced by our children to compete and succeed and their effects on our children’s mental and physical health. It will be screened in our High School Auditorium October 28th at 7:30 p.m.

Hearing of the Public on Non Agenda Items

Mr. Gregg Howells of the YMCA addressed the Board on Safe Routes to School and Pedestrian Safety giving an update on some events occurring around Rye. Included are: School Safety contracts are being distributed at Back to School Nights; assemblies will be held with AAA during the school year; CDs with safety tips for students and parents are being sent to the schools with general rules for safety; magnets are being passed out to be placed on the back of cars as well as lawn signs being placed at schools. More updates will be presented during the school year. Mr. Howells thanked the Board for all of their support on Safe Routes to Schools.

Mr. Craig Dreves and Ms. Sheri Jordan addressed the Board of Education and the Community regarding The Time Capsule Project, Celebrating Rye’s 350th anniversary. This event is sponsored by the Rye Historical Society. All entries for the project are due in late October. The capsule will be opened and re-sealed every 50 years as we mark the changes that we undergo in our small city. All schools, civic organizations, individuals, teachers and the entire city are invited to participate in this project. Questions and requests for information regarding this project may be directed to 967-7588.

Mr. Robert Zahm addressed the Board of Education indicating that, in his opinion, there have been some updates to the school district’s website by administration but there are still some additional areas that need to be updated. He questioned the Board regarding the portable facilities and the sound insulation challenges of the bathrooms of the portable classrooms. Mr. Zahm asked, if possible, for an update on the enrollment in Mandarin for this school year. Mr. Zahm stated that it would be helpful for the community if the Board would share the plans for transition of leadership positions in the district.

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

Consent Agenda General 6.01

Recommended Action

That the Board approves the Board of Education Minutes of August 18, 2010 as presented.

Consent Agenda General 6.02

Recommended Action

That the Board approves the August 20, 2010 Minutes as presented.

Consent Agenda – Fiscal 7.06 - **This item is being tabled to a future meeting.**

Consent Agenda – Professional 8.03 - **This item is being tabled to a future meeting.**

CONSENT AGENDA

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

General

Consent Agenda General 6.03

Recommended Action

That the Board approves the September 7, 2010 Minutes as presented.

Consent Agenda General 6.04

Recommended Action

That the Board authorizes the superintendent of schools to sign contracts for approved IEP out-of-district placements during the 2010-2011 school year.

Consent Agenda General 6.05

Recommended Action

That the Board of Education hereby authorizes the school district attorney to initiate legal action on its behalf to appeal a denial of athletic eligibility for the 2010-2011 school year of a student listed on Confidential Sheet "A".

Fiscal

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.01

Recommended Action

That the Board awards Bid #10-11-009 for Student Transportation to the Summit School (located in Queens) to the lowest responsive bidder, Ardsley Bus, LLC for \$3,950 per month for the 2010/11 school year.

Consent Agenda – Fiscal 7.02

Recommended Action

That the Board approves the consultant agreement with Bill Shrammel to provide SAT Administration support services for the 2010/11 school year for \$2,000. (Attachment # I)

Consent Agenda – Fiscal 7.03

Recommended Action

That the Board approves the agreement with American Ballroom Theater, Inc. for \$5,250 for Dance Instruction for 2010/11 at Osborn ES (Attachment #II)

Consent Agenda – Fiscal 7.04

Recommended Action

That the Board approves the final contract with SW BOCES for 2009/10 for \$2,177,039. (Attachment #III)

Consent Agenda – Fiscal 7.05

Recommended Action

That the Board Approve the Treasurer's Report for the period ending 7/31/2010 (Attachment #IV)

Professional

Consent Agenda – Professional 8.01

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the following for Dr. Edward J. Shine, Superintendent of Schools:

Dr. Edward J. Shine

Contract Extension: One Year Contract Extension to June 30, 2012

Consent Agenda – Professional 8.02

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Amendment of the Child Care Leave of Absence for Deborah DioGuardi to be effective September 1, 2010 – January 28, 2011.

(Deborah DioGuardi was previously approved for a Child Care Leave of Absence to be effective on or about her estimated due date of September 10, 2010 to the end of the 1st Semester at the April 27, 2010 Board of Education Meeting. Deborah DioGuardi gave birth on August 7, 2010.)

Consent Agenda – Professional 8.04

Recommendation: That the Board approves the following Appointment for 6th Assignment or Additional Pay Beyond Annual Salary:

Name	Assignment	Frequency	% of Base Contract	Salary Rate
Laurie Sandler (Effective September 20, 2010)	Earth Science	1 section/full year	5%	\$4,808.

Brian Mulvihill (Effective September 15, 2010)	Spanish	1 section/full year	5%	\$3,639.
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Consent Agenda – Professional 8.05

Recommendation: That the Board approves the following Amendment of Salary of a 6th Assignment or Additional Pay Beyond Annual Salary:

Name	Assignment	Frequency	% of Base Contract	Salary Rate
Judd Rothstein	Social Studies	3 Days	5%	\$114.93

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(Judd Rothstein was previously approved for 1 section/full year at the August 17, 2010 Board of Education Meeting. This extra class was moved to another teacher who lost a class due to enrollment figures.)

Consent Agenda – Professional 8.06

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Appointment of the attached Extra Pay for Extra Work for the 2010-2011 School Year. (Attachment # V)

Consent Agenda – Professional 8.07

Recommendation: That the Board approves the following Per Diem Substitute Teachers to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2010-2011 School Year at a daily rate of \$100.00 per day:

Erica Poccia
Jennifer Culyer
Tonella Ledesma

Consent Agenda – Professional 8.08

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Part Time Appointment of Erica Poccia as an Elementary School Spanish Teacher for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in Spanish 7-12 and New York State Initial Extension Annotation in Spanish Grades 1-6, assigned to Rye City School District, 0.30 FTE, MA Step 1 of the 2010-2011 Teacher Salary Schedule \$59,758 (pro rated amount of \$17,120.67), effective September 16, 2010 to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Classified

Consent Agenda – Classified 9.01

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Resignation of Antonia Siciliano from her position as a Teacher Aide for Special Education, assigned to Osborn School, effective September 2, 2010.

Consent Agenda – Classified 9.02

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Decrease in Assignment of Sharon McSorley as a Teacher Aide for Special Education, assigned to Rye High School from 7.0 hours per day, 5 days per week to 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective September 7, 2010..

Consent Agenda – Classified 9.03

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Increase in Assignment of Gira Shah as a Teacher Aide, assigned to Osborn School from 6..25 hours per day, 5 days per week to 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective September 22, 2010.

Consent Agenda – Classified 9.04

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Appointment of Donna Winnicki as a Teacher Aide for Special Education, with a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifty two weeks, assigned to Osborn School, at \$17.58 per hour, Step 1 of the 2010-2011 Teacher Aides/Teaching Assistants Salary Schedule, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective September 20, 2010.

Consent Agenda – Classified 9.05

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Per Diem Substitute Teacher Aides 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>
Lori Cardino	September 14, 2010

Consent Agenda – Classified 9.06

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Per Diem Substitute Secretarial Clerical Worker to be used on an as needed basis: Effective 7/1/10 – 6/30/11

Rate of pay is dependent upon the civil service title of the position being substituted for – Hourly rate of pay is as follows:

Step 1 of Secretarial Clerical School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit Contract for the 2010-2011 School Year is:

- Column A - \$15.97*
- Column B - \$21.35*
- Column C - \$22.19*
- Column D - \$24.27*
- Column E - \$26.35*
- Column F - \$29.53*

- Angela Badolato
- Amelia Coppola
- Wendy Dolce
- Jean Klein
- Margaret Sheehan

Consent Agenda – Classified 9.07

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Per Diem Substitute Cleaners to be used on an as needed basis: Effective 7/1/10 – 6/30/11

Step 1 of Custodial Unit Contract for cleaner

\$19.03*per hour for days and \$19.98* per hour for nights for the 2010-2011 school year:

- Daniel Gutierrez
- Jaime Hernandez
- Salvatore Lagani
- Michael Marcuccilli

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Consent Agenda – Classified 9.08

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Per Diem Substitute School Monitor/Traffic Control on an as needed basis for the 2010-2011 School Year at the rate of \$30.00 per hour effective September 15, 2010:

Steve Verille

Consent Agenda – Classified 9.09

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Emergency Conditional Appointment of Karen Jost, Civil Service Title: Senior Office Assistant (Automated Systems), a Managerial and Confidential twelve (12) month position, 0.5 FTE, with a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifty-two weeks, assigned to Rye City School District, Central Administration, Office of the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, annual salary \$27,000 (pro rated amount \$20,976.69), effective September 23, 2010 to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

NOTE: Karen Jost is being appointed from Eligible List #02-416, Established 10/16/06 Certification #000015745, Issued 8/19/10.

Consent Agenda – Special Education 10.1

Recommended Action

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

Consent Agenda – Special Education 10.2

Recommended Action

That the Board approves the appointment for Committee on Special Education/Committee on Preschool Special Education parent members for the 2010-2011 school year as attached. (Attachment #VII)

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda General 6.01

Recommended Action

That the Board approves the Board of Education Minutes of August 18, 2010 as amended. On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Ms. Kim and carried 5-0-2 with Mr. Fox and Ms. Egan abstaining, the recommendation was approved.

Consent Agenda General 6.02

Recommended Action

That the Board approves the August 20, 2010 Minutes as amended. On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Ms. Kim and carried 5-0-2 with Mr. Fox and Ms. Egan abstaining, the recommendation was approved.

Presentation/Discussion Items

Dr. Cohen, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, reported on 2009-2010 Student Performance Data, which covered various testing results, quantitative data and discussed how they are utilized to assess student progress and school success in meeting District goals. Each of the three elementary principals; Dr. JoAnne Nardone, Dr. Angela Grille and Ms. Clarita Zeppie addressed the Board to clarify some testing indicators, trends and differences in New York State scoring methods this school year. The Board asked the administration to return on October 27, 2010 to report specific plans for student support and improvement of instruction.

Dr. Shine discussed the 2010-2011 Goal, Education Focus and Priorities document. The Board discussed and endorsed the 2010-2011 Goal, Education Focus and Priorities. Parents and other community members interested in serving on committees should review the committee charges on pages 6 through 9 of the document and submit a letter of interest and resume to shinee@ryeschools.org.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Schmitt and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:50 p.m. to adjourn into Executive Session for the continuation of discussion of topics discussed during an earlier executive session; i.e., 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 12:15 a.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.