

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
December 21, 2010

In the absence of the Board of Education President, Mr. Joshua Nathan and the Board of Education Vice President, Ms. Laura Slack, the meeting was called to order by Mr. Schmitt at 7:15 p.m. and the roll was called:

Present:

Mr. Joshua Nathan, *President* Arrived at 8:10 P.M.*
Ms. Kendall Egan
Ms. Katy Keohane Glassberg
Ms. Young Kim
Mr. Raymond Schmitt

Absent:

Ms. Laura Slack, *Vice President*
Mr. Edward Fox

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

In the absence of the Board of Education President and the Board of Education Vice President, on a motion by Mr. Schmitt, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously (4-0) 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. Mr. Nathan, Board President, arrived at the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Nathan, seconded by Ms. Kim and carried (5-0) it was voted at 8:30 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 occurring around the Rye City School District:

- Last week, Tatiana Saunders was named the Journal News' Westchester-Putnam "Soccer Player of the Year." The paper says: "Ask any coach in Section One who is the most impressive girls soccer player they saw this season and there won't be much hesitation..." Congratulations Tatiana, not only for a great season, but for all you have

accomplished in your years at Rye High School.

- The second annual “Senior Scenes” was staged on December 3rd and 4th. For Senior Scenes, Upperclassmen in the Parsons Street Players Drama Club select a scene from a favorite play and direct a cast of underclassmen in its performance. This year, scenes were taken *The Heidi Chronicles*, *All in the Timing*, *The Pillowman*, and others.
- Milton's 3rd grade Japanese Festival was lots of fun for the children. The students watched a story-telling performance and then ate a typical Japanese meal. Later, they learned Origami, Kimono, games, and calligraphy. Each activity highlighted a different aspect of Japanese culture. The Festival is the culmination of a unit on Japan.
- Midland’s annual talent show brought to the stage dancers, singers, comedians and instrumentalists. It takes courage to perform in front of an audience. Congratulations to everyone who participated.
- The true spirit of the holidays has always been evident in Rye. From the Midland Elves to the toy, clothing and food drives at each school, students learn the satisfaction of “giving.” One group that completed a special giving project was the Knitting Club at Milton. Students from grades 3 through 5 have been knitting afghan squares over the past two years. The afghan was finished in December and sent to a Milton graduate, Captain Edward Hubbard, who is about to be deployed overseas.
- Reach out Rye has also been active this season. Rye Middle School collected over \$4,000 worth of gifts for about 75 children in Port Chester. The gifts were distributed at a holiday party to benefit Second Chance Ministries. Our very own Joe DeRuvo played Santa at the party. I heard through the grapevine that some of the children were honestly asking if he is the real Santa.
- All of the schools had holiday concerts for parents and family members. In each school the Orchestra, Band and Chorus performed. Our students also traveled to other locations to entertain. For example, the Osborn Melody Makers visited Blythedale Children’s Hospital to perform for the children. The Rye High School Vocal Ensemble performed at the Sara Neuman Nursing Home, The Osborn Home and the Rye Hospital Center. The students also entertained at Doral Arrowwood.
- I want to remind residents that schools are closed beginning tomorrow, Wednesday, December 22nd. Students return to school on Monday, January 3rd. During the break, the Central Office will be open on December 22nd and December 27th through December 30th with limited hours: 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. I want to share my best wishes during this holiday season with each Board of Education member, students, parents, residents and all employees of the district.

Hearing of the Public on Non Agenda Items

There were no communications from the public on non-agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Consent Agenda General 6.02

That the Board adopts the Settlement Agreement Resolution ending litigation with the Miriam Osborn Memorial Home and authorizes the Board President to sign the Agreement.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.01

Ratification of a Memorandum of Agreement with the CSEA, Local 1000, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Custodial Unit No. 9231, Local 860.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.06

Approval of Treasurer's Report for the month of November, 2010.

On a motion by Mr. Schmitt, seconded by Ms. Egan and carried unanimously (5-0) to approve the following items:

General

Consent Agenda General 6.01

Recommendation:

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

Consent Agenda General 6.03

Recommendation:

Approval of gift from the Middle School PO of the following items: 2 instructor's easels with paper pads for gym classes, 7 wireless slates for usage with already purchased SMARTboards and 1 Tether Ball post, rope and ball for outdoor use. The value of this gift is \$2,900.

Fiscal

Consent Agenda – Fiscal 7.02

Recommendation:

Approval of Budget Transfer #8 in the amount of \$7,408 to cover the cost of BOCES charges for computer application for student performance data analysis (Attachment # I)

Consent Agenda – Fiscal 7.03

Recommendation:

Approval of Budget Transfer #9 in the amount of \$13,629 to cover the cost of Posner Advertising for High School Principal search. (Attachment # II)

Consent Agenda – Fiscal 7.04

Recommendation:

Approval of Budget Transfer #10 in the amount of \$36,292 to cover the cost of tuition for one special education student to Cerebral Palsy. (Attachment # III)

Consent Agenda – Fiscal 7.05

Recommendation:

That the Board approves the attached engagement letter for internal audit services provided by The Outsourcing Partnership, LLC d/b/a Accume Partners for the internal audit services noted at a maximum fee of \$26,000 for 2010/11. (Attachment # IV)

Professional

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.01

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Resignation of Chad Charney from his position as a Permanent Substitute Teacher on the Secondary Level, effective at the close of business January 14, 2011.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.02

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Amendment of the Child Care Leave of Absence for Andrea Mondella, to be effective September 1, 2010 – January 11, 2011.

(Andrea Mondella was previously approved for a Child Care Leave of Absence effective September 1, 2010 – January 28, 2011 at the April 13, 2010 Board of Education Meeting.)

Recommendation:

That the Board approves the Amendment of the Child Care Leave of Absence for Brittany Foster Rothstein, to be effective November 13, 2010 – June 30, 2011.

(Brittany Foster Rothstein was previously approved for a Child Care Leave of Absence effective on or about her estimated due date of November 8, 2010 – June 30, 2011 at the June 29, 2010 Board of Education Meeting.)

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Amendment of the Child Care Leave of Absence of Jessica Avnir, to be effective December 3, 2010 – June 30, 2011.

(Jessica Avnir was previously approved for a Child Care Leave of Absence effective on or about her estimated due date of December 7, 2010 – June 30, 2011 at the October 26, 2010 Board of Education Meeting.)

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.03

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Amendment of the Appointment of Abigail Dunlap from a Per Diem Substitute Teacher to a Leave Replacement Science Teacher, pending

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New York State Initial Certification in Biology 7-12, assigned to Rye Middle School, 1.0 FTE, BA Step 7 of the 2010-2011 Teacher Salary Schedule \$69,262 (pro rated amount \$47,444.47), effective December 6, 2010 – June 30, 2011.

(Abigail Dunlap was previously approved as a Per Diem Substitute Teacher, effective December 6, 2010 at the December 7, 2010 Board of Education Meeting. Abigail Dunlap is replacing Michele McRedmond who is on medical leave and who was previously approved for a Child Care Leave of Absence, effective on or about her estimated due date of January 14, 2011 - June 30, 2011 at the June 29, 2010 Board of Education Meeting.)

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.04

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Part Time Appointment of Judith Sanseverino as an ESL Teacher, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in English to Speakers of Other Languages, assigned to Midland School/Milton School/Osborn School, 0.3 FTE, MA +60 Step 12 of the 2010-2011 Teacher Salary Schedule \$100,404 (pro rated amount \$18,072.72), effective January 3, 2011 to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.05

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

EPEW	ACTIVITY	NAME	INDEX	10/11 STEP	10/11 RATE
ATHLETICS - WINTER					
Basketball (Girls)	Varsity	Henwood, Mary	0.11500	6	8,275
Basketball (Girls)	Asst. to Program	Caulway, Cari	0.05500	6	3,957
High School Winter Musical					
Plays - Spring	Director	Limone, Michael	0.09500	6	6,835
Plays - Spring	Set Construction	Gwardyak, John	0.02500	6	1,799
Plays - Spring	Lighting	Gwardyak, John	0.02500	6	1,799
Plays - Spring	Voc. Dir.	Frost, Peter	0.04200	6	3,022
Plays - Spring	Orch. / Cond.	Cuffari, Tom	0.03250	4	2,121
Plays - Spring	Choreog.	Locust, James	0.03250	4	2,121
Plays - Spring	Accompanist	Cuffari, Tom	0.01750	6	1,259

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Accompanists for Rye Middle School for the 2010-2011 School Year:

<u>Name</u>		<u>Rate</u>
Betty Jane Belcher	Orchestra Accompanist Fee 4 Rehearsals & 3 Concerts	\$ 560.
Barbara Orwick	Chorus Accompanist for 6th Grade Chorus 4 Rehearsals & 2 Concerts	\$ 480.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.06

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Appointment of the Additional Work of William Glynn at his daily rate of pay of \$138.67 for two (2) days to accompany students to the JSA Conference.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.07

Recommendation: 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:

Brett Kassel
Gregory LaMarco

Effective: November 14, 2010
Effective: January 3, 2011

Classified**Consent Agenda – Personnel 9.01**

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Resignation of Fabiola Borges-Salanitro from her position as a Teacher Aide, assigned to Midland School, effective at the close of business January 7, 2011.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 9.02

Recommendation: That the Board approves the request by Jane Fitzpatrick for a Leave of Absence, from her position as a Teacher Aide, assigned to Osborn School, effective January 31, 2011 – June 30, 2011.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 9.03

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Appointment of Kelly Lyons 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 Midland 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 January 3, 2011.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 9.04

Recommendation: That the Board approves the Appointment of Adriane Scott as a Food Service Worker to be used on an as needed basis for the 2010-2011 School Year:

Name	Pay Per Hour	Not to exceed	Days per week	Position	Location	Effective Date
Adriane Scott	\$12.00	6.5 hours per day	As needed basis	Food Service Worker	High School	12/9/10

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 # V)

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Mr. Nathan informed the public that after months of contract negotiations, the school district’s negotiating team and the members of the negotiating team for the Custodial Unit have agreed to a Memorandum of Agreement that has been ratified by the custodial unit and is being recommended by the Superintendent of Schools for approval by the Board of Education tonight. Mr. Nathan thanked everyone for their hard work in arriving at this Memorandum of Agreement.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.01

On a motion by Ms. Keohane-Glassberg, seconded by Ms. Kim and carried unanimously (5-0) to approve the following.

Recommendation:

Ratification of a Memorandum of Agreement with the CSEA, Local 1000, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, Custodial Unit No. 9231, Local 860.**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Rye City School District hereby authorizes and approves the memorandum of agreement between the Board and the Rye Civil Service Employees' Association-Custodial Unit, dated December 8, 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to incorporate said memorandum of agreement into a more formal written agreement and further authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute said formal written agreement. (Attachment #VI)

Mr. Nathan announced that after a long process, The Miriam Osborn Memorial Home Association, The Rye City School District and The City of Rye have finalized an agreement on a property matter and that the Board of Education is being asked this evening to adopt the settlement agreement resolution ending the litigation with The Osborn. A joint press release will be issued tomorrow and it will be available on the school district’s website. Mr. Nathan thanked everyone for their hard work in arriving at this settlement agreement resolution.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 6.02

On a motion by Mr. Schmitt, seconded by Ms. Kim and carried unanimously (5-0) to approve the following.

Recommendation:

That the Board adopts the Settlement Agreement Resolution (annexed as Exhibit A) ending litigation with The Miriam Osborn Memorial Home and authorizes the Board President to sign the Agreement. (Exhibit A) (Attachment #VII)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.06

Approval of Treasurer's Report for the month of November, 2010.

This item has been tabled to a future Board of Education meeting.

Presentation/Discussion Items

College Placements - Mrs. Patricia Taylor

Ms. Patricia Taylor, Rye High School Assistant Principal/Guidance presented a detailed report on College Admissions for the Class of 2011.

The theme of Ms. Taylor's presentation was "Viewing the Landscape." (Attachment #VIII)

Grammar Assessment Report - Grades 5/6 and Grades 8/9

Ms. April Colarusso and Mr. Kevin Kelly

Dr. Steven Cohen, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment briefly discussed the history of the grammar instruction and writing standards for Grades K – 12. Dr. Cohen then introduced faculty members Ms. April Colarusso and Mr. Kevin Kelly who reviewed various components of the Grammar Assessment Report for students in Grades 5/6 and Grades 8/9. (Attachment #IX)

Comments from the Public:

Mr. Robert Zahm asked for clarification from Dr. Cohen, Ms. Colarusso and Mr. Kelly relating to items discussed in the assessment report.

Status Report: Facility Planning Projects - Mrs. Kathleen Ryan

Mrs. Ryan presented a brief summary report on facility planning projects including the following:

- Building Conditions Survey
- Middle School/High School campus survey
- Environmental Study
- Program Facility Needs
- 5 year financial projection
- Energy Performance Contract RFPs

(Attachment # X)

Report on Open Topics Forum - Dr. Edward Shine

Dr. Shine advised the Board that the administration prepared responses to lead issues that were brought up at the Board of Education Meeting on December 7, 2010 during the Open Topics Forum. Dr. Shine reported that his prepared report addresses the items addressed at the

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meeting and will be posted on the school district's website. Dr. Shine and Mr. Nathan asked the Board of Education to contact Dr. Shine via e mail regarding any additions or changes to be made to the Issues, Concerns brought to the Board of Education Open Topic Forum document. (Attachment # XI)

COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM BOARD

There were no additional communications to/from the Board

Adjournment:

On a motion by Ms. Egan seconded by Ms. Kim and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted at 10:05 p.m. to adjourn into Executive Session for the continuation of discussion of topics discussed during an earlier executive session review current litigation.

On a motion by Mr. Schmitt seconded by Ms. Keohane-Glassberg and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted at 10:17 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.