

**MINUTES**  
**RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room**  
**April 3, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Slack at 7:00 p.m. and the roll was called:

Present:

Ms. Laura Slack, President  
Mr. Raymond Schmitt, Vice President  
Mr. Joshua Nathan  
Ms. Katy Keohane Glassberg  
Ms. Karen Belanger

\*Ms. Kendall Egan - arrived at 8:05 p.m.

\*Mr. Edward Fox - arrived at 8:38 p.m.

Dr. Edward Shine, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Mary Anne Evangelist, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Ms. Kathleen Ryan, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Ms. Elaine Cuglietto, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Schmitt and carried unanimously (5-0) 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 review current litigation.

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Mr. Schmitt and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted at 8:05 p.m. to reconvene in public.

Ms. Slack welcomed those community members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Shine reported on the following happenings around the school district.

- Midland children recently participated in a Spirit Day anti-bullying buddy project. Students worked with partners to create posters that encourage anti bullying behavior through positive messages
- Midland School fifth graders performed the play, “Peter Pan,” and did an outstanding job. Milton School fifth graders put on an excellent performance of the play, “Guys and Dolls.” Congratulations to all who participated as cast members and in behind-the-scenes work. Additionally, Milton first graders presented the musical "One Big Happy Family," with each class performing for guest friends and family. Osborn fifth graders put on a captivating show when they presented “Broadway Our Way,” an original play written and directed by Mr. Marshall Toppo.
- Twenty-four Rye High School students in grades 9-12 traveled to the United Nations to participate in the Model UN program, where they represented the countries of Senegal and Madagascar in various committees and topics as they learned about the work that is done in the UN.
- High School Senior Faith Logan was named a Finalist in the 2012 Opera Idol competition, sponsored by the North Shore Retirement Hotel in Evanston, Illinois. The contest, which offers scholarship awards, is formatted similar to the American Idol television series. Congratulations to Faith on this national recognition.
- The Girls and Boys Winter Track Teams both had successful seasons. Ellie Friedman broke the school record for the 1500 meter relay and also the Westchester County champion in the 1500. Ellie, along with Jordan Delane, Celia Palmer, and Ali Mackay also broke the school record for the 3200 meter relay. Ellie and Matea Freidel were selected for the All County team.
- On the boys’ side, the team was runner up out of 22 schools at the Class B Championship. Taylor Love was the Class, County and Section 1 Champion in the 1600. Taylor also broke the 1600 meter relay school record with Henry Gager, Tom Mayo-Smith and Aaron Matthias. Scott Hanley broke the shot put school record. Taylor was selected to the All County team along with Tom Mayo-Smith
- Lastly, I would like to remind everyone that Spring Recess begins this Friday, April 6, and will continue through next week. Schools will be closed for students during this time although buildings and offices will be open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Schools will reopen on Monday, April 16. I wish everyone a happy and safe week of Spring Break.

**Hearing of the Public on Non Agenda Items**

Mr. Bob Zahm addressed the Board inquiring as the status of the proposed gift to the school district for turf and rebuilding the field house. Dr. Shine advised Mr. Zahm and the public that the district is still working on the communication and structure of the formal gift to the Board so that the Board may act on the gift.

Mr. Zahm asked to be allowed to and inquired about an item contained on the Consent Agenda regarding the Treasurer's Report. He requested that summary information about expenses and revenue with a forecast of what the fund balance would look like at the end of the year be once again provided to the public. Mrs. Ryan explained that due to the treasurer's position in the district being reduced to a .6 FTE additional reporting has not been possible.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Mr. Schmitt seconded by Ms. Egan and carried (6-0) to approve the following items:

**General**

**Consent Agenda General 6.01**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board of Education approves the \$1,000.00 gift from John Boname through the Schwab Charitable Fund for wherever it is needed most.

**Fiscal**

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.01**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board of Education approves Budget Transfer #25 in the amount of \$13,500.00, to cover expected cafeteria activity expenditures. (Attachment # I)

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.02**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board of Education approves the Treasurer's Report for February 2012. (Attachment # II)

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.03**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the SEDCAR-1 Agreement with Westchester County Department of Health for the 2011/12 school year. (Attachment # III)

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.04**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board of Education increases the General Fund budget by \$1,000.00 for gifts.

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.05**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board adopts the attached resolution to amend the Rye City School District 403(b) Retirement Plan document as required by recent changes in IRS guidance, as recommended by the program administrator's general counsel. (Attachment # IV)

**Professional**

**Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.01**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Resignation due to Retirement of Carol Havlin from her position as an Elementary Teacher, assigned to Milton School, effective at the close of business June 30, 2012.

That the Board approves the Resignation due to Retirement of Lisa Jenner from her position as a Foreign Language Teacher/Department Chairperson, assigned to Rye High School/Rye Middle School, effective at the close of business June 30, 2012.

That the Board approves the Resignation due to Retirement of Carol Seltzer from her position as a Library Media Specialist, assigned to Milton School, effective at the close of business June 30, 2012.

**Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.02**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the request by Andrea Mondella for a Child Care Leave of Absence, from her position as an Elementary Teacher, assigned to Osborn School, effective September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013.

(Andrea Mondella was previously approved for a Child Care Leave of Absence, effective September 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012.)

**Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.03**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Resignation of Domenick DiDomenico from his position as a Guidance Counselor, assigned to Rye High School, effective at the close of business June 30, 2012.

**Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.04**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of the following for 6th Assignment or Additional Pay Beyond Annual Salary: This additional assignment has been recommended in accordance with the current collective bargaining agreement.

Name	Assignment	Frequency	% of Base Salary	Contract Rate
Bendis Mani	Art of Bookmaking	1 section/full year (pro rated)	5%	\$1,183

(Bendis Mani will be replacing Nichole Chiffrieller effective March 26, 2012.)

**Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.05**

**Recommended Action:** That the Board approves the Appointment of the following for Extra Pay for Extra Work for the 2011-2012 school year:

2011/2012

EPEW

				11/12	11/12
	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>INDEX</u>	<u>STEP</u>	<u>RATE</u>
Athletic-SPRING					
TRACK	Asst. to Var. Prog.	Griffin, John (eff. 3/34/12)	0.07500	4	4,202

**Consent Agenda – Personnel 10.01**

**Recommended Action:**

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

Board President Laura Slack noted the Board approved a gift of \$1,000 from John Boname through the Schwab Charitable Fund to be used wherever it is needed most.

Board President Laura Slack noted that the Board approved the resignations of Carol Seltzer, Carol Havlin and Lisa Jenner. Ms. Slack noted that there will be more opportunities to thank these individuals for their service and contributions to the District and our students as we approach the end of the school year in June.

Ms. Slack read a statement on behalf of the Board of Education clarifying the misperception expressed at the March 27 Board meeting, that facility spending and personnel cuts in the budget for next year are somehow linked. She affirmed that they are not linked, and explained that the cuts are measures that would have to be taken in order to deal with the tax cap with no mandate relief, a challenge school districts across the state are facing. Mrs. Slack stated, "In January, Dr. Shine proposed his recommended budget, which had staffing reductions in it. He did so in order to have a tax-compliant budget. There was also a recommendation to fund facility work - the locker rooms - from first, bond money if there is any bond money left over after we get the bids in, and second, from reserves. The facility works are one-time expenses, which makes sense to fund from one-time money, like leftover money from the bond if the bids come in low, or reserves."

She further explained, "This administration and Board would never conceive of making staff reductions in order to fund facility work. So I need to make clear tonight that the two are not linked in any way, staff reductions were included in the budget proposed by Dr. Shine in order to remain a tax cap compliant budget."

**Presentation/Discussion**

Dr. Edward Shine and Assistant Superintendent for Business Kathleen Ryan led a presentation on a revised proposed 2012-13 budget. The presentation addressed the questions and comments that were shared during the Open Topics Forum on March 27, 2012. The Board expects to adopt the budget during the next meeting, to be held on Wednesday, April 18. A

detailed discussion was held by members of the Board of Education regarding the recommended budget.

**Communications from the Public**

Midland School Librarian Amy Andrews addressed the Board asking reconsideration of the elimination of the Rye Middle School librarian position.

Rye Middle School Math Teacher John Aguilar addressed the Board asking for a reconsideration the decrease of FTE assignments for the secretaries to the principals included in Dr. Shines recommended budget for 2012-13

Mr. Bertrand deFrondeville addressed the Board regarding budgeted expenses vs. actual expenses and the special education consultant review recently performed for the district.

**Adjournment:**

On a motion by Mr. Schmitt seconded by Ms. Keohane-Glassberg and carried unanimously (7-0) it was voted at 10:15 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](http://www.ryeschools.org)). Click on District and on Board of Education.