

**MINUTES**  
**RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room**  
**April 24, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Slack at 7:45 p.m. and the roll was called:

Present:

Ms. Laura Slack, President  
Mr. Raymond Schmitt, Vice President  
Ms. Kendall Egan  
Ms. Katy Keohane Glassberg  
Ms. Karen Belanger

Excused:

Mr. Edward Fox  
Mr. Joshua Nathan

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. Ms. Slack announced that during the joint meeting of the Rye City School District Board of Education and the Mayor and the Council of the City of Rye held on Saturday, April 21, a joint resolution was passed demanding mandate relief. Ms. Slack then read the following resolution. (Attachment #1)

Be it RESOLVED by the Rye City School District Board of Education and the Mayor and the Council of the City of Rye that meaningful mandate relief must be enacted by the cooperative efforts of the New York State Legislative and Executive branches in order to provide relief to jurisdictions that are in compliance with the limits of annual growth in the local property tax levy, and

WHEREAS, the joint Mandate Relief Council comprised of representatives of both the

Legislative and Executive branch of New York State is currently tasked with reviewing and implementing mandate relief reforms as a part of comprehensive tax reforms for overburdened New York taxpayers, and

WHEREAS, both the provision of essential services and the quality of educational opportunities and city programs are being negatively impacted by the current 2% tax cap, and

WHEREAS, repealing State statutes such as the Triborough Amendment would immediately improve the ability of the school district and city to control costs, and

WHEREAS, the repeal of the Wicks Law would also provide immediate savings in the cost of capital improvements by reducing the requirements for multiple contractors on construction projects, and

WHEREAS, the costs of public employee pension contributions are increasing at a rate that is unsustainable with the current exclusion language in the tax cap levy, and should be limited so that the state-mandated employer contribution rates are capped at the same growth rate increase as is allowed under the current tax cap, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rye City School District Board of Education and the Mayor and Council of the City of Rye demand that the Governor and the Legislature, as well as the Mandate Relief Council in accordance with Article 24, Executive Law 666, act upon these specific items of concern, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the NY State Mandate Relief Council, Governor, Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, Assembly Speaker and Minority Leader, and Members of the State Senate and Assembly representing Rye.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

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

- Tenth grade students spent time researching how the commitment of one group or person to a humanitarian cause resulted in a thriving organization. Each student selected an organization and thoroughly investigated the group and its cause. Students then wrote persuasive letters to fictitious donors requesting contributions. They shared these essays in class and voted on those they felt were most influential. The essay finalists, pictured left to right, are Peter Nolan, Gabrielle Amaturro, Stephanie Klokiw, and Sarah Schreib. The charities that these winning essays focused on were sent proceeds that students gathered over three weeks when they collected spare change.
- The Parsons Street Players put on three excellent shows this past weekend, performing the musical, *Little Shop of Horrors*. Both the cast and behind the scenes participants did an outstanding job yet again.

- Third grade students at Midland School recently read aloud to their parents in Spanish from journals they have been working on since the beginning of the year. The students impressed their guests with their knowledge of the Spanish language and vocabulary. Also a reminder to all that the Midland Fair will be held this Saturday, April 28, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. This year's theme is the "Wild Wild West."
- Milton School held its fair this past weekend and the event was a great success thanks to many committee members and other volunteers. This year's fair had an Olympics theme, and the school building was decorated inside and out with pictures representative of the Olympics. Attendees of all ages enjoyed fair goodies, games, activities, and treats. Highlights included face painting, sand art, a goldfish toss game, raffles, a Japanese water balloon game, Japanese food, Olympics-themed desserts, and much more.
- This week is "Walk to School Week," an initiative launched by the Rye YMCA and Safe Routes to School Committee. Students who walk or ride their bikes to school this week will receive fun incentives and will be eligible to enter a YMCA raffle. Children can join a "Walking School Bus" or walk with friends and family. This weeklong event, held in conjunction with Earth Day, promotes exercise, reduces traffic congestion around our schools, and protects the environment.
- Just a reminder to all that next Tuesday, May 1, there will be no school for elementary and middle school students due to the new Superintendent's Conference Day. Teachers will be scoring the State tests that day.
- We recently announced that, due to unused snow/emergency days this year, Friday, May 25 and Tuesday, May 29 will be school holidays.

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

There were no communications from the public.

Mr. Ray Schmitt commented on Consent Agenda Item Fiscal 7.01 regarding the RFP Award to O'Connor Davies, LLP to provide accounting and audit services for up to five years, Mr. Schmitt commented that this firm has done fine work for the district for many years and it has agreed to extend the contract to the district for five years at the same rate as they have charged us for the last two years. Thank you to O'Connor Davies, LLP

Ms. Slack advised the public that the following items were removed from the consent agenda for further discussion.

#### **Consent Agenda General 6.04**

##### **Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the 2012/13 Estimated Administrative Budget for the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in the amount of \$8,893,741.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**General**

**Consent Agenda General 6.01**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the March 27, 2012 Minutes as presented.

**Consent Agenda General 6.02**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the April 3, 2012 Minutes as presented.

**Consent Agenda General 6.03**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board casts three votes, one for Richard Glickstein and one for James E. Miller to serve as Trustees on the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services for the time period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015. Also, one vote for Lynn McBride to serve as a Trustee for the remainder of Trustee Nancy Fisher's term from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

**Consent Agenda General 6.05**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board of Education approves the \$4,000.00 gift from Rye Youth Soccer Club, Inc. for Artificial Turf Field Maintenance.

**Consent Agenda General 6.06**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board of Education approves the \$1,000.00 gift from American Products Association, Inc. for pet related education received as the result of a sixth grader winning a pet poetry contest.

**Fiscal**

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.01**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board awards the proposal for External Audit Services to O'Connor Davies, LLP to provide accounting and audit services for up to five years, at the annual rate of \$38,700 for 2011/12 through 2016/17.

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.02**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Award of the RFP for Athletic Training Services to Lifestyle Integrated Fitness Training, LLC in 2012/13 for \$45,000.00, in 2013/14 for \$45,900.00 and in 2014/15 for \$46,818.00. (Attachment # II)

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.03**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the SECAR-1 Agreement with Bilinguals Inc. Child and Parent Services for the 2011/12 school year. (Attachment # III)

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.04**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the SEDCAR-1 Agreement John A. Coleman School for the 2011/12 school year. (Attachment # IV)

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.05**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board of Education approves Budget Transfer #26 in the amount of \$991,145.00, for reallocation of salaries in a continued effort to better align salaries with state reporting budget coding and the creation of district wide technology support code. (Attachment # V)

**Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.06**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board of Education increases the General Fund budget by \$1,975.00 for gifts.

**Professional**

**Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.01**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Leave Replacement Appointment of Andre Soto as an Art Teacher, for which he holds New York Initial Certification in Visual Arts, assigned to Rye High School and Rye Middle School, 1.0 FTE, BA Step 7 of the 2011-2012 Teacher Salary Schedule, \$69,955 (pro rated amount of \$22,735.38), effective March 26, 2012 – June 30, 2012.

(Andre Soto will be replacing Nichole Chiffrieller who is on a Child Care Leave of Absence. Andre Soto was previously approved as a Per Diem Substitute Teacher, effective March 26, 2012 at the March 27, 2012 Board of Education Meeting.)

That the Board approves the Leave Replacement Appointment of Mary Anzalone as a Special Education Teacher, for which she holds New York State Permanent Certification in Special Education, assigned to Osborn School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 15 of the 2011-2012 Teacher Salary Schedule, \$97,069 (pro rated amount of \$24,752.60), effective April 16, 2012 - June 30, 2012. (Mary Anzalone will be replacing Jennifer A. Johnson who is on a Child Care Leave of Absence. Mary Anzalone was previously approved as a Per Diem Substitute Teacher, effective September 1, 2011 at the August 9, 2011 Board of Education Meeting.)

**Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.02**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the following Per Diem Substitute Teacher to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2011-2012 School Year at a daily rate of \$102.00 per day:

Andrea Espin

Effective: April 20, 2012

**Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.03**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Substitute Teaching Assistant to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2011-2012 School Year:

Hourly rate of pay as follows:

Teaching Assistant - \$20.47 is hourly rate of pay, Salary Step 1 of Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Unit Contract for the School Year.

Teaching Assistant for Special Education - \$24.97 is hourly rate of pay, Salary Step 1 of Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Unit Contract for the School Year.

Kristen Vasko

Effective: April 16, 2012

**Classified**

**Consent Agenda – Personnel 9.01**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of the following Substitute Teacher Aides to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2011-2012 School Year:

Hourly rate of pay as follows:

Teacher Aide - \$13.51 is hourly rate of pay, Salary Step 1 of Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Unit Contract for the School Year.

Teacher Aide for Special Education – \$18.01 is hourly rate of pay, Salary Step 1 of Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Unit Contract for the School Year:

Kristen Vasko

Effective: April 16, 2012

**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 # VI)

Ms. Slack noted the Board approved a gift of \$4,000 from the Rye Youth Soccer Club, Inc., for Artificial Turf Field maintenance, as well as a gift of \$1,000 from American Products Association, Inc., for pet related education. Ms. Slack noted her appreciation on behalf of the Board to those who support the District, students, and programs by providing gifts throughout the year.

**Items removed from the Consent Agenda**

On a motion by Mr. Schmitt, seconded by Ms. Glassberg and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted to amend recommended action as follows:

**Consent Agenda General 6.04**

**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the 2012/13 Estimated Administrative Budget for the Southern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services in the amount of \$8,893,741. (Attachment #VII) with caveat that the Board would like to direct administration to write a letter to the Boces Board urging them to take action in future employee negotiations to reduce retiree health benefit costs.

**Communications to/from the Board**

There were no communications to and from the Board

**Policies**

There was no further discussion regarding policies for consideration.

**Adjournment:**

On a motion by Ms. Glassberg seconded by Mr. Schmitt and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted at 8:20 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.