

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
May 8, 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. Edward Fox
Ms. Kendall Egan
Ms. Katy Keohane Glassberg
Ms. Karen Belanger

Excused:

Mr. Raymond Schmitt, Vice President
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

On a motion by Ms. Slack, seconded by Ms. Belanger 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. Fox 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.

Several times a year, the Board of Education presents Extra Mile Awards to individuals or groups of individuals who have gone above and beyond in their contributions to the District. At this meeting, Extra Mile Awards were presented to several individuals who played important roles in supporting the District's bond prior to the March vote. These Extra Mile Award honorees are Friends of Rye Co-Chairs Mary Emery and Nancy Pasquale, and Rye High School Science Teachers Suzanne Abramson, Robert Coppola, Karen Dimaggio, Connor Dowling, Jennifer Giaquinto, Amy Leahy, Bruna Mascia, Danielle Pizzuto, Erin Sornberger, Matthew Teitsch, and Jaime Zung. The awards were presented by Board Member Katy Keohane Glassberg, who thanked the recipients and invited them to the podium to accept small tokens of appreciation.

Board of Education President Laura Slack announced that Rye High School earned an impressive ranking on *US News & World Report's* list of the Best High Schools across the nation. Out of nearly 22,000 public high schools in 49 states, Rye High School ranked 72nd in the country. RHS also ranked 11th within New York State. Schools are recognized based on how well they prepare students for college, test scores, and other factors. The schools included on the list received either Gold, Silver, or Bronze medals - RHS earned a Gold. Mrs. Slack congratulated the RHS staff and students.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Shine shared news from throughout the District's schools.

- The Midland Fair was a great success on April 28, kicking off with a parade featuring creative floats depicting the event's "Wild Wild West" theme. Attendees later enjoyed games, activities, treats, and much more, thanks to the volunteers who helped to organize the fair.
- Milton School will have its annual fourth and fifth grade Science Fair tomorrow, May 9, from 9-11 a.m. The event will showcase a variety of projects that demonstrate what students have learned in their science classes throughout the year.
- Osborn students are raising money for the fundraising project, Dollars for Duffels. Through donations earned by doing extra chores and other efforts, the students of Osborn will buy suitcases for the children in the New York Foundling Home so that they can carry their belongings to foster homes. Many students also took the time to write letters and essays about the importance of giving to others, which they read during a recent assembly. The project will conclude with a bake sale on May 11, which is also the deadline for contributions.
- Rye Middle School students will present their spring musical, "*A Disney Review: A Musical Extravaganza*" this weekend. A cast of 77 students from grades 6, 7 and 8 will be the stars of the show. Two productions will be held, on May 11th and 12th, both at 7:30 p.m in the Performing Arts Center.
- One hundred and sixteen Rye High School juniors were recently honored for their academic achievements at the annual Scholars Dinner sponsored by the High School Parents' Organization. Juniors who have maintained an average of 90% or better during their high school career were invited to attend and receive certificates of acknowledgement. In addition to this recognition, 39 of the scholars were presented with Book Awards from various colleges. The colleges mandate specific criteria for the awarding of their books and have honored Rye students for many years. In other High School news, ninth grader Charles Hager was recently notified that he achieved a perfect score on the 2012 National Latin Exam. Only 1,111 students out of over 136,000 from across the world who take the exam earn this distinction. Charles will receive a certificate acknowledging this achievement.

Hearing of the Public on Non Agenda Items

There were no communications from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

General

Consent Agenda General 6.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the April 18, 2012 Minutes as presented.

Consent Agenda General 6.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the April 24, 2012 Minutes as presented.

Consent Agenda General 6.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board of Education approves the election inspectors for May 15, 2012. (Attachment #I)

Consent Agenda General 6.04

Recommended Action:

That the Board of Education approves the gift request of The Alumni and Friends of the Rye High School of \$25,000, and to proceed with fund raising activities and authorizes, in accordance with Policy #7500, that once completed, the plaza will be named Ben Bedini Plaza. This is to recognize the contributions of Ben Bedini, a former coach for Rye High School, as described in the attached letter from April 24, 2012. (Attachment # II)

Fiscal

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Amendment to the Non-RFP Consultant Services Agreement with John A. Coleman School for the 2011/12 school year. (Attachment # III)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Contract for Health and Welfare Services with White Plains School District for \$12,857.85 for the 2011/12 school year. (Attachment # IV)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board of Education approves Budget Transfer #27 in the amount of \$83,545.00, to cover expenditures related to labor related legal and the third election. (Attachment # V)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.04

Recommended Action:

That the Board of Education approves the increase in the General Fund budget by \$2,584.00 for gifts.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.05

Recommended Action:

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

Professional

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Resignation of Christine Cadalzo from her position as an Elementary Teacher, assigned to Osborn School, effective July 1, 2012.

That the Board approves the March 3, 2012 Resignation of Kelly Delaire from her position as a Social Studies Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, effective at the close of business June 30, 2012.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the request by Loretta D'Ippolito for a Child Care Leave of Absence, from her position as an Elementary Teacher, assigned to Osborn School, effective September 1, 2012 – through the 1st Semester of the 2012-2013 School Year.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Amendment of the Child Care Leave of Absence of Joanna Diaco to be effective April 21, 2012 - June 30, 2012 and September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013. (Joanna Diaco was previously approved for a Child Care Leave of Absence effective on or about her estimated due date of May 1, 2012 – June 30, 2012 and September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013 at the January 24, 2012 Board of Education Meeting.)

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.04

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Salary Amendment of Nanci Dupuis as a Leave Replacement Special Education Teacher, assigned to Midland School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 1 of the 2011-2012 Teacher Salary Schedule, \$60,356 (pro rated amount of \$21,728.16), effective January 22, 2012 – April 27, 2012.

(Nanci Dupuis was previously approved as a Leave Replacement Teacher, effective January 11, 2012 – April 20, 2101.)

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:

| | <u>ACTIVITY</u> | <u>NAME</u> | <u>INDEX</u> | 11/12 <u>STEP</u> | 11/12 <u>RATE</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| High School - Clubs Leadership | Sr. Class Adv. | Johnson, Jennifer | 0.03000 | 3 | 433 |

(Jennifer Johnson will be replacing Bari Rabine, effective April 23, 2012.)

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.06

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Leave Replacement Appointment of Suzanne Adams as an English Teacher, for which she holds New York State Initial Certification in English Language Arts 7-12, assigned to Rye Middle School, MA Step 4 of the 2012-2013 Teacher Salary Schedule, \$69,584, effective September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013.

(Suzanne Adams will be replacing Leslie Webb who was previously approved for a Personal Leave of Absence, effective September 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013 at the February 28, 2012 Board of Education Meeting.)

Consent Agenda – Personnel 8.07

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:

Steven Sciavillo

Effective May 9, 2012

Classified

Consent Agenda – Personnel 9.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Resignation of Hirantha Dissanayake from his position as a Teacher Aide for Special Education, assigned to Rye Middle School, effective at the close of business May 31, 2012.

Consent Agenda – Personnel 9.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Increase of Assignment for Donna Accurso, as a Teacher Aide, at \$13.51 per hour, Step 1 of the 2011-2012 Teacher Aides/Teaching Assistants Salary Schedule, from 2.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, assigned to Milton School, to a Teacher Aide, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, assigned to Midland School, effective May 7, 2012.

(Donna Accurso will be replacing Janice Morgan who has resigned effective at the close of business April 27, 2012. Donna Accurso is presently serving a probationary period of a minimum of twelve weeks to a maximum of fifty-two weeks, effective December 12, 2011.)

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 # VII)

Ms. Slack announced that the Board approved The Alumni and Friends of the Rye High School to proceed with fund raising activities for the gift of the Ben Bedini Plaza, named for a former RHS coach. Mrs. Slack thanked the organization for its efforts to honor Coach Bedini and beautify the High School stadium area.

Public Hearing on the Budget

Ms. Slack announced that this is a public hearing on the 2012-2013 school budget.

The adopted budget for the 2012-2013 school year is \$73,580,000, a 2.33% increase from the 2011-2012 budget, a tax levy increase of 1.94% and the estimated tax rate increase is 1.75%. The budget vote will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2012.

The following individuals addressed the Board of Education regarding their concerns surrounding the school budget for 2012-13: PTO Presidents and Representatives: Ms. Alyson Kim, Ms. Karen Meyers, Ms. Margaret Mead, Ms. Mollie Howson and Ms. Terry DeBartolo. Community members Mr. Chris Repetto, Mr. Bob Zahm, Mr. Bertrand defrondeville and Ms. Nancy Pasquale also addressed the Board voicing their opinions on the budget.

After hearing comments from the public and discussing details of the budget, Ms. Slack announced the closing of the Budget Hearing at 8:47 p.m.

Communications To/From the Board

Adjournment:

On a motion by Ms. Glassberg seconded by Ms. Belanger and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted at 8:50 p.m. to adjourn into Executive Session the employment history of current and prospective employees.

On a motion by Mr. Fox, seconded by Ms. Belanger and carried unanimously (5-0) it was voted at 9:30 p.m. to reconvene in public and to 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.