

MINUTES
RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Rye Middle School Multipurpose Room
September 23, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Board of Education Vice President Katy Keohane-Glassberg at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday September 23, 2014.

Present:

Ms. Katy Keohane Glassberg, Vice President
 Ms. Karen Belanger
 Ms. Nancy Pasquale
 Mr. Christopher Repetto
 Ms. Nicole Weber—Arrived at 7:25 p.m.

Absent:

Ms. Laura Slack, President

Mr. Blake Jines-Storey

And

Dr. Frank Alvarez, Superintendent of Schools
 Dr. Betty Ann Wyks, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
 Ms. Gabriella O'Connor, Assistant Superintendent for Business
 Ms. Elaine Cuglietto, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
 Mr. Gus Mountanos, Legal Counsel

On a motion by Mr. Repetto, seconded by Ms. Pasquale and carried unanimously (5 -0) it was voted at 7:00 p.m. 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. Weber, seconded by Ms. Belanger and carried unanimously (6 -0) it was voted at 8:03 p.m. to reconvene in public.

Statement from the Board Vice President:

Board of Education Vice President Katy Keohane Glassberg announced that she would be the Chair of this Board of Education Meeting. She expressed condolences on behalf of the Board of Education to the family of Board President Laura Slack, her husband Richard and their family for a recent death in their family. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Frank Alvarez welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that he would be presenting The Rye Recognition of Excellence Awards. These awards were created to honor those students who have achieved great things in the arenas of academics, arts and athletics. Fifteen Rye High School Seniors who have been named National Merit Scholar Semifinalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation are being recognized.

The students have been named National Merit Semifinalists on the basis of their high scores on the PSAT – the preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship qualifying test – which they took in the spring of their junior year. These fifteen students are among the highest scoring entrants from each state in the country, and, along with the other semifinalists, represent less than one percent of U.S. High School Seniors. Dr. Alvarez introduced and congratulated the following students:

Morgan Cobban, Liam Costine, Judson Ellis, Caleb Glassberg, Bonnie Gould, Amelia Haddad, Charles Hager, Chloe Jennings, Rebecca Jordan, Min Kim, Kiefer Mueller, Sam Papert , Daniel Philip, Jake Rowen and JiCi Wang.

Special Acknowledgements - Extra Mile Awards

Board of Education Vice President Katy Glassberg announced that several times a year, the Board of Education presents Extra Mile Awards to individuals or groups who have gone above and beyond in their contributions to the District. The three following individuals are receiving these awards as they have worked tirelessly to make the new High School Science Wing a reality for our students and staff:

Assistant Superintendent for Business Gabriela O'Connor, Facilities Director Sam Carder and Owner's Representative Dean Sproch. Ms. Glassberg stated that without these three outstanding individuals, there wouldn't be students in the new Science Wing at the high school at this point.

Ms. Glassberg also presented Extra Mile Awards to a group who has gone above and beyond for more than a year now: The custodians and cleaners of Rye High and Middle School. These men have cheerfully gone about making sure the High and Middle School buildings look as good as they normally do every year, despite an extreme level of mess brought on by the construction of the new High School Science Wing.

Ms. Glassberg recognized Head Custodian Angelo Morganti who has spent countless hours over the past year plus managing the custodial staff to make sure the job got done right. Ms. Glassberg extended sincere thanks and appreciation to these employees for their tireless enthusiasm and continuous commitment to excellence.

Ms. Glassberg introduced and congratulated the following custodial staff members:
Angelo Morganti, Gianfranco Lagani, William Disbrow, Anthony DiGiovanni, Benedetto DiMaula, Anthony Garcia, Vito Lagani, Anthony Maida , Jonathan Capasso, Paolo Caiazza, Lidio Solano and Frank Rogewitz .

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Alvarez congratulated the Rye Garnets for winning the "Big Football Game." He congratulated Coach Dino Garr and his players for the win against Harrison on September 13th.

Dr. Alvarez announced that the district had its launch of the Rye Fund for Education on Monday September 22, 2014. It is an educational foundation in Rye that will support the public

schools. Dr. Alvarez announced that the Rye Fund for education has already raised over \$400,000.

Dr. Alvarez also expressed condolences and sadness on the passing of long time occupational therapist Paula Raskin. Paula passed away on Saturday September 20, 2014 after a highly courageous battle with breast cancer. Paula worked in the Rye City School District in various buildings for close to twenty years.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC ON NON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no communications from the Public.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Ms. Pasquale, seconded by Ms. Belanger and carried unanimously (6-0) to approve the following agenda items:

GENERAL

Consent Agenda General 6.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the September 9, 2014 Minutes as presented.

FISCAL

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Triton Change Orders as listed and described below for the necessary work to be completed in connection with the HS/MS Science Addition Project. (Attachment # I)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the additional vendors for the school lunch program for the 2014-15 school year. (Attachment # II)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the RFP Consulting Services Agreement with Marcie L. Klebanoff, M.A., ATP for the 2014/2015 school year. (Attachment # III)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.04

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves retaining the law firm of Keane & Beane, P.C. for the 2014-2015 school year for the continuation of a special education matter.

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.05**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Consulting Contract with Loubeb Financial Corp/Carole Andreasen at a rate of \$650.00 per day not to exceed 140 days for the period covering July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015. (Attachment # IV)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.06**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the contract with Akiko Watanabe for the 2014-2015 school year. (Attachment # V)

Consent Agenda Fiscal 7.07**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the contract with the individuals noted below for the 2014-2015 school year. (Attachment # VI)

Anna Al-Hafid	Swedish
Renate Boston	German and Swiss-German
Miki Kanno	Japanese
Claudia Teich Lepore	Dutch
Fumiko Nishino	Japanese
Heleen Paparella	Dutch
Ana Maria Pontes	Portuguese
Susan Skaf	French and Spanish
Akiko Watanabe	Japanese
Masako White	Japanese

PROFESSIONAL**Consent Agenda Professional 8.01****Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the request by Vanessa Lawson for a Child Care Leave of Absence from her position as an English Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, effective February 2, 2015 – June 30, 2015.

(Vanessa Lawson was previously approved for Child Care Leaves of Absence effective February 15, 2013 – June 30, 2013, September 1, 2013 – January 31, 2014, February 1, 2014 – June 30, 2014 and September 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015.)

Consent Agenda Professional 8.02**Recommended Action:**

That the Board rescind the Appointment of Carole Andreasen as a Teacher on Special Assignment/Director of Technology, assigned to Rye City School District, at the daily rate of \$635.55, MA +60 Step 18 plus service of the 2014-2015 Teacher Salary Schedule, for summer work, effective July 1, 2014 – August 31, 2014, not to exceed 40 days. (Carole Andreasen is being approved as a consultant.)

Consent Agenda Professional 8.03**Recommended Action:**

That the Board rescind the Appointment of Carole Andreasen as Chief Information Officer , at the rate of \$650.00 per day not to exceed the total of 100 days, effective September 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)(Carole Andreasen is being approved as a consultant.)

Consent Agenda Professional 8.04**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Salary Amendment of Laura Glicksman as a Foreign Language Teacher, assigned to Rye High School, 1.0 FTE, MA Step 2/3 (\$65,406.00) to MA +15 Step 2/3 (\$66,742.50), effective September 1, 2014.

(Laura Glicksman has provided proof of a MA +15.)

Consent Agenda Professional 8.05**Recommended Action:**

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

These additional assignments have been recommended in accordance with the current collective bargaining agreement. They include the Middle School Elective Program, science labs above the 25 limit, and additional class assignments.

2014-2015 6th Assignments

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>% of Base Salary</u>	<u>Contract Rate</u>
McWilliams, Mark	Foreign Language	Full year	10%	\$10,988
Naber, Beth	Math	Full year	10%	\$10,046
Chiffriller, Nichole (eff. 9/16/14)	Writing Mentor	Full year	10%	\$ 9,755
Leahy, Amy	Writing Mentor	Full year	10%	\$12,333
Mero, Maite	Writing Mentor	Full year	10%	\$ 9,709
Mooney, Kimberly	Writing Mentor	Full year	10%	\$ 9,682
Small, Jared	Writing Mentor	Full year	10%	\$10,028
Steel, Robert	Writing Mentor	Full year	10%	\$11,359
Thomas, Peter	Writing Mentor	Full year	10%	\$ 9,141
Cunningham-Barrett, Laura (eff 9/18/14)	Writing Mentor	Full year	10%	\$ 9,514
Ranalli, Carol (eff 9/23/14)	Writing Mentor	Full year	10%	\$10,995

Consent Agenda Professional 8.06**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment of James Fatigate as a Driving and Traffic Safety Education Instructor at \$39.39 per hour, 40 hours per session, not to exceed 2 sessions for the fall of the 2014-2015 school year. This rate includes preparation time and is dependent upon enrollment.

Consent Agenda Professional 8.07

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the following individuals who applied and been have selected to mentor teachers who are new to the District, in accordance with the District Mentorship Plan. A full year stipend of \$1,500 is offered to each full year mentor. Those mentoring one semester are eligible for a \$750 stipend. It is expected that mentors will devote approximately 30 – 40 hours of contact time to their mentee. Funding will be provided via the Title IIA grant and supplemented through the Curriculum Budget.

Kelly Finn – 0.5	09/01/14 - 01/31/15	\$750 stipend
Carrie Burke – 0.5	09/01/14 - 01/31/15	\$750 stipend
Leanne Janos – 0.5	09/01/14 - 01/31/15	\$750 stipend
Peter Gouveia – 0.5	09/01/14 - 01/31/15	\$750 stipend
James Baker – 0.5	09/01/14 – 1/31/15	\$750 stipend
Joel Edminster	full year	\$1,500 stipend
Anat Mor	full year	\$1,500 stipend
Michael Johnson	full year	\$1,500 stipend
Melissa Pellettieri	full year	\$1,500 stipend
Reina McGoldrick	full year	\$1,500 stipend
Jen Giaquinto	full year	\$1,500 stipend
Heather Milboer	full year	\$1,500 stipend
Stephanie Lauro	full year	\$1,500 stipend
James Bannon	full year	\$1,500 stipend
Dana King	full year	\$1,500 stipend
Cristina Balsama	full year	\$1,500 stipend
Alexandra Soberon	full year	\$1,500 stipend
Maite Mero	full year	\$1,500 stipend

Consent Agenda Professional 8.08

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Appointment of Jillian Rossiter as a .9 FTE Teaching Assistant for Special Education, assigned to Milton School, Step 1 of the 2014-2015 Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Salary Schedule \$25.62* per hour, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective October 1, 2014 - June 26, 2015.

*salary pending contract settlement

Consent Agenda Professional 8.09

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the following Per Diem Substitute Teachers and Teaching Assistants to be used only on an as needed basis for the 2014-2015 school year at the approved per diem rates: Per Diem Rate as follows:

Per Diem Substitute Teacher - \$102.00

Per Diem Substitute Teaching Assistant for Special Education - \$102.00
 Per Diem Substitute Teaching Assistant - \$102.00

Eric Grossmann
 Dinah Schumm
 Genevieve Quinones

CLASSIFIED

Consent Agenda Classified 9.01

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Resignation of Donna Accurso from her position as Sr. Office Assistant (Automated Systems), assigned to the Rye City School District for Special Education, effective at the close of business September 26, 2014.

Consent Agenda Classified 9.02

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Resignation of Lynda Barchetta from her position as a Teacher Aide for Special Education, effective at the close of business June 30, 2014.

(Lynda Barchetta was previously approved as a Teaching Assistant for Special Education, effective September 2, 2014.)

Consent Agenda Classified 9.03

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Resignation of Gretcha Brice-Rivers from her position as a Food Service Worker, effective at the close of business June 30, 2014.

Consent Agenda Classified 9.04

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Appointment of Rosa Magnotta as a Sr. Office Assistant (Automated Systems), (12) month position, assigned to Rye City School District, Special Education Department, 1.0 Step 8 of the 2014-2015 Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit Salary Schedule, \$65,547* plus longevity of \$2,092.43 * (pro rated amount of \$48,719.38 * plus pro rated longevity of \$1,579.34*), effective September 29, 2014.

NOTE: Rosa Magnotta is being appointed from a Mandatory Preferred Eligible List #12-034P, Established 07-01-12, Certification #000020852, Issued 09-11-14.

*salary pending contract settlement

Consent Agenda Classified 9.05

Recommended Action:

That the Board approves the Probationary Appointment of Ashley Santoro 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 \$18.45* per hour, Step 1 of the 2014-2015 Teacher Aide/Teaching Assistant Salary Schedule, 6.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective September 10, 2014.

Consent Agenda Classified 9.06**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Appointment Amendment of Janine Morris as a Leave Replacement Teacher Aide, effective September 2, 2014 – November 3, 2014 to a Leave Replacement Teacher Aide, effective September 2, 2014 – January 31, 2015.

(Janine Morris is replacing Lisa Albore Genova who was previously approved for a Child Care Leave of Absence, effective September 2, 2014 – January 31, 2015 at the September 9, 2014 Board of Education Meeting.)

Consent Agenda Classified 9.07**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 2014-2015 school year at the approved rates:

Rates as follows:

Per Diem Substitute Teacher Aide for Special Education - \$102.00

Substitute Teacher Aide \$13.95 per hour

Dinah Schumm
Genevieve Quinones

Consent Agenda Classified 9.08**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the request by Rosa Magnotta for a Personal Leave of Absence from her position as .5 FTE Secretary to School Principal, assigned to Rye Middle School, effective September 29, 2014 – September 28, 2015.

Consent Agenda Classified 9.09**Recommended Action:**

That the Board approves the Provisional Appointment of Donna K. Sorkin as an Office Assistant – Financial Support, a twelve (12) month position, 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, Business Office, 1.0 FTE Step 4, \$52,218* (salary to be pro rated 10/14/14-6/30/15) of the 2013-2014 Secretarial/Clerical/School Nurse and Computer Aide Unit Salary Schedule, effective October 5, 2014, with a delayed start of October 20, 2014.

(Donna K. Sorkin is being appointed** from Certification of Eligibles List # 61-690, Established 7/14/2014, Certification # 000020704, Issued 8/8/2014)

*salary pending contract settlement

**This appointment is contingent upon Ms. Sorkin being fingerprinted prior to beginning employment and New York State Education Department clearance issued for her employment.

Consent Agenda Special Education 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)

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION

Veterans' Tax Exemption

Dr. Frank Alvarez announced that Assistant Superintendent for Business Gabriella O'Connor would update the Board of Education and Public on this topic that was discussed this past spring and in early June. Ms. O'Connor explained the limited exemption from real property taxes for real property owned by persons who rendered military service to the United States, provided such property meets the requirements set forth in the law. This alternative exemption from real property taxation is available for qualified residential real property owned by veterans of defined periods of war, veterans who received expeditionary medals, or certain members of their family, based on a percentage of assessed value. Ms. O'Connor continued to discuss Real Property Tax Law § 458-a as well as what our neighboring school districts have opted for. (Attachment # VIII)

Board of Education Members indicated their continued interest in the district continuing to gather information, public engagement and opinion on this very important topic for future consideration. Ms. Glassberg clarified that if the district were to consider this for the 2015-16 year we would need to present a resolution prior to or during the month of March 2015. Ms. Glassberg asked the district to continue to research this exemption and the possibility of a public hearing on the issue.

Ms. Glassberg asked for any community comment or questions regarding the Veterans' Tax Exemption.

There were no comments from the Public on the discussion of the Veterans' Tax Exemption.

COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM THE BOARD

There were not communications to or from the Board.

On a motion by Mr. Repetto seconded by Ms. Weber and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 8:40 p.m. to adjourn into Executive Session to review the employment history of current and prospective employees.

On a motion by Mr. Jines-Storey seconded by Ms. Pasquale and carried unanimously (6-0) it was voted at 10:15 p.m. to 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.