

To be approved by the Rye School Board at the April 17, 2018 meeting.

**RYE SCHOOL DISTRICT
RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

The regular monthly meeting of the School Board of the Rye School District was held at Rye Junior High School on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

School Board Members:

Debra Crapo, Margaret Honda, Scott Marion,
Jeanne Moynahan, Paula Tsetsilas

Administrators:

Salvatore Petralia, Superintendent
Kelli Killen, Assistant Superintendent
James Katkin, Business Administrator
Amy Ransom, Assistant Business Administrator
Suzanne Lull, Rye Elementary Principal
Marie Soucy, Rye Junior High Principal

Staff:

Kathy Collyer, Jeanne Brown, Ed O'Brien, Amanda
Goss, Phoebe Bischoff, Aimee Caruso

Residents/Visitors:

Matt Curtin, Sarah Curtin, Peter Crawford

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Marion called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm and asked Mr. Petralia to begin the nomination process for the Reorganization of the School Board.

REORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL BOARD

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, to nominate Margaret Honda for Chairperson. Vote: 5-0.

Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tsetsilas, to nominate Scott Marion for Vice Chairperson. Vote: 5-0.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ms. Moynahan, to nominate Paula Tsetsilas for Secretary. Vote: 5-0.

The Board reviewed and decided on the following committee assignments:

There was discussion regarding the Contract Negotiations committee. Dr. Marion, Ms. Honda and Ms. Crapo all expressed interest. No final decision was made at this time.

REPORTING COMMITTEE

AREA
Secondary Advisory
Budget Committee (Town of Rye)

BOARD MEMBER ASSIGNED

TBD
Paula Tsetsilas
Scott Marion

Capital Improvement Plan (Town of Rye)
Emergency Management (Town of Rye)
PTA
Policy (SAU 50)
Professional Development (SAU 50)
Rye Education Foundation
Special Issues
Technology Committee

Jeanne Moynahan
Jeanne Moynahan
Margaret Honda
Jeanne Moynahan
Scott Marion
Debra Crapo
Jeanne Moynahan, Margaret Honda
Paula Tsetsilas

ADVISORY COMMITTEES (SAU 50)

Parent Survey
Superintendent's Advisory

BOARD MEMBER ASSIGNED

TBD
Jeanne Moynahan (SAU Chair),
Margaret Honda (Rye Chair)

SPECIAL DUTIES

Contract Negotiations (Staff)

Communications

Manifest Review
NHSBA Representative

BOARD MEMBER ASSIGNED

Scott Marion, Margaret Honda,
Debra Crapo
Margaret Honda, Paula Tsetsilas,
Debra Crapo
Jeanne Moynahan, Paula Tsetsilas
Jeanne Moynahan

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Approval of public and non-public minutes of February 12, 2018.

Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to approve the public minutes of February 12, 2018, as amended. Vote: 3-0 (2 abstentions).

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tsetsilas, to approve the non-public minutes of February 12, 2018. Vote: 3-0 (2 abstentions).

Approval of Manifest

*Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, to approve the manifest voucher of February 10, 2018 to February 23, 2018 in the amount of \$307,930.79.
Vote: 4-0 (1 abstention).*

*Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to approve the manifest voucher of February 24, 2018 to March 12, 2018 in the amount of \$408,091.29.
Vote: 4-0 (1 abstention).*

*Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to approve the manifest voucher of March 13, 2018 to March 16, 2018 in the amount of \$39,088.95.
Vote: 5-0.*

Communications

Mr. Petralia stated that he has communications that he will share in his Superintendent Report.

REPORTS

Superintendent Report

Mr. Petralia shared communication from the National Education Association (NEA) on behalf of Sharon Sparks, requesting release time to attend the 2018 NEA Education Support Professional National Conference March 20-25, 2018 in Washington, DC. As a nominee for the National NEA ESP of the Year award, Ms. Sparks will be able to attend workshops at the conference to enhance her work as a Para educator at Rye Junior High School. Mr. Petralia attended the February 20th meeting of the Clipper Foundation Board and shared that Rye Junior High School Teacher Sheila Adams is a 2018 Clipper Foundation Award Winner. Sheila submitted a grant application to support a Sea-faring Vessel Project and was awarded \$2,300 from the Foundation. Mr. Petralia recently learned that both RES and RJH were granted conditional approval for the Infrastructure Grant. Mr. Petralia publicly thanked principals Suzanne Lull and Marie Soucy, Chief Kevin Walsh, Amy Ransom, and Rich Kane for their coordination in securing these grants.

Mr. Petralia provided a legislative update on SB 193 and SB 357. The House Finance Division Subcommittee met on Wednesday, February 28th to discuss an amendment to SB 193 (Education Savings Account /Voucher) program. On Tuesday, March 13th, another amendment was made removing the one-time \$1,500 reimbursement for communities designed to off-set the loss of students taking advantage of a school-choice option. They have recessed and delayed action on SB 193 until April 4th. Dr[A1]. Marion added that the \$1,500 grant was a step down from the original proposal to reimburse school districts for a portion of the revenue that they could lose. During a hearing on SB 357 (permitting school boards to ban firearms in a safe school zone) a motion was made and passed that defeated a proposed amendment allowing school boards to develop local policies on the presence of firearms in schools.

Mr. Petralia proposed holding a New School Board Member Orientation with Attorney Barbara Loughman prior to the May 23rd SAU Joint Board Meeting in New Castle.

Assistant Superintendent Report

Ms. Killen will be holding a meeting for new School Board members on March 28th (5:00-6:30pm) prior to the joint board meeting. Ms. Killen shared results from the STAR Winter Reports. The Board agreed to change the title from "Percent Proficient" to "Percent At/Above Benchmark." Ms. Killen stated that a final decision about how to make up the missed Professional Development day at the next Administrative Council meeting.

Business Administrator Report

Mr. Katkin had four items to share in his report. He reviewed a report from Seacoast Analytics, Inc. who completed water testing at both RES and RJH. The Board discussed the results which are all at non-detectable levels except for one test site, but even this was well below established limits. The second item reviewed by Mr. Katkin was a document from Artisan Electrical Contractors. The document included lists of work to be completed at RES and RJH. The third document was from TriState Fire Protection which explained that both schools passed the Semi-Annual Wet Sprinkler Inspections. Also discussed was the possible remediation of copper of upstairs and downstairs drinking fountains at RJH. Mr. Katkin doesn't believe that it is coming in through the water. Ms. Moynahan asked about the sinks in the primary wing. Mr. Katkin stated that these were not tested because he was under the impression that the children are not supposed to be drinking from these sinks. Mr. Katkin said he could test the water but will most likely find problems because of the age of the sinks. The better option is to make sure the students go to the filtered fountains. Ms. Lull doesn't believe many students are drinking from these sinks. Mr. Petralia said he will make reference to the water testing results in his Bulletin.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, authorizing the administration to spend up to \$7K out of the unreserved fund balance to replace the three water fountains at RJH with up to date water filters. Vote: 5-0

Assistant Business Administrator Report

Ms. Ransom shared updated information on fund balances and the Board signed the MS-22. The current projected unreserved fund balance is approximately \$294,000.

Rye Elementary School Report

Ms. Lull congratulated Geography Bee winner, Sofia Cerasoli, who qualified for the State competition and will travel to Keene to compete against students in grades 4-8. A recent Box Tops Drive was held with the girls against the boys. Mrs. Lull and Mr. Ross both took a pie to the face because the girls won the contest. Grade four teachers worked with Brad Belin on the Shark Tank Project Based Learning unit. Students identified a problem in the world today and worked on a solution to solve it. They worked on prototypes and a message to present to a panel of sharks. The project included a visit from a patent attorney, Mrs. Carrie Webb Olson who shared her expertise on patents, trademarks, and copyrights with the students. The students had great presentations and terrific ideas. Fifth Graders participated once again at the 2017/2018 RES Science Fair. Ms. Lull stated that RES couldn't be more proud of the fifth graders for their hard work and polished presentations. This year Lori Arsenault, RES Guidance Counselor, has started a Counselor's Corner that is posted weekly in the Principal Updates that are sent to all Rye Elementary Families. Ms. Lull shared updates from the Literacy Team. Site visits, research and discussion led to the decision to move ahead with a reader's workshop model (Lucy Calkins) in grades 3-5 and a blended approach in kindergarten through grade 2. Teachers wanted a program that would support them in monitoring accuracy of young readers. Fountas & Pinnell has a new program that supports this and also follows benchmark assessments. In grade 2, teachers will transition more to a reader's workshop as students develop their reading skills. Flexibility and freedom with

content and writing will be embedded in the programs. Ms. Lull stated that there are 6-8 phones at RES that don't work. The phone system itself is not able to be repaired, which is a safety concern. The install cost of the preferred voice over IP system is \$10,257 and there is a monthly fee of \$170.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Crapo, to authorize an expenditure of up to \$15,000 out of the unreserved fund balance for the replacement of the phone system at RES. Vote: 5-0.

Rye Junior High School Report

Ms. Soucy shared that the Montreal calendar fundraiser was a huge success, thanks to Anne Gilbert and a group of parents. Students raised just over \$6,000 to help with the cost of the trip. The RJH School Store has also been a huge success and the online store has been kept open for an additional week. Ms. Soucy congratulated Sheila Adams who is a 2018 Clipper Foundation Grant Award Winner. Her Sea-faring vessel grant will be funded in the amount of \$2,300. The vessels will be able to go out in the water and be tracked by the students for data collection. The 7th grade students are finishing up their boats and they will be painted in the spring. In conjunction with the theme of "Finding Your Swing," Mrs. Miller was able to secure a visit from Rye local and esteemed author, Dan Brown. Ms. Soucy reported that Mr. Brown gave a terrific presentation and was very generous with his time with the students. Students in all grade levels participated in the New England Math League contest. The high scorers will be given an award at the end of the year awards ceremony. Rye Junior High enrollment has increased since the last meeting, and anecdotal information is showing that New Castle students will be opting to attend RJH for the 2018-2019 school year. Mr. Petralia thanked Ms. Soucy for attending the New Castle Board meeting to promote and improve the transition process.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Estimates & Quotes for Items to be Replaced/Repaired in One to Five Years at Both RES and RJH

See Business Administrator Report.

Water Test Results

See Business Administrator Report.

Update on Remediation of Copper in RJH Water Fountains

See Business Administrator Report.

Approval of 2018-2019 School Calendar

The Board discussed the proposed 2018-2019 School Year Calendar. The Board discussed the option of blizzard bags. Mr. Petralia shared his concerns regarding blizzard bags, including consistent staff and student participation. The Board discussed putting plans in place for the 2018-2019 school year if snow days become an issue. Mr. Petralia raised the concerns of transportation, and how decisions need to be SAU-wide. The

Board discussed requesting a waiver to the state. Dr. Marion stated that blizzard bags are inequitable for many students and time with teachers is best.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tsetsilas, to approve the Rye School District 2018-2019 School Year Calendar updated on March 20, 2018. Vote: 5-0.

Board to Vote on Funding for Online Lunch Payment System

Ms. Tsetsilas made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to approve the expenditure in the amount of \$2,035 from the unassigned fund balance. Vote: 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Nomination and Election of Professional Staff for 2018-2019

Mr. Petralia is required to present the nomination of the teaching staff for the following school year prior to the negotiated timeline of April 15th each year for the following school year. The nominations have been reviewed and approved by the Business Office and administration. Mr. Petralia also presented the support personnel memorandum agreements for 2018-2019.

In accordance and in compliance with RSA 189:14-a, 189:39, and 189:39-b, Mr. Petralia placed into nomination the names for election to certified positions for the 2017-2018 school year. In accordance with District policy, GCPA, the list includes the position of the teacher, percent employed, and salary. Position assignment next to the certified employee's name may change before the start of school.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, to accept the superintendent recommendations and nominations for certified position for the 2018-2019 school year, as presented. Vote: Unanimous.

Dialogue on SAU 50 Preschool Program

Ms. Honda received feedback from families that were hoping to take advantage of the SAU 50 Preschool Program but were not able to due to limited hours and days offered by the program. An action item was added to the SAU 50 Joint Board meeting agenda.

New Playground Equipment Funding

Julie Derderian (Rye Education Foundation) spoke to the Board regarding the student-led initiative for new playground equipment. The estimate includes installation, equipment and ground cover costs. REF is hoping that it will be a collaborative effort between REF, PTA and the School Board. The grounds would be woodchips. The Board discussed sharing the cost equally three ways with REF and PTA once the request is put out to bid and at least one more quote is received. The Board wants to do their due diligence. The Board requested the second quote, the quote for the smaller structure, and a map of where the structure would go, prior to the April Board meeting.

Reviewing the School Calendar Including Projected Last Day of School and RJH Graduation

Mr. Petralia thanked the families and staff for their understanding with the added student attending day on March 16, 2018. The current last day is now scheduled for Wednesday, June 20, 2018. This is not the same in all of the SAU 50 districts. The administrators will determine the graduation date at the next Admin Council meeting.

Establishing Meeting Date for April Meeting

Tuesday, April 17th 4:00pm to 6:15pm.

Establishing Meeting Date for June Meeting

Wednesday, June 13th at 5:00pm.

Establishing Meeting Date for July Retreat

Wednesday, July 25th at 8:30am at the Rye Public Library.

RECOGNITION OF GROUPS OR INDIVIDUAL VISITORS

STANDING COMMITTEES

Reporting Committees

Rye Education Foundation

The Spring grant cycle deadline is April 2nd. There will be a Q&A with the grants committee on April 9th at 5:30pm.

Portsmouth High School

Ms. Tsetsilas shared an update from the previous Secondary Advisory Council meeting that PHS has ongoing meetings regarding school safety. Mr. Petralia has been in discussion with the Joint Board to improve student and building safety throughout SAU 50. Ms. Tsetsilas asked if there is a need to communicate safety protocols to families. Mr. Petralia suggested creating a community forum to assure them that plans are in place. Safety Committees exist in both schools and information is updated frequently. The Board tentatively scheduled Wednesday, May 2nd at 6:30pm or Wednesday, May 9th.

Parent Teacher Association

Mother/Son Bowling is taking place Thursday, March 22nd. Daughter Day is coming up in May. PTA is considering how to allocate funds to support initiatives to improve recess options at RJH.

Rye Recreation

An updated newsletter was given to the Board. The Board discussed how to accommodate the waiting list of the Rye Recreation. The Board requested a confirmed number of the students on the waiting list.

Budget

No new update.

SAU Technology Committee

No new update.

Special Issues

No new update.

School Use Feasibility

Ms. Tsetsilas shared that rather than forming an additional marketing committee tasked with promoting our schools, the Board will determine the various marketing activities needed and will recruit community members with expertise in these areas to help. Ms. Tsetsilas is also working with the Town Clerk to monitor when new families enter the community in an effort to more accurately track and project school enrollment. Ms. Lull had found a document that was completed in 1982 that was very similar to the work completed by the 2017 School Use Feasibility Committee. The recommendations made in 1982 were to allow for flexibility given the monitoring of current projections, which is the current situation faced by the Rye School District.

Policies

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tsetsilas, to rescind policy JJIB – Interscholastic Athletics. Vote: 5-0.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Crapo, to rescind policy KDD – News Media Relations. Vote: 5-0.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Crapo, to rescind policy KDE – Crisis Management Communications. Vote: 5-0.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tsetsilas, to approve policy KBDA – Classroom Visits, for 1st Reading. Vote: 5-0.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tsetsilas, to approve policy JJA – Student Activities and Organizations, for 1st Reading. Vote: 5-0

Ms. Tsetsilas made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to adopt policy KDA – Communications with the Community (previously known as Public Information Program), for 1st Reading. Vote: 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Honda stated that the Board is happy to hear from the public. She requested that comments be limited to less than three minutes and she noted that the Board is not required to respond to public comment.

Peter Crawford (171 Brackett Road) – Mr. Crawford stated that the town is shell-shocked from the recent tax bill (up 7%). Mr. Crawford explained that there will be a committee of residents comparing the cost per pupil with surrounding school areas. Mr.

Crawford mentioned Lister Academy, cafeteria staff, bus routes, and other options that could be looked at that don't disrupt the quality of education.

The Rye School Board thanked the voters of Rye for their overwhelming support of the school budget.

Katherine Errecart (Forrest Green Road) – Ms. Errecart stated that benchmarking needs for the preschool might help to improve the options that are offered. Ms. Errecart shared that it was a great idea to use the town clerk as a resource. She suggested marketing communication be targeted towards families with young children.

Mr. Crawford (171 Brackett Road) – Mr. Crawford commented about 2016 census data regarding enrollment in the Rye schools.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

**Rye School
Board
3/20/2018
Meeting
Action Items**


Project/Status	When	Who	Action Item
<i>Science Curriculum</i>	April/July	Marie, Kelli	More complete mapping of 3 dimensions of science
<i>Building Maintenance Plans</i>	April	Sal, Suzanne, Marie	Building administrators to prioritize work outlined in Jim Katkin's list for potential funding from unassigned fund balance.
<i>PFCs/ Water Testing</i>	April	Jim Katkin Central office Paula	Jim Katkin to replace junior high water fountains due to high copper Central office to place water testing results on website Work w/ Carla Cole on Rye Mag water article
Math PD Conference Report	April	Suzanne and teachers	Suzanne and/or teacher team to report on PD from 3 attending teachers: information learned, how to disseminate and how to implement learnings

Student Surveys	July	Marie, Suzanne	Aggregate data for July retreat
Learning Management System	April	Kelli	Demo Schoology for Board
Parent University	Spring	Sarah, Paula, Margaret	Discuss topics for parent education and work with PTAs for implementation
Personalized Learning in Music	Spring	Suzanne/A. Papoutsy	Present written description to Board
RSD Public Gym Use	Spring	Suzanne/Marie Sal	Establish policy and procedure/priority for facility use of school gyms
Revisit Bus Utilization and Contract	Spring	Paula, Margaret, Amy	Determine efficiency and use of bus routes for cost savings measure; contract ends June 30, 2019
School reconfiguration	July retreat	Sal/Principals	Administration to provide educational, social, financial, facilities/operational, impact of reconfiguring RES to Prek-4 and RJH to Gr 5-8 models
STEAM Integration	July	Marie	Evaluate RJH scheduling and identify best scheduling model
Student population monitoring	Spring	Paula	Work w/ Select Committee to develop system to query new residents' household composition
Parent Survey	Spring	Scott	Identify effective ways to solicit feedback from parent community

Snow Day Make-up Days	Summer	Sal & SAU50 joint board	Create recommendations for how to handle extensive snow days for future years
RES Playground	Spring	Suzanne, PTA	Provide second bid for climbing structure as well as lower cost alternatives
Preschool program	Spring	SAU Joint Board, Sarah	Update on preschool programming
Safety Forum	Spring	Sal, Paula, Jeanne	Work with town officials for public information session on school safety. Proposed dates: 5/2 or 5/9
Rye Rec	Spring	Deb, Suzanne, Lee	Confirm number of children on waiting list

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Dr. Marion, seconded by Ms. Honda, the Board adjourned their meeting at 9:00 p.m. Vote: 5-0.


Secretary