

To be approved by the Rye School Board at the March 20, 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 Monday, February 12, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

School Board Members:

Kevin Brandon, Scott Marion, Jeanne Moynahan, Paula Tsetsilas

Administrators:

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

Staff:

Kathy Collyer, Jeanne Brown, Maggie Hanna, Sally Welch, Denise Wheeler

Residents/Visitors:

Peter Crawford, Stephanie Tabit, Matt Curtin, Sarah Curtin

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Marion called the meeting to order at 5:12 pm.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Approval of public and non-public minutes of December 20, 2017, January 17, 2018 and February 6, 2018:

Mr. Brandon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, to approve the public minutes of December 20, 2017. Vote: 4-0 (1 absent).

Ms. Tsetsilas made a motion, seconded by Ms Moynahan, to approve the Non-Public Manifest Hearing minutes of December 20, 2017, as amended. Vote: 3-0 (1 absent, 1 abstention).

Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandon, to approve the public minutes of January 17, 2018, as amended. Vote: 4-0 (1 absent).

Mr. Brandon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, to approve the public minutes of February 6, 2018, as amended. Vote: 4-0 (1 absent).

The Board held a moment of silence for Courtney Hickson, daughter of Ralph and Cynthia Hickson, who passed away tragically last week. The Hickson Family has been

very involved with the Rye Schools for a long time and the Board extends their condolences to the family.

Approval of Manifest

Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandon, to approve the manifest voucher of January 13, 2018 to January 17, 2018 in the amount of \$8,574.83.

Vote: 4-0 (1 absent).

Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tsetsilas, to approve the manifest voucher of January 18, 2018 to January 31, 2018 in the amount of \$426,655.53.

Vote: 4-0 (1 absent).

Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandon, to approve the manifest voucher of February 1, 2018 to February 9, 2018 in the amount of \$305,176.77.

Vote: 4-0 (1 absent).

Communications

Mr. Petralia stated that he has three communications. One is a request from a Rye parent regarding residency that Mr. Petralia will discuss with the Board in non-public session. There are also two requests from staff.

Mr. Petralia shared that RJH staff member, Laura Sunderland, has requested a full year leave of absence for maternity leave in accordance with Article 12 of the CBA.

Mr. Brandon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tsetsilas, to approve the leave request of Laura Sunderland, as submitted. Vote: 4-0 (1 absent).

Mr. Petralia shared that RES staff member, Hulya Varlikli, has requested the Board's support of her attendance and expenses at the 2018 TESOL International Convention & English Language Expo.

Ms. Tsetsilas made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brandon, to approve the professional development request of Hulya Varlikli, as submitted. Vote: 4-0 (1 absent).

REPORTS

Superintendent Report

Mr. Petralia shared an update regarding SB 193. Legislative hearings continue before House Finance - Division II on SB 193. A January 31, 2018 Concord Monitor article reports that the state's nonpartisan Legislative Budget Assistant issued an analysis estimating that SB 193 would cost the state \$36 million over twelve years.

Public School Infrastructure Grant

At the January 26, 2018 NHSAA meeting in Concord, Commissioner Edelblut reported that \$13,707,448 had been earmarked for those applications received in the first two rounds. The committee that reviews the applications will next meet early March to review

the final round of applications. Mr. Petralia spoke with Chief Walsh at the Town Deliberative Session last Saturday. He indicated that the applications for RES and RJH were completed last week and have been submitted to the State. Mr. Petralia wanted to publicly thank Chief Walsh for his efforts with this matter.

Mr. Petralia's school visits are ongoing. Mr. Petralia met with Ms. Soucy and Ms. Lull in January to complete mid-year check-ins and reviewed personnel, potential staffing changes and evaluation schedules.

Assistant Superintendent Report

Ms. Killen shared 2017 graduation data from Portsmouth High School. Rye had one student in the Top 10 (#7), and three students in the Top 20 (#13,14,15). There were 29 students attending four-year colleges/universities, 4 students entering the military, 4 students entering the work force, and one student entering post-graduate studies at Philips Exeter Academy.

Business Administrator Report

See Unfinished Business/Facility and Building Maintenance Plan/Summary.

Rye Elementary School Report

Ms. Lull wanted to publicly congratulate Geography Bee winner, Sofia Cerasoli, and runner up Thatcher Kindstedt, Spelling Bee winner, Kamara Williams and runner up Andrew McMorrow. Ms. Lull and Mr. Petralia congratulated the staff, Kathy Tucker, Phoebe Bischoff and Denise Wheeler. Northeast Passage visited the school for the week of February 5th. Students in grades 2-4 experienced life in a wheelchair during physical education. This is part of the yearlong emphasis on respect and building an awareness of differences. PTA sponsored these workshops for students. This year Holly Warden has been teaching Health in all classrooms. Students are learning in grade 2 right now how to eat a balanced diet and how to read labels on packaging. Second grade started their unit on economics. They divided the students up into four groups and each group was given twenty dollars and a shopping list. Each group went to one of four different grocery stores. Students were amazed at the amount of food each group was or wasn't able to get for the money. The 2nd grade students will be starting a unit on Rye leash laws. The 3rd grade students will be starting a unit on water. Dr. Marion publicly thanked Ms. Hannah for stepping into the 2nd grade teaching position.

Rye Junior High School Report

During the last Enrichment session, a group of students worked on developing Rye Junior High's first School Store. RJH has gone live with an online store where Riptides spirit wear can be purchased for students and family members. The students in this enrichment block helped select all the clothing products, priced them, and developed a website and order form for purchasing. Proceeds from the store will go towards offsetting the 8th grade trip to Montreal and the Regatta. RJH had 4 students participate at the regional MathCounts competition at UNH. Lilia Potter-Schwartz qualified to compete as an individual at the MathCounts state competition at Plymouth State University on March 10th. There will be 39 of 43 8th grade students who have registered and will be attending

the trip to Montreal in May. The 8th graders, led by some parent volunteers and Mrs. Gilbert are selling calendar raffles right now to help offset the cost of the trip. Brad Belin will be at RJH on February 20th to work with teachers on PBL based units. Dr. Marion asked Ms. Soucy to explain the STEAM course rotation. Grade level teams have handled the rotation differently and the staff is figuring out which options work best for integrating the content. Ms. Moynahan stated that there is a perception in town that because Mr. Visciano retired that students are not learning wood shop, so it would be good to highlight how the students are learning the woodshop skills in STEAM class.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Facility and Building Maintenance Plan/Summary

Mr. Katkin presented the Board with a document titled “Rye Capital Improvement Plan” which outlined priorities of projects needed at both schools. The Board thanked Mr. Katkin for the helpful document and requested that costs be listed next to the items in the 1-5 year range so that it can be considered for budgeting purposes. Mr. Katkin will bring that information to the March meeting. Dr. Marion added that the dollar amounts will be helpful when determining how to use the unassigned fund balance.

Schoology Update and Teacher Feedback

Ms. Killen explained that a learning management system is a way to combine digital platforms for single-sign-on, which will allow consistency and commonality to support the Vision for Learning (competencies, personalized learning, projects, performance task, standards grading, growth data, parent communication and reporting, etc.), and to provide efficiency in a cost effective way. Ms. Killen explained the process in which Schoology was chosen as a pilot program, which included tutorials and sessions at the start of school for staff and administration. Ms. Killen shared feedback from staff regarding the use of Schoology. Ms. Killen highlighted the features of Schoology, which includes tracking historical learning data of students, managing student mastery of standards, grading and reporting, storing intellectual property, managing professional learning communities of staff, among many others. Dr. Marion asked which other systems the committee looked at, and how Schoology was decided upon. Ms. Killen explained the benefits of Schoology compared to the others. Dr. Marion asked if Schoology would replace PowerSchool Ms. Killen explained that eventually Schoology could not replace PowerSchool because PowerSchool includes information and functions that are required for generating reports to the state and for other purposes. Schoology does not allow for the printing of report cards. Mr. Brandon added these programs are all about global use and streamlining use for families. Ms. Killen explained that a similar transition occurred with Google applications; and those are now used widely in the Rye School District. Administrators could look at teachers’ Schoology program and see what standards are being addressed and how frequently. Ms. Tsetsilas asked if Schoology would duplicate SeeSaw, which it would. Teachers can earn professional development hours for learning Schoology, which will promote adoption. Dr. Marion stated that he has some concerns about programs that promote data, and take away from teachers looking at student work. Mr. Petralia suggested a demo of Schoology at the March meeting. The Board suggested providing a

stipend to teachers that are willing to demo the program and provide feedback on how they are using it.

Board Feedback on Teacher Evaluation Process and Supervision Checklist

Ms. Killen asked the Board for any input regarding the teacher evaluation process. Dr. Marion stated that he wants a system in place that provides valuable feedback to the teachers. He added that he doesn't want principals to feel that they can't "color outside the lines", and forced into unnecessary paperwork. Ms. Lull stated that some of the evaluation forms don't work very well and that the plan should be systematic yet flexible to meet teacher needs.

School Use Feasibility

Mr. Petralia and Ms. Tsetsilas met with the principals to discuss potential next steps regarding school use. The majority of the time was spent discussing RES becoming K-4 and RJH becoming 5-8. If the Board was interested, it is something that could be enacted for the 2019-2020 school year. Ms. Tsetsilas suggested a public outreach initiative that could help to improve the perception of the district. Ms. Tsetsilas will reach out to parents for marketing plan support. Another suggestion was to poll new residents with children about why they are moving to the district and sending them material related to the schools. Dr. Marion suggested waiting until after the elections and Mr. Brandon added that more information on the developmental ramifications of having 5th grade move to the junior high. Mr. Petralia added that collaboration with Greenland is challenging because Greenland is not in a space crunch, and not close to capacity at this time. There are additional housing communities being built in Greenland to allow for growth, unlike in Rye. Mr. Petralia stated that he is happy to engage the Greenland Board further, but in his opinion does not think that Greenland has an interest in tuitioning students to RJH in the immediate future. Mr. Petralia stated that Ms. Soucy will be attending the New Castle Board meeting at the beginning of March to promote the great things happening at Rye Junior High.

Student Surveys

Dr. Marion shared that the student surveys are ready to pilot with a small number of students. He suggested that the principals sit with a couple of students to see if there is any confusion about the wording of the questions. Ms. Soucy asked about students taking multiple surveys for their different teachers at the middle school level. Dr. Marion responded that the aggregate data is what is valuable; perhaps they could be separated by a few days when it is convenient. The results of the survey will not be reported to the Board by the individual teacher, but only in the aggregate. Dr. Marion stated that the survey should be administered when is convenient for the schools. The Board would like the data for the July retreat.

Online Lunch Payment System Update

Mr. Petralia recommended to the Board to use the existing fund balance to pay for Rye's portion of the online lunch payment system. Dr. Marion asked Mr. Petralia to check with Ms. Ransom regarding paying for a purchase that is ahead of schedule. Rye's portion for the 2018-2019 school year is \$2,035.

NEW BUSINESS

2018-2019 School Calendar (Draft)

Mr. Petralia would like the Board to approve the 2018-2019 Calendar at the March 20, 2018 meeting. The calendar considers the CBA. Ms. Killen explained why early release days were scheduled for Fridays, which is to help families who may have difficulty during the week. Ms. Moynahan asked if the draft considers Portsmouth's work days and early release days. Ms. Killen responded that Portsmouth is still developing their calendar as well. Ms. Killen explained the additional teacher work days that are not yet on the calendar and the principals explained the suggestions from the staff. The teacher days will be included on the next draft brought to the March 20, 2018 meeting.

RECOGNITION OF GROUPS OR INDIVIDUAL VISITORS

The Board recognized Mr. Kevin Brandon for his service on the Rye School Board. Dr. Marion thanked Mr. Brandon for his business expertise that he brought to the Board.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Reporting Committees

Rye Education Foundation

No new update.

Portsmouth High School

The next Secondary Advisory Meeting is on March 5, 2018.

School Use Feasibility

See School Use Feasibility section above.

Parent Teacher Association

No new update.

Rye Recreation

An updated newsletter was given to the Board.

Budget

No new update.

SAU Technology Committee

No new update.

Special Issues

No new update.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

**Rye School
Board Meeting:
2/12/2018
Action Items**

Project/Status	When	Who	Action Item
<i>Science Curriculum</i>	Ongoing	Marie/Kelli	More complete mapping of 3 dimensions of science
<i>Building Maintenance Plans</i>	March	Jim Katkin/Board	Mr. Katkin to identify cost range for work needed in next 5 years for each school. Board to look at expenses to be covered by unassigned fund balance.
<i>PFCs/ Water Testing</i>	March	Jim Katkin	Remediation of copper in upstairs and downstairs water fountains at RJH
Math PD Conference Report	March	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	March & July	Marie/ Suzanne	Pilot data due for March meeting; Aggregate data for July retreat
<i>Learning Management System</i>	March	Kelli	Demo Schoology for Board
<i>Annual Student Health & Contact Forms</i>	Spring	Lorraine	Investigate if any of our current management systems allow for parents to update these forms online every fall
<i>Parent University</i>	Spring	Sarah/Paula/ Margaret	Discuss topics for parent education and work with PTAs for implementation
Lunch Program	March	Suzanne/Marie/Lisa Furman	Develop benchmarks for unpaid balances for comparison purposes

New Language Arts Program	March	Suzanne	Present new language arts program to Board
Personalized Learning in Music	Spring	Suzanne/A. Papoutsy	Present example to Board
RSD Public Gym Use	Winter	Suzanne/Marie	Establish policy and procedure/priority for facility use of school gyms
Revisit Bus Utilization and Contract	Spring	Paula/Amy	Determine efficiency and use of bus routes for cost savings measure; contract ends June 30, 2019
School reconfiguration	Ongoing	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
Community & public outreach plan	Spring	Paula	Establish a community and public outreach committee and create strategic plan
18-19 School Calendar	March	Kelli/Board members	Board to provide feedback to initial calendar; Admin to overlay Portsmouth early release days

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

On a motion made by Mr. Brandon, and seconded by Ms. Moynahan, the Board entered into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II at 7:40 p.m. (c). Vote: 4:0

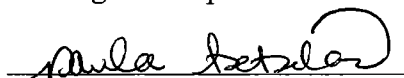
RETURN TO PUBLIC

On a motion made by Ms. Tsetsilas and seconded by Mr. Brandon, the Board returned to public session at 8:10 p.m. Vote: 4:0

On a motion made by Mr. Brandon, and seconded by Ms. Moynahan, the Board voted to seal the non-public minutes. Vote: 4:0

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Brandon, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, the Board adjourned their meeting at 8:12 p.m. Vote: 4:0


Secretary