

DRAFT

To be approved by the Rye School Board at the July 25, 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 Wednesday, June 11, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

School Board Members: Deb Crapo, Margaret Honda, Scott Marion,
Jeanne Moynahan, Paula Tsetsilas

Administrators: Salvatore Petralia, Superintendent
Kelli Killen, Assistant Superintendent
Suzanne Lull, Rye Elementary School Principal
Marie Soucy, Rye Junior High Principal
Sarah Reinhardt, Special Education Director

Staff: Kathleen Collyer, Jeanne Brown, Paula Rawding,
Phoebe Bischoff, Anne Gilbert

Residents/Visitors: Matt Curtin, Sarah Curtin, 8th Grade Students

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Honda called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (6:02 p.m. – 6:04 p.m.)

Approval of public and non-public minutes of May 16, 2018.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, to approve the public minutes of May 16, 2018, as amended. Vote: 5-0.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, to approve the non-public minutes of May 16, 2018, as amended. Vote: 5-0.

Approval of Manifest

Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to approve the manifest voucher of May 10, 2018 to May 18, 2018 in the amount of \$276,974.90. Vote: 5-0.

Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to approve the manifest voucher of May 19, 2018 to June 6, 2018 in the amount of \$419,687.98. Vote: 5-0.

Communications (6:04 p.m. – 6:08 p.m.)

Mr. Petralia stated that he received communication from Mark Zartarian resigning from his position as Rye School Board Treasurer. Mr. Petralia shared options for securing someone new for that position. Mr. Petralia also received a mailing addressed to all school board members in SAU 50. The mailing contained a letter titled “An End to Gun Violence in Schools.” Attached to the letter were several pages of signed petitions from citizens across the seacoast area.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS (5:05 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.)

Cell Tower Proposal Overview and Discussion (5:05 p.m. – 5:23 p.m.)

Town Counsel Michael Donovan and Town Administrator Michael Magnant shared that Verizon has applied for approval of a cell tower at 120 Brackett Road in Rye to provide coverage for a service gap. This tower requires a use variance from the Zoning Board. Mr. Donovan provided an excerpt from the Verizon proposal to the Board. The proposal included a request to the School Board to allow a consultant to evaluate the thirty acres near Rye Elementary School as an alternative location for the tower. The consultation would have no cost to the Rye School District and would be completed around the end of the July. Discussion ensued about proposed dimensions of the tower, environmental concerns, other cell carriers that use the tower, and wetland easements.

Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tsetsilas, to authorize the town to allow a Verizon consultant to explore the acreage that is available at Rye Elementary School for the potential installation of a cell phone tower. Vote: 4-1.

8th Grade Montreal Trip and Scheduling Block Change (5:23 p.m. – 5:53 p.m.)

8th Grade Teacher Anne Gilbert and three 8th grade students, Jenna, Lilia and Josie, shared their experience the team had in planning the Montreal trip. The students shared their itinerary and what the experience was like. The group thanked the Rye community for their support of the trip. Ms. Tsetsilas thanked the 8th grade team for outlining the expectations so clearly for the families. Ms. Gilbert explained the block scheduling change that the 8th grade implemented to accommodate for STEAM as well as to promote autonomy for 8th grade students. The presentation included student feedback on the schedule.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Schwartz (Wallis Road) – Mr. Schwartz shared that he thought the Montreal trip was a huge success and opened up students to experiences they may not have had. Mr. Schwartz also shared that he thought more feedback should be solicited about block scheduling and the impact on core instruction.

Recognition of Retiring Teachers (5:53 – 6:00 p.m.)

The School Board presented retiring teachers and staff with tokens of appreciation. This included Paula Rawding, administrative assistant at Rye Junior High; Jeanne Brown, world language teacher at Rye Junior High, and Kathy Collyer, teacher at Rye Elementary.

REPORTS

Superintendent Report (6:08 p.m. – 6:19 p.m.)

Mr. Petralia shared that Ms. Ransom will be joining the meeting to provide updates on the fund balances. Ms. Reinhardt will be joining the meeting to provide the Board with an update regarding a student matter and contract negotiations with support staff. This will take place in nonpublic session. Mr. Petralia received an update from Amy Clark, School Safety & Facility Management Administrator at the New Hampshire Department of Education who provided an update on the Public School Infrastructure Fund. Mr. Petralia also thanked members of the Board for their participation at the May 23rd SAU 50 Joint School Board Meeting and School Board Orientation.

The Board discussed if/what an appropriate response to the gun violence petition would be. The Board decided that the public meetings would be the platform in which they inform communities that the district campuses are safe.

Assistant Superintendent Report (6:19 p.m. – 6:29 p.m.)

Ms. Killen shared that data from the spring testing will be mailed home to families at the end of the school year and shared with the Board at the July retreat. Ms. Killen visited Portsmouth High School and learned a lot through the experience. A document was shared with the Board that included how the Professional Development funds were being used by the staff at RES and RJH. Ms. Killen's update also included updates on pupil services and Spring 2018 STAR results.

Assistant Business Administrator Report (6:29 p.m. – 6:33 p.m.)

Mr. Petralia shared an update on fund balance on behalf of Ms. Ransom. The Board discussed the remaining fund balance, which is slightly more than 1%.

Rye Elementary School Report (6:33 p.m. – 6:39 p.m.)

Ms. Lull stated that *Talents by the Sea* has been released. Copies are available at the school. Ms. Lull's update included discussion about a recent survey for feedback on the G.R.O.W.T.H. plan and what staff liked or what they thought needed to improve. Mr. Petralia shared that Sharry Spark has been a recent addition to the PLAC committee and has been providing ideas for professional development that support professionals may be interested in.

Rye Junior High School Report (6:39 p.m. – 6:49 p.m.)

Ms. Soucy shared that the Rye Regatta was a huge success. Jenn Miller and Erin Fleming will be finishing up a coffee table book on the Rye Regatta that includes how it integrates the subject areas. Ms. Soucy stated that the Regatta supported the goal of improving positive press. The Board stated that RJH will be reflective about the scheduling and year-long theme, and how to improve for next year. Ms. Soucy shared results from a Chromebook survey, which showed that overall, was a successful implementation.

Ms. Moynahan asked about the Wedgewood property. Ms. Soucy responded that Wedgewood has undergone a clean-up and 6th Grade will be leading some projects

related to Wedgewood in the 2018-2019 school year. Dr. Marion added that there are many resources that the school owns that can be used for student learning.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (6:49 p.m. - 7:18 p.m.)

Rye Recreation Space Use Agreement

Ms. Lull provided the Board with a summary of the Rye Recreation Space Use Agreement, which included her input on certain aspects. Discussion ensued on available classrooms, storage space, time availability, attendance and class/group sizes. Ms. Tsetsilas suggested that another Board member view the space before responding. Mr. Petralia stated that the top priority is the student population that uses the space during the school day. Ms. Moynahan added that it is up to the building administrator to determine space needs, and if there is not space to accommodate the agreement, then it should not happen. Ms. Tsetsilas added that it may not be a school issue, but rather a town issue. The needs of students are changing and teachers need different resources to teach all students. Dr. Marion stated that the Board does have a duty to show the town that both buildings are being used efficiently. The Board agreed to modify the space use document to be compatible with what was in place for this year and cap the amount of students at 50 for after-school.

Parent Survey

Links are available on the Facebook page for parents to complete the survey.

Driveway Paving Update

Ms. Crapo shared an update on the driveway paving and that schedules are tight for the paving companies. An action item was created to follow up at the next meeting.

RES Handbook Review

No new updates.

School Use Feasibility

Ms. Tsetsilas shared that a draft postcard has been created to collect information from new residents. Discussion ensued about how the information collected is mutually beneficial for the town and the school.

Meeting Minutes Format

No update.

NEW BUSINESS (7:19 p.m. – 8:09 p.m.)

The Board took recess from 7:25 p.m. -7:33 p.m.

Personnel

Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Crapo, to accept the nomination of Ms. Leslie Bayse, as Art Teacher (Long Term Absence). Vote: Unanimous.

Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Crapo, to accept the nomination of Mr. John Hirsch, as World Language Teacher. Vote: Unanimous.

Ms. Crapo made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, to accept the nomination of Ms. Meagan Morgan, as Speech Language Pathologist. Vote: Unanimous.

Ms. Crapo made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to accept Mr. Zartarian's resignation as Rye School Board Treasurer, with regret. Vote: Unanimous.

Ms. Crapo made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to accept Ms. Rawding's resignation from Rye Junior High, with regret. Vote: Unanimous.

Art Curriculum Adoption

Ms. Killen explained the proposed Visual Arts curriculum.

Ms. Tssetsilas made a motion, seconded by Ms. Crapo, to adopt the Art Curriculum Guidelines as presented. Vote: 5-0.

July Retreat Discussion Topics (July 25, 2018 at 8:30 a.m.)

- Schedules/events for 2018-2019 school year
- Implementation of project based learning
- Use/structure of the school day
- Service learning/community based
- Snow days/blizzard bags
- Area Agreement with Lister Academy
- Anonymous Professional Evaluations
- Wedgewood
- Special Education Communication
- Rye students and PHS preparation/transition
- Parent Satisfaction Survey for 9th-12th Experience
- Communication
- Energy within school buildings
- School use and structure

Overview of Strategic Planning Session

Ms. Honda explained that she attended a Strategic Planning Session and shared her thoughts on how it could impact the July retreat. This would include looking at the resources that already exist in the district and communicating the use of the resources for the 2018-2019, and 2019-2020 school years. Mr. Petralia added that there are common themes among the four districts in the SAU that would allow for a strategic plan to be developed SAU-wide. Ms. Crapo said that a previous Board created a strategic plan and that it may be archived at the SAU office. Mr. Petralia added that typically districts hire a consultant to lead the strategic planning committee and that hiring one for the SAU could save money. Discussion ensued about strategic planning versus strategic communication.

School Board Meeting Dates for 2018-2019

Rye School Board meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month at 5pm.

RECOGNITION OF GROUPS OR INDIVIDUAL VISITORS

STANDING COMMITTEES (8:10 p.m. – 8:13p.m.)

Reporting Committees

Rye Education Foundation

No update.

Portsmouth High School

PHS Graduation took place on Friday, June 8th. Rye students were well represented in the top scholars. Grading will be discussed at the Portsmouth School Board meeting on June 12, 2018.

Parent Teacher Association

No update.

Rye Recreation

Discussed in Unfinished Business.

Budget

No update.

SAU Technology Committee

No update.

Special Issues

No update.

Policies

No update.

School Use Feasibility

No update.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

**Rye School
Board
6/11/2018
Meeting
Action Items**

| Project/Status | When | Who | Action Item |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|--|
| Student Surveys | July | Marie, Suzanne | Aggregate data for July retreat |
| Parent University | Fall | Sarah, Paula, Margaret | Hold first SAU-wide parent education forum |
| RSD Public Gym Use | Summer | Suzanne/Marie Sal | Establish policy and procedure/priority for facility use of school gyms |
| Revisit Bus Utilization and Contract | Fall | 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 |
| Snow Day Make-up Days | Summer | Sal & SAU50 joint board | Create recommendations for how to handle extensive snow days for future years |
| Driveway Paving | June | Deb/Jim Gordon | Deb to coordinate meeting with Jim Gordon |
| Parent Surveys | July | Scott | Collect data for July retreat |
| Rye Recreation Lease | May/June | Suzanne | Respond to Rye Rec's proposed lease agreement |
| Professional Development Readout | Sept | Sheila Adams | Sheila Adams to provide feedback from June conference. |
| July retreat planning | | | See suggested topics below |
| Strategic Planning | Summer | Sal/Margaret | Sal to look into organizations and resources available to School Board |

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|---|------|-------|--|
| Report from HS visit | July | Kelli | Kelli to provide report for retreat |
| Potential Psmith Grading Changes | July | Scott | Scott to inform Board of outcome of potential Psmith grading changes |

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

On a motion made by Dr. Marion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, the board entered non-public session at 8:17 p.m., in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (c). Roll Call Vote: 5-0.

RETURN TO PUBLIC

On a motion by Dr. Marion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, the Board return to public session and sealed the non-public minutes at 9:15 p.m. Vote: 5-0

On a motion by Ms. Tsetsilas, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, the Board voted to seal the non-public minutes at 9:15 p.m. Vote: 5-0

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ms. Crapo, seconded by Dr. Marion, the Board adjourned their meeting at 9:16 p.m. Vote: 5-0.

DRAFT

Secretary