

**RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
300 HORNIDGE ROAD
MAMARONECK, NEW YORK 10543
BOARD OF EDUCATION PLANNING SESSION
SEPTEMBER 4, 2024**

Present: President Jason Carmel

DRAFT

Trustee Nikki Barker

Trustee Halli Gatenio

Trustee Gloria Golle

Trustee Erica Wagner

Trustee Elizabeth Yong

Dr. Eric Lutinski, Superintendent of Schools

Carolyn Mahar, Assistant Superintendent for Business

Corrine Ryan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Mary Ellen Chiera, District Clerk

I. Opening of Meeting

President Carmel called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Upon Motion duly made by Trustee Yong and seconded by Trustee Wagner, it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District approves the Minutes of the August 21, 2024 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: All Present

NAYES: None

III. New Business

Approval of Change Orders

Upon Motion duly made by Trustee Golle and seconded by Trustee Gatenio, it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District approve the following change orders for DeRosa Sports Construction for the repaving and site work at Daniel Warren Elementary School:

- Change order PC-01 for an increase of \$29,959.72 related to:
 - Replacement of grass area with asphalt in front of the school with pavement (approx. 150 sqft.) = \$5,106.16
 - Installation of a fenced dumpster enclosure with concrete pad and curbs

- = \$11,859.10
- o Installation of timber guiderails = \$12,415.26
- o Removal and replacement of concrete walk in front of school= \$3,997.66
- o Additional electrical trenching = \$1,926.25
- o Removal of concrete gutter along building = \$1,625.29
- o Partially offset by a credit for electrical work completed by the district's electrician = (\$6,970.00)
- Change order PC-02 for an increase of \$4,156.88 related to the cost of rebuilding the concrete ramp at the rear of the Daniel Warren building.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

Approval of Board Goals for 2024-2025

Upon Motion duly made by Trustee Yong and seconded by Trustee Wagner, it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District adopt the **attached** Board of Education Goals for the 2024-2025 school year.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

IV. Discussion

CellPhone Update

Dr. Lutinski explained that cell phone rules are covered in the district's policies, Code of Conduct, and in each school's handbook has something age appropriate for their building. Daniel Warren and F.E. Bellows do not have many issues with cell phones. However, they do have some issues with Apple watches. Most of the issues with cell phones take place in the Middle School and High School. In the Middle School, cell phones are not to be used in the school building during school hours unless authorized by a teacher for special classroom purposes. In the High School, cellphones are not to be used in the classroom unless authorized by a teacher for educational purposes or accommodations granted by CSE/504 committees. However, High School students may use their cell phones, with headphones, in the dining hall, study halls and the library.

Dr. Lutinski advised that this year, the High School will be using traffic light signs to label areas of the school as a green zone, yellow zone or red zone for cell phone use. In addition, the High School will be forming a student advisory group in this regard.

The Board discussed red zone locations; creating a survey for students,, parents and staff; and the consequences for misuse of the phones. Dr. Lutinski stated that he would obtain information from other schools as to what they are doing.

Communication Committee

Trustee Wagner began by stating that the district needs to increase its communication with the community, and she feels that a communication committee could explore sources of communication and look at what the district already does to see what changes or additions can be made. It can also help work on public relations and promoting the district's accomplishments.

The Board then discussed the makeup of the committee and using the PTSA and PACs to help with the process. It was agreed that the committee would be set up as a district advisory committee. Trustees Wagner and Golle will work together on the issues to address and the goals of the committee.

Policy Update

With regard to the NYSSBA Policy review, Trustee Barker explained how the review is being conducted and the Committee's process in reviewing NYSSBA's draft of each section. To date, NYSSBA has reviewed and provided drafts of sections 0000 and 1000, and the Committee has reviewed these sections at its August 27th meeting. She stated that at the October Planning Session, the Committee will recommend policies for a first reading at the October Board Meeting.

Regarding redlining, it was decided not to have NYSSBA redline the policies it is reviewing. The Board will refer to the notes in the model policy to get an understanding of the language and purpose of the policy. They would like the policies from the quarterly updates that are being considered for adoption/amendment to be redlined.

Regarding committee charters, Trustees Barker and Yong reviewed with the Board the drafts of the charters for the Facilities Committee and Technology Committee. Following discussion by the Board, it was decided that Trustee Yong would provide new drafts to Mrs. Mahar for her review and comments, with the hopes that the Board will vote to approve the adoption of the charters at the September Board meeting.

Regarding policies 4772 (Graduation Ceremonies), 4773 (Diploma and Credential Options for Students with Disabilities), 5500 and 5500-R (Student Records), and 5550 (Student Privacy), it was recommended that they be put on the September Board meeting agenda for a first reading, contingent upon clarification from legal counsel as to whether or not they should be reviewing the policies first.

Regarding policies 0350 (Evaluation of Instructional Programs), 4000 (Student Learning Standards and Instructional Guidelines), and 4200 (Curriculum Management), the Board deferred action until a later date.

Regarding the role of the school attorney, Dr. Lutinski will request feedback from Bond Schoeneck & King as to whether or not we should adopt policies provided by NYSSBA without BSK having first reviewed them.

Finally, discussion was had with regard to the timing of the committee meetings. The committee heads will set the date and times in advance of distributing applications for community members to join the committees.

Exit Interviews

Dr. Lutinski advised the Board that the Middle School counselor will conduct exit interviews for 8th grade students who are leaving the district to attend another school. This will allow the district to obtain data as to why students are leaving.

V. Adjournment of Meeting

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Golle seconded by Trustee Wagner, it was

RESOLVED, that there being no further business before the Board, that the Board of Education Planning Session of September 4, 2024 be adjourned.

AYES: All Present

NAYES: None

President Carmel adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Chiera
District Clerk