

Good evening, and as usual this time of year we welcome you to the “happy meeting” when we’re looking forward to the holidays. We recently had a conversation about the winter break, whether “two weeks” or “16 days” sounded better. The answer, of course, is they’re both great. Any extra time that you can spend with family and friends without the pressures of school or work is a gift to be treasured. Speaking of extra time with family...

I have made the decision to retire from my role as Superintendent of the outstanding Rye Neck School District, effective June 30, 2025. For the past 30 years Rye Neck has been my home, and the deep sense of love and respect I have for this exceptional place made this decision possible only after much reflection.

Looking back to when I started here in 1995 there were no computers in any classrooms, newsletters were made of paper, and parents had to watch the bottom of the TV to see if there was a snow day. Life was simpler before Columbine, 9/11, and COVID, and of course Whole Language, the Common Core and social media. But throughout the challenges we faced as a district and community, the one constant that has ensured Rye Neck’s success is the cooperative, familial spirit that defines us as a whole and is manifested in its people.

During my time here as a teacher, principal, and superintendent, I have been inspired by our incredible students who have kept me both young at heart and confident in our future; our dedicated faculty and staff, who have given me pride in our work and a collegial sense of purpose; our wonderful families, who have provided support and a true sense of community that overcomes the boundaries of our two municipalities. Members of that close-knit community step up every year and all year in the form of Board service, and I’m grateful for the partnership I have enjoyed from our committed and dedicated trustees, past and present.

Serving the students of Rye Neck has been the most rewarding experience of my 33-year career as an educator. I will always carry with me the memories and relationships our extended family of Panthers have provided me.

With the greatest sincerity, thank you.

Eric Lutinski