



**RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
300 HORNIDGE ROAD  
MAMARONECK, NEW YORK 10543  
BOARD OF EDUCATION PLANNING SESSION  
APRIL 2, 2025**

Present: President Erica Wagner  
Trustee Nikki Barker  
Trustee Jason Carmel  
Trustee Halli Gatenio  
Trustee Gloria Golle  
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

**DRAFT**

**I. Opening of Meeting**

President Wagner 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 Carmel, it was

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District approves the Minutes of the March 19, 2025 Board of Education Meeting.

**AYES: All Present**

**NAYES: None**

**III. Discussion**

**Budget and Federal Grant Update**

Dr. Lutinski provided an update on the Federal grand situation. He explained that there are fears that grants will be affected and why people feel this way. However, he stated that we don't feel that will happen and the District should be okay. A soft dismantling of the Department of Education would mean redistribution of responsibilities to other government departments so the only impact we are seeing are things that don't have to do with money.

Next, Mrs. Mahar provided an update on the budget. She advised that she is one week out from finalizing the budget. Any changes will be provided to the Board in this week's

update. The bid opening for the High School vestibule took place yesterday. There will be a transfer to capital for this and the electrical work. It does not affect the budget number. Mrs. Mahar stated that the District is in good shape and has a balanced budget.

Discussion took place regarding the electrical work.8

### **MS Course Schedule Update**

Mrs. Ryan updated the Board on changes in the Middle School for next year. The math teachers will be revamping the math curriculum this summer in order to increase rigor. Starting next year, every 6th grader will take a math lab. In addition, next year they will also be implementing an executive functioning curriculum for 6th graders. They are looking to increase AIS and piloting a flexible AIS program. Mrs. Ryan stated that they are also looking into changing the Middle School schedule and lunch periods to free up space to add more offerings.

### **HS Course Selection Process**

Mrs. Ryan then explained the High School course selection process. After midterms, counselors start working with students regarding their courses for next year. They are looking into more AP opportunities for younger students. Discussion was had regarding what new classes may be offered.

### **2025-2026 Draft Board Meeting Schedule**

Discussion took place regarding the Board of Ed meeting schedule for next year. The August 20th needs to be moved since some of the Trustees will be on vacation that week. Mrs. Chiera will poll the Board to see what date works for everyone. Since the tax rates have to be adopted at this meeting, Mrs. Mahar will find out the last date she can provide the approved rates to the municipalities.

### **Office Hours Summary**

President Wagner and Trustee Gatenio explained that they met with two community members regarding the cell phone policy. They expressed their concerns regarding the possibility of a cell phone ban and suggested ways to implement it in the High School. Dr. Lutinski stated that it looks like the Governor's ban will happen but we will not know the parameters until the ban is in effect.

## **IV. Policy**

### **Policy 2245 - Ex Officio Student Member of the Board**

There will be a new law in place beginning July 1, 2025 requiring boards to have an ex officio student member of the board. The student member will not be able to vote, will not participate in executive sessions and will not count as a quorum. They are there only to participate in conversation and to provide input. Discussion was had regarding who can be appointed, the policy requirements, and what happens if the student can't be present at a particular meeting.

### **First Readings**

Trustees Barker and Yong summarized the following policies which will be presented for a first reading at the April 22nd Board meeting:

4325 & 4325-E - Academic Intervention Services & Exhibit

4532 - School Volunteers

4710 - Grading System

A portion of Section 5000 from the comprehensive policy review

**Second Reading**

Trustees Barker and Yong summarized the following policies which will be presented for a second reading and adoption at the April 22nd Board meeting:

0111 & 0111-E - Sexual Harassment Grievances Under Title IX & Exhibit

1120-R - School District Records Regulation

8113 - Extreme Heat Condition Days

**V. Proposed Executive Session**

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

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District hereby agrees to move into executive session to discuss legal services and the superintendent search.

**AYES: All Present**

**NAYES: None**

**VI. Adjournment of Executive Session, Reopening of Public Meeting and Adjournment of Public Meeting**

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Carmel and seconded by Trustee Barker, it was

**RESOLVED**, that the executive session be adjourned and the Public Meeting be reopened; and it was

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that there being no further business before the Board and upon motion duly made by Trustee Gatenio and seconded by Trustee Yong, it was

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education Meeting of April 2, 2025 be adjourned.

**AYES: All Present**

**NAYES: None**

President Wagner adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Ellen Chiera  
District Clerk