

President's Report - April 22, 2025

Hi and good evening Rye Neck. Tonight is a very special meeting. In addition to the many important items we will review, we as a board will vote to adopt two significant resolutions.

The first of these resolutions is the adoption of the 2025-2026 proposed budget. Thank you to Ms. Mahar and Dr. Lutinski for your thoughtful budget presentation this evening. Tonight marks the third time the budget has been presented to the community in an open forum, and this evening, the board will formally vote to adopt the budget. We are proud to support and endorse a tax-cap compliant budget for the 14th year in a row! This year's budget will continue to fund innovative programs and strategic experiences for all Rye Neck students and staff.

Please mark your calendars to come out and vote for the budget on Tuesday, May 20th. Additionally, the ballot will include three community members who are running for a three-year term on the board of education; the community will vote to elect two members to the board.

The second of these significant resolutions is the appointment of Mr. Michael Burke as Rye Neck's next Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Burke's 25 years in public education include serving nine years as Superintendent of the Cresskill (NJ) Public Schools, where he was named as the Bergen County Superintendent of the Year in 2022. He began his career as an AP Math teacher, before transitioning to his administrative career as a Supervisor of Curriculum and later a High School Principal.

We owe a massive debt of gratitude to our Rye Neck community for your crucial focus group voices and strong survey contributions. Your feedback allowed our dedicated search consultants to develop a solid candidate profile that guided the entirety of the search process which ultimately lead us to Mr. Burke. Mr. Burke spent the bulk of today getting to know Rye Neck via meetings and quality time with Dr. Lutinski, the administrative team, and staff. He also got a special VIP tour of our Rye Neck neighborhoods and district from Dr. Lutinski. As a reminder there will be a meet and greet in the dining hall immediately following tonight's board meeting so you have the opportunity to meet him yourselves. Mr. Burke is affable, engaging, strong, and warm-hearted, and we believe he fully aligns with the profile that was developed by our Rye Neck community. Mr. Burke is the board's unanimous choice to lead Rye Neck as our next Superintendent of Schools.