

RyeNeck Schools

**RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
300 HORNIDGE ROAD
MAMARONECK, NEW YORK 10543
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
JUNE 10, 2025**

Present: President Erica Wagner

Trustee Nikki Barker

Trustee Halli Gatenio

Trustee Gloria Golle

Trustee Elizabeth Yong

Dr. Eric Lutinski, Superintendent of Schools

Carolyn Mahar, Assistant Superintendent for Business

Mary Ellen Chiera, District Clerk

Absent: Trustee Jason Carmel

I. Opening of Meeting

President Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. President's Report

President Wagner announced that tonight we will be recognizing staff, teachers, a coach and one VIP administrator who have dedicated their lifelong careers to Rye Neck. She offered immense gratitude for the years of dedication to education, commitment to leaving the Rye Neck community better than it was found, and for the positive influence they had on the students' lives.

In addition, we also celebrate our tenure candidates whose positive impacts are palpable and sincerely appreciated. She thanked them for their ongoing pursuit of knowledge, for continuing to explore best practices for growth, and for always being there for the students.

Lastly, she stated that the Board is celebrating the two outgoing board members whose meaningful contributions and leadership helped shape board governance. She recognized Gloria Golle and Elizabeth Yong and thanked them for their volunteerism and stewardship.

III. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Lutinski began by reporting on the accomplishments from the first year of the Strategic Plan. There was strong progress made toward a culture of inquiry and problem solving across Rye Neck in the achievement of Goal 1. Staff members who completed the Harvard Question Formulation Technique course last year became turnkey trainers for all faculty, leading to QFT strategies being observed in classrooms from Kindergarten to 12th grade throughout the year. Curriculum reviews led to the development of "dream projects" tailored to each teacher's context and completed by year's end. The Capstone

pilot program far exceeded expectations and was a notable success in fostering authentic student-led inquiry.

In addition, the district made meaningful strides toward fostering the empathetic and compassionate learning environments called for by Goal 2. A student screening was successfully administered in grades 6–12 and the social emotional learning curriculum underwent a comprehensive inventory and evaluation, laying the groundwork for future enhancements. Planning for next year’s wellness days was completed, with staff utilizing early release time to develop related lessons and activities. A dynamic, growing library of wellness resources was established to support students and staff. Significant shifts in design were made in building systems to support staff growth and professional collaboration. A group of staff members was trained in using a web-based platform to catalog and manage professional development opportunities which was then expanded, resulting in a wider array of experiences for staff. An intervisitation structure was created and widely utilized by teachers, fostering peer learning and idea sharing. The district also piloted its first round of Professional Learning Communities, with staff successfully applying new strategies directly in their classrooms.

Finally, Dr. Lutinski thanked Assistant Superintendent Corinne Ryan for orchestrating the Strategic Planning efforts with the help of administrators and key school leaders. He recognized the community for giving the District the critical resource of time for professional learning. He expressed his pride in how the entire district staff rose to the challenge of change. He stated that he will always be grateful to the students for allowing the District to be part of their learning journey. Overall, the District has laid a strong foundation for a sustained culture of inquiry, nurturing environments, and professional growth.

IV. Recognition

Yearbook - Class of 2025

Dr. Lutinski presented the Class of 2025 yearbook to the members of the Board.

Retirees

Daniel Warren Principal Tara Goldberg recognized Carl Fazio - Physical Education Teacher, Deborah Hutchinson - Daniel Warren Secretary, and Connie Levin - Kindergarten Teacher, on their retirement.

F.E. Bellows Principal Michael Scarantino recognized Fiona Lyons - ENL Teacher, on her retirement.

Dr. Lutinski recognized Ernie Ricketts - Security Officer, on his retirement.

Mrs. Ryan, Trustee Golle and President Wagner recognized Superintendent Dr. Eric Lutinski on his retirement.

Tenure Candidates

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Rosa Acocella-Ferrante** in the World Languages Tenure Area, effective 09/01/2025.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Jill Becker** in the Teaching Assistant Tenure Area, effective 08/30/2025.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Jessica Calvini** in the English Tenure Area, effective 08/30/2025.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Ana Crivorot** in the School Social Worker Tenure Area, effective 08/30/2025.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Kelly Davey** in the Special Education Tenure Area, effective 09/01/2025.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Ashley Eklund** in the Elementary Education Tenure Area, effective 08/30/2025.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Cynthia Feinman** in the Music Tenure Area, effective 09/01/2025.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Gertrude Gallin** in the Teaching Assistant Tenure Area, effective 09/01/2025.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Matthew Macias** in the Mathematics Tenure Area, effective 08/30/2025.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Ivan Martinez** in the English as a Second Language Tenure Area, effective 08/30/2025.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Kathleen Regan** in the World Languages Tenure Area, effective 08/30/2025.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **H. Wil Siegel** in the Tenure Area co-extensive with his title as Director of Pupil Personnel Services, effective 08/30/2025.

AYES: All Present

NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Erika Soderlund** in the Elementary Education Tenure Area, effective 08/30/2025.

AYES: All Present

NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Susan Soohoo** in the Elementary Education Tenure Area, effective 08/30/2025.

AYES: All Present

NAYES: None

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

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board grant tenure to **Lisa Tansley-Jervis** in the Teaching Assistant Tenure Area, effective 09/01/2025.

AYES: All Present

NAYES: None

Board Trustees

Dr. Eric recognized retiring Board member Gloria Golle and thanked her for her service. Trustee Barker recognized retiring Board member Elizabeth Yong and thanked her for her service.

V. Approval of Consent Agenda

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District approves the following consent agenda:

Approval of the Minutes of the June 4, 2025 Board of Education Planning Session

Approval of Personnel Appointments, Leaves and Resignation

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board appoint staff members to the following positions for the 2024-2025 school year:

French Club Advisor - Kathleen Regan

Opioid Overdose Prevention Program Director - Sandra Signorelli

and it was

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board appoint staff members to the following positions for the 2025-2026 school year:

Extended School Year Teachers, District Wide

Elizabeth Leifert

Diana Attilio

Jessica Salierno

Brian Pinto

and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Superintendent of Schools recommends that **Albert Ciuffettelli** be appointed by the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District to a probationary term as a full-time professional educator.

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that Mr. Ciuffettelli will devote more than forty percent (40%) of his time to service in the Teaching Assistant Tenure Area; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that Mr. Ciuffettelli will devote at least forty percent (40%) of his efforts to service in the Physical Education Tenure Area; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ciuffettelli possesses an initial Physical Education K-12 Certificate.

and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the Superintendent's recommendation, the Board hereby appoints Mr. Ciuffettelli, in accordance with Section 3012 of the Education Law, to a four-year probationary term in the Teaching Assistant tenure area commencing on August 26, 2025 and ending on August 25, 2029; the Board also hereby appoints Mr. Ciuffettelli, in accordance with Section 3012 of the Education Law, to a four-year probationary term in the Physical Education tenure area commencing on August 26, 2025 and ending on August 25, 2029; and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED, that nothing in this resolution shall be construed to limit the unfettered statutory right of the District to terminate Mr. Ciuffettelli for any statutorily

and constitutionally permissible reason while he remains in probationary status; and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby appoints **Amanda Muccioli**, in accordance with §3012 of the Education Law, to a three-year probationary term as an English as a Second Language Teacher, in the tenure area of English as a Second Language, commencing on August 26, 2025 and ending on August 25, 2028; and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby that the Board appoint **Beth Nava** to a four-year probationary position as a Teaching Assistant, effective 08/26/2025 and ending 08/25/2029; and it was

FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby appoints **Lea Berlioz**, in accordance with §3012 of the Education Law, to a four-year probationary term as an Elementary Education Teacher, in the tenure area of Elementary Education, commencing on August 26, 2025 and ending on August 25, 2029.

Approval of Salary of Confidential Employees

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District approve the confidential employee salaries as per Superintendent's recommendation (as per Schedule A, attached).

Awarding of Bid for Refuse, Recycling and Carting Removal

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District, as a result of a request for bids opened on May 30, 2025, award the bid for Refuse, Recycling, and Carting Removal Services to Suburban Carting, Inc. located in Briarcliff Manor, NY as per the attached bid matrix.

Adoption of Policy 1400 - Public Complaints

WHEREAS, revisions to Policy 1400 were presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at a public meeting for discussion and a first reading at the May 20, 2025 Board Meeting; and

WHEREAS, Policy 1400 has been presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at this current public meeting for discussion and a second reading.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District hereby approves the adoption of revised Policy 1400.

Adoption of Policy 1405 - Complaints About Certain Federally-Funded Programs

WHEREAS, Policy 1405 was presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at a public meeting for discussion and a first reading at the May 20, 2025 Board Meeting; and

WHEREAS, Policy 1405 has been presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at this current public meeting for discussion and a second reading.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District hereby approves the adoption of Policy 1405.

Adoption of Policy 2245 - Ex Officio Student Member of the Board

WHEREAS, Policy 2245 was presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at a public meeting for discussion and a first reading at the May 20, 2025 Board Meeting; and

WHEREAS, Policy 2245 has been presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at this current public meeting for discussion and a second reading.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District hereby approves the adoption of Policy 2245.

Adoption of Policy 4200 - Curriculum Management

WHEREAS, revisions to Policy 4200 were presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at a public meeting for discussion and a first reading at the May 20, 2025 Board Meeting; and

WHEREAS, Policy 4200 has been presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at this current public meeting for discussion and a second reading.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District hereby approves the adoption of revised Policy 4200.

Adoption of Policy 4710 - Grading Systems

WHEREAS, revisions to Policy 4710 were presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at a public meeting for discussion and a first reading at the May 20, 2025 Board Meeting; and

WHEREAS, Policy 4710 has been presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at this current public meeting for discussion and a second reading.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District hereby approves the adoption of revised Policy 4710.

Adoption of a Portion of Section 5000

WHEREAS, revisions to a portion of Section 5000 were presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at a public meeting for discussion and a first reading at the May 20, 2025 Board Meeting; and

WHEREAS, Section 5000 has been presented to the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District at this current public meeting for discussion and a second reading.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District hereby approves the adoption of revised Section 5000.

Approval of Stipulation Agreement

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District approve the Stipulation Agreement between Rye Neck Teachers' Association and the Rye Neck UFSD dated June 4, 2025.

Approval of Disposal of Furniture and Equipment

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District approve the disposal of furniture and equipment no longer in good working condition as per Schedule A.

Ratification of the Rye Neck Administrators' Association 2025-2030 Collective Bargaining Agreement

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between The Rye Neck Administrators' Association and the Rye Neck UFSD dated June 10, 2025 and covering the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030.

Approval of CSE Recommendations

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District agree to arrange for special education placement as recommended by the Committee on Special Education, Committee on Pre-School Education and Committee Recognition of Disabilities under American Disabilities Act (504), as per the **attached** memorandum.

Approval of Homebound Instruction

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District agree to arrange for homebound instruction as recommended by the Committee on Special Education, as per the **attached** memorandum.

Approval of Financial Reports

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District hereby approves the Treasurer's Report, Appropriation Status Report, Bank Reconciliation Report, Claims Auditor Report, Extra-Classroom Activity Fund and Revenue Status Report.

AYES: All Present

NAYES: None

VI. Financial Reports for Information

The Board was presented with the Budget Transfers and Warrant Schedule - All Funds for information purposes.

VII. Communications to the Board

President Wagner reported that the Board has received 5 communications since the last meeting, 1 regarding the NYS Consolidated Funding Application, 1 regarding bullying, 1 regarding Safe Routes to School, 1 regarding health education, and 1 regarding lunch monitors.

VIII. Citizens' Privilege of the Floor

There were no comments made by the public.

IX. Reports - Board of Education

West-Put Report

There was nothing to report with regard to West-Put.

Audit Committee

Trustee Golle reported that the Committee met on May 22nd with the external auditors for the year end audit kick-off meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for October 7th at which time the committee will receive the draft financial statements.

Facilities Committee

There was no report made by the Facilities Committee.

Technology Committee

Trustee Barker reported that the Committee's goal completion document is on Board Docs for viewing, and she thanked the members of the Committee for giving their time.

Policy Committee

Trustee Yong summarized the policies that are being adopted tonight and those that are up for a first reading.

X. New Business

First Reading - Policy 4511 - Textbook Selection and Adoption

This was explained in the Policy Committee update by Trustee Yong.

First Reading - Policy 5100 & 5100-R- Student Attendance and Regulation

This was explained in the Policy Committee update by Trustee Yong.

First Reading - Policy 5695 - Students and Personal Electronic Devices

This was explained in the Policy Committee update by Trustee Yong.

First Reading - Policy 5710 - School Safety and Education Climate (SSEC) Reporting

This was explained in the Policy Committee update by Trustee Yong.

First Reading - Policies Repealed from Comprehensive Policy Review Sections 0000-5000

This was explained in the Policy Committee update by Trustee Yong.

XI. Public Comments Concerning Above

No comments were made by the public.

XII. Adjournment

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

RESOLVED, that there being no further business before the Board, the Board of Education Meeting of June 17, 2025 be adjourned.

AYES: All Present

NAYES: None

President Wagner adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Chiera
District Clerk