President's Report - September 17, 2025

Hello and good evening Rye Neck.

Although we're officially only on day 12, the student and staff engagement as well as overall Rye Neck spirit has us feeling like we're already several months into the '25-'26 school year.

This will be a year defined by growth and innovation. Something new you may have noticed for this year is that we've added a 7th member to the board. The New York State Education Department now requires all districts with a high school to have one "ex-officio" (or student) Board of Education member. This new law aims to recognize the value of including students' voices on school boards and also provides an opportunity for young New Yorkers to build skills and habits of civic engagement. It is important to note the ex-officio student member is not allowed to vote, and is not permitted to attend executive sessions or any other meetings or hearings not open to the public.

For Rye Neck, our ex-officio board member will be our Student Senate President, Spencer Elliot. Spencer is currently serving his second term as Student Senate President where he has proven to be an outstanding, well respected and innovative leader of Rye Neck's student body. Spencer will attend all regular meetings and planning sessions, as well as deliver reports at regular meetings. Spencer attended a student BOE training this past Monday and is ready to hit the ground running. We are grateful to Mr Elliot for his time and commitment to this new role, and we are excited to have someone that can provide insightful student feedback in real time. Welcome Spencer!

Here's to a successful year of growing, evolving and trying new things. Now to you Mr Burke.