RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
300 HORNIDGE ROAD
MAMARONECK, NEW YORK 10543
BOARD OF EDUCATION PLANNING SESSION
MARCH 4, 2026

Present: President Erica Wagner
Trustee Jason Carmel
Trustee Halli Gatenio
Trustee Ruth Homberg
Trustee Alex Rainert
Student Representative Owen Wagner
Mr. Michael Burke, Superintendent of Schools
Carolyn Mahar, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Corrine Ryan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Mary Ellen Chiera, District Clerk

I. Adjournment of Executive Session, Opening of Public Meeting

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Homberg and seconded by Trustee Rainert, it was

RESOLVED, that the executive session be adjourned and the Public Meeting be opened.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

II. Opening of Meeting

President Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

III. Approval of the Minutes of the February 11, 2026 Board of Education Meeting

Upon Motion duly made by Trustee Gatenio 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 February 11, 2026 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

IV. Discussion

Budget/Bond Referendum Update

Mrs. Mahar reported that she reviewed the budget line by line with President Wagner and Trustees Homberg and Rainert. Since the last presentation there have been some minor changes but the proposed budget is still tax cap compliant. There will be another presentation for the community at the March 18th Board meeting.

Mr. Burke then updated the Board on the financial aspects of the bond referendum. He and Mrs. Mahar had a very positive meeting with LAN and Savin regarding the scope of work and the estimated costs. The next public live stream will take place on March 25th.

NY Inspires Portrait of a Graduate

Mrs. Ryan provided the Board with an overview of NY Inspires which is a plan to transform education in New York State. She stated that in 2019 the NY State Board of Regents and Education Department launched an initiative to explore what a NYS diploma should signify to ensure education excellence and equity for all students. In 2023, the Blue Ribbon Commission presented its recommendations for achieving these goals, and in 2024, NYSED presented NY Inspires: A Plan to Transform Education in NYS.

She advised that students must demonstrate proficiency in both the NYS Portrait of a Graduate and the NYS high school learning standards. Schools will redefine credits and learning experiences. The State will sunset diploma assessment requirements so that students may continue to use State administered exams to satisfy future diploma requirements, but they will not be required to pass Regents exams to earn their diploma. All students who satisfy future requirements will earn a NYS high school diploma and advanced designation will become a seal or endorsement.

Mrs. Ryan then explained the proposed diploma requirements by cohort, and the phases of rolling out the program. She will give a further update at at the next Planning Session.

Technology Committee Update

Trustee Rainert reported that the Technology Advisory Committee held its first meeting of the year on February 9th. They first discussed the composition of the Committee and the diverse relevant backgrounds of the members. They discussed the objectives for the year which are 1) provide feedback on the 2026-2029 NYSED Instructional Technology Plan, and 2) engage the committee in dialogue about what they are seeing in the workplace when it comes to AI and the skills associated with emerging technologies, in order to provide input to Mrs. Ryan ahead of planning for next year. They reviewed the NYSED Instructional Technology Plan and provided feedback ahead of our submission. The remaining two meetings will be focused on AI in the workplace.

Policy Committee Update

Trustee Homberg reported that the Policy Committee met this past Monday to review updated suggestions from NYSSBA as well as the 1000s section of the policy manual. NYSSBA Updates included Policy 8121.2, which included an update from the American Heart Association regarding automatic defibrillators. The recommended policy included a

suggested time frame for response, which we believe is doable, but we'll change the recommended wording slightly to "as quickly as possible".

The other suggested update was to Policy 8130, which covers School Safety Plans and Teams. There were very minor changes recommended, including additional wording mentioning sudden cardiac arrest specifically. The Committee recommends updating Rye Neck's policy, and have a first reading at the March 18th meeting.

With regard to the review of 1000s, Trustee Homberg stated that the Committee discussed the statement which the Board President reads prior to public comments, and the monetary value of gifts in Policy 1800 that requires approval of the Board prior to the District accepting it.

The next Policy meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 23rd at 9 a.m.

V. <u>New Business</u>

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District hereby accept the Rye Neck School Foundation Grants to the Rye Neck Schools, as per the attached letter and chart.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

VI. <u>Proposed Executive Session</u>

Upon Motion duly made by Trustee Carmel and seconded by Trustee Rainer, it was

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District hereby move into executive session to discuss a particular person.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

VII. <u>Adjournment of Executive Session, Reopening of Public Meeting and Adjournment of Public Meeting</u>

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

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education Planning Session of March 4, 2026 be adjourned.

AYES: All Present
NAYES: None

President Wagner adjourned the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

_____

Mary Ellen Chiera