

**RYE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
School Administrative Unit 50  
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*To be approved by the Rye School Board at the October 21, 2020 meeting.*

**RYE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

A meeting of the School Board of the Rye School District was held at Rye Junior High School and available through Live Streaming on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

School Board Members: Margaret Honda, Jeanne Moynahan, Matt Curtin,  
Scott Marion, Heather Reed

Administrators: Salvatore Petralia, Superintendent  
Kelli Killen, Assistant Superintendent  
Mindy Ryan, Business Administrator  
Brian Grattan, Director of Technology  
Sarah Reinhardt, Director of Special Education  
Samantha Panek, Minute Taker  
Maria Soucy, Principal  
Suzanne Lull, Principal

Visitors:

**CALL TO ORDER (00:12)**

Ms. Honda called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Honda proposed moving the Financial and Secretary Reports to the end of the meeting, to which the Board agreed.

**COMMUNICATIONS (1:06)**

Mr. Petralia provided the Board with a Legislative Update, which included changes to existing practices regarding student discipline. Mr. Petralia explained that he would compare the update against the District's policies and notify the Policy Committee if revisions were needed.

Mr. Petralia said there was a letter for the Board, regarding IDEA-Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, for the period of 2018. Mr. Petralia reviewed the items listed on the document, which were required for compliance. Mr. Petralia thanked the staff for their work helping the District receive its designation.

Mr. Petralia mentioned a communication from a family requesting non-resident tuition for an elementary student and asked to discuss in non-public.

## **REPORTS (4:08)**

### **Superintendent Report**

Mr. Petralia reported that both schools had successful opening days. He visited both schools on opening day and saw that the students and staff seemed happy and engaged. Mr. Petralia noted that more families than expected seemed to be transporting their children.

Mr. Petralia provided a final tentative agreement on the ACT-MOA and would ask the Board to approve the agreement covering Part 1 - Health and Safety and Part 2 - Working Conditions, later in the meeting.

Mr. Petralia stated that the Secondary Advisory Meeting would be held on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 5 PM. Mr. Petralia explained that the meeting would be virtual.

Mr. Petralia said the SAU 52 Re-Opening Task Force was being resurrected. He planned to share information from that meeting at the SAU 50 Joint Board Meeting. Mr. Petralia highlighted some of the data regarding Portsmouth's move into a Phase 2.5 Opening.

Mr. Petralia noted that the Bradley Kidder Law Conference sponsored by the New Hampshire School Board Association, would be virtual on October 7 and 8, 2020 and open to all School Board Members in the SAU.

Mr. Petralia explained that he included future meetings for the Board in their packets, including the Joint Board Meeting on Wednesday, September 23, 2020.

Mr. Petralia included in the shared drive, a timeline for working with the Rye Budget Committee.

### **Assistant Superintendent Report (11:00)**

Ms. Killen said she included a copy of the goals and action steps for the Social Emotional Learning Plan. Ms. Killen explained that she would now be meeting with individual principals to map out plans, she will create a video presentation for parents, as well as provide online materials for parents.

Ms. Killen reviewed items including the Summer Program for Students, Newsela Reading, Ottis for Educators, Defined Learning, Modern Classroom and Google Classroom training, all covered by the Title 2 grant, which was designated primarily for Professional Development and the Title 4 grant. Ms. Killen mentioned having \$21,000 remaining from the Title 2 grant and \$10,000 in the Title 4 grant.

Ms. Killen pointed out that there had been an increase in homeschooled students across the SAU and noted that Rye had 18 students from K-8 participating in homeschooling, 14 were new since COVID 19 began.

Ms. Honda asked if the teacher training would continue. Ms. Killen mentioned that there was a three-part training through Modern Teacher that they would be using.

Ms. Reed asked if all the training was through Modern Teacher and Ms. Killen said there were other types of training as well.

Mr. Curtin asked how the Title 4 Grants would be used. Ms. Killen reviewed that Title 4 covers technology, equipment, art, music, P.E., STEM, STEAM, and Health and Wellness.

## **CENTRAL OFFICE REPORTS (21:22)**

There were no office reports presented.

Mr. Petralia and Mr. Grattan discussed document cameras and noted ordering twelve for each school.

## **MANIFESTS (22:54)**

*Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Curtin, to approve the Manifest dated August 12, 2020 through August 28, 2020 in the amount of \$243,508.80. Discussion. Vote: 4-0*

*Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Curtin, to approve the Manifest dated August 29, 2020 through September 15, 2020 in the amount of \$355,376.43. Discussion. Vote: 4-0*

Ms. Ryan noted that the financial report was in the drive. Ms. Ryan reviewed how she would be presenting the report on the \$14,117,927.00 budget; she reviewed the fund request process and she said the balance was \$2,777,000.

Ms. Ryan noted the salary line overages and explained how the warrant article covers those costs.

Ms. Ryan explained that the DOE Report for 2019-2020 is due to the State and is being worked on now; she will forward the report to the Board before the next meeting.

Mr. Curtin asked for a confirmation that the encumbrance was the projected expenses, so the budget balance remaining was a running tally of what was remaining. Ms. Ryan noted only expenses on submitted purchase orders were included. Mr. Curtin noted that the salaries were included due to being contracted and Ms. Ryan confirmed.

## **Principals Reports (34:45)**

Ms. Lull noted including the data for the Board, regarding homeschooling, remote and in-building students, as well as the numbers for buses, walkers, bikers, and pick-ups.

Ms. Lull explained that the students were happy and well adjusted, parents were supportive, and the staff was positive.

Ms. Lull said the drop-off had been going well, pick-up was improving, and the students were doing well with wearing masks.

Ms. Lull explained that technology had been the most challenging.

Ms. Reed asked about the device process for the staff rotating. Ms. Lull explained the process.

Ms. Lull noted that the chrome books for the Kindergartners were still backordered and the iPads were not working.

Ms. Honda asked if the lack of devices impacted the in-school learning and Ms. Lull explained the ways it did.

Mr. Grattan explained what was happening with devices due to industry/importing issues.

Mr. Curtin asked how the iPads were used and what the issues were.

Ms. Lull reviewed the priorities and how they were addressing the issue.

Mr. Curtin confirmed that the ideal was that all students would have a chrome book and Ms. Lull confirmed that was the plan.

Mr. Curtin asked if they had created a priority list for the students in need of devices, in the event the schools went remote. Mr. Curtin suggested obtaining information regarding what families have at home in the way of devices.

Ms. Lull explained if they moved into remote learning and didn't have enough devices, they would probably use hard copy materials.

Ms. Lull said the number of daily health forms received had improved from 60 missing a day to about 30 now.

Ms. Soucy reviewed the numbers for remote students. Ms. Soucy explained that the process and energy through-out the day had improved. Ms. Soucy explained that they too were having some technology issues. Ms. Soucy noted that the staff was stretched thin, working hard, but it was going well. Ms. Soucy reviewed that the athletics were going well and provide good activities for the students.

Ms. Honda asked for ideas to help with staffing and asked the Principals to think creatively for solutions. Ms. Soucy noted some subbing concerns. Ms. Lull explained the difficulty keeping the limited numbers of staff with each pod.

Ms. Reed asked if technology was the biggest problem and Ms. Lull confirmed that it was and how they were attempting to address issues.

Ms. Lull and Ms. Soucy presented a Back to School slideshow to show the Board the daily events at the schools.

Mr. Curtin confirmed there were 14 new students at the Junior High and asked about new students at the Elementary and Ms. Lull noted that there were 20 new students, not counting Kindergarten.

Ms. Reed asked about remote Fridays and what type of work students are doing. Ms. Soucy said there would be assignments for all classes, mostly independent learning work. Ms. Lull said the Elementary School would also have independent learning work sent home for Fridays.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS (57:08)**

Mr. Petralia asked the Board to entertain a motion to approve the MOA -Memorandum of Agreement

*Mr. Curtin made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan to accept the Memorandum of Agreement, as presented with Part 1 - Health and Safety and Part 2 - Working Conditions, between the School Board and the Association of Coastal Teachers Rye. Discussion. Vote: 4-0*

Ms. Reed questioned the language regarding all teachers using the platform of Google Classroom and no other platform would be expected to be used.

Mr. Petralia explained that he had communications with the Association President, Ms. Papoutsy, and they agreed on the language, since the next phrase stated 'in cases where staff was agreeable', which allowed staff to pilot or implement new platforms.

Ms. Killen explained that Modern Classroom was not a platform and Modern Teacher was also not a learning management platform.

Ms. Soucy mentioned that she set the expectation for her teachers to use Modern Classroom and many worked hard over the summer to work with Modern Classroom.

Ms. Killen explained that she did not see the language in the MOA as applying to Modern Classroom.

Mr. Curtin suggested some rewording.

Mr. Petralia explained that rewording would require a discussion with the Association President.

Mr. Curtin read through the section of the MOA and explained that based on the language, Modern Classroom would not be violating the MOA.

Mr. Petralia suggested adding a friendly amendment to the original agreement and indicated it was pending a discussion between the parties.

Ms. Honda and Ms. Reed asked if the wording prevented them from adjusting the platform in the event something happened to Google Classroom. Ms. Honda said wording might be needed to address technology changes and/or restrictions.

Mr. Petralia noted receiving word from Ms. Papoutsy that rewording would require that the MOA be brought back to the membership, so if the Board wanted to change the language, they would need to postpone voting.

Mr. Curtin asked if the concern was the language or was it a concern to have a contingency plan for technology and Ms. Reed said both.

Mr. Curtin suggested wording. Ms. Honda clarified the intent of the rewording.

The Board discussed concerns on the wording.

Mr. Petralia emphasized the work put in to create the agreement.

#### **NEW BUSINESS (1:09:57)**

##### **Setting Dates for the School Deliberative Sessions**

Ms. Honda postponed discussion until Dr. Marion was in attendance.

##### **CIP - Capital Improvement Plan, Committee Assignment**

Ms. Honda explained that Ms. Moynahan would be stepping down from the committee, she reviewed the meeting schedule and offered to represent the Board on the committee.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Honda said there were no public comments.

#### **Policies**

Ms. Moynahan explained that there was a stack of policies for first reading, which were reviewed by the attorney and she suggested approving as a group. Dr. Marion asked if these were policies that were being reworked or new. Ms. Moynahan said they included both.

The Board discussed whether further review was needed and whether each needed to be approved individually.

*Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion to adopt Policies DGA – Authorized Signatures, DK – Payments, Checks & Manifests, EBBC & JLCE (Identical Policy) – Emergency Care & First Aid, EHAC – Digital/Electronic Records and Signatures, JLCE-R Emergency Form, IHAM - Health Education & Exemption from Instruction, JLC – Student Health Services & School Nurses, JLCD – Administering Medication to Students; JLCD F-1; JLCD F-2; JLCD F-3, and JLCD-R Procedures for Administering Medication to Students, as written. Discussion. Vote: 5-0*

Ms. Honda deferred Policy JH – Attendance, Tardiness and Truancy, for Dr. Marion to review and revise.

#### **Setting Dates for the School Deliberative Sessions**

Dr. Marion suggested Monday, November 2, 2020 for the all-day Budget review at the Rye Public Library. Dr. Marion said he would need to meet with the budget committee to review other dates. Dr. Marion proposed February 2, 2021 for the deliberative session, with a snow date of February 4, 2021. The Board confirmed the dates worked for them.

Mr. Petralia explained that the Greenland deliberative session was scheduled for the same week.

Dr. Marion mentioned that Ms. Bradshaw moved up to the Select Board, due to the resignation of Selectman Roman.

#### **MINUTES (1:25:24)**

*Mr. Curtin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to approve the public minutes of August 5, 2020. Discussion. Vote: 4-0, 1 abstention*

*Mr. Curtin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to approve the public minutes of August 19, 2020. Discussion. Vote: 5-0*

*Mr. Curtin made a motion, seconded by Dr. Marion, to approve the public minutes of September 2, 2020. Discussion. Vote: 5-0*

Mr. Curtin asked if Mr. Petralia had a relationship with the Superintendent of Barrington Schools to discuss their shut down.

Mr. Petralia said he had not spoken to him but had read the report and explained that it was handled well.

Mr. Curtin asked about the speed of the response from the state.

Dr. Marion said it sounded as if it was handled quickly.

Ms. Reinhardt said she had heard from colleagues that they received quick and good information when calling the hotline.

*Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Mr. Curtin, to approve the non-public minutes of August 5, 2020. Discussion. Vote: 4-0, 1 abstention*

*Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Mr. Curtin, to approve the non-public minutes of August 19, 2020. Discussion. Vote: 5-0*

*Dr. Marion made a motion, seconded by Mr. Curtin, to approve the non-public minutes of September 2, 2020.  
Discussion. Vote: 5-0*

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION (1:40:05)**

*Ms. Reed made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moynahan, to adjourn into a non-public session per RSA 91-A 3, (c)  
at 6:34 p.m. Discussion. Roll Call Vote: 5-0.*

**RE-ENTER INTO PUBLIC SESSION**

*Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Curtin to come out of non-public session. Roll Call: 5-0*

*Ms. Moynahan made a motion, seconded by <sup>Dr.</sup>Mr. Marion to seal the non-public minutes. Roll Call 5-0*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Ms. Honda made a motion, seconded by Mr. Curtin, to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call: 5-0*

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Samantha Panek  
September 23, 2020*

  
Matt Curtin, Secretary

*10/21/2020*  
Date