

# RyeNeck Schools

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**RYE NECK UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
300 HORNIDGE ROAD  
MAMARONECK, NEW YORK 10543  
BOARD OF EDUCATION PLANNING SESSION  
November 2, 2022**

Present: President Gloria Golle  
Trustee Rebecca Mansell  
Trustee Patty Nashelsky  
Trustee Devina O'Reilly  
Trustee Jennifer Rubin  
Trustee Elizabeth Yong  
Dr. Eric Lutinski, Superintendent of Schools  
Carolyn Mahar, Assistant Superintendent for Business  
Corinne Ryan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction  
Mary Ellen Chiera, District Clerk

**I. Opening of Meeting**

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

**II. Approval of Minutes**

**Approval of Minutes of October 19, 2022 Board of Education Meeting**

Upon Motion duly made by Trustee Rubin and seconded by Trustee Nashelsky, it was

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Rye Neck Union Free School District hereby approves the Minutes of the Board of Education Meeting held October 19, 2022, as submitted.

**AYES: All Present**

**NAYES: None**

**III. Discussion**

**Mental Wellness Update**

Trustees Rubin and Mansell reported that they met with Mr. Siegel and the Mental Wellness Committee. The Committee consists of Wil Siegel, another district administrator, a school psychologist, school counselor, the district social worker, a parent representative and two board members. They reported that the Committee is looking at mental wellness from a K-12 perspective, and current school counseling programs. Mr. Siegel gave a report on the state of mental wellness and suicide, even before COVID. In addition they talked about the benefits of Social Emotional Learning, the district's goals, the possibility of doing some type of K-12 survey, and what changes and improvements can be made. The committee will reconvene in a month.

Next, Dr. Lutinski explained that Mr. Siegel has shifted responsibilities in order to free up time for the psychologists to handle mental wellness issues. He then advised the Board that Mr. Siegel will be making a presentation at the Larchmont Mamaroneck Local Summit on how Rye Neck is handling mental wellness. He will be discussing the programs and services available to the students, the social emotional component of RTI, and intercurricular (language embedded in all content areas).

Finally, the Board discussed the value of surveys and the possible use of data that the District already has.

### **Policy Update**

Trustee Nashelsky advised the Board that the Committee met on October 19th. They will be putting forth four policies for a first reading at the November 16th meeting. The first is the amendment of Policy 8330 which is being amended to incorporate the language from Policies 8332 and 8332-R. These two policies are being put forth for a first reading for removal since they are being incorporated into Policy 8330. In addition, Policy 8636 will also be put forth for a first reading for amendment. Trustees Nashelsky and Rubin explained the purpose of the amendments. In addition, they advised that the Committee also discussed the Code of Conduct as it relates to DEI, and an app called AngelSense as it relates to elementary school students with smart watches.

### **Enrichment Update**

Dr. Lutinski advised the Board that he met with the District's new School-Wide Enrichment Coordinators, Leigh Ann Kowalchick-Porphy (DW), Ellie Speros (FEB) and Linda Costelloe (MS/HS). They discussed the transition to the new school-based model. They are looking to create a model that will enrich all students, not just those considered to be gifted.

Dr. Lutinski advised that at Daniel Warren, Ms. Kowalchick-Porphy has been running the Wonder Studio where classes attend once a week. She explores three topics on a three year cycle. She is looking to create a program for students who have particular interests and those who are self-motivated, similar to ILP, but that would take place during the school day. In addition, students receive enrichment opportunities in PTSA after school clubs.

At F.E. Bellows, Ms. Speros works with teachers to arrange field trips, plan special events and library specials. Students participate in Math Olympiad, Red Bord, Idea Lab and Science Expo. In addition, she is working with Mr. McKeon to create a program for students to participate in out-of-school community service activities.

In the Middle/High School, Mrs. Costelloe created a morning program for the Middle School called Global Citizens which is similar to ILP. In addition, she meets with the High School ILP students. Other enrichment opportunities are found in clubs, extracurricular arts, advanced classes, author visits, and field trips.

Discussion followed regarding the purpose of the enrichment programs, and promoting the new model. Dr. Lutinski stated that each school will have enrichment information on their respective webpages, and he will include information in one of his weekly updates.

Finally, Dr. Lutinski advised that he will be meeting with an enrichment expert from BOCES to discuss professional development opportunities for our enrichment coordinators.

**Superintendent's Conference Day Schedule**

Dr. Lutinski advised the Board that one of the items on the agenda for Superintendent's Conference Day is a district-wide evacuation drill at each building and explained its purpose and how it will be implemented. In addition to the drill, teachers will be working on K-5 math pilots, social studies and math planning, and curriculum mapping. There will be department and team meetings, the physical education and health staff will be attending a conference, and the administrators will be meeting after the teachers and staff leave.

**IV. Executive Session**

Upon Motion duly made by Trustee Yong and seconded by Trustee O'Reilly, it was

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

**AYES: All Present**

**NAYES: None**

**V. Adjournment of Executive Session, Reopening of Public Meeting and Adjournment of Public Meeting**

Upon motion duly made by Trustee Mansell and seconded by Trustee Nashelsky, 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 O'Reilly and seconded by Trustee Rubin, it was

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education Planning Session of November 2, 2022 be adjourned.

**AYES: All Present**

**NAYES: None**

President Golle adjourned the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Ellen Chiera  
District Clerk