

## **Rye Junior High Overview**

*Marie Soucy, Principal*

At Rye Junior High School we are proud to provide our students with academically rigorous and developmentally responsive educational programming. As a community of learners, we strive to provide a student-centered and personalized educational experience that meets the needs of all our students. In addition to a strong core academic program, we are proud to offer a wide variety of experiences within our allied arts, sports, music and extra-curricular offerings. The teachers, parents, staff and community of Rye make these rich experiences possible.

Rye Junior High School currently educates 150 students in grades 6-8. Our staff consists of 15 full-time teachers, 3 part time teachers (.8), 2 special education teachers, 1 guidance counselor, and 1 nurse. Our professional staff is supported by 5 paraprofessionals and 1.5 administrative assistants that help ensure the efficient day-to-day operation of the school. In addition to a strong core academic program, we are proud to offer a wide-variety of experiences within our unified arts, sports, music and extra-curricular offerings.

We continue to make decisions around declining enrollment while balancing the needs of the school, students, and staff. In an effort to present a fiscally responsible budget, a reduction in positions is presented. A reduction of 2 staff members from full-time to .8 will provide consistency throughout the Unified Arts program. These positions are the music teacher and Librarian. In order to help ensure the efficient day-to-day operation of the school, a request had been made for additional hours from our part time administrative support personnel.

In the area of Technology, we are striving to outfit classrooms with interactive whiteboards. We are continuing to upgrade our hardware with the purchase of a set Chromebooks for incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. We also need to upgrade the current Firewall, which protects the network at Rye Junior High School. Our students have access to a variety of software and subscriptions that enhances that allows teachers to embed technology into the curriculum.

In closing, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the school board and budget committee for supporting a budget that supports the necessary resources to provide an exceptional education for all our students.



**Rye Junior High School**  
**Three –Year Plan Expenditures**  
**2017-2020**  
*Marie Soucy, Principal*

The expenditures over the next three years can be categorized into four areas of focus: Curriculum, Technology, Maintenance and Staffing.

In the area of Curriculum we have programs in place with the Math in Focus and recently purchased Lucy Calkins Writing program. We are not looking at any major purchases at this time, but rather are looking to focus on aligning our instruction to state standards and competencies.

In the area of staffing we will be making a few reductions in the area of Unified Arts and increasing administrative support for the 17-18 school year. With those changes we will be looking to maintain the staffing that we have in place. It will be important for staff to have time to settle with the changes in Social Studies instruction and schedule changes.

In order to integrate technology into the curriculum, technology continues to be an area of focus. Two interactive whiteboards will be purchased to continue outfitting classroom. We will continue to upgrade our hardware with purchases of Chrome Books for students. Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are each issued a Chrome Book in which they use for their 3 years at Rye Junior High School. We will continue to update our online subscriptions that allow students to access many online resources in their research and skill development as well as teachers in professional development opportunities.

This year we have a major cost in Maintenance with the replacement of the boiler. In the 17-18 school year the carpets in the music rooms will be replaced. The roof will be an area of focus in the upcoming years and we will likely need to replace the front of the building at the least. Shingles continue to be worn by the sun and weather. Another concern that will be assessed is the main hallway floor that is shifting.

