

Superintendent's Report
Rye School Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 18, 2024
5:30 PM



Start of Year

It has been an amazing start to the school year across the SAU. We had a very positive opening day and the return of students has further energized our staff, many of whom have commented it has been one of the most positive starts to a year they have experienced. Dave and I are on a “roadshow” to each school to meet with staff to share our progress on the Strategic Plan and to solicit feedback.

SAU 50 Sensation

Please find our summer newsletter [here](#). We will be sending the September edition out next week. Our goal this year is to include more content for parents on important issues and our collective work. For example, we will feature at least one characteristic from the Portrait of a Learner each month with student examples. Another effort this year will be educating parents on recent research and school practices related to student cell phones. This is a topic that has been a focus across multiple schools and was a particular area of interest for some teachers to explore during our Innovation Conference this past summer.

Strategic Plan Update

We continue to solicit feedback on the Strategic Plan as we meet with the staff at each school. Dave has been updating the document ([Updated Strategic Plan](#)) and we hope to gain the approval of the Joint Board on September 25th to move forward with this plan. It may be important to know that each school will then create a school-specific plan based on this, which will include more details about goals, strategies and timelines specific to each school building. Those plans will also be shared with each Board as they are developed this year.



Internet Use Protocol

Chris Ruso discovered that our policy for acceptable internet use ([IICL](#)) refers to internet acceptable use procedures that are to be approved annually. These procedures are what we should be having students/parents sign off on and up until this point we have had them sign off on the policy itself. The procedures are in your drive and can be found [here](#). We would ask for your approval so we can have them distributed for signing. They have been vetted by the Tech Committee.

Proposed Policies

The Policy Committee is recommending the following policies for a single reading adoption:

ADB: Drug-Free Workplace & Drug-Free Schools

ADC: Prohibitions Regarding Use and Possession of Tobacco Products, E-Cigarettes and E-Liquids in and on School Facilities and Grounds

GBCD-RG (1): Background Investigation and Criminal History Records Check

GBEC: Drug-Free Workplace & Drug-Free Schools

GBED: Prohibitions Regarding Use and Possession of Tobacco Products, E-Cigarettes and E-Liquids in and on School Facilities and Grounds

These policies all reflect minor changes in statute as were in the Spring Policy Update as Required by Law sample policies. The Drug-Free Workplace policies appear in two sections, A and G, hence the repetition. An example of the level of change is now it is required to explicitly say we will not give tobacco to kids. Not sure if anyone thought it was an option before 😊.

2024-2025 Meeting Dates

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at 6:30 PM at Newington Public School (Joint Board)

Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 5:00 PM at Portsmouth High School (AREA)

Wednesday, October 23, 2024, 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School

Wednesday, November 8, 2024 at 6:30 PM at Rye Junior High School (Joint Board)

Wednesday, November 20, 2024, 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School

Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 5:00 PM at Portsmouth High School (AREA)

Wednesday, December 18, 2024, 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School

Wednesday, January 15, 2025, 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School

Wednesday, February 19 2025, 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 5:00 PM at Portsmouth High School (AREA)

Wednesday, March 19 2025, 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 6:30 PM at Greenland Central School (Joint Board)

Wednesday, April 23, 2025, 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 5:00 PM at Portsmouth High School (AREA)

Wednesday, May 14, 2025, 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School

Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 6:30 PM at Maude H. Trefethen School (Joint Board)

Wednesday, June 18, 2025, 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School