RYE SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Administrative Unit 50
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To be approved by the Rye School Board at the October 21, 2026, meeting.

RYE SCHOOL DISTRICT
RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

The Monthly School Board Meeting of the Rye School Board was held in person on Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Rye Junior High School, Rye, New Hampshire. Please be advised that these minutes capture important votes, discussions, and topics of the School Board Meeting.

PRESENT

School Board Members:	Matt Curtin (Chairperson) Katherine Errecart Claire Spollen Michelle Wheeler Laura Belden
SAU 50 Central Office Staff:	Ellen Kaschuluk, Superintendent of Schools Susan Penny, Business Administrator Stacey Kirby, Director of Special Education Rebecca Dwyer, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
School Administrators:	Michelle Pitts, Anne Gilbert
Visitors:	

CALL TO ORDER
Mr. Curtin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and indicated that the meeting would begin with the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENT
There were no visitors present this evening during public comment.

FINANCIALS

- **Approval of Manifests**

On a motion by Ms. Errecart seconded by Ms. Belden, the Board voted to approve the manifest dated August 7, 2026, in the amount of $116,066.02. Discussion.Vote: 4-0

On a motion by Ms. Errecart seconded by Ms. Belden, the Board voted to approve the manifest dated August 21, 2026, in the amount of $340,099.08. Discussion.Vote: 4-0

On a motion by Ms. Errecart seconded by Ms. Belden, the Board voted to approve the manifest dated September 4, 2026, in the amount of $794,422.87. Discussion.Vote: 4-0

- **Budget Transfers**

On a motion by Ms. Errecart seconded by Ms. Belden, the Board voted to approve the manifest dated September 18, 2026, in the amount of $477,821.74. Discussion.Vote: 4-0

ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

Principal Report

Ms. Pitts and Ms. Gilbert highlighted a strong start to the school year focused on academics, exploration, and meaningful learning experiences. RES students and teachers have begun Unit 1 of myView, centered on exploration and geography, while preparing for an Open House showcasing curriculum, social-emotional supports, Unified Arts, and student services. At RJH, seventh-grade teachers launched the year with an interdisciplinary project-based learning experience at the beach, integrating art, writing, science, and measurement while connecting students to their community and environmental stewardship.

Director of Special Education

Ms. Kirby shared that the district continues to strengthen family partnerships and special education services across SAU 50. Parent Partnership Group meetings will be held throughout the year, with all families welcome to participate, and a virtual caregiver listening session will be offered as part of the annual special education audit. The district continues to make progress with staffing, including successful paraprofessional hiring and collaborative efforts to address specialized needs. Following the resignation of the Rye BCBA, the SAU has contracted with a local BCBA to provide behavioral support to students in Newington, Rye, and New Castle.

Superintendent Report

Ms. Kaschuluk shared that her report has been uploaded to the drive. Her September report highlighted ongoing efforts to strengthen consistency, transparency, and communication across SAU 50 through standardized board meeting procedures, comprehensive policy review, and improved access to meeting materials. The report also introduced "Mornings on the Move" and rotating "Super 6" meetings to enhance leadership visibility and collaboration within schools, while expanding student voice through School Board representatives. Additional updates included calendar planning, professional development, and current staffing vacancies across the SAU, including a part-time custodian position at Newington Primary School.

PRELIMINARY ACTIONS/ SECRETARY'S REPORT

- Approval of Public Minutes: August 5, 2026

On motion by Ms. Spollen, seconded by Ms. Belden, the Board voted to approve the public minutes of May 20, 2026. Discussion. Vote: 5-0

- Approval of Non-Public Minutes: August 5, 2026

On motion by Ms. Spollen, seconded by Ms. Wheeler, the Board voted to approve the non-public minutes of May 20, 2026. Discussion. Vote: 5-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Spring Budget Plans
B. Summary of HB1300 for the Public
C. NHSBA Training Topics
D. Out of Town Policy Addendum

E. 2026-2027 Calendar Update

These items will be added to the October School Board Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

A. There was no new business to discuss this evening.

PERSONNEL

On motion by Ms. Errecart, seconded by Ms. Belden, the Board voted to approve the staff paternity leave request. Discussion. Vote: 4-0

STANDING COMMITTEES

A. AREA/Secondary School Advisory:
B. Budget Committee
C. Community Engagements
D. Capital Improvements Plan
E. PTA:

POLICY

A. First Reading

- **AC, ACA, DAF, DFA**

On motion by Ms. Wheeler, seconded by Ms. Belden, the Board voted to approve policies AC, ACA, DAF, and DFA, for a First Reading as recommended by the Policy Committee. Discussion. Vote: 4-0

FUTURE PLANNING DATE

- Wednesday, September 30, 2026 6:00 PM at Newington Public School (**SAU 50 Jt. Board**)
- Wednesday, October 21, 2026 5:30 PMat Rye Junior High School
- Wednesday, October 28, 2026 6:00 PM at Rye Junior High School (**SAU 50 Jt. Board**)
- Wednesday, November 18, 2026 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School
- Wednesday, December 16, 2026 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School (**The second week**)
- Wednesday, January 13, 2027 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School (**The second week**)
- Wednesday, February 17, 2027 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School
- Wednesday, March 17, 2027 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School
- Wednesday, March 24, 2027 6:00 PM at Greenland Central School (**SAU 50 Jt. Board**)
- Wednesday, April 21, 2027 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School
- Wednesday, May 19, 2027 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School
- Wednesday, May 26, 2027 6:00 PM at Maude H. Trefethen (**SAU 50 Jt. Board**)
- Wednesday, June 16, 2027 5:30 PM at Rye Junior High School (**The second week**)

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

RSA 91-A: 3 II(c) - For Matters of Personnel

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Ms. Errecart, seconded by Ms. Belden, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. Discussion. Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca Dwyer
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
September 23, 2026

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School Board Secretary Date