

RyeNeck Schools

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May 2, 2022

Dear Rye Neck Families,

As I enjoyed the spectacular weather at the PTSA's Spring Forward on Saturday, I considered how lucky we are to have such exceptional campuses nestled in our community. As many other communities struggle with long range plans regarding how to convert their bus fleets to electric power, I took advantage of the close, neighborhood character of our walking district. After strolling the Fun Run path from Carroll Avenue in front of F.E. Bellows through Florence Park, I entered the back entrance of the Daniel Warren field. At the conclusion of the event, I walked to the Post Road and over to the Middle and High School campus.

The close confines of our district contribute to the special nature of Rye Neck. At the end of my commute to work in the morning I often find myself in the long southbound line waiting to make a right onto Hornidge Road. Yet, even though it's occasionally frustrating to be outpaced by backpack-laden 6th graders on foot, it's also further evidence of our "green" potential. It would take those 6th graders less time to walk from the border of the Rye district to our east to the Mamaroneck district in the west than it takes for a single class period. Weather can be a factor, but not an obstacle: on the coldest days of the year, when we field inquiries about whether or not recess will be inside, the MS/HS bike racks are in use. Thankfully, Earth Day comes often at Rye Neck.

The 57-acre MS/HS campus was donated by Zilph Hayes Palmer. When you come to the MS/HS Library on May 17th for the budget and trustee vote, you might see an old bronze wall plaque just inside the front door. After marrying in 1910, future philanthropists Edgar Palmer and Zilph Hayes bought the Jay Estate in 1911, just up the road. Today, those 57 acres accommodate two schools, the district office, and over 900 students and staff. We are planning to hold both our High School Graduation and 8th grade Moving Up Ceremony outside in June, but our fields are presently active. 265 Rye Neck athletes at all levels are playing and competing outside this spring. Walk over and join us!

Last, it's Teacher Appreciation Week. If you have the opportunity, please take the time to thank your child's teachers for the exceptional work they do for us.

Best regards,

Dr. Eric Lutinski
Superintendent of Schools