

**ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649  
PUBLIC WORK/BUSINESS SESSION MEETING  
Oradell Public School Auditorium  
February 10, 2021**

**MINUTES**

**I.     *The meeting was called to order at 7:36 p.m. by Mrs. Nichols.***

**II.    *The Flag Salute was led by Mrs. Walker.***

**III.   *The Sunshine Law Statement was read by Mrs. Nichols.***

All requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met for this meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of Oradell. Notice of this meeting was filed with The Record and Town News and all persons requesting such notice.

**IV.    *The Mission Statement was read by Mr. Derian.***

The Oradell Public School District is dedicated to the ongoing pursuit of educational excellence through comprehensive innovative curriculum and instruction. The District is committed to providing opportunities for social, emotional, and academic discovery to foster curiosity, courage, and character. Our goal is to prepare our students to become life-long learners who are self-directed, resilient, productive responsible citizens.

Adopted by the Oradell Board of Education March 27, 2019

**V.     **ROLL CALL****

*Present: Mrs. Bhatia -Nigam, Mr. Griffin, Mrs. Levy, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Shapiro, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Derian and Mrs. Nichols.*

*Also present were Mrs. Longo, Interim Superintendent, John M. Marmora, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, 2 member of the administration, and approximately 22 members of the public through Zoom.*

**VI.    **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY – None****

**VII.   **BOARD PRESIDENT’S REMARKS****

*President Nichols read a statement regarding an OPS student who was recently in an accident. She also read a thank you note from Corrine Lynch to the BOE.*

*President Nichols stated that our auditors will be presenting at tonight’s meeting. Ms. Bozios was introduced as the new Superintendent for OPS. The Board members congratulated and gave their best wished to Ms. Bozios. Mr. Hagopian congratulated Ms. Bozios and said there*

*was no one more deserving for the position. Ms. Bozios spoke on the challenges of accepting the role as Superintendent and the passion and excitement she feels to have this opportunity.*

**VIII. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – None**

**IX. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

*Mr. Marmora congratulated Ms. Bozios in her new position and is looking forward to working together. Financial Disclosure statements are still not available for completion.*

- *Jeffrey Bliss of Lerch, Vinci and Higgins, LLP presented on the 2019-2020 school year audit. He went through the CAFR and AMR. Mr. Bliss also fielded questions from the Board.*

**X. MINUTES**

*A motion by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. Walker, the approval of the Reorganization Meeting Minutes of 1/6/2021, and the review of Meeting Minutes of 01/20/21 were approved and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.*

**REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES**

- January 20, 2021 Work/Business Section

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

- January 6, 2021 Work/Business Section

\_\_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded

**ROLL CALL**

**XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS**

**A. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS – None**

**B. BUILDING & GROUNDS/ SAFETY-** Mr. Derian, Chairperson

*Mr. Derian reported on the February 1st Building & Grounds meeting notes.*

**C. CURRICULUM-** Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

*Mrs. Norian mentioned they are putting together a meeting for next week.*

**D. FINANCE/ TECHNOLOGY-** Mrs. Shapiro, Chairperson

*Mrs. Shapiro reported on the last Finance and Technology meeting.*

*Mr. Griffin asked about item D4. Mr. Marmora responded.*

*Mr. Griffin and Mr. Derian asked for clarification on item D5. Mr. Marmora and Mrs. Nichols responded. The Board ensued on discussion on item D5.*

*A motion by Mrs. Shapiro, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0 the Board approved D1 – D7.*

- D1. **Hand Check Payroll Register for January 29, 2021**– It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board retroactively approves the disbursements on the Payroll Hand Check Register for January 29, 2021 in the amount of **\$358,585.45**.
- D2. **Check Register for February 10, 2021** - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, that the Board approves the disbursements on the February 10, 2021 Check Register in the amount of **\$540,668.49** check numbers **990040-990041** and **021819 - 021853**.
- D3. **Approval of Special Education Services for SY 2020 - 2021**– It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves Jodi Huntington, PhD LLC for Occupational Therapy Services for SY 2020 – 2021.
- D4. **Approval of Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) waiver for SY 2021-2022** - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Oradell Public School District approves the following:

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district’s participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) program for the 2021-2022 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Oradell Borough Board of Education hereby authorizes the Interim Superintendent to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen, an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2021-2022 school year.

- D5. **Approval of Legal Cost Per Pupil Indicator** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the following:

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education recognizes that the legal costs per pupil for the 2019-20 Fiscal Year exceeded 130% of the Statewide per pupil average and

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education has undertaken steps to reduce these costs by restricting access to the Board Attorney to only authorized personnel and having the Superintendent and Business Administrator review every legal bill before payment and

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education has determined that implementation of further procedures outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)(3) beyond the aforementioned procedures already implemented would not significantly reduce legal costs, as evidenced by the fact that the excess legal costs incurred are the result of a litigation, grievances, protracted negotiations, and/or due process hearings initiated against the District, which the District has been compelled to defend and over which the District has no control;

NOW THEREFORE, Be it Resolved that the Oradell Board of Education hereby accepts the 2019-20 legal costs as meeting the criteria for controlling legal costs and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board will look for more ways to reduce these costs should the opportunity present itself.

- D6. **Acceptance and Approval of 2019-2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report -** It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board accept and approve the 2019-2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial report and the Auditor's Management Report on Administrative Findings, containing three audit recommendations to be addressed, as prepared by the firm of Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP:

#### **Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting**

1. **Finding** – Our audit revealed the original budget per District's internal budget report weren't in agreement with the original budget line account appropriations in the adopted budget.

**Recommendation** –Greater care be exercised in internal budget reporting.

2. **Finding** –Our audit revealed capital asset accounting records were not updated on a timely manner.

**Recommendation** –District's capital asset accounting records be updated on an annual basis.

#### **Extended Year Summer Program Fund:**

3. **Finding** –Our audit of the Extended Year Summer Program Fund revealed District did not review the operations of the program to ensure cost are properly allocated and revenues are sufficient to cover such cost.

**Recommendation** –Greater care be exercised in District's review of the Extended Year Summer Program Operations.

- D7. **Acceptance and Approval of 2019-2020 Corrective Action Plan -** It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, that the Board accept and approve the Corrective Action Plan prepared by the Business

Administrator/Board Secretary in response to the 2019-2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) recommendation, for submission to the New Jersey Department of Education.

E. **NJSBA/ BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT-** Mr. Walsh, Delegate – *None*

F. **PERSONNEL-** Mrs. Walker, Chairperson  
*Mrs. Walker reported on tonight's Personnel Meeting.*

*A motion by Mrs. Walker, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0 the Board approved F1.*

F1. It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board accepts and approves the Personnel Committee Report dated **February 10, 2021**.

G. **POLICY-** Mrs. Levy, Chairperson  
*Mrs. Levy had nothing to report and hoping to schedule a Policy meeting soon.*

H. **PUBLIC RELATIONS-** Mr. Griffin, Chairperson – *None*

I. **COVID-19 TASK FORCE** – Mr. Griffin, Chairperson  
*Mr. Griffin reported on February 3<sup>rd</sup> Covid Task Force Meeting notes.*

**XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

*Ms. Daniela Bosco, Ms. Hawley, Ms. Jennifer Koth, Mrs. Kelly Castro, Mr. Rateshwar and family congratulated Ms. Bozios on her new role as Superintended. Ms. Bozios' niece, Brianne, congratulated her on her appointment.*

*Mr. Bill Meehan asked who makes the decision on quarantine policy for OPS and the use of other instruction methods. Ms. Bozios responded.*

**XIII. OLD BUSINESS**

*Mrs. Levy congratulated Ms. Bozios on her appointment and shared a story. She also congratulated Ms. Pizza's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class on their 3<sup>rd</sup> placement success in the Arademic Cup Math Contest.*

*Mrs. Walker congratulated Jack McManus on his retirement.*

*Mrs. Nichols reminded the community that the February 27<sup>th</sup> Boy Scouts Fish and Chips Event is still happening as a drive by.*

*Mrs. Levy asked if we looked into using the building for vaccination. Mrs. Nichols and Mrs. Longo responded.*

*Mrs. Walker thanked the Town for donating at the Rotary food and clothing drive.*

**XIV. NEW BUSINESS – None**

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion by Mrs. Norian, and seconded by Mrs. Walker, and carried a roll call vote of 8-0, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm.*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John M. Marmora". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line at the end.

*John M. Marmora  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary*