

**ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649
PUBLIC WORK/BUSINESS SESSION MEETING
Oradell Public School Auditorium
March 24, 2021**

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER- 7:30 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT

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. MISSION STATEMENT

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

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

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

VII. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

VIII. INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

IX. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

X. MINUTES

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

- March 10, 2021 Work/Business Section

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- February 24, 2021 Work/Business Section

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

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

- B1. Use of School Facilities- It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the following requests for use of school facilities for the **SY 2020 - 2021** in accordance with **Board Policy #1330**:

| # | Organization | Event | Area of Building | Dates) | Time | Custodian OT | Facility Charge |
|---|---|------------------------------------|--|---|---|--------------|--|
| 1 | Oradell Little League (Category B) | Softball Practice and Games | Softball Field | 3/29/2021 to 7/31/2021 | 5:30pm – 8:00pm Weekdays 9:00am – 4:00pm Saturdays | -0- | 105 days @ \$15 per day = \$1,575 *Payment for field maintenance will off set fee |
| 2 | REVISED 6 th Grade Class Spring Fling Committee (Category A) | 6 th Grade Spring Fling | Center Ave. Basketball Court, MPR, & Restrooms | 06/11/2021 6/12/2021- Rain Date | 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. | -0- | -0- |
| 3 | PTA Garden Committee (Category A) | Garden Clean Up & Planting | Garden Behind School | 03/26/2021 & 03/28/2021 | 3:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. | -0- | -0- |

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

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

- C1. **Approval of Field Trip Destination(s) for SY 2020-2021** - It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the following field trip destination(s):

| Destination | Location |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Old Tappan Manor | Old Tappan, NJ |

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

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

- D1. **Hand Check Payroll Register for March 15, 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 March 15, 2021 in the amount of **\$352,388.58**.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

- D2. **Check Register for March 19 - 24, 2021** - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, that the Board approves the disbursements on the March 24, 2021 Check Register in the amount of **\$271,229.29** check numbers **990045** and **021922 – 021956 (Void 021957-021960)**.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

- D3. **Approval of the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer** – It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approve the Report of the Board Secretary, A148, and the Treasurer, A149, as of **February 28, 2021**.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

- D4. **Transfer of Funds** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the Monthly Transfers Report as of **February 28, 2021**, in accordance with Title 18A:22-8.1 and furthermore, designates the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to make budget transfers between line items, and to make additional transfers as necessary between monthly meetings of the Board.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

- D5. **Monthly Budgetary Line Item Certification** – RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary for the Oradell Board of Education certifies that pursuant to N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3 as of **February 28, 2021**, that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (a) ; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oradell Board of Education certifies that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4 that after review of the Board Secretary’s Report (A148) and Treasurer’s Report (A149) and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that any major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

- D6. **Approval of Parent Contract for Student Transportation for SY 2020 – 2021.** –
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oradell Board of Education approve a Parental Contract for Student Transportation, Contract # 21-01, effective July 1, 2020 through August 31, 2020 at a cost not to exceed \$846.60.

Subject to approval of the County Superintendent of Schools.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

- D7. **Approval of Parent Contract for Student Transportation for SY 2020 – 2021.** –
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oradell Board of Education approve a Parental Contract for Student Transportation, Contract # 21-02, effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 at a cost not to exceed \$4,338.00.

Subject to approval of the County Superintendent of Schools.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

- D8. **Approval of Shared Services Agreement for 2021-2022** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the Shared Services Contract between the Oradell Board of Education and Bergen County Technical Schools for the services of a site technician and technology support services in the amount of \$93,000, for the SY 2021-2022.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

- D9. **Approval of Transfer of Unexpended Balance** –

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education has undertaken a capital project through the NJ Clean Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP); and

WHEREAS, the project is complete;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the unexpended balance of \$1,839.44 for the project listed above be canceled and transferred to the Board's General Fund, Capital Reserve Account.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

D10. Urging Relief from Increased Costs to School Districts Resulting from the Implementation of “Chapter 44”, the 2020 School Employee Health Benefits Reform Law.

WHEREAS, P.L.2020, c.44 (“Chapter 44”) requires the School Employees’ Health Benefits Program (SEHBP) to offer plans, beginning on January 1, 2021, for medical and prescription benefits coverage including the New Jersey Educators Health Plan (NJEHP); as adopted and implemented by the School Employees’ Health Benefits Commission; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 44 established reduced premium contributions for any employee who selects, or is placed into, the NJEHP as his or her health care coverage option; and

WHEREAS, The SEHBP applies to the following employers who elect to participate in the SEHBP: local school district, regional school district, county vocational school district, county special services school district, jointure commission, educational services commission, State-operated school district, charter school; and

WHEREAS, The provisions of Chapter 44 also apply to these same employers even if they do not elect to participate in the SEHBP; and

WHEREAS, Many school districts had previously negotiated health benefit agreements with lower net costs compared to the plan design and cost-sharing requirements under “Chapter 44”, and/or have staff that previously declined coverage but now are choosing to enroll in the NJEHP due to its low employee cost-sharing provisions; and

WHEREAS, A significant number of school districts will experience a net increase in their health care costs because the NJEHP premiums are higher than the premiums for the collectively bargained plans previously offered by the district, which is further exacerbated by reduced employee contributions under Chapter 44; and

WHEREAS, Other school districts will experience a net increase in their overall health care costs even if the NJEHP premiums are lower than that of the previous plan offerings because the reduction in employee contributions will offset any overall premium savings, resulting in increased net costs to the district; and

WHEREAS, The low employee contribution requirements under NJEHP encourage

employees who had previously waived or declined coverage to enroll thereby increasing the districts' health benefit costs for the balance of Fiscal Year 2021, continuing into Fiscal Year 2022 and likely beyond; and

WHEREAS, These costs may exceed districts' ability to address within their budgets owing to the limitations of the 2% property tax levy cap; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 44 was a well-intentioned proposal that aimed to generate hundreds of millions of dollars in savings for school districts, school employees and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, While some school districts may indeed be realizing savings due to the provisions of Chapter 44, many are experiencing the opposite effect and witnessing an increase in their health care costs, which may result in cuts to critical programs, services and staff in order to balance their budgets; and

WHEREAS, Since Chapter 44 essentially froze the level of health benefits and employee contributions for the seven-year period following the law's effective date, districts are unable to control cost increases through the traditional collective bargaining process; and

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the Legislature and Governor to address and correct the unintended financial consequences districts are experiencing due to Chapter 44 and ensure that all districts share in the anticipated savings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Oradell Board of Education requests that the State Legislature and Governor provide relief from the increased health care costs experienced by school districts due to the implementation of Chapter 44; and be it further

RESOLVED, that relief from Chapter 44 should include direct, short-term assistance from the state to ensure that all school districts are held financially harmless in both the current and subsequent fiscal years; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Legislature and Governor should expeditiously begin to explore long-term structural reforms that reverse the unintended consequences of Chapter 44 and generate lasting savings for school districts, employees and taxpayers; and be it further

RESOLVED, that any proposals to amend or revise Chapter 44 include input from all affected stakeholders before moving forward, including feedback from representatives of local boards of education, school business administrators, superintendents, building-level supervisors and school employees; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be delivered to Governor Phil Murphy, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin; and the Oradell Legislative District's representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials and the New Jersey School Boards Association.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

E. **NJSBA/ BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT**- Mr. Walsh, Delegate

F. **PERSONNEL**- Mrs. Walker, Chairperson

F1. It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board accepts and approves the Personnel Committee Report dated **March 24, 2021**.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

G. **POLICY**- Mrs. Levy, Chairperson

H. **PUBLIC RELATIONS**- Mr. Griffin, Chairperson

I. **COVID-19 TASK FORCE**- Mr. Griffin, Chairperson

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

XV. CLOSED SESSION- (IF NECESSARY)

(NOTICE: Public action may be taken after Closed Session concludes.)

WHEREAS, a matter to be considered by the Board of Education deals with personnel, negotiations and/or possible litigation, and

WHEREAS, public disclosure of this matter may be prejudicial to the public good,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this matter be considered in a meeting closed to the public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Minutes of this meeting be sealed until the matter is resolved.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL