

ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649

REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING

MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 29, 2000

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Public Business Meeting of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 8:05 p.m. by President Lessersohn.

**II. FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mr. Feigenson.

**III. SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT**

The Sunshine Law Statement was read by Mrs. Lessersohn.

All requirements of the Open Public Business Meetings Law have been met for this meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of Oradell. Notice of this meeting was filed with the Borough Clerk, posted in Borough Hall and the Oradell Free Public Library, faxed to the Town News and all persons requesting such notice on November 20, 2000.

**IV. MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mission Statement was read by Mrs. Looram.

The Mission of the Oradell School District is to develop in each student strong self-esteem, ethical values, respect and an appreciation of diversity and passion for learning to enable every student to perform at his/her maximum potential through a flexible and inclusive educational system.

To accomplish this, the Board, in active collaboration with parents, staff and administration, and in partnership with the total community, will provide a comprehensive and academically challenging educational program that responds to the unique and changing needs of students and society.

Adopted by the Oradell Board of Education December 20, 1993

**V. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Feigenson, Mr. Julis, Mrs. LaForgia, Mrs. Looram, Mrs. Norian (8:30 P.M.), Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Shinevar, Mrs. Lessersohn

Also present were Mrs. Karen Lake, Superintendent, Mr. John Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Mr. Scott Ryan, Principal, Dr. John DiGiovachino, Director of Special Services, Mr. Jeffrey C. Bliss of the auditing firm, Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, and ten members of the public.

#### **VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

There were no comments made at this time from the public.

#### **VII. MINUTES**

##### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORK SESSION MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2000, THE REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2000, AND THE REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2000.**

It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. Shinevar, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Public Work Session Meeting of Wednesday, November 8, 2000, the Regular Public Business Meeting of Wednesday, October 18, 2000, and the Regular Public Business Meeting of Wednesday, September 20, 2000.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by roll call vote with two abstentions (Mrs. LaForgia and Mrs. Shinevar).**

#### **VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/BOARD PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Mrs. Lake thanked the Town News for providing coverage to the school district.

The Superintendent provided an overview of the Child Assault Prevention (CAP) Program. Staff inservice and parental involvement are critical to the success of this effort.

Mrs. Lake wanted to recognize and thank several teachers for recent achievements. Dayle Webber, Kathy McCullough, Tracey Schaum, Diane Malwitz and Elinor Goeller were singled out for praise by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent and Board President limited their comments so Jeffrey Bliss, the District's auditor, could review the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) with the Board and community. Mr. Bliss explained many of the key

financial pieces of the audit and noted that the school's overall condition was excellent.

**IX. COMMITTEE ACTION**

**A. FINANCE – Mrs. Shinevar, Chairperson**

1. Monthly Certifications – It was moved by Mrs. Shinevar, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Moneys for the month end, October, 2000, be accepted as attached and, furthermore, that the Board certify in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.10 (e) that no major account or fund in the 2000/2001 Budget has been over-expended in violation of 6:20-2A.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

2. Payment of Invoices – It was moved by Mrs. Shinevar, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the invoices for the period of October 19, 2000 through November 29, 2000 be approved as follows:

Fund 11 ( <i>General Current Expense</i> )	\$630,265.74
Fund 12 ( <i>Capital Outlay</i> )	\$ 9,802.98
Fund 20 ( <i>Special Revenue</i> )	\$ 54,858.26
Fund 40 ( <i>Debt Service Fund</i> )	\$375,108.08
Fund 55 ( <i>Milk</i> )	\$ 953.20
Fund 50 ( <i>Summer School</i> )	\$ 294.39
TOTAL	\$1,071,282.65

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

3. Transfer of Funds – It was moved by Mrs. Shinevar, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Board approve the following transfer of funds as noted:

Transfer of Funds			
Meeting Of November 29, 2000			
From Account (Credit)	To Account (Debit)	Credit	Debit
11-000-230-100-00-0114	11-000-213-100-00-0222	\$419.00	\$419.00
11-000-261-420-00-0607	11-000-216-320-00-0000	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
11-000-230-339-00-0107	11-000-216-320-00-0000	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
11-000-261-420-00-0607	11-000-216-320-00-0000	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
11-000-291-280-00-0104	11-000-216-320-00-0000	\$3,138.00	\$3,138.00
11-000-261-420-00-0607	11-000-262-100-00-0614	\$537.93	\$537.93
11-000-290-610-00-0100	11-000-290-890-00-0100	\$242.00	\$242.00
11-150-100-101-00-1127	11-000-291-220-00-0804	\$2,161.64	\$2,161.64
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,998.57</b>	<b>\$20,998.57</b>
* Transaction Date For Above Transfers 10/31/00			

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

- Acceptance of Character Education Application Funds – It was moved by Mrs. Shinevar, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Oradell Board of Education approve the acceptance of the Character Education Application Funds in the amount of \$4,000.00.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

- Special Education Tuition Contract 2000/01 School Year – It was moved by Mrs. Shinevar, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia, that the Board approve, in accord with Chapter 46, Title 18A, NJ Statutes, tuition to be paid for the student listed below to attend the school indicated, for the period commencing December 1, 2000 through June 2001, at the tuition cost indicated:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Cost</u>
#22	Community School	\$18,132.24*

\*Fees for Occupational Therapy will be in addition to tuition rate listed above.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

6. Acceptance of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) – It was moved by Mrs. Shinevar, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the CAFR for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2000.

**Note: No recommendations and no corrective actions necessary.**

### **ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

7. Closing of Buying Booth Account – It was moved by Mrs. Shinevar, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the checking account with Summit Bank covering the Oradell Public School's Buying Booth be closed. Furthermore, that the Board approve that the balance of the funds in the amount of \$892.36 be deposited into the District's General Fund.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

8. Approval of I.D.E.A., Part B, Flow-Through Carry-Over – It was moved by Mrs. Shinevar, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the I.D.E.A., Part B, Flow-Through Carry-Over application for FY'00 in the amount of \$913.86.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

#### **B. PERSONNEL – Mr. Feigenson, Chairperson**

1. Approval of Substitutes – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2000/01 school year, at a per diem rate of \$70.00.

Daniel Gherardi      Maureen Stack      Keng-Chuan Wu (Simon)

### **ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

2. Extension of Leave of Absence/Maternity Leave – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve an extension of Gina Lorino Giuditta's leave of absence through June 30, 2001. Original request approved on August 2, 2000 at the Public Work Session.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

3. Appointment of Learning Disabilities Teacher/Consultant – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Board approve the appointment of Karen Chang, as full-time Learning Disability Teacher/Consultant, effective on or before February 1, 2001, through June 30, 2001, on MA+30/Step 14, at the annual salary of \$55,360.00 (pro-rated) as set forth on the Oradell Education Association's 2000/01 Teacher's Salary Guide, to be paid in equal semi-monthly installments.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**C. BUILDING & GROUNDS – Mr. Spadaccini, Chairperson**

1. Energy Management System/Electrical Installation – It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the following bids for the Oradell Public School District received in the Office of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary at 2:00 p.m. on November 2, 2000, be included in the minutes of this meeting:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Bid Price</u>
Sunlight Electric	\$15,224.00
E & E Electrical Contractor Corporation	\$29,840.00
Shah Electric, Inc.	\$33,000.00
Accord Electric, Inc.	\$34,000.00
Boz Electrical Contr. Inc.	\$43,500.00
Interior Contracting Corp.	\$46,100.00

and further moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent in concert with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the award be given to the low bidder, Sunlight Electric, for \$15,224.00.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

2. HVAC Installation in the Media Center – It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the following bids for the HVAC installation in the Media Center, received in the Office of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary at 2:00 p.m. on November 2, 2000, be included in the minutes of this meeting:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Bid Price</u>
Sheridan Mech. Corp.	\$36,894.00
Mecca Air Company	\$37,860.00
Consolidated Construction Company	\$45,655.00
Pearl River, Plumbing, Heating & Electric, Inc.	\$49,780.00
E & E Electrical Contractor Corporation	\$58,600.00
WHL Enterprise, Inc. T/A Bill Leary A/C & HTG	\$68,000.00

and further moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent in concert with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the bids be rejected and the project be re-bid with bids due in the Board Office on December 14, 2000 at 2:00 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

#### **X. OLD BUSINESS**

Mrs. Lake walked the Board and the public through the Quality Assurance Annual Report (QAAR). She explained several revisions made to the document and clarified some issues critical to understanding the report. Finally, Mrs. Lake went into detail on each section of the QAAR and answered questions raised by the Board.

#### **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

##### ***A. BUILDING & GROUNDS – Mr. Spadaccini, Chairperson***

1. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION – It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve the acceptance of six (6) cellular phones from the Oradell Police Department; and one (1) additional phone from Alan Feigenson. These phones are programmed to dial 911 and will be distributed throughout the Oradell Public School.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**B. CURRICULUM – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson**

1. WORLD LANGUAGE – It was moved by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the world language curriculum, which is now aligned with New Jersey state standards and indicators be approved immediately for the 2000-2001 school year. It was noted that this curriculum is only for second grade and the other grade levels are still evolving.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

Mrs. Norian gave the Board an overview of the November 21, 2000 Curriculum Committee Meeting stating that the committee discussed the Tri-District and Oradell's 2000-2001 Curriculum Plans. She further noted that the committee recommended adding benchmarks for Portfolio Assessment as a format for third grade evaluation.

**C. FINANCE – Mrs. Shinevar, Chairperson**

1. APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER – It was moved by Mrs. Shinevar, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent in concert with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board approve the following change order for the roof replacement project:

**A Credit of \$17,377.00 for deleting the removal and subsequent replacement of one part of the roof area.**

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

2. APPLICATION FOR EXTRAORDINARY AID, FY 00/01 – It was moved by Mrs. Shinevar, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education submit to the NJ Department of Education an Application for Extraordinary Aid in accordance with Section 19 (b.) of P. L. 1996, Chapter 138, "Comprehensive Educational Improvement and Financing Act of 1996", N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-19 (b.).

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**



**D. PERSONNEL – Mr. Feigenson, Chairperson**

1. APPROVAL OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHER – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve Craig Nichols as a substitute teacher for the 2000/01 school year, at a per diem rate of \$70.00

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by roll call vote with one abstention (Mr. Walsh).**

Mrs. Loomam reviewed the minutes of the Public Relations Committee Meeting.

**XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**XIII. CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Shinevar, that the Board adjourn to Closed Session at 10:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**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.

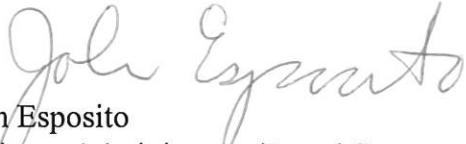
**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Esposito". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

John Esposito  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649

CLOSED SESSION OF THE REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING  
NOVEMBER 29, 2000  
MINUTES

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Closed Session of the Regular Public Business Meeting of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 10:13 p.m. by President Lessersohn.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Feigenson, Mr. Julis, Mrs. LaForgia, Mrs. Looram, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Shinevar, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Lessersohn

**Also present were Mrs. Karen Lake, Superintendent, and Mr. John Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary**

**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.

The purpose of the meeting was to continue the discussion regarding the resignation of Karen A. Lake, Superintendent. Mrs. Lake opened the meeting by offering the Board different options aimed at making the transition to a new superintendent a smooth process.

First, she confirmed that February 1 was her last day, but she would be available up until that date. She offered to assist the District with budget preparation and presentation, grant processing and other important issues. Mrs. Lake also volunteered to help the interim superintendent in any way possible, prior to February 1.

As an alternative, Mrs. Lake suggested that she could resign effective January 1. In this case, Mrs. Lake would: return for several days to assist the interim when

s(he) deemed it necessary; forfeit any incremental wage increase due her since July 1, 2000; and help the other administrators in Oradell as needed. She noted that a January 1 start date was good timing for an interim, as the maximum six-month period allowed would end June 30 – permitting a permanent superintendent's contract to begin July 1, 2001.

The Superintendent emphasized her desire and need to be able to work effectively in Oradell regardless of her actual resignation date. She stated that she had no intention of taking any vacation days prior to her last date here. Finally, she said that under either scenario she would not surrender the vacation days she believes are due her. The exact number of days in question was not agreed upon by the Board and Mrs. Lake.

At this point, the Superintendent left the meeting so the Board could review its options. The members discussed Mrs. Lake's statements and the issues related to the different effective dates of resignation (January or February 1).

It was agreed to have Mr. Kenney, Board Attorney, draft an agreement for Mrs. Lake to sign. This would include the provisions she asked for under a February 1 effective date of resignation.

### **III. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

John Esposito  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary