

**ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649**

**PUBLIC WORK SESSION - NOVEMBER 14, 2001
MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Public Work Session of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 8:06 p.m. by President Shinevar.

II. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mrs. Looram.

III. SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT

The Sunshine Law Statement was read by Mrs. Shinevar.

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, The Record and all persons requesting such notice on November 9, 2001.

IV. MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement was read by Mr. Walsh.

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. Julis, Mrs. LaForgia, Mrs. Landau, Mrs. Looram, Mr. Walsh,
Mr. Feigenson, Mrs. Shinevar
ABSENT: Mrs. Norian, Mr. Spadaccini

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, John Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and one member of the public.

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

VII. MINUTES

Review of Minutes - October 17, 2001, Regular Public Business Meeting
Review of Minutes - October 11, 2001, Special Closed Executive Meetings
Review of Minutes - November 7, 2001, Special Public Meeting

The Board briefly discussed the minutes and the Board Secretary will make several minor changes.

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

Mr. Mohre advised everyone in attendance of the following:

- Parent Visitation Day was a success, with 361 parents in attendance.
- The defibrillator purchased for the school by the PTA is now located in the school Nurse's office. Mrs. Orthmann ordered special pediatric pads, which will be delivered by the end of this week.
- School will be having a single session day next Wednesday, prior to Thanksgiving Recess.
- A memo was received from Terry McCue, Borough Administrator, regarding potential meeting dates with the Mayor, Council and police department to discuss the traffic flow around the school.
- There were three fire drills in October – October 2, 4 and 10.

Mr. Feigenson asked how the security system operated on Parent Visitation Day. Mr. Mohre responded that a substitute teacher was stationed at the main entrance to monitor parents' arrivals.

Mr. Mohre distributed minutes of the Joint Advisory meeting of Thursday, October 18, 2001. Mrs. Shinevar led a discussion of topics from that meeting, including:

- Air Quality in the school: The Board asked Mr. Esposito to get a proposal for checking the air quality in the building. Mr. Julis suggested the Business Administrator call the District's Workers' Compensation insurer regarding possible air testing. The Art and Music areas were mentioned as potential spaces to be checked.
- Field trips: The Board reviewed different field trip destinations, including the Liberty Science Center, NJPAC, John Harms and the State House in Trenton. Mr. Mohre noted that the 6th grade team was looking to introduce an "outward bound" type of trip for 6th graders, which would help build trust and teamwork among the students. The Board was very receptive to this idea.

Mrs. Shinevar noted that Ms. Georgetti had set up Board binders for each member in the Superintendent's office.

Discussion then ensued about activities and seminars at the NJSBA conference in Atlantic City. Mrs. Shinevar noted that she had spoken to Dr. Graham, County School Superintendent, regarding escalating special education costs. She reported that a new legislator's group may be organized to review this and other important issues.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

A. BI-BOROUGH – Mrs. Landau, Chairperson

Mrs. Landau distributed minutes from the recent committee meeting and provided an overview of the issues discussed, including:

- The purpose and mission of the committee
- Relevant topics for future meetings
- Curriculum Articulation, present and future
- Teacher mentoring

Mr. Mohre stated that he was meeting on November 27 with the World Language teachers and high school supervisors to discuss curricula and programs at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

Mrs. Loram asked if the 6th graders could be given exposure to another language. The Board and Mr. Mohre talked about possible ways of introducing a second language this year.

Mrs. Loram inquired about River Edge's Gifted & Talented curriculum and whether or not they had scaled back that program.

Mrs. LaForgia commented that both district's calendars should be the same.

B. BUILDING & GROUNDS – Mrs. Spadaccini, Chairperson

Mr. Spadaccini was absent. Mr. Esposito provided an overview of the following topics:

- The security system is fully operational with no problems.
- The energy management system is working and should save the District money on heating costs this year.

- The OKF is donating two benches for the playground, and the Board and administration will identify where the benches will be located. Mr. Esposito was asked to find out more information regarding a plaque that may also be donated.
- The Business Administrator talked about the five year maintenance plan and the Long Range Facility Plan.

Mr. Walsh asked for a list of teachers doing lunch duty, and Mrs. Landau asked about the policy for dealing with injuries on the playground.

C. CURRICULUM – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

Mrs. Norian was absent. Mr. Mohre set up a meeting for November 26 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Conference Room.

D. FINANCE – Mr. Walsh, Chairperson

Mr. Walsh provided an overview of the committee's status.

E. PERSONNEL – Mr. Feigenson, Chairperson

1. Approval of Substitute Teachers – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2001/02 school year, at a per diem rate of \$75.00 which increases to \$80./day after the 10th day of service during the 2001/02 school year:

Amy Clayton
Bert Schmitt

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

2. Approval of Lunch Aide Substitute – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve Ghislaine Traviesco as a lunch aide substitute for the 2001/2002 school year, at a rate of \$13.00/hr.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

3. Appointment of Full-time Night Custodian – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board appoint Robert M. Christie as full-time, night custodian, effective November 26, 2001 through June 30, 2002, on Step 7, as per the Oradell Education Association's 2001/02 Custodial Salary Guide, at the annual salary of \$30,445.00 (inclusive of a \$300.00 Black Seal License differential and a \$700.00 night time differential), pro-rated, to be paid in equal semi-monthly installments.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

F. POLICY – Mr. Julis, Chairperson

Mr. Julis gave an overview of the recent committee meeting that was held to discuss and review mandated policies missing from Oradell's policy manual. He noted that three of the most critical policies would have a first reading at the November 28 Board session:

- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Administering Medication
- Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness

Discussion followed concerning the need for an updated policy on Internet usage and an update of the policy on school security.

Mrs. Shinevar asked that Mr. Mohre thank the teachers who volunteered for CPR and other types of aid. She noted that staff did this on their own time and without compensation.

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS – Mrs. Looram, Chairperson

Mrs. Looram stated that a meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m. She also reported that a brochure regarding Board meeting procedures was almost complete. This document would be distributed at Board meetings to enhance the public's understanding of the meeting process.

Mr. Julis asked Mrs. Looram to speak to borough personnel about updating the wording on the Oradell school in the town's newsletter. He also requested that she ask the borough to correct the spelling of his last name.

H. NJSBA/BCSBA DELEGATES – Mrs. LaForgia (Delegate), Mrs. Landau (Alternate Delegate)

Mrs. LaForgia and Mrs. Landau gave an overview of the upcoming delegate assembly meeting scheduled for November 17. Mrs. Landau noted that highlights of the meeting include NJSBA's voting on belief statements and educational policies.

X. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Mohre noted that a Strategic Planning committee meeting is scheduled for this Friday. All committee chairs will rotate into the meeting for sessions with the facilitator, Mr. Albano. The Superintendent stated that the chairpersons would decide if committees need to reconvene before the holiday break. Mr. Walsh said that he doesn't want to lose any people who contributed to the process.

Mrs. Shinevar asked if the public relations committee could assist in getting out the news regarding the Board's Action Plan.

Mr. Camins informed the Board that it could get an article in the town's newsletter since the mayor no longer writes a column.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

XII. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Julis, that the Board adjourn to Closed Session at 11:17 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.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Landau, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649**

**CLOSED PUBLIC WORK SESSION – NOVEMBER 14, 2001
MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Closed Public Work Session of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 11:28 p.m. by President Shinevar.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Julis, Mrs. LaForgia, Mrs. Landau, Mrs. Loram, Mr. Walsh,
Mr. Feigenson, Mrs. Shinevar

ABSENT: Mrs. Norian, Mr. Spadaccini

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, 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 Board president stated that there will be a mid-year review of non-tenured personnel at the December 12 meeting. A closed session will be held at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regular session to discuss these teachers.

Mrs. Shinevar also noted that goals for the Principal and Director of Special Services will be talked about in the coming weeks in another closed Board session.

The Board president then confirmed that a closed session on labor negotiations would be held Tuesday, November 20, at 6:30 p.m.

III. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Landau, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,


John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary