

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

**PUBLIC WORK SESSION – SEPTEMBER 12, 2001
MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Public Work Session of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by President Shinevar.

II. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mr. Walsh.

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 September 7, 2001.

IV. MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement was read by Mrs. Landau.

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 (9:30 p.m.), Mrs. LaForgia, Mrs. Landau, Mrs. Looram, Mrs. Norian, Mr. Spadaccini (8:30 p.m.), Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Shinevar

ABSENT: Mr. Feigenson

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, John Esposito, Business

Administrator/Board Secretary and approximately 8 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

Review of Minutes - August 15, 2001, Regular Public Business Meeting – A change was noted to the August 15, 2001 Minutes – the meeting was called to order at 8:30 p.m. and not at 8:01 p.m.

Review of Minutes (as revised) - June 27, 2001, Special Public Business Meeting (Closed Minutes)

Review of Attachment to Minutes (as revised) - July 12, 2001, Special Public Business Meeting

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

Mrs. Shinevar asked for a moment of silence and spoke of the tragedy of yesterday. She thanked everyone for their efforts at keeping calm in the school during this difficult day.

The president then asked Board Members to review the minutes of each meeting, especially those containing the Oradell Board of Education's goals.

Mrs. Norian pointed out that the minutes of August 15, 2001 should be changed to reflect the actual starting time of 8:30 p.m.; Mr. Esposito noted that the change would be made prior to certifying the minutes.

The Superintendent thanked and commended the Oradell staff members for their actions during yesterday's tragedy. Mr. Mohre noted that the school was locked down and thanked Mr. Mallet for his assistance in helping parents who came to take their children home. He also stated that approximately 20% of the student body went home with parents throughout the course of the day.

Mr. Mohre described how he had called the police, who confirmed that the best thing to do was to keep the school open as late as possible as a "safe haven" for the children. The students were kept inside all day due to the uncertainty of the situation. The Superintendent noted that he had met with the faculty to share information about the tragedy and to offer guidance on how to best deal with any questions and concerns the children may have.

At the completion of school, all staff members went outside to be certain a parent or relative picked up each and every child. Mr. Mohre also met with religious leaders who offered their assistance. Due to the extreme circumstances, the

introduction of new teachers was postponed until the September 25 Board meeting.

The Superintendent then spoke about the traffic flow around the school, while noting that the police were there every day and things seem to be working well.

Mr. Mohre reminded all that the food allergy campaign, which had begun in the summer, was continuing to expand. The school has established a peanut free zone and instituted a ban on peanut treats brought in for parties and other class/school activities and events. The school nurse, Mrs. Orthmann, has been actively involved in this effort to raise awareness. Additionally, the entire staff has been alerted to the issues and posters regarding food allergies have been ordered for placement throughout the school.

The Superintendent stated that the Board has been given the District's goals for their review. Dr. DiGiovachino will take courses to become a certified trainer and help implement the goals. Mr. Mohre also noted that the infusion of technology into the curriculum and using technology as a tool to impact children, would be a major part of the development of these goals. The Curriculum Development goal is a work in progress, but will be a model exploring various training, assessment and supervision components.

Mr. Mohre discussed professional development and various workshops the teachers will be attending this year.

The Superintendent then thanked Oradell's families and community members for all their help during the past few difficult days.

Mrs. Looram thanked Mr. Mohre for the letter sent home with the children following the disaster.

Mrs. Shinevar noted that she, Mr. Walsh and Mrs. LaForgia, attended a groundbreaking ceremony at the new school in River Edge. The Board president also commented on the talk given by Mr. Mohre at the teacher orientation and thanked the PTA for providing the breakfast at that event.

Mrs. Shinevar added that the board packets contained a status on the District's goals as well as the Superintendent's personal goals for the year. She reminded all present that on October 11 the NJSBA would facilitate a session on labor negotiations.

In conclusion, Mrs. Shinevar thanked the whole staff, together with the administration team, for their handling of a very difficult situation. She complimented Mr. Mohre on the letter of communication sent out to parents and thanked him for the actions he took to lead the District through this crisis.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

A. BI-BOROUGH – Mrs. Landau, Chairperson

Mrs. Landau had a meeting with Superintendent Steinbauer and Superintendent Bayersdorfer and noted that another session is scheduled to establish calendar and goals for next year.

Mr. Walsh raised the point that three meetings should be held to make the committee work effectively. Mrs. Norian commented that she would like to see the Oradell Board of Education have more input into the agenda.

B. BUILDING & GROUNDS – Mr. Spadaccini, Chairperson

Mr. Esposito, in the absence of Mr. Spadaccini, gave an overview of the implementation of the security system.

The Board discussed the new security system to be installed throughout the building and Mrs. Shinevar requested that our attorney review the language of the final action plan once completed by the administration.

There was discussion among the Board about where and how parents of Kindergarten students drop and pick-up their children from the school. Mr. Mohre noted that Mr. Ryan was concerned about the overflow and crowding if only one side of the building was used for all Kindergarten children. The idea of a crosswalk in the middle of Church Street was raised and Mr. Mohre reminded all that the Chief of Police wanted to experiment for the month of September with the existing traffic pattern. Board members asked parents to please use the other side of the street for drop-off, but to make sure that students cross at the corners where the crossing guards are stationed. The Board also asked parents not to sit in their cars, or leave their cars unattended; both result in blocked traffic and present a hazardous situation for children crossing the street.

Mrs. LaForgia asked if the railings on the front main entrance could be moved as they are overgrown with bushes. Mr. Walsh suggested the installation of a middle railing may resolve the situation.

C. CURRICULUM – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

1. Approval of Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement – It was moved by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve the *Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials*. The agreement documents the commitment on the part of law

enforcement and education officials to work together as co-equal partners to address the State's drug problem as it relates to school-aged children.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mrs. Norian reminded all present that a copy of the T & E goals went out last month and we are waiting for county approval of these goals.

D. FINANCE – Mr. Walsh, Chairperson

1. Special Education/Tuition Contracts 2001/02 – It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia that the following resolution be amended to omit Student #28 and to have this student reconsidered in a future resolution.

ROLL CALL

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

It was moved by Mrs. Looram, seconded by Mrs. Norian, that the Board approve, in accord with Chapter 46, Title 18A, NJ Statutes, tuition to be paid for the students listed below to attend the schools indicated, for the period commencing September, 2001 through June 2002, at the tuition costs indicated:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
#20	Chancellor II	\$30,060.00
#29	Community School	\$25,301.00

ROLL CALL

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

E. PERSONNEL – Mr. Feigenson, Chairperson

1. Approval of Superintendent Evaluation Form – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve/adopt the NJSBA CSA Evaluation Form as revised by the Board's Personnel Committee on September 4, 2001.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

2. Appointment of Strategic Planning External Facilitator – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mrs. Looram, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the appointment of Raymond J. Albano as strategic planning external facilitator, effective September 13, 2001 through December 21, 2001, at a rate of \$100.00/hr., not to exceed \$2,500.00.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

3. Resignation of Full-time Instructional Aide/Special Education – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Nancy Martin, full-time special education instructional aide, effective September 1, 2001.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

4. Resignation of Part-time Nurse's Aide – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Anne DiScala, as part-time nurse's aide, effective September 1, 2001.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

5. Appointment of Full-time Instructional Aide/Special Education – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mrs. Looram, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the appointment of Leighann Giacalone as a full-time special education instructional aide, effective September 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002, at the annual salary of \$13,505.00, as set forth on the Oradell Education Association's 2001/02 Instructional Aide's Salary Guide, to be paid in 20 equal semi-monthly installments.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

6. Appointment of Part-time Nurse's Aide – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the appointment of Elizabeth Polizzotti as part-time nurse's aide, for the 2001/02 school year, effective September 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002, at a rate of \$18.00/hr., up to 18 hours weekly.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

7. Appointment of Full-time Instructional Aide/Special Education – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mrs. Looram, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the appointment of Joan Bayley, as a special education instructional aide, effective September 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002, at the annual salary of \$13,505.00, as set forth on the Oradell Education Association's 2001/02 Instructional Aide's Salary Guide, to be paid in 20 equal semi-monthly installments.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

8. Approval of Substitute Teachers – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2001/02 school year, at a per diem rate of \$75.00:

Dawn Carney (Nurse Substitute)
Brendan Hodnett
Sunhi Lee
Paula Meo
Kim Mattes-Szucs (Nurse Substitute)
Suzanne Reilly
Eileen Turner

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

9. Approval of Movement on the Teacher Salary Guide – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve movement on the guide for the 2001/02 school year, effective September 1, 2001, for the following staff members:

Employee	From	To	Amount
Lisa Pitingolo	MA/Step 3	MA15/Step 3	\$36,703.00
Diana Salon	BA15/Step 2	MA/Step 2	\$34,905.00

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

10. Retroactive Approval of Part-time Custodial Summer Help – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the retroactive hiring of Dean Bigbee as part-time custodial summer help, effective August 17, 2001, at a rate of \$8.00/hr.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Mohre led the discussion as Mr. Feigenson was unable to return from a trip due to the shut down of national airports. He provided an overview of the personnel committee meeting and discussed goal development as well as the strategic planning process. Mr. Mohre recommends that Mr. Albano continue in his role as facilitator of the process. This would allow for the plan to be completed by the December break and in time to be used in planning the district budget for 2002/2003.

Some discussion followed as to the exact role Mr. Albano would have and if he could provide the Board with a proposal or action plan of what he planned to do in exchange for the contracted number of hours and payment from the Oradell Board. Mr. Mohre explained that in the approximate twenty-five hours as a facilitator, Mr. Albano would provide guidance for the committees; while Mr. Mohre would be the Board spokesman for communicating the process to the Board.

Mrs. Norian asked for further clarification of Mr. Albano's role. The Superintendent pointed out that Mr. Albano has a wealth of experience with strategic planning, as well as familiarity with our school and its progress to date. Mrs. LaForgia was under the impression that the upper limit of Mr. Albano's

contract was \$2,500; Mr. Mohre volunteered that he would finish any loose ends in the strategic planning process not picked up by Mr. Albano.

Mrs. Landau also requested a proposal from Mr. Albano outlining what he would do for the twenty-five hours of contracted work before approving his appointment. Mrs. Shinevar agreed and asked that Mr. Albano submit this document prior to the next board meeting scheduled for September 25.

F. POLICY – Mr. Julis, Chairperson

Mr. Julis shared an article with the Board that detailed the increasing number of students throughout the State of New Jersey. Mr. Mohre requested a committee meeting to review potential new policies – maybe the first week of October.

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS – Mrs. Looram, Chairperson

Mrs. Looram would like to set up a meeting, but because Mr. Feigenson was out of town was unable to do so. Mrs. Looram is developing an outline of how a board meeting operates for distribution to members of the public.

X. OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Landau discussed strategic planning with Mr. Mohre. QENJ was mentioned as a possible group to evaluate what has been done up to this point and compare it to where we were a year ago.

Mr. Julis wanted to reinforce the bullying aspect in light of recent local events. Mr. Walsh asked about the school code of conduct and its effectiveness. Mrs. Shinevar asked for input and changes from Board members as they deem necessary.

Mrs. Landau asked about Mrs. Ng, a parent, and her specific work on bullying. She suggested that the Board's effort on this topic could be coordinated, or used to complement each other.

The Board then discussed Mr. Mohre's draft of his action plan for District goals.

Mr. Julis inquired about the possibility of a conference closer than San Francisco, but Mr. Mohre pointed out that Dr. DiGiovachino pays his own airfare to that city. The Superintendent also noted that the IASA grant provides funding for such efforts.

Mrs. Shinevar asked Mr. Mohre about the other goals and when they would be ready. She would like to be able to see them all at once in order to prioritize them as needed.

Mr. Walsh inquired about obtaining a volunteer to help with the website

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Esposito and Mr. Mohre talked about the advantages of using Educational Data Services, Inc. to purchase bulk school and custodial supplies. Both have used the service in previous districts. Mr. Esposito was asked to maintain the action item list and monitor changes, additions or revisions, as necessary. Mrs. Shinevar and Mr. Mohre have various projects to add to this list for next week.

XII. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Landau, that the Board adjourn to Closed Session at 10:30 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.

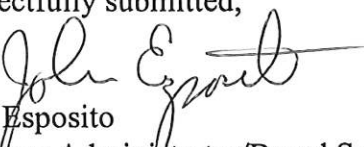
XIII. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 11:40 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 - SEPTEMBER 12, 2001
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Closed Public Work Session Meeting of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 10:40 p.m. by President Shinevar.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Also present was Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent

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 discussed class placement and math placement processes and possible improvements.

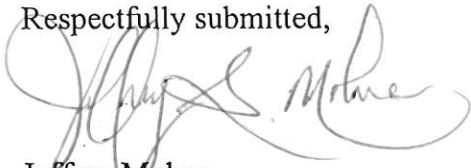
III. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeffrey Mohre".

Jeffrey Mohre
Superintendent