

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

REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING

**MINUTES
APRIL 10, 2002**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Public Business Meeting 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 March 28, 2002.

IV. MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement will be read by Mr. Julis.

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. Landau, Mrs. Looram, Mrs. Norian (arrived at 10:00 p.m.), Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Feigenson, Mrs. Shinevar

ABSENT: Mrs. LaForgia

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

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

VII. MINUTES

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board discussed each of the sets of Minutes prior to voting on them. Mrs. Landau noted that according to the Open Public Meetings Act, Board Members who vote "No" on the resolutions should be identified. Mr. Esposito stated that he would amend the Minutes to reflect these votes.

It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Feigenson, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Public Work Session of Wednesday, February 13, 2002.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a 5-2 roll call vote (Mrs. Landau, Mrs. Shinevar).

It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mr. Feigenson, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Public Business Meeting of Wednesday, February 27, 2002.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a 4-3 roll call vote (Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Landau, Mrs. Shinevar).

It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Looram, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Public Work Session of Wednesday, March 13, 2002.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a 4-3 roll call vote (Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Landau, Mrs. Shinevar).

It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Looram, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Budget Hearing/Regular Public Business Meeting of Tuesday, March 26, 2002.

After discussion, an amended motion was made by Mrs. Landau, seconded by Mr. Walsh, to approve the Minutes of the Budget Hearing/Regular Public Business Meeting of Tuesday, March 26, 2002 to reflect revised wording of the budget resolution.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a 6-1 roll call vote (Mrs. Shinevar).

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

Mr. Mohre stated that the budget newsletter was printed and had been delivered to the Post Office today. He encouraged everyone to vote and noted that during election hours (2:00 - 9:00 p.m.) the PTA was hosting an ice cream social in the Multi-purpose Room. The Superintendent also said that there would be technology projects created by the children on display in the school Auditorium.

He then talked about the fifth-grade ESPA scores on Social Studies exams taken in the Fall of 2001. For all students, including regular and special education, the scores were:

- Advanced Proficient – 15.1%
- Proficient – 77.9%
- Partial Proficient – 7.0%

For regular education students alone, the scores were:

- Advanced Proficient – 16.0%
- Proficient – 81.3%
- Partial Proficient – 2.7%

Mr. Mohre congratulated the children on their achievements.

The Superintendent noted that Sixth Grade Parents night was tomorrow, April 11, 2002 in our school. The program is being held jointly with River Edge and River Dell and will feature the speaker Dr. Steven Tobias.

Mr. Mohre stated that a reception for the Foreign Exchange Student Program will be held Monday, April 15, at 1:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. He also identified March 25 and 27 as the days on which the two required fire drills were held in the school last month.

He then spoke about the successful first grade trip to the Crayola Factory the previous day, and thanked Ms. Greer for her efforts in coordinating the trip.

Mrs. Shinevar thanked the administration and Finance committee for their work in putting the school budget together. She also distributed an article on education to the Board Members.

IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

A. FINANCE – Mr. Walsh, Chairperson

1. Payment of March Invoices – It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, that the Board of Education authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to pay bills/invoices from March 27, 2002 through April 25, 2002 with retroactive approval at the May 1, 2002 Reorganization/Regular Public Business Meeting of the Oradell Board of Education.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

2. Transfer of Funds – It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, that the Board of Education authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to complete transfer of funds from March 27, 2002 through April 25, 2002 with retroactive approval at the May 1, 2002 Reorganization/Regular Public Business Meeting of the Board of Education.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

3. Schaefer Explorations/Summer 2002 Salary and Stipend Increase – It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, in concert with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board of Education approve the following changes regarding the Summer Schaefer Explorations Program:

Increase the teacher salary rate per course to \$625.00 (up from \$595.00 established in 1998)

Raise the stipend for the Assistant Director to \$3,000.00 (up from \$2,800.00 established in 1998)

Increase the charge per course to \$85.00 (up from \$70.00 established in 1992)

Raise the family registration fee to \$20.00 (up from \$10.00 established in 1992)

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

4. Acceptance of Mini Grant Funds – It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the acceptance of a mini grant from the Oradell Kids Foundation, Inc., for the project as listed below:

- Day in the Life of a Continental Soldier \$955.00
(for Entire 5th grade)

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Walsh talked about the Summer Schaefer Explorations Program, and indicated he would like to see a financial report prepared each year by the program director(s). Discussion ensued regarding the program, its finances and establishing criteria for the Basic Skills courses. The issue of a financial report was referred to the Finance Committee for evaluation and development.

B. BUILDING & GROUNDS – Mr. Spadaccini, Chairperson

1. Use of School Facilities – It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Looram, that the Board of Education approve the following request for use of school facilities:
 - a. **Concert** – in the Auditorium, Saturday evening, May 18, 2002, from 5:00 - 10:00 PM, requested by St. Vartanantz Armenian Church. All custodial fees to be paid for by the St. Vartanantz Armenian Church in addition to the charge for the use of the Auditorium.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Spadaccini provided an overview of the committee meeting that had been held prior to the Board session. Topics included:

- Bench Donation from Oradell Kids Foundation – the committee identified a location on the playground for the two benches to be installed by the Borough's Department of Public Works. Mr. Spadaccini thanked OKF for their generous donation.
- Long Range Facility Plan – the architect is working on finalizing this document, which is critical to future capital projects in the school.

- Summer Repairs/Maintenance – Mr. Spadaccini talked about the numerous projects, work and maintenance that will be performed over the summer months.

Discussion ensued regarding other issues, including cell phones, window stops, the security system, traffic and air quality in the school.

Mrs. Shinevar noted that a celebration for Tom Murray, school custodian, had been held earlier in the day to congratulate him on twenty-five years in the District. She praised him for his dedication and hard work over the years.

C. PERSONNEL – Mr. Feigenson, Chairperson

1. Retroactive Appointment of Long-term Nurse Substitute – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve retroactively the appointment of Sharon L. Hess, RN, as a long-term nurse substitute, for the 2001/02 school year, at a per diem rate of \$75.00 per day which increases to \$166.59 (1/200th of the BA/Step 1 on the salary guide) after the 10th day of service. Said position becomes effective Wednesday, March 27, 2002.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

2. Approval of Disability Leave – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve a disability leave utilizing accumulated sick days for Joanne Certo. Said leave to commence on Monday, May 6, 2002 and terminate on or about June 17, 2002.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

3. Appointment of Grade 1 Long-term Substitute – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the appointment of Lori Tunis as a long-term substitute for the 2001/02 school year, at a per diem rate of \$75.00 per day which increases to \$166.59 (1/200th of the BA/Step 1 on the salary guide) after the 10th day of service. Said position becomes effective Monday, April 29, 2002 and terminates on or about June 17, 2002.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

4. Governor's Teacher Recognition Award – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the award of the 2001/02 school year Governor's Teacher Recognition Award to Joanne Certo.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

5. Approval of Substitute Teacher – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mrs. Looram, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve the following individual as a substitute teacher for the 2001/02 school year, at a per diem rate of \$75.00 per day which increases to \$80.00 per day after the 10th day of service during the 2001/02 school year:

Mary Ann Travalja

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

D. CURRICULUM – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

1. End of Year (2001/02) Calendar Revisions – It was moved by Mrs. Looram, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the following revisions to the End of the 2001/02 School Year Calendar:

Final Day for Students: Thursday, June 20, 2002 (single session day, 12:30 dismissal)

Final Day for Staff: Friday, June 21, 2002

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

It was noted that the maximum number of teaching days in a year is dictated by the contract with the Oradell Education Association.

E. BI-BOROUGH – Mrs. Landau, Chairperson

Mrs. Landau noted that Sixth Grade Parents Night was scheduled for tomorrow evening, and that the next committee meeting would be held in May.

F. POLICY – Mr. Julis, Chairperson

Mr. Julis said that he was in the process of looking for a facilitator for a board weekend retreat. He also stated that Janet Lobsenz, Senior Field Service Representative for New Jersey School Boards Association, was retiring next month and would not be available to facilitate.

Discussion followed regarding the fact that NJSBA does not plan to replace Mrs. Lobsenz, leaving Bergen County Schools without a direct contact once she retires. Mr. Mohre was asked to write a letter to NJSBA asking them to assign a new person for Bergen county who could assist the Board throughout the school year. He will send a copy of that memo to the BCSBA, asking them to also urge the State organization to take this action.

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS – Mrs. Looram, Chairperson

Mrs. Looram noted that the budget newsletter had gone out to the community.

X. OLD BUSINESS

The Board reviewed the Action Item List and added Mr. Mohre's letter to NJSBA to the listing. It was decided that for future Work Sessions the agenda should also include a "Review Board Calendar" bullet point.

Mrs. Landau raised the issue of getting policy information and updates from the NJSBA and thought it important that Oradell subscribe to this service.

The Board discussed its own goals and agreed that they should be reviewed again after the Reorganization meeting is held May 1.

Mr. Walsh talked about re-convening a technology committee and raised the issue of asking local electricians to assist in wiring the school for technology.

Discussion ensued regarding the District Strategic Plan. It included the availability of minutes and meeting notes, Mrs. Lobsenz and Mr. Albano's roles, and future meeting dates. Mr. Mohre talked about the recent progress and projected 'next steps' in the process.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

The Board then talked about the two Draft Calendars prepared by Mr. Mohre for the 2002/03 school year. The discussion included the fact that since River Dell's

calendar was already approved by its board, it would make sense for Oradell's calendar to reflect the same spring and winter breaks. This would allow families with children in both schools to plan vacations together and give students a break from long periods in school. The Board generally agreed on adopting Draft Calendar 'A' at the next board meeting.

The Board discussed a resolution opposing S-1044/A-1926, and decided to take action.

MOTION It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Landau, that the Board support the following resolution opposing S-1044/A-1926, (a bill that would legalize the use of Project Labor Agreements in New Jersey):

WHEREAS, New Jersey's school boards are already under tremendous pressure to reduce costs and keep a lid on rising property taxes; and

WHEREAS, S-1044/A-1926 would legalize the use of project labor agreements in New Jersey and authorize any public entity that undertakes a public works project to enter into a project labor agreement with one or more labor organizations; and

WHEREAS, S-1044/A-1926 would result in restricted competition and higher costs at the expense of school districts and local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the current system of awarding bids in open competition to the lowest responsible bidder has proven both effective and cost worthy; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts law has been consistently upheld by the New Jersey Supreme Court to be in the best interest of New Jersey's property taxpayers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Oradell Board of Education urges the Legislature to oppose S-1044/A-1926; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Robert G. Torricelli, Senator, District 38, members of the State Senate Labor Committee and to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Mohre presented Mrs. Shinevar flowers on behalf of the Board and administration for her years of service to the children of Oradell. The Superintendent thanked her for her contributions to the school and wished her luck next year in her role as president of the PTA.

Mr. Walsh expressed his opinion about Board operations and leadership this school year.

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Gallow told everyone that he was a write-in candidate for the open seat on the Board.

Mrs. Lessersohn commented on the process for awarding OKF mini-grants and communicating this information to staff.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, that the Board adjourn to Closed Session at 10:05 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.

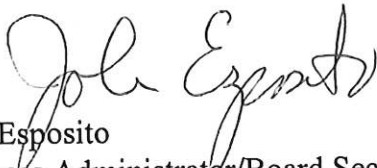
XIV. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 10:50 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 SESSION OF THE REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
APRIL 10, 2002
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 10:10 p.m. by President Shinevar.

II. ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Mrs. LaForgia

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.

Mr. Mohre was asked to leave so the Board could talk about his evaluation.

The Board discussed, in general terms, the Superintendent's performance review. The next meeting to continue this discussion is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 18 at 8:15 p.m. in the Board Conference Room. Members who were unsure of their calendars will call the Board Office and let Mr. Esposito know if they can attend on that date.

Mrs. Looram was then asked to leave the meeting, as negotiations were to be discussed and her spouse is a teacher in River Dell. The Negotiations Committee

provided an overview of the meeting held with the OEA on April 4. The next committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m.

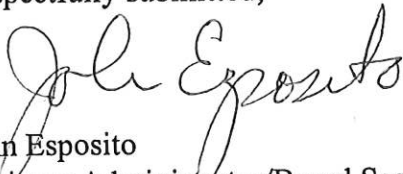
III. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Norian, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary