

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

**PUBLIC WORK SESSION - FEBRUARY 13, 2002
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. Julis.

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 February 8, 2002.

IV. MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement was read by Mrs. LaForgia.

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. Norian, Mr.
Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Feigenson (9:30 p.m.), Mrs. Shinevar
ABSENT: Mrs. Looram

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, John Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Janet Lobsenz, Senior Field Service Representative from New Jersey School Boards Association and approximately twenty members of the public and six students.

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

VII. MINUTES

Review of Minutes - January 23, 2002, Regular Public Business Meeting
Review of Minutes - January 17, 2002, Special Public Meeting
Review of Minutes - January 9, 2002, Public Work Session

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 first introduced the Oradell Public School *Advanced Handbell Choir*, who "rang in the New Year" with a special performance. The Board and Superintendent congratulated the students and teacher, Ms. Tice, for their hard work and wonderful performance.

Afterwards, Mr. Mohre spoke about several topics, including:

- There were two fire drills last month – January 22 and 25.
- Oradell Professional Committee had received positive feedback from the County, which also asked for more specifics on two issues;
 1. Opportunities for professional development being offered this year
 2. How this year's program builds on last year's efforts

Mr. Mohre commended Ms. Maklin and the committee for their hard work in developing the document.

- Mrs. Lynch will make a presentation on technology in the District at the next Board meeting scheduled for February 27, 2002.

The Board president, Mrs. Shinevar, wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day and made the following comments:

- The budget development schedule and election may be impacted by the governor's decision to delay State aid figures. She stated that the District was moving forward with its budget and keeping an eye on news from Trenton.

- The filing deadline for persons interested in running for the Board of Education is Monday, February 25, 2002 at 4:00 PM. Packets are available in the Board office from the Business Administrator or his secretary.
- Mrs. Shinevar thanked all the people who wrote to legislators urging them to stave off the potential elimination of Distance Learning funds. She noted that information on this issue is available on the school's web site.
- Four Board members and the Superintendent attended a BCSBA dinner on Special Education. The president had disseminated a summary of that session earlier to the Board.
- Strategic Planning – Mrs. Shinevar thanked everyone who attended the past two Board meetings and also those who worked hard on the District's Strategic Plan. She noted that she had received input from the public thanking the Board for its handling of those sessions. The president stated that she believes people find that the Board is listening to their issues and comments, which was one of the goals of holding those public meetings.

Mrs. Shinevar said the Superintendent and she had met with Mr. Albano and Mrs. Lobsenz on how best to proceed with the Strategic Planning process. She then introduced Mrs. Lobsenz to speak about the recommendations that came out of this meeting, and that questions would be taken from the Board after her talk.

Mrs. Lobsenz outlined a proposed 'next phase' for the planning process. She suggested holding two meetings – one with staff and another with the original participants in the process. The input and information received from these sessions would be shared with the Strategic Planning team as part of the revision process.

The Board asked questions of Mrs. Lobsenz and discussed issues associated with this phase. It was stated that the Board would not comment on the plan until the final draft is written. Mrs. Lobsenz noted that this was decided at the beginning of the planning process.

Discussion ensued regarding: The Board submitting comments on the Plan; progress reports; affect on the mission statement; and when the final draft may be ready.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, to adopt the Strategic Planning: Next Phase Proposal and its accompanying recommendations put forward by Mr. Mohre, Mr. Albano and Mrs. Lobsenz.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

A. BI-BOROUGH – Mrs. Landau, Chairperson

Mrs. Landau reported that the next Bi-Borough meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 7th.

B. BUILDING & GROUNDS – Mr. Spadaccini, Chairperson

Mr. Spadaccini stated that he would set up a meeting in the coming weeks.

1. Use of School Facilities – It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Board of Education approve the following requests for use of school facilities:

- a. ***St. Vartanantz Armenian Church's Play*** – To be held on Sunday, March 17, 2002 in the Auditorium, from 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. All associated 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.

- b. ***OABC Silent Movie Night*** – To be held on Friday, March 15, 2002 in the Multi-purpose Room, from 5:00 - 11:00 p.m. All associated custodial fees to be paid for by the Oradell Arts and Business Coalition in addition to the charge for the use of the Multi-purpose Room.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

C. CURRICULUM – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

Mrs. Norian provided an update to the Board which included:

- On February 8, River Edge and Oradell met regarding the Social Studies curriculum.
- Science – Mrs. Diem met with staff and has scheduled more workshops this year
- IDEAS – the group is exploring expansion of this program

Mr. Mohre commented on the theme of continuity of instruction between Oradell and River Edge on various subjects.

D. FINANCE – Mr. Walsh, Chairperson

Mr. Walsh stated that a meeting was held February 7 to review the preliminary budget. He noted that State aid figures were unknown at this point. A tentative meeting is set for February 25. Mr. Mohre said that the budget included additional staff for an expected large Kindergarten class.

E. PERSONNEL – Mr. Feigenson, Chairperson

Mr. Feigenson had not yet arrived at the meeting from a business trip. Mrs. LaForgia introduced the resolutions in this section.

1. Approval of Technology Teacher Job Description – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve the attached Technology Teacher Job Description.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

2. Resignation of Jennifer Lintner, Part-time Technology Resource Teacher – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board accept, with regret, the resignation of Mrs. Jennifer Lintner, effective at the close of the school day, Friday, February 15, 2002.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

3. Retroactive Appointment of Part-time Technology Teacher – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve retroactively, the appointment of Kerry Ridings as part-time (.5) technology teacher for the 2001/02 school year, effective Thursday, February 7, 2002 through June 30, 2002, on BA/Step 1, at the annual salary of \$16,659.00 (pro-rated), as set forth on the Oradell Education Association's 2001/02 Teacher's Salary Guide, to be paid in semi-monthly installments.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

4. Approval of Substitute Teachers – It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, 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 per day which increases to \$80.00 per day after the 10th day of service during the 2001/02 school year:

Jennifer Pecoraro
Susan Halpin

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

F. POLICY – Mr. Julis, Chairperson

Mr. Julis stated that a meeting would be held in March on a date to be announced.

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS – Mrs. Loram, Chairperson

Mrs. Loram was absent. Mrs. Shinevar noted that the public brochure describing the process for conducting Board meetings was completed, and she thanked Mrs. Georgetti, the Superintendent's secretary, for her help.

X. OLD BUSINESS

The Board discussed the Draft calendar distributed by Mrs. Shinevar. Some changes and additions were suggested to the document, and the Board President stated that she would make the revisions and re-distribute the calendar.

Mrs. Landau gave an overview of the "Advanced Boardmanship" conference she attended. She shared with the Board the documents she received from NJSBA and explained some of the critical points.

Mrs. LaForgia asked to clarify her comment from a previous Board Meeting regarding proposed Academy schools to be run by Dr. Grieco. Her real concern is that public money is being used to pay for private, selective schools that are open only to certain children. Mrs. Shinevar commended Mrs. LaForgia for her position and commented on the funding formula for State aid.

The Action Item list was reviewed and one minor change made.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed possible alternatives to NJSBA for its Board Evaluation process, as that model has been used several times. After this discussion, the Board decided to refer the question to the Policy committee for review and evaluation.

At this point, Dr. Moskowitz in the audience asked for five minutes to speak, and the Board agreed. He asked for clarification of the Strategic Plan, including inquiring if the Board is looking at the whole plan and will they have input; and is Mr. Albano getting paid to facilitate the process.

Mrs. Petersen asked if feedback would be provided to the public.

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia, seconded by Mrs. Norian, 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 Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Esposito". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "J".

John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649**

**CLOSED PUBLIC WORK SESSION – FEBRUARY 13, 2002
MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Closed Public Work Session of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 10:20 p.m. by President Shinevar.

II. ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Mrs. Looram

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.

Mrs. Shinevar provided Board members with an update as to the status of Board/OEA negotiations.

Mr. Mohre presented information pertaining to the professional performances of Mr. Ryan, Dr. DiGiovachino and Mr. Esposito. Prior to the presentation Mr. Mohre dismissed Mr. Esposito from the meeting. The presentation included opportunities for the Board to pose questions to Mr. Mohre on the information provided.

Mrs. Shinevar asked Board members to begin reviewing the instrument that the Board will use to evaluate Mr. Mohre's performance this school year.

III. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 11:50 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