

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

REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING

**MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2002**

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Shinevar called the Regular Public Business Meeting of the Oradell Board of Education to order at 8:00 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mrs. LaForgia.

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 22, 2002.

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

ABSENT: Mr. Julis

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, John Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Staff members Mrs. Lynch, Mr. Ordini, Ms. Gumbel, Ms. Ridings and approximately nine 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

There were no Minutes presented for review.

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

Mr. Mohre talked about the school budget process and noted that Distance Learning Aid was going to be available this year. He thanked those in the community who wrote letters to legislators in support of this funding.

The Superintendent then spoke about Strategic Planning and gave an update on the process for reviewing and revising the existing draft action plan.

Mr. Mohre talked about technology in the school and how the District should strive to expand students' use where appropriate. He then introduced Mrs. Corinne Lynch, technology coordinator, who gave a PowerPoint presentation that showed how Oradell teachers in each grade level are using technology as a learning tool for the children.

IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

A. FINANCE – Mr. Walsh, Chairperson

1. Monthly Certifications – It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, that the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Moneys for the month end, January, 2002, 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 2001/2002 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 Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Spadaccini, that the invoices for the period January 24, 2002 through February 27, 2002 be approved as follows:

Fund 11 (<i>General Current Expense</i>)	\$662,122.58
Fund 12 (<i>Capital Outlay</i>)	\$ 35,564.00
Fund 20 (<i>Special Revenue</i>)	\$ 29,689.17
Fund 40 (<i>Debt Service Fund</i>)	\$.00
Fund 55 (<i>Milk</i>)	\$.00
Fund 50 (<i>Summer School</i>)	\$.00
TOTAL	\$727,375.75

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

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

**Meeting of February 27, 2002
Transfer of Funds***

#	From Account (Credit)	To Account (Debit)	Credit	Debit
1	12-000-260-730-00-0605	11-000-262-610-00-0606	\$2,580.31	\$2,580.31
2	11-000-230-331-00-0103	11-000-230-610-00-0104	\$1,196.52	\$1,196.52
3	11-000-230-331-00-0103	11-000-262-100-00-0614	\$1,103.35	\$1,103.35
4	11-000-230-331-00-0103	11-000-290-610-00-0100	\$980.47	\$980.47
5	11-000-230-331-00-0103	11-213-100-101-00-0222	\$592.50	\$592.50
6	11-000-230-331-00-0103	11-000-219-104-00-0222	\$230.00	\$230.00
7	12-000-260-730-00-0605	11-000-213-300-00-0224	\$202.00	\$202.00
8	12-000-260-730-00-0605	11-000-213-100-00-0222	\$75.00	\$75.00
9	12-000-260-730-00-0605	11-120-100-101-00-0220	\$60.00	\$60.00
10	12-000-260-730-00-0605	11-000-217-106-00-0222	\$35.00	\$35.00
11	12-000-260-730-00-0605	11-110-100-101-00-0229	\$15.00	\$15.00
Total			\$7,070.15	\$7,070.15

* Transaction Date For Above Transfers 1/31/02

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

4. Architect Contract for Long Range Facility Plan (LRFP) – 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 approve the Seyffer & Sklar Architectural Group to review and finalize the District's Long Range Facility Plan; and furthermore, that the Board authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to contract with Seyffer & Sklar Architectural Group to perform this work for an amount not to exceed Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

5. Indoor Environmental Air Quality Consultant – 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 approve RK Occupational & Environmental Analysis, Inc. to perform an indoor air quality assessment; and furthermore, that the Board authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to contract with RK Occupational & Environmental Analysis, Inc. to perform this work for an amount not to exceed Two Thousand Five Hundred (\$2,500.00) Dollars.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

B. 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 twenty cellular phones that are programmed to dial 911 only for distribution throughout the Oradell Public School.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

C. PERSONNEL – Mr. Feigenson, Chairperson

1. Voluntary Unpaid Leave of Absence – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve a voluntary leave of absence, without pay, for Lori Edwards for the 2002/03 school year.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

2. Approval of Substitute Teacher – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve Lori Tunis as a substitute teacher for the 2001/2002 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.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

D. CURRICULUM – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

1. Donation of Ballet Performances – It was moved by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board accept, with deep appreciation, a gift from Oradell resident, Ms. Diana Hauser (Director of the Ballet Arts Company) in the form of two fully staged and costumed acts of Coppelia, a ballet of the Romantic era. The performances to be presented to staff and students at Oradell Public School during the month of April.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

X. OLD BUSINESS

The Action Item List was referenced and discussed, but no items were added.

Mr. Mohre talked about the need for approximately ten more hours of time for the Strategic Planning facilitator, Mr. Albano. Discussion ensued among the Board regarding Mr. Albano's role, the potential for Mrs. Lobsenz to participate, the reasons for the extra time needed, the cost to the Board and a possible time-line for completing the work. The Superintendent noted that the following night, all 92 members of the community who participated in the process from the start were invited to a session to comment on the draft action plan.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia, that the Board use only Mrs. Lobsenz to finalize the Strategic Plan as of March 1. The Board discussed this in detail and compared the strengths of NJSBA (Mrs. Lobsenz), and the facilitator (Mr. Albano.)

ROLL CALL

Motion defeated by a roll call 4-4 tie vote.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. Looram, that the Board allocate a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,000.00 (10 hours at \$100/hr.) to have Mr. Albano work jointly with Mrs. Lobsenz to facilitate the completion of the Strategic Plan.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a roll call 5-3 vote.

It was noted that a Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 4 at 7:00 PM and a Bi-Borough Committee session is set for Thursday, March 7 from 7:00-9:00 PM.

Mrs. Landau asked that the Board have the opportunity to provide written comment on the Strategic Plan prior to it being finalized. The Board discussed this issue in an effort to determine who should be able to make comments.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Looram, to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION A motion was made by Mrs. Landau, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that Board members have the opportunity to provide written comments on the first draft of the Strategic Plan for the committee chairs to review.

ROLL CALL

Motion defeated by a roll call 5-3 vote.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Looram, chairperson of Public Relations Committee, talked about the effort to get Key Communicators involved with the District. She stated that a letter would go out to a cross-section of people with varied backgrounds, asking them to participate in this process to improve communications between the school and its constituencies.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mr. Walsh, to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

The Board then entered a discussion regarding meetings being held in the community by concerned parents. Board members who attended stated they were at one gathering and only in the role of parents. More discussion ensued about the role of Board Members and how best to handle communications with interested parents.

MOTION It was moved by Mrs. Landau, seconded by Mrs. Looram, to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mrs. Petersen stated that Board Members should be allowed, as parents, to participate in community activities.

Mrs. Roberts and Mr. Moran commented on communication issues and concerns in Oradell.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia, that the Board adjourn to Closed Session at 11:45 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.

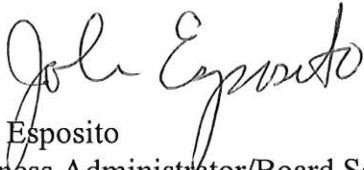
XIV. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Norian, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 12:26 a.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
FEBRUARY 27, 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 11:50 p.m. by President Shinevar.

II. ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Mr. Julis

Also present was 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 Closed Session began with a coordination of calendars regarding the establishment of various committee meeting dates. Mrs. Shinevar then reviewed the contractual timeline for the Board's completion of the Superintendent's evaluation. The Board was afforded the opportunity to pose questions to Mr. Mohre based on the reflective piece he authored highlighting his professional reflections and assessment of progress toward District goals to date.

The Board then entered into further discussion related to the performance of the administrative team. As is customary practice, Mr. Esposito was asked to leave the meeting at that time due to the impending personnel discussion. Several

Board members voiced concern as to why the discussion which was part of the Closed Session meeting of February 13, 2002, was continuing as they believed that the dialogue that evening had been concluded. Several Board members posed questions to Mr. Mohre regarding administrator performance. Mr. Mohre responded accordingly.

The Board continued planning for teacher contract negotiations. The negotiations committee will meet on March 11, 2002, at 7:00 p.m.

III. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Norian, that this portion of the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 12:26 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary