

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

**PUBLIC WORK SESSION - JANUARY 9, 2002**

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Public Work Session of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 8:02 p.m. by President Shinevar.

**II. FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mr. Feigenson.

**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 December 19, 2001.

**IV. MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mission Statement was 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. LaForgia, Mrs. Landau, Mrs. Looram, Mrs. Norian, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Feigenson, Mrs. Shinevar

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

## **VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

There were no comments made at this time by the public.

## **VII. MINUTES**

Review of Minutes - December 12, 2001, Regular Public Business Meeting  
Review of Minutes - December 12, 2001, Special Public Meeting

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

Mr. Mohre advised everyone in attendance of the following:

- There were two fire drills in December – the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The upcoming winter concert is scheduled for January 10 at 7:30 p.m. He welcomed all to attend the event.
- He had a Superintendent's Dialogue for parents this week just to discuss issues pertaining to the education of Oradell's youth.
- There are several meetings/presentations coming up involving the Long Range Strategic Plan. He provided an overview of the process and emphasized how critical the document would be in leading the school into the future. He stated that an internal staff meeting was set for Tuesday, January 15 and a Special Public Business meeting of the Board of Education scheduled for Thursday, January 17 at 8:00 p.m. in the auditorium. He welcomed all to attend the public session and stated that a draft of the plan would be finalized and sent to all participants by next Monday, January 14.
- Mr. Mohre went on to explain that the Strategic Plan would be a 'blueprint' for future plans for educating our children, and represented an opportunity to improve the quality and extent of education in the school.

Mrs. Norian asked if the community was involved in the latter stages of the plan development. She wanted to give Mr. Mohre a "heads up" that she was hearing these concerns. Mr. Mohre responded that the committee chairpersons were advised to return to the participants on staff and in the community if necessary to gather the data necessary for action plan development.

The Board then discussed various issues associated with the finalization of the plan. Mr. Mohre noted that he would contact Janet Lobsenz, Senior Field Service Representative for the New Jersey School Boards Association to tell her of the plan's status and invite her to the meeting for her review of the plan. Mrs. Shinevar echoed that we should treat Mrs. Lobsenz as a "key communicator." The point was raised that perhaps a direct mailing to the whole community, notifying them of the meeting next Thursday, was appropriate.

Mr. Feigenson stated that he would like the school to be able to use its website as both a way to advertise meetings and to make public information such as the strategic plan.

The Board discussed further how the plan was developed and whether or not the process was fully communicated to all participants.

Mrs. Shinevar then made several remarks, including:

- Wishing everyone a Happy New Year
- Complimenting Mr. Mohre on his listening skills and on getting the parents together to hear their issues and concerns.
- Thanking the PTA for its purchase of the vestibulator. Mrs. Shinevar reported that the PTA had been given a demonstration and suggested the Board take time to view the equipment and see how it helps our children.

The Board President noted that a food allergist was also at the PTA meeting and she handed out copies of the "Food Allergy News" for the Board's review. Mrs. Shinevar also acknowledged Mr. Mohre's leadership in dealing with health and allergy related issues in the school.

The president also thanked the PTA for passing a resolution recognizing the Board during 'School Board Recognition Month'. Mrs. Landau suggested using this opportunity to get people to attend the upcoming strategic plan meeting.

## **IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION**

### ***A. BI-BOROUGH - Mrs. Landau, Chairperson***

Mrs. Landau distributed minutes from the last Bi-Borough Meeting and reviewed what took place at the meeting, including:

- Sixth Grade Parent Night – Looking at bringing in a potential speaker
- Possible "Buddy System" with Middle School students
- Mission Statement (Draft) was read by Mrs. Landau
- World Language Articulation meetings are planned
- Emergency Response Plan – each district is reviewing its plan
- Meetings/school calendars – coordinating the three districts
- Referendum – River Dell plans one for December, 2002

### ***B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Mr. Spadaccini, Chairperson***

Mr. Spadaccini provided an overview of the following topics:

- Church Street Parking
- Crosswalk – middle of the street is not a good location as it causes more stoppages and takes away from ‘drop-off’ space
- Parking – a new lot south of the school may free up some spots. A year from now the animal hospital will be re-zoned and parking may open up there. Mrs. Shinevar asked a clarifying question to ensure that the parking spots’ availability was not yet a certainty.
- The town is looking for grant money to provide funds for installing sidewalks and building a retaining wall between the school and the municipal building.
- A new snow blower has been purchased for the school. The custodial staff was thanked for their snow-clearing efforts during the last storm.

**C. CURRICULUM – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson**

Mrs. Norian discussed the Curriculum Committee meeting which focused on the science curriculum.

**D. FINANCE – Mr. Walsh, Chairperson**

Mr. Walsh stated that a Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 7, 2002 to discuss the 2002/03 school budget.

**E. PERSONNEL – Mr. Feigenson, Chairperson**

1. Approval of Substitute Teacher – It was moved by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve Maureen Dowd 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 10<sup>th</sup> day of service during the 2001/02 school year.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

**F. POLICY – Mr. Julis, Chairperson**

Mr. Julis reported that some critical policies have been added to the manual with more to follow. A Policy Committee meeting will be scheduled with the Superintendent in February.

**G. PUBLIC RELATIONS – Mrs. Looram, Chairperson**

Mrs. Looram told the Board a Public Relations Committee meeting was held yesterday, and she will distribute a summary of the meeting at a later date. Mrs.

Janet Lobsenz, Senior Field Service Representative from New Jersey School Boards Association was in attendance. The committee plans to finalize a brochure outlining procedures for Board meetings.

Mrs. Norian suggested the Board check any changes to the Sunshine Law to ensure that the brochure will be in proper alignment with those regulations.

A brief discussion followed regarding an appropriate time to distribute the brochure.

#### **X. OLD BUSINESS**

Two items were added to the Action Item list:

1. Coordination of a Board of Education Calendar Committee
2. Exploration of the process for re-sizing a Board of Education

#### **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

The Board reviewed the draft action plan for the goals it previously adopted.

#### **XII. CLOSED SESSION**

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

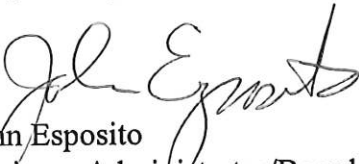
#### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. Norian, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
John Esposito  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649**

**CLOSED PUBLIC WORK SESSION – JANUARY 9, 2002  
MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Closed Public Work Session of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 10:22 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 (She is unable to attend as her husband is a teacher at River Dell Regional H.S.)

**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 informed the Board that Mr. Ray Skorka will be representing the OEA in negotiations meetings.

Mrs. Shinevar distributed a list of priorities that had been developed at the last Negotiations Committee meeting. The Board reviewed each item and discussed the implications of each issue.

Mrs. Shinevar also noted that she spoke with Ms. Greer, OEA negotiation's chairperson, regarding an informal dinner with no representation. (only the Board of Education and OPS staff)

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. Norian, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.**

Respectfully submitted,



John Esposito  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary