

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

**PUBLIC WORK SESSION – JANUARY 8, 2003**

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. FLAG SALUTE**

The flag salute was led by Mr. Gallow.

**III. SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT**

The Sunshine Law Statement was read by Mr. Feigenson.

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 16, 2002.

**IV. MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mission Statement was read by Mr. Walsh.

The Oradell Public School District, a safe and nurturing learning community dedicated to the ongoing pursuit of educational excellence, inspires life-long learning in its children through comprehensive, innovative curriculum and instruction designed to maximize student potential, develop responsible citizens, and promote respect for the uniqueness of all individuals.

Adopted by the Oradell Board of Education June 26, 2002

**V. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Mr. Gallow, Mr. Julis, Mrs. LaForgia, Mrs. Looram, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Feigenson

ABSENT: Mr. Spadaccini, Mrs. Norian

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey S. Mohre, Superintendent, and approximately 5 audience members, inclusive of the Town News reporter.

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

There were no comments from the public on agenda items.

## **VII. MINUTES**

There were no minutes available for review.

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

Mr. Mohre commented on the following items:

- The Board of Education, in light of projected enrollment increases, current facilities inefficiencies, and a resounding commitment to deliver the core curriculum agreed to enter into a contract with the Seyffer and Sklar Architectural Group for the purpose of conducting pre-referendum planning exercises. He pointed out that the Board's attorney is currently drafting a contract for services where pre-referendum planning is concerned. It is expected that the contract will be ready for review by Friday, January 10, 2003. He stated that the school district is committed to engaging the community in the planning exercises and that more information would be forthcoming.
- He will once again be hosting several Superintendent Coffees later this month and in early February whereby interested parents can meet with him to discuss the education of our students. A flyer announcing the coffees will be sent home shortly.
- The OPS winter concert will be held next Tuesday night beginning at 7:30 pm. Mr. Mohre commented that the children have worked hard in preparation for the concert and then polled the Board to see who was able to attend as reserved seating would be made available to members.
- Mr. Mohre reported that fire drills for the month of December were conducted as follows: 12/18/02 @ 8:40 am & 12/19/02 @ 2:40 pm.

Mr. Mohre shared that OPS will have a special visit by Ms. Amy Brown, the national coordinator of the Second Step Violence Prevention Program; a program that is an integral part of OPS' character education initiative. Ms. Brown will meet with the administration and visit classrooms to see the program in action.

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

### ***A. BI-BOROUGH – Mrs. LaForgia, Chairperson***

Mrs. LaForgia reported that a meeting is scheduled for Thursday evening, January 9, 2003, 7:00 p.m. at Cherry Hill School in River Edge. Mr. Mohre presented Mrs.

LaForgia with an agenda for the meeting. Mr. Feigenson noted that he might be able to attend.

***B. BUILDING & GROUNDS – Mr. Walsh, Chairperson***

Mr. Walsh shared that he would like to arrange a meeting. It was agreed that the meeting would be scheduled for Thursday, January 16, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room. Mr. Feigenson noted his concern that there are still isolated incidents of jaywalking. Mr. Mohre stated that he had spoken to the Police who will continue to monitor both traffic and pedestrian safety around Oradell Public School. Mr. Mohre stated that he would issue a safety bulletin to parents on this issue.

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

In the absence of Mrs. Norian it was announced that a committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 24, 2003 at 8:45 a.m. in the conference room.

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

In the absence of Mr. Spadaccini it was announced that a tentative date is set for the Board's next finance meeting: January 15, 2003 at 8:15 p.m. in the conference room. Mr. Mohre will call Mr. Spadaccini to confirm the meeting date.

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

Mr. Julis noted that the Board would meet in Closed Session following the meeting to discuss personnel.

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

Mr. Gallow presented the following policies for first reading and promptly read the drafts to the Board and public:

- |                     |   |  |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Policy #4231/4231.1 | - | Staff Development; Inservice<br>Education/Visitation/Conferences |
| Policy #5020        | - | Role of Parents/Guardians  |

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

Mrs. Looram announced that a committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday evening, January 15, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room. Mr. Feigenson asked whether a meeting of OPS' key communicators was going to be scheduled. A meeting will be scheduled in late winter or early spring.

**X. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. O'Connor requested that the Board discuss the possible gift of window screens by the Oradell PTA to determine whether or not it is prepared to accept such a gift. Mr. Feigenson requested that the Building and Grounds Committee discuss the issue and make a recommendation to the Board as to whether or not the Board desires to move in that direction at this time. The item will be placed on the committee's meeting agenda. Mr. O'Connor also asked for clarification regarding the composition of the current PTA gift list. It was clarified by Mr. Feigenson and confirmed by Mr. Mohre that teachers, parents and administration all provided input. Mr. O'Connor also asked for clarification regarding the composition of the current PTA gift list. It was clarified by Mr. Feigenson and confirmed by Mr. Mohre that teachers, parents and administration all provided input.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business discussed.

**XII. CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by Mrs. LaForgia and seconded by Mr. Gallow that the Board adjourn to Closed Session at 8:38 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. Julis and seconded by Mrs. LaForgia that the Closed Session of the Meeting be adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey S. Mohre  
Superintendent/Acting Board Secretary



ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649

CLOSED PUBLIC WORK SESSION – JANUARY 8, 2003  
MINUTES

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Closed Public Work Session of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 8:55 p.m. by President Feigenson.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Julis, Mrs. LaForgia, Mrs. Landau, Mrs. Looram, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Feigenson

**ABSENT:** Mr. Spadaccini, Mrs. Norian

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey S. Mohre, Superintendent, Dr. John DiGiovachino, Director of Special Services and Mr. William Scott Ryan, Principal.

**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 administration presented information to the Board regarding the performances of non-tenured teaching staff.

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

Mr. Feigenson shared information pertaining to teacher contract negotiations.

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Julis, seconded by Mrs. LaForgia, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey S. Mohre  
Superintendent/Acting Board Secretary