

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

SPECIAL PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING – NOVEMBER 20, 2003

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Special Public Business Meeting of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 8:03 p.m. by President Feigenson.

II. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mr. Walsh.

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 and all persons requesting such notice on November 14, 2003.

IV. MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement was read by Mr. O'Connor.

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. Kramer, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake,
Mrs. Norian, Mr. Feigenson

ABSENT: Mr. Julis, Mr. Spadaccini

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey S. Mohre, Superintendent, Mr. John Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Mr. William Scott Ryan, Principal, 4 OPS teachers and twenty-nine residents (inclusive of some members of the Citizens Advisory Committee).

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

The public was asked to refrain from making any statements, or asking any questions, until after the presentation.

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

Mr. Mohre welcomed all and explained the purpose of the meeting – to present to the public possible renovations/additions to the school. He then introduced Mr. Alan Feigenson, Board President. Mr. Feigenson asked that all those in attendance kindly hold their questions until after Mr. Charles Koch gave his presentation.

Mr. Koch, architect, noted that the plan he was about to present was the end result of the Citizen's Advisory Committee's research, assessment, and needs identification process.

Mr. Koch then gave a power point presentation of the proposed facility site plan. He said that State funding would be maximized by renovating the existing structure rather than new construction.

Two major elements of the project are:

1. Programmatic – curriculum standards, technology, educational needs
2. Infrastructure – alarms, sprinklers, roof, doors, ADA, elevator, phone system etc.

After Mr. Koch's presentation, the following questions/issues were raised and/or discussed:

- Basement – renovate art/music rooms and create plan/work teacher center
- Clustering of grades – master plan layout
- Gym renovated into new IMC
- Kindergarten cluster has restrooms
- Recapture 3 classrooms (IMC)
- Open second floor in old gym (new IMC)
- New gym 5200 sq. ft.
- IMC/tech lab able to have several classes at one time
- Windows in old gym may have some changes
- IMC access to back lab – another entrance?
- We would have enough classrooms in plan to handle future enrollment.
- CAC Committee identified needs in four areas – Core Academics; Outdoor; Facilities; Media & Technology and then prioritized needs in each group
- Core Curriculum Standards are rigorous and will drive the building project

- Discussion of how the MPR addition will be used
- Air conditioning will be in all renovated areas except MPR addition
- 40 classrooms will result from the project
- Average class size and how it would change
- Safety and traffic issues in having Kindergarten students dropped off and picket up in one area – will have to be coordinated
- Elevator upgrade must be done as per State requirements
- Moving sixth grade to River Edge will not happen – State does not want Districts to get any smaller
- Playground is moved to new location, but retained
- How does new IMC compare to old IMC?

Mr. Mohre talked about the demographic study and increased enrollments. He also pointed out the increased core curriculum standards that demand additional space and also mentioned several sub-standard instructional spaces were currently housing educational programs.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Kramer, seconded by Dr. Westlake, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,


John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

