

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

**REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2003**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mr. O'Connor.

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 September 19, 2003.

IV. MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement was read by Mr. Kramer.

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

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey S. Mohre, Superintendent, Mr. John Esposito, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and one member of the community.

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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

VII. MINUTES

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Kramer, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Public Work Session Meeting of June 11, 2003.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

It was moved by Mr. Kramer, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Special Public Business Meeting of June 25, 2003.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

It was moved by Mr. Kramer, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Public Business Meeting of June 25, 2003.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

It was moved by Mr. Kramer, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Special Public Business Meeting of July 16, 2003.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

It was moved by Mr. Kramer, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Public Business Meeting of July 16, 2003.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Review of Minutes – Special Public Meeting, Thursday, August 7, 2003

Review of Minutes – Special Public Business Meeting in place of Public Work Session, Wednesday, September 10, 2003

One change to the Minutes, which had already been pointed out and corrected, was discussed briefly.

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

The Superintendent talked about the following issues:

- Thanked teachers and parents for a successful Back-to-School night last week. The second night, for Pre-K through Grade 3, is set for October 1, 2003.
- OPS is looking forward to receiving this year's assembly programs thanks to the continued generosity of our PTA. Mr. Ryan attended a programming showcase yesterday with the co-chairs of the programming committee and will be working with the staff and PTA in planning this year's program line-up.
- New Jersey school districts are still awaiting complete feedback regarding New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge exam administered to third and fourth graders last spring. The feedback received thus far (grade 4 only) reflects increases in the percentage of children who are demonstrating that they are meeting the rigorous standards reflected in the New Jersey Core Curricula.
- The upcoming River Dell school Referendum scheduled for Tuesday, September 30, 2003, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
- The New Jersey School Boards Annual Convention scheduled for October 22-24, 2003.

Mr. Feigenson addressed several issues:

- He attended a NJSBA dinner meeting regarding how to run effective board meetings. He asked Mr. Esposito to copy and distribute a handout from that session.
- A seminar on school financing will be held October 1, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the Ridgewood High School, and he encouraged all to attend.
- Thanked Mr. Esposito for sending a letter with the resolution of support for the River Dell referendum to the Town News.
- He noted that there have been articles in local papers related to the increasing cost of special education in school districts in New Jersey.

- He went to the town council meeting the previous night, and that body approved allocating ten parking spaces for teachers behind the municipal building. Once signs are made, the spaces will become available.
- The gym floor was damaged last Saturday when the town football team wore rubber cleats inside, despite the fact that the person in charge was specifically asked beforehand not to do so. The Board agreed with the administration that the football league should pay for the floor to be refinished, and Mr. Esposito will send a letter to that organization requesting payment of \$864.00.
- He asked the Board and administration to explore the feasibility of hiring a vice-principal for next year.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

A. BI-BOROUGH – Dr. Westlake, Chairperson

The next meeting was rescheduled to October 9, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the River Dell school.

B. BUILDING & GROUNDS - Mr. O'Connor, Chairperson

Meeting scheduled for October 15, 2003 following the regular Board session.

C. CURRICULUM - Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

There was no report given.

1. Approval/Adoption of the 5-Year Plan for Curriculum Revision – It was moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board adopt the 5-Year Plan for Curriculum Revision, effective for the school years 2003/2004 – 2007/2008.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

2. Approval/Adoption of Pupil Performance Objectives: 2003/2004 & 2004/2005 School Years – It was moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the following pupil Performance Objectives for the 2003/2004 & 2004/2005 school years (as reviewed and accepted by the NJ Department of Education):
 - a. Following classroom instruction in phonemic skills as part of a balanced literacy program, students in first grade will demonstrate

growth in their abilities to apply their knowledge of letters and sounds as evidenced by an average group score of 75% or higher on a locally developed assessment by June 2005.

- b. Following classroom instruction in writing skills as listed in the local curriculum guide, including content, mechanics and usage, third grade students will demonstrate the ability to express themselves in writing as evidenced by an average "pre to post assessment" group gain of .5 or higher on a scale of 5.0 on a writing sample assessed by teachers using a locally adopted rubric by June, 2005.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

3. Adoption of District Goals for the 2003/2004 School Year – It was moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board adopt the following District goals for the 2003/04 school year:

Balanced Literacy: To further promote a solid literacy foundation in the primary grades by engaging both teachers and students in learning opportunities that combine the best practices of phonics instruction and the whole-language approach via a *balanced literacy* instructional framework (specifically, exploring the relationship between letters and sounds in a systematic fashion and designing activities that integrate interesting stories and varied writing experiences).

Differentiated Instruction: To provide systemic professional development in the area of *differentiating instruction* that promotes the abilities of teachers to meet the challenges of providing an academically responsive curriculum for all learners within the structure of the heterogeneous classroom.

Community Outreach: To further engage the Oradell Public School community via the design of various outreach activities.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

4. Approval of 2003/04 Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement – It was moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the *Uniform Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials* for the 2003/04 school year.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

D. FINANCE - Mr. Spadaccini, Chairperson

A meeting will be scheduled for October on a date to be determined.

1. Monthly Certifications – It was moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, that the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Moneys for the month end, August, 2003, 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 2003/04 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 Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, that the invoices for the period July 31, 2003 through August 27, 2003, be approved as follows:

Fund 11 (<i>General Current Expense</i>)	\$294,981.97
Fund 12 (<i>Capital Outlay</i>)	\$ 6,437.00
Fund 20 (<i>Special Revenue Funds</i>)	\$.00
Fund 40 (<i>Debt Service Fund</i>)	\$.00
Fund 55 (<i>Milk</i>)	\$.00
Fund 50 (<i>Summer School</i>)	\$ 3,379.87
Fund 51 (<i>Region V</i>)	\$ <u>1,203.94</u>
TOTAL	\$306,002.78

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

3. Payment of Invoices – It was moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, that the invoices for the period August 28, 2003 through September 24, 2003, be approved as follows:

Fund 11 (<i>General Current Expense</i>)	\$453,736.92
Fund 12 (<i>Capital Outlay</i>)	\$ 5,405.14
Fund 20 (<i>Special Revenue Funds</i>)	\$.00

Fund 40 (<i>Debt Service Fund</i>)	\$.00
Fund 55 (<i>Milk</i>)	\$.00
Fund 50 (<i>Summer School</i>)	\$	802.00
Fund 51 (<i>Region V</i>)	\$	<u>5,758.13</u>
TOTAL		\$465,701.19

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

4. Transfer of Funds – It was moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, that the Board approve the following transfer of funds as noted:

**Meeting of September 24, 2003
Transfer of Funds***

#	From Account (Credit)	To Account (Debit)	Credit	Debit
1	11-190-100-340-00-0234	11-190-100-440-00-0000	\$277.48	\$277.48
		Total	\$277.48	\$277.48

* Transaction Date For Above Transfer August 31, 2003

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

5. Non-Public School Technology Initiative Program Agreement/Grant for the 2003/2004 School Year – It was moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the NJ Non-Public School Technology Initiative Program Agreement with St. Joseph Parochial School for the 2003/2004 school year and furthermore authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute the agreement necessary for administering the aforementioned program, not to exceed the District’s entitlement for the 2003/2004 school year.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

- E. PERSONNEL - Mr. Julis, Chairperson

No report was given.

1. Approval of Substitute Teacher(s) for the 2003/04 School Year – It was moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the appointment of the following individual(s) as substitute teacher(s) for the 2003/04 school year, at a per diem rate of \$75.00 which increases to \$80.00 per day after the 10th day of service during the 2003/04 school year:

Mary F. Carnevale

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

2. Retroactive Approval of Student Teacher Assignment – It was moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve Stefanie Pace, a student of William Paterson University, to perform her student teaching assignment with Mrs. Gail Tobey (Grade 3), cooperating teacher, commencing September 3, 2003 through December 11, 2003.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

3. Retroactive Approval of Student Teacher Assignment – It was moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Kramer, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve Sarah Welence, a student of Fairleigh Dickinson University, to perform her student teaching assignment with Mrs. Corinne Lynch (Technology), and Mrs. Carol Blakeslee (Grade 5), cooperating teachers, commencing September 3, 2003 through December 23, 2003.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

F. POLICY – Mr. Gallow, Chairperson

No report was given.

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS - Mr. Walsh, Chairperson

Mr. Walsh confirmed the meeting set for October 15, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.

X. OLD BUSINESS

1. Mr. Esposito noted that the window project is moving forward.
2. Answering an inquiry made by Mr. Walsh, Mr. Mohre noted that only one class placement letter was returned to OPS following the school's August mailing. That issue has been satisfactorily resolved. A positive comment was made as to the effectiveness of placing "DO NOT FORWARD" on all envelopes mailed to the students' homes. It was agreed that a re-enrollment is not necessary at this time.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed the upcoming River Dell referendum, and the potential for a similar project here in Oradell.

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mrs. Landau stated that she will be the PTA liaison to the Board of Education this year. Topics discussed included screens, District goals and portfolio assessments.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY)

It was moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mr. Kramer, that the Board adjourn to Closed Session at 8:55 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. O'Connor, seconded by Mrs. Norian, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Esposito". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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

**CLOSED SESSION REGULAR PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2003**

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 9:00 p.m. by President Feigenson.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Gallow, Mr. Julis, Mr. Kramer, Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake, Mrs. Norian, Mr.
Feigenson

Also present was Mr. Jeffrey S. 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 talked about the negotiations process with Mr. Scott Ryan, Principal, and Dr. John DiGiovachino, Director of Special Services and Curriculum Coordinator. Mr. Feigenson gave examples of the salaries and benefits that people in similar positions in other districts receive as compensation. Following a discussion, a majority of the Board agreed to the counterproposal offered to the administrators by Mr. Feigenson.

At approximately 9:45 p.m., Mr. Mohre and Mr. Esposito left the meeting so the Board could discuss the Superintendent's evaluation for the 2002/03 school year.

III. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. O'Connor, seconded by Mrs. Norian, that the Closed Session of the meeting be adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



John Esposito
Business Administrator/Board Secretary