

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

**PUBLIC WORK SESSION – SEPTEMBER 13, 2006**

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Public Work Session Meeting of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President Halligan.

**II. FLAG SALUTE**

The flag was lead by Mr. Walsh.

**III. SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT**

The Sunshine Law Statement was read by President Halligan.

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 and the Oradell Free Public Library, faxed to the Town News, The Record and all persons requesting such notice.

**IV. MISSION STATEMENT**

The Mission Statement was read by Dr. Westlake.

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**

**Ayes:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson,  
Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Halligan

**Absent:** Mr. Spadaccini arrived at 7:15 p.m.

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, Ms. Nancy Ciavaglia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Mr. James Pelleccia and Mr. Bob O'Brien, Turner Construction, and approximately 60 members from the public.

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

President Halligan explained the format for the Public Work session meeting which is generally not open to the public for general questions. President Halligan stated that tonight's meeting would be an exception and would be open to the public for questions on the agenda as well as other questions.

Terry McGill asked if the district received its CO.

Jim Pelleccia from Turner Construction commented that there are no life safety issues in the building and the code officials are comfortable that all items on the punch list have been cleaned up.

Alan Feigenson asked about the completion dates for the gym and the repair work to the sidewalks and the cost of the work..

Serafina Bergelt asked questions on the orange fencing, air quality test and the availability of the report, the new calendar, and the location of fifth grade students lining up outside. Mrs. Bergelt commented that the math placement for the sixth grade students are afforded the same time as the sixth graders in River Edge so all students are at the same level upon getting to the Middle School.

Rob Pizzuto asked for clarification on the approval of the Emergency Plan.

Jackie Rader asked about construction workers parking and what the school work policy will be for vacations taken during new school days added to the calendar.

Paul Tina asked questions about the oversight of the project, managing the budget, payment to the general contractor, penalties accrued, and performance assessment of the general contractor. Mr. Tina commented that the delay in school opening on September 12<sup>th</sup> was a hardship for many parents in finding daycare for their children.

Melissa Pizza asked if the heating units and white boards were in place in the new classroom for September 18<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Gardner asked if the manufacturer has been contacted about the HVAC units.

Reed Gidez asked questions as to whether this was the first major milestone missed, readiness of the building for the first day of school, using a mass email to notify parents of emergencies.

Terry McGill commented to the board that there should be another plan in place and not to rely on the OEA to make phone calls in the case school does not open on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mark Potolsky asked whether the construction project incurred extra costs, and about the costs associated with the extra first grade class. In addition, Mr. Potolsky asked whether the district will be able to satisfy the physical education requirements without a gym, and if the district would sustain a penalty without a gym.

Beth Oppel asked questions about the additional first grade class.

MaryEllen Tucker asked if the school was ready to open on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup> and if an announcement to that effect will be posted on the web.

John Magliula asked for clarification about inspections done on the building and about the General Contractor's contract to clean up the school.

Tomasina Schwartz questioned the adult supervision for morning drop off and asked if the district hired a professional cleanup company.

Ronni Weinkauff commented on the incoming kindergarten class and the need to address anticipating increases in adding additional sections.

Mary Ladd commented on the orange fencing and asked the board to look at an alternative.

Tracy Shoeburg asked questions about the Emergency Plan and the number of adults in the auditorium at morning drop-off.

Gina Principato asked about the procedure to contact parents if school doesn't open.

Barbara Malestfina commented on the parking issue.

Kim Gastelu asked about the time frame for the fifth and sixth grade math placement.

Trish Lyons asked if the music program was affected by the construction. Mrs. Lyons also asked if the website should be used for delayed school openings.

Ellen Selina commented on the orange fencing and the danger of the attachment of the fencing to the metal poles.

Karla Tombaugh asked questions regarding the change orders listed on the agenda.

Karen Barino asked about the possibility of a floating aide for kindergarten toilet duty.

Elizabeth Bender asked how long the orange fencing will be up.

Rita Alvarez asked about the orange fencing and additional adults on duty at drop-off.

## **VII. MINUTES**

REVIEW OF MINUTES – Regular Public Session Meeting July 26, 2006  
Regular Public Session Meeting and Closed Session Meeting of Wednesday,  
August 23, 2006.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

## **VIII. CORRESPONDENCE**

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**IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/BOARD PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

President Halligan read a prepared statement informing the public of the details with regards to the building project and the opening of school on Monday, September 18, 2006.

Mr. Mohre addressed the delayed school opening due to construction related delays. He stated that the Board and school administration had met continually with project officials throughout the summer to review the work, receive progress updates, and make decisions regarding potentials change orders. He noted that at every juncture, the District had received assurances that the project was going to be completed in time for the scheduled September 12<sup>th</sup> opening. He added that such assurance was received as late as Friday afternoon September 9<sup>th</sup>.

Upon learning on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at approximately noontime, that the General Contractor had communicated to the local building inspector that he would not be ready for a 6:00 p.m. fire and electrical inspection later that day, it was decided that a postponement of the opening of school was imminent.

Mr. Mohre thanked the Oradell Police department and the teaching staff for their assistance in notifying OPS' families. He stated that the Board and administration were upset with the District's contractor and construction manager and would be seeking whatever relief the District believed it was entitled to, based on contractual agreements. He added that discussions were and will be continuing with all project officials.

Mr. Mohre declared that the primary focus was getting the children's school open on Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. He apologized for any hardships that the delay had caused and stated that he realized that this scenario was an inconvenience to OPS' parents and a disappointment to the students.

**X. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION**

A. BI-BOROUGH - Dr. Westlake, Chairperson reported that a meeting will be a meeting held this month.

B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS - Mr. Schwartz, Chairperson

1. Approval of School Emergency Preparedness Plan – It is hereby moved by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approves and adopts the School Emergency Preparedness Plan for the 2006-2007 school year.

Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Gardner and Mr. Walsh commented.

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Norian, Mr. Schwartz,  
Mr. Spadaccini, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Halligan

**Nays:** Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Walsh

C. CURRICULUM - Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

D. FINANCE - Mr. Spadaccini, Chairperson

1. Referendum Change Order #5: It is hereby moved by Mr. Gallow, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in concert with the Business Administrator, that the Board approves Change Order #5 of the contract with Integrated Construction Enterprises, Inc., in connection with the referendum as submitted and approved by Seyffer & Koch, and furthermore authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to complete and execute all pertinent paperwork summarized as follows:

- New floor finish in Room 102 at a cost of \$4,295.00
- Credit-eliminate low walls at computer tables (\$1,644.00)
- New base cabinet and sink in room 102 at a cost of \$2,785.00

**Total amount of this change order: \$5,436.00**

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson,  
Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake,  
Mr. Halligan

**Nays:** None

2. Referendum Change Order #6: It is hereby moved by Mr. Gallow, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in concert with the Business Administrator, that the Board approves Change Order #6 of the contract with Integrated Construction Enterprises, Inc., in connection with the referendum as submitted and approved by Seyffer & Koch, and furthermore authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to complete and execute all pertinent paperwork summarized as follows:

- New carpet in basement corridor at a cost of \$11,599.00

**Total amount of this change order: \$11,599.00**

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson,  
Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake,  
Mr. Halligan

**Nays:** None

3. Referendum Change Order #7: It is hereby moved by Mr. Gallow, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in concert with the Business Administrator, that the Board approves Change Order #7 of the contract with Integrated Construction Enterprises, Inc., in connection with the referendum as submitted and approved by Seyffer & Koch, and furthermore authorizes the Business

Administrator/Board Secretary to complete and execute all pertinent paperwork summarized as follows:

- Option 1- supply and install new door in room 138 at a cost \$4,895.00

**Total amount of this change order: \$4,895.00**

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson,  
Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake,  
Mr. Halligan  
**Nays:** None

E. PERSONNEL – Mr. Gallow, Chairperson

1. Rescind Appointment of Part-time Technology Teacher – It is hereby moved by Mr. Gallow, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board rescinds a previously approved resolution on August 30, 2006 - Personnel Item E-13 appointing Melissa Golden at (.5) of BA Step 1 at the annual salary of \$18,313.50 effective September 1, 2006- June 30, 2007.

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson,  
Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake,  
Mr. Halligan  
**Nays:** None

2. Appointment of Elementary Classroom Teacher – It is hereby moved by Mr. Gallow, seconded by Dr. Westlake upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the appointment of Melissa Golden at BA Step 1, at the annual salary of \$36,627.00 effective September 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007.

(Note: Until a contract agreement is ratified for the 2006/07 school year by the Oradell Board of Education and the Oradell Education Association, the 2005/06 salary guide will remain in effect. All adjustments will be made after the settlement of the new contract.)

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson,  
Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake,  
Mr. Halligan  
**Nays:** None

3. Approval of Substitute Teachers for the 2006/07 School Year – It is hereby moved by Mr. Gallow, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the appointment of the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2006/07 school year, at a per diem rate of \$75.00 which increases to \$80.00 per day after the 10<sup>th</sup> day of service during the 2006/07 school year:



Sheryl Canino  
Mary Cedzidlo  
Beth Erben  
Loren Giermanski  
Marisin Gladstone  
Michael Kouyoumdjian  
Kaitlin Low

Tanya Mendes  
Patricia Nicoletti  
Lynn O'Connor  
Elisa Schleiger  
Linda Simonetti  
John Spillane  
Marianne Winston

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Halligan  
**Nays:** None

4. Approval of Substitute Teachers for the 2006/07 School Year – It is hereby moved by Mr. Gallow, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the appointment of the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2006/07 school year, at a per diem rate of \$75.00 which increases to \$80.00 per day after the 10<sup>th</sup> day of service during the 2006/07 school year:

Cheryl Lombardo  
Melissa Golden

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Halligan  
**Nays:** None

5. Appointment of Part-Time Substitute Custodian- It is hereby moved by Mr. Gallow, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board retroactively approves Donald Kanarr III as a part-time substitute custodian at an hourly wage of \$15.00 effective September 10, 2006.

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Halligan  
**Nays:** None

F. POLICY – Mr. Walsh, Chairperson

1. First Reading of Policy #4119.22 – Conduct and Dress- It is hereby moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Dr. Westlake, that the Board approves the first reading of Policy #4119.22 – Conduct and Dress.

Board members commented about the following: definition of casual dress, the person responsible for the enforcement of the policy and if the policy was shared with the staff.

**ROLL CALL**

**Ayes:** Mr. Gallow, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Norian,  
Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Spadaccini, Dr. Westlake,  
Mr. Halligan  
**Nays:** Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Walsh

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS – Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson

H. NJSBA/BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT – Mr. Walsh, Delegate reported that he attended two meetings. Mr. Walsh asked if he could attend a legislative dinner meeting on September 14, 2006.

I. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson

**XI. OLD BUSINESS**

**XII. NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Robertson commented on the article in The Record regarding school districts pooling their money and questioned if Oradell considered joining the Consortium.

President Halligan thanked the teachers and also Mr. Mohre and Ms. Ciavaglia for all their time, dedication and long hours worked during the construction project.

1. Board of Education Annual Retreat – Ms. Diane Morris, NJSBA Facilitator

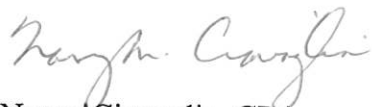
**XIII. CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY)**

There was no closed session.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

It is hereby moved by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mrs. Robertson that the Board adjourned the meeting at 10:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Ciavaglia, CPA  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary