

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

WORK SESSION – September 11, 2007

Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Public Work Session Meeting of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 8:06 p.m. by President Gardner.

II. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mr. Walsh.

III. SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT

The Sunshine Law Statement was read by President Gardner.

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 Ridgewood News, The Record and all persons requesting such notice.

IV. MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission Statement was read by Mr. Spadaccini.

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, Mrs. Norian arrived at 8:22 p.m., Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Schwartz, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Spadaccini arrived at 8:14 p.m., Mr. Gardner

Absent: None

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, Mrs. Barbara Tudek, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

VII. MINUTES

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES –

- July 25, 2007

Closed Sessions #1,#2 and Regular Session

- August 22, 2007 Regular Session, Closed Session

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

1. It is hereby moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Schwartz that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the following minutes
 - June 27, 2007 Regular Session Meeting, Closed Session
 - July 11, 2007 Regular Session Meeting, Closed Session
 - July 24, 2007 Board Retreat

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Gardner

Nays: None

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

Mr. Mohre acknowledged and thanked the entire OPS staff for making Opening Day 2007 such a huge success! He reported that OPS welcomed 788 students on September 5th and added that the children were greeted by a clean school, new spaces for learning and development, manicured grounds, new supplies and materials, and classrooms that were warm and inviting – thus setting a positive tone for a year of discovery and learning.

Mr. Mohre announced a new school-home communications initiative: Wednesday Web Watch. Wednesday Web Watch will go into effect tomorrow! The concept is a simple one ... OPS offices will rely more on our web site and less on copy machines to send school-home communications to our parents. An alert flyer will be going to parents on September 12, 2007 and will contain a request that parents visit the school web-site (www.oradellschool.org) on Wednesdays to view and/or print various school-home communications (access is realized by clicking on the Notices button located on the left side of the homepage). In the event a "pre" Wednesday situation/event arises warranting the issuance of a time sensitive school-home communication, paper distribution will occur. Parents who do not have access to the Internet have been asked to notify the Main Office so that paper communications can be sent to them. It is hoped that the new Wednesday Web Watch feature will enhance communications and be more environmentally friendly! It will be tested tomorrow (Wed.) as BTSN info will be posted on the site.

Mr. Mohre announced the following Back-to-School Nights for September:

- September 19th – Grades Pre K –3
- September 26th - Grades 4-6

7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Mr. Ryan's communication outlines exact times for various grade levels.

Mr. Mohre reminded all present that the OPS Rededication Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, October 20, 2007, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. He explained that an invitation will be mailed to all members of the school community on or about September 20th. He noted that a program has been developed and shared such with the Board.

Mr. Mohre presented to the Board the debut of the Tri-District Professional Learning Academy. The academy, sponsored by the Oradell, River Edge, and River Dell School Districts, is offering after-school professional development in-service workshops to faculty this fall. The following courses will be offered based on the three districts' professional Development Plans and various Tri-District curriculum initiatives: Using Rubrics Effectively in the Teaching and Assessment of Writing; Setting Up the Writing Workshop and Keeping it Running Smoothly, Grades K-2; Setting Up the Reading Workshop and Keeping it Running Smoothly, Grades K-2; Physical Science, K-6; Teacher Book Club: Exploring Reading Comprehension Strategies, K-12; A Practical Approach to Teaching Mathematics, Grades 3-6; Digital Portfolios and a Class Website, K-12; Behavior Intervention for Students; Integrating Study Skills in the Content-Area Classroom, K-12.

Mr. Mohre extended Happy New Year wishes to OPS families who will be observing the Rosh Hashanah Holiday. He reminded those present that school will be closed this Thursday and Friday.

Mrs. Tudek advised the board that on Page 2 of the agenda, there is a resolution to authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to pay bills before September 27th, the next board meeting.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

A. BI-BOROUGH - Dr. Westlake, Chairperson stated that at the next committee meeting a discussion regarding shared services will be held with the town. At this meeting, Mr. Schwartz asked that additional parking be brought up.

B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS - Mr. Gallow, Chairperson

C. CURRICULUM - Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson
Mr. Mohre stated he would revise and re-issue the district action plans for achievement of district goals.

D. FINANCE - Mr. Spadaccini, Chairperson

1. Payment of September 2007 Bills/Invoices – It is hereby moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Norian that the Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to pay bills during the month of September 2007 with retroactive approval at the next scheduled Regular Public Business Meeting of the Oradell Board of Education.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Gardner

Nays: None

E. PERSONNEL – Mr. Schwartz, Chairperson

1. Salary Change - It is hereby moved by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mrs. Norian, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves change in salary for Judith Squeglia, Instructional Aide from .89%, \$15,840.22 to 1.0 FTE at a salary of \$17,798.00 retroactive to September 1, 2007.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson Mr. Schwartz,
Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Spadaccini,
Mr. Gardner

Nays: Mr. Walsh

2. Faculty at Park Academy 2007-2008 – It is hereby moved by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board retroactively approves the appointment of the following personnel for Region V's Park Academy, for the 2007-2008 school year

Luanne McGlone, Teacher Assistant	\$18,868.00
Cheryl Gardner, Teacher/Nurse	\$46,100 +\$4,500 Nurse stipend for a total salary of \$50,600.00

Note: The above faculty work within the Park Academy, a special education program created and coordinated by Region V and administered by the Oradell Public School District. Salary and benefits associated with said positions are paid for with tuition moneys collected by the Oradell Business Office from the students' home districts. Such expenses were not a part of and in no way impacted the Oradell Public School's budget.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson Mr. Schwartz,
Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake,
Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Gardner

Nays: None

3. P/T Music Teacher – It is hereby moved by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon recommendation of he Superintendent, that the Board appoint Mr. Joseph Puliafico to the position of part time Music teacher (.2 FTE) at an annual salary of \$8,200 (one-fifth of the BA Step 1 Salary of \$41,000). Said position is without health benefits based on part time nature of position (.2).

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson Mr. Schwartz,
Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake,
Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Gardner

Mrs. Robertson asked about the exit meeting for sixth grade parents. Mrs. Robertson also expressed concerns about the technology plan and was assured that no action would be taken on the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 portions of the plan until further discussion with the board. Mr. Mohre noted that the district would not make technology purchases for the 2008-2009 school year relevant to the District's Technology Plan without prior discussion with the Board's Finance Committee.

Mr. Walsh asked if he could attend Paragon Credit Union courses. The Board withheld a decision on Mr. Walsh's request to take Paragon Credit Union Courses pending further investigation by the Superintendent.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Robertson inquired about the world language program in River Edge. She noted that she had learned, via a local dance class, that River Edge was no longer offering French. She asked Mr. Mohre if he were aware. Mr. Mohre stated that he was not aware and that he would make inquiry to River Edge Superintendent, Mrs. Steinbauer.

XII. CLOSED SESSION

It is hereby moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Dr. Westlake that the Board adjourn to Closed Session at 10:08 p.m.

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 is hereby moved Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Norian that the meeting adjourn at 10:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Tudek
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Nays: None

- F. POLICY – Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Chairperson stated that the next committee meeting is tentatively set for Sept 17th at 12:15.
- G. PUBLIC RELATIONS – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson commented that the committee needs to set up a date to meet.
- H. NJSBA/BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT – Mr. Walsh, Delegate reminded the Board members of the NJSBA conference in Atlantic City in October.
- I. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson commented that traffic at OPS is moving better.
 - 1. Approval of School Emergency Plan – It is hereby moved by Mrs. Robertson, seconded by Dr. Westlake upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approves and adopts the School Emergency Preparedness Plan for the 2007-2008 school year.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson Mr. Schwartz,
Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Spadaccini,
Mr. Gardner

Nays: Mr. Walsh

X. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Discussion of resolution regarding Zero Tolerance of Guns Act. Mrs. Robertson asked for the definition of a gun.
- 2. Board members discussed the building re-dedication plaque proposals.

It is hereby moved by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Walsh, that the Board approves the Re-dedication plaque as a combination of the drafts presented by Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Mohre.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson Mr. Schwartz,
Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake,
Mr. Spadaccini Mr. Gardner

Nays: None

Mr. Spadaccini asked to add to the punch list the parking lot. Mr. Spadaccini commented on OPS Back to School Night conflicting with River Dell's.

Mrs. Robertson asked for a report on test scores. Mr. Mohre indicated he would have the test scores at the October 17, 2007.