

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

**BUDGET PRESENTATION/REGULAR SESSION
March 26, 2008**

MINUTES

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting of the Oradell Board of Education was called to order at 8:07 p.m. by President Gardner.
- II. **FLAG SALUTE** – The Flag Salute was led by Mrs. Robertson.
- 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, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake arrived at 8:55 p.m., Mr. Spadaccini, Mr. Gardner

Also present were: Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, Ms. Rita Cioppi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and approximately 17 members of the public.

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

Mercedes Faunde inquired about the background of the new Supervisor of Special Services.

The following board members also posed questions relating to the 2008-2009 proposed school year budget:

- Mrs. Robertson stated for the record, “My understanding that the percentage districts get from the State have more to do with the adequacy per student costs than the district’s property or wealth value. (I) Mrs. Robertson asked Mr. Mohre to confirm that Oradell’s per pupil costs is above the state average costs recommended for elementary school. Mr. Mohre advised the information he had, stated Oradell per pupil cost was below the state average. Mrs. Robertson then requested Mr. Mohre to confirm Oradell per pupil costs to what the state adequacy amount is and also requested a breakdown by pupil of the Oradell costs”.
- Ms. Cioppi noted that she would provide the documentation regarding OPS’ below adequacy standard at the board’s next meeting.
- Mr. Walsh asked if the Oradell Public School pays for the energy use of the streetlights.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

A. BI-BOROUGH - Dr. Westlake, Chairperson

B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS - Mr. Gallow, Chairperson

Mrs. Robertson asked if the committee would look into the refurbishment of the backfield.

C. CURRICULUM - Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson

D. FINANCE - Mr. Spadaccini, Chairperson

On a motion by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried by roll call vote, the Board approved D2 ,D3, D4 (Mr. Walsh abstained) D5.

1. Payment of Invoices – It is hereby moved that the invoices for the period of February 28, 2008 through March 26, 2008 be approved as follows:

Fund 10 (General Current Expense)	\$ 983,016.47
Fund 12 (Capital Outlay)	\$ 0.00
Fund 20 (Special Revenue Funds)	\$ 32,611.20
Fund 30 (Capital Projects Funds)	\$ 2,510.66
Fund 40 (Debt Service Fund)	\$ 0.00
Fund 50 (Summer School)	\$ 0.00
Fund 51 (Region V)	\$ 0.00
Fund 55 (Milk)	\$ 0.00
Fund 63 (Schaefer Explorations)	\$ 0.00
Fund 64 (Ntl School Lunch Prog)	\$ 583.36
Fund 65 (Park Academy)	\$ 16,504.84
Total	\$ 1,035,226.53

2. Monthly Certifications – It is hereby moved that the Financial Report of the Board Secretary for the month end February 2008, be retroactively accepted, and furthermore, that the Board certify that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.(10e) that no major account or fund in the 2007/2008 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.
3. Renewal to Continue Membership in NESBIG and the Indemnity and Trust Agreement – It is hereby moved that the Board approves the following:

Whereas a number of Boards of Education in Bergen County have joined together to form a Joint Insurance Group as permitted by NJ Title 18A-18B and;

Whereas, said Group was approved effective July 1, 1985 by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date and;

Whereas, the Bylaws and regulations governing the creation and operation of this Insurance Group contain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Group, and;

Whereas the Board of Education of Oradell has determined that membership in the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group is in the best interest of the District;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Board of Education of Oradell does hereby agree to renew membership in the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group and hereby accept the Bylaws as approved and adopted. The renewal term is from **July 1, 2008-June 30, 2010**.

Be it further resolved that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized to execute the application for membership and the accompanying certification on behalf of the District and;

Be it further resolved that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the group as are required by the Group’s Bylaws and to deliver the same to the executive Director.

4. Conferences/Workshops 2007-2008 School Year - Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approves, the below listed staff members/board members to attend the following conference (and related expenses) as outlined in the A5 School District Accountability Act:

Name: Rita Cioppi, BA/BS

Conference/Seminar/Workshop: NJASBO Annual Conference

Date: May 7, 8, 9 2008

Location: Atlantic City, NJ

Hotel/Parking: \$125.00

Registration: \$235.00

Mileage/Tolls/Meals: \$210.00

Name: Susan Aroldi

Conference/Seminar/Workshop: Winners-100 Best Books for Children K-6

Date: April 30, 2008
Location: Whippany, NJ
Registration: \$179.00
Mileage/Tolls: \$30.00

Name: John Walsh
Conference/Seminar/Workshop: NJSBA Legislative Committee
Seminar with Governor Corzine
Date: April 5, 2008
Location: Crossroads South Middle School, South Brunswick NJ
Registration: 0
Mileage/Tolls: \$65.90

5. Grant Application Submission – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board acknowledge the submission of a grant application to the Emil Buehler Foundation, Inc.

E. PERSONNEL – Mr. Schwartz, Chairperson

1. Appointment of Supervisor of Special Education/Student Support Services – It is hereby moved by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the appointment of Mrs. Lisa Bernardo to the position of Supervisor of Special Education and Student Support Services effective on or about May 26, 2008 through June 30, 2008 at an annual pro-rated salary of \$85,000.00.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Schwartz,
Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Spadaccini
Nays: None
Abstain: Mr. Gardner

2. Retirement of Custodian – It is hereby moved by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board acknowledge with deep appreciation and gratitude the retirement of Mr. Thomas Murray, Custodian, effective March 31, 2008.

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. Approval of Unpaid Leave of Absence – It is hereby moved Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board retroactively approve an unpaid leave of absence under the New

Jersey Family Leave Act for Mrs. Leigh Anne Giacolone, for the period of February 29 through March 20, 2008.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Schwartz,
Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Spadaccini
Mr. Gardner
Nays: None

4. * *The Board tabled taking action on this resolution* -Reinstatement of Increment – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the reinstatement of a salary increment and adjustment retroactive to March 1, 2008 for an employee whose name is on file in the district’s Central Office.
5. Resignation of Treasurer of School Monies – It is hereby moved by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board accepts the resignation of Roy Rossow, Treasurer of School Monies effective March 28, 2008.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Schwartz,
Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Spadaccini
Mr. Gardner
Nays: None

6. Appointment of Treasurer of School Monies – It is hereby moved Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board appoints Barbara Tudek to the position of Treasurer of School Monies, at a salary of \$2,500.00 (to be prorated), effective March 31, 2008 through June 30, 2008 or until the re-appointment of a Custodian of Municipal Monies of the Borough of Oradell.

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Schwartz,
Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Spadaccini
Mr. Gardner
Nays: None

7. Approval of Nurse Substitutes for the 2007/08 School Year – It is hereby moved by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Dr. Westlake, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the appointment of the following individual as nurse substitute teacher for the 2007/08 school year, at a per diem rate of \$80.00 which increases to \$85.00 per day after the 10th day of service during the 2007/08 school year:

Judith Lewis

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Schwartz,
Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Spadaccini
Mr. Gardner
Nays: None

- F. POLICY – Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Chairperson
- G. PUBLIC RELATIONS – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson
- H. NJSBA/BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT – Mr. Walsh, Delegate
- I. PUBLIC SAFETY – Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson spoke about discussions between the Oradell Borough, Oradell Public School and Boswell Engineering concerning making the drop off points for the students safer and finding a way to accommodate the 10 staff parking spots currently in the Municipal lot.

X. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Some of the members of the board suggested having the 90 minutes presentation on MAP testing and inviting the community, teachers, River Edge and River Dell. The other board members felt the decision should come from the school administration and curriculum before the demo is given. After board discussion regarding MAP testing presentation, a motion made by Mrs. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Gardner, and carried by roll call vote of the board 6-3 (Mr. Gallow, Mrs. Norian, Dr. Westlake voting no.) approved the presentation of MAP testing.
- 2. On a motion by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried by roll call vote of the board 9-0. the board approved all future board meetings to be taped in accordance with the amended policy #9326.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

At 10:00 p.m., Dr. Westlake left the meeting.

- 1. After board discussion of the \$500 donation to Dollar\$ & Sense, a motion was made by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Gallow and carried by roll call vote of the board 8-0-1 (Dr. Westlake absent) the board voted to table this issue until the April 9th board meeting.

Some board members expressed concerns over the Willy Wonka chocolates being purchased at the school play. If candy has any influence of peanuts, it could cause allergic reactions to students, if not properly monitored by parents. We need to safe guard distribution. The play is scheduled for Wednesday, may 21st and Thursday, May 22nd featuring 126 students.

Mr. Spadaccini stated that the construction right a way field should be restored to its original condition. Dou Parcels said the girl's softball field is very sandy and the cost to fix it is being proposed at too high an amount.

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The meeting opened to the public at 10:08 pm.

The following members of the public posed questions:
Julie Peterson, Tomasina Schwartz, Yolanda Perez

The public expressed interest in the following:


- Liked the idea of MAP testing presentation
- Information regarding Pre-K Autistic program
- Is OPS using the most up to date textbooks?
- Is it possible to have the minutes on the web site?
- Is the district getting funds for recycling paper?

XIII. CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY) – None at this time

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

It is hereby moved by Mr. Spadaccini, seconded by Mrs. Norian that the meeting adjourn at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rita Cioppi
Business Administrator/Board Secretary