

ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649

WORK SESSION MEETING – May 14, 2008

MINUTES

- I. The **Work Session Meeting** was called to order at 8:09 PM by President Gardner.
- II. The **FLAG SALUTE** was led by Mr. Murphy.
- III. 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 Record and all persons requesting such notice.

- IV. The **MISSION STATEMENT** was read by Mr. Schwartz.

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. Murphy, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Samuel, Mr. Walsh,  
Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Gardner

**Absent:** Dr. Westlake

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, Ms. Rita Cioppi, BA/BS, Mrs. Nancy Stern, NJSBA Field Representative, Mrs. Lisa Bernardo, Supervisor of Special Services, and approximately 11 members of the public.

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

The meeting was open to the public at 8:11 p.m.

Mrs. Lisa Bernardo thanked the board for the opportunity to work in the Oradell Public School as the Supervisor of Special Services.

Mr. Mark Potolski welcomed Mrs. Bernardo as the new Supervisor of Special Services. He expressed the needs of children in Oradell comes first before introducing the Autistic Program.

Mrs. Cindy Young wants the Autistic Program implemented in September. She has a 3-yr old child and is hurt by comments made by others against this program.

Mrs. Diane Lento feels the autistic program is “the right thing to do” as it will make a difference in the children’s lives.

Mr. Young commented that the autistic program should not interfere with the special needs of the current children. It is critical that they have this program now at this time of their lives. These children need this ABA program. Mr. Young feels the board is being shortsighted by not voting now for this program, and feels it is incumbent upon this board to provide this program.

Ms. Pico commented that the autistic program needs to be the right program and asked that the district not rush just to have it in place in September. She feels that the children should be educated in the district where they live. She further asked where (what school) the children will go after attending this program.

## VII. MINUTES

### MINUTES FOR REVIEW

- April 9, 2008                      Work Session, Closed Session
- April 15, 2008                    Closed Session Meeting
- May 7, 2008                        Closed Session Meeting

Mrs. Robertson indicated that she has revisions in the April 9<sup>th</sup> work session. President Gardner read the revision.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – None at this time

## VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT/BOARD PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS

Mr. Mohre welcomed Ms. Nancy Stern, NJSBA Field Service Representative, to present an overview of the NJQSAC (The New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum) to the Board. Board members asked questions. The board also chose tentative dates in July for the board retreat.

Mr. Mohre reported on the following:

- 6<sup>th</sup> graders are participating in the Operation Shadow later this month.
- Willy Wonka Musical
- ICE Punchlist for construction

Ms. Cioppi reported on the progress of the punchlist items and within a couple of weeks she feels the outstanding items should be completed.

President Gardner stated, in compliance with the Board’s 9000 series, he received letters from Diane Lento dated May 13, 2008 and on May 11, 2008 from Mrs. Lisa Schwartz.

President Gardner also mentioned the passing away of the Oradell Public Library Director, Ms. Debbie Kyritz.

President Gardner stated that the DARE Graduation is on Friday, at 10:00AM in the Multipurpose Room.

President Gardner reported on the new board committees for the 2008/2009 year.

## **IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION**

A. BI-BOROUGH/SHARED SERVICES - Dr. Westlake, Chairperson

B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS/SAFETY – Mr. Murphy, Chairperson

C. CURRICULUM - Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson

1. Pre-K Autistic Class – It is hereby moved by Mrs. Robertson, seconded by Mrs. Norian, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the implementation of a full-time Pre-Kindergarten Class for Children with Autism for the 2008-2009 school year effective September 1, 2008 and directs the Superintendent to work in consultation with the Special Education Region V Director to file all necessary paperwork with the NJ Department of Education.

Mrs. Robertson commented that she requested answers to approximately 30 questions of Mr. Mohre (which he included in the packet to the board) regarding the Autistic Program and some of the questions are unanswered. She would like the questions included in the minutes and reported to the public. Mr. Mohre offered to read aloud each of the questions and the answers he provided to those questions. President Gardner then offered to read Mrs. Robertson's questions with answers.

Mr. Walsh stated that in order for him to vote in favor of this resolution he would need additional information regarding additional services these students receive. Without this information, although he is in favor of bringing in a Pre-K autistic program into the district, he would have to vote no.

Mr. Murphy stated for the record that he is not opposed to the Pre-K Autistic Program but feels the new Supervisor of Special Services deserves time to identify the needs of all the students in Special Services before implementing a new program this year, and perhaps it would be beneficial to wait a year.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Ayes:** Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Watson-Nichols

**Nays:** Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Samuel, Mr. Walsh,  
Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Gardner

**Absent:** Dr. Westlake

**\* Motion failed**

D. FINANCE – Mr. Samuel, Chairperson

*On a motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Samuel, Agenda item D1 carried by roll call vote 7-0-1 (Mr. Walsh abstained, Dr. Westlake absent)*

1. 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:** John Walsh, Board Member

**Conference/Seminar/Workshop:** NJSBA Delegate Assembly

**Date:** May 14, 2008

**Location:** Wyndham Conference/Hotel, Plainsboro, NJ

**Registration:** \$0.00

**Mileage/Tolls:** \$70.00

*On a motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Samuel, Agenda item D2 was carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Dr. Westlake absent)*

2. Sale of District Truck – It is hereby moved, that the Board recognize its receipt of \$150.00 as a result of the sale of the District Truck, a 1989 Dodge Pick-Up Truck.

E. PERSONNEL – Mr. Schwartz, Chairperson

Mrs. Robertson asked that Agenda Item E2 be pulled and voted separately.

*Upon Recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Walsh, Agenda Items E1, E3, E4 were carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Dr. Westlake absent)*

- 1) Professional Faculty, Tenure Year - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the following professional staff members be approved for contract renewal for the 2008 – 2009 school year and be awarded tenure effective September 2, 2008:

James Butcher  
Patricia Cuddy  
Kristen Terzano (PT)

- 2) Professional Faculty, Non-Tenured - It is hereby moved by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Walsh, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the following professional non-tenured staff members be approved for employment for the 2008 – 2009 school year.

Judy Bishopp  
Rita Cioppi  
Kari Dekhayser  
Debbie Domingues (PT)  
Melissa Golden  
Jane Jeffs  
Kimberly Lasch  
Donna Marinelli  
Marie Lou Ortiz

Jennifer Postel  
Jennifer Powers  
Joseph Puliafico (PT)  
Amy Quagliana (PT)  
Michelle Rudolph  
Kim Scalanga (PT)  
Jamie Schraer  
Jennifer Tashjian

**ROLL CALL**

Ayes: Mr. Murphy, Mr. Samuel, Mr. Walsh,  
Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Gardner  
Abstain: Mrs. Robertson  
Absent: Dr. Westlake

- 3) Approval of Nurse Substitute for the 2007/08 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the appointment of the following individuals as nurse substitute for the 2007/08 school year, at a per diem rate of \$80.00 which increases to \$85.00 per day after the 10<sup>th</sup> day of service during the 2007/08 school year:

Rosemary Von Tobel

- 4) Approval of Substitute Teachers for the 2007/08 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the appointment of the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2007/08 school year, at a per diem rate of \$80.00 which increases to \$85.00 per day after the 10<sup>th</sup> day of service during the 2007/08 school year:

Kristen Maxson

F. POLICY – Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Chairperson

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS/NJQSAC – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

H. NJSBA/BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT – Mr. Walsh, Delegate

**X. OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Cioppi cited the law on the retention of board meeting tapes.  
Mr. Samuel asked questions/clarification on by-laws.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Watson-Nichols asked, prior to the board retreat, would the public be given the opportunity to present issues for discussion.

**XII. CLOSED SESSION**-There was no closed session.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

It is hereby moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. Robertson that the meeting be adjourned at 10:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Rita Cioppi

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

