

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

**Work Session Meeting – Wednesday, April 15, 2009**

**MINUTES**

- I.** The meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** at 8:05 p.m. by President Gardner.
- II.** The **FLAG SALUTE** was led by Mr. Walsh.
- 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, posted in Borough Hall and the Oradell Free Public Library, faxed to The Record and Town News 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. The District fully supports and expects the attainment of the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards on the part of all students within a school environment designed to maximize student potential, develop responsible citizens, and promote respect for the uniqueness of all individuals.

Adopted by the Oradell Board of Education August 27, 2008

- V. ROLL CALL**

- Present:** Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson., Mr. Samuel, Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Gardner

- Absent:** None

- Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, Mrs. Barbara Barbagallo, Secretary to the Business Administrator and 10 members of the public.

- VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY –** None at this time.

- VII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT/BOARD PRESIDENT’S REMARKS**

- Mr. Mohre reviewed and addressed the additional (highlighted) resolutions placed on the agenda.

- President Gardner made a motion to direct the administration of Oradell Public School, to send out class placement notification letters to parents on/or before August 15<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walsh.

Mr. Samuel asked if this request was feasible for the administration to comply with the date. Mr. Mohre indicated it was done in the past, and it is attainable in an average year.

On a roll call vote, the motion passed 9-0.

President Gardner commented that he was informed by his children that the Art Show was amazing. President Gardner commended the teachers and children on this presentation.

### VIII. MINUTES

Mrs. Norian clarified that she requested the final copy of the minutes be placed on green paper, not the draft copy.

President Gardner asked the board if they have any questions on the minutes to send an email to Ms. Cioppi or her secretary.

#### REVIEW OF MINUTES

- |                  |                                |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| • March 12, 2009 | Work Session                   |
| • March 25, 2009 | Regular Session/Closed Session |
| • April 6, 2009  | Closed Session                 |

### IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

- A. BI-BOROUGH/SHARED SERVICES - Dr. Westlake, Chairperson
- B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS/SAFETY – Mr. Murphy, Chairperson – No report
- C. CURRICULUM - Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson stated that minutes of the meeting on April 1, 2009 would be distributed shortly.
- D. FINANCE – Mr. Samuel, Chairperson  
*On a motion by Mr. Samuel seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried by roll call vote 9-0, the board approved D2, D3, D4. Mrs. Watson-Nichols asked that D1 be pulled. Mr. Walsh asked to pull D5.*

*After board discussion, a motion by Mr. Samuel, seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried by roll call vote 9-0, the board approved D1 and D5.*

1. PERS Pension Payment Options- It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in concert with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Oradell Board of Education accepts the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed S-15 as Chapter 22, P.L. 2009 that reduces the State Aid for the Oradell school district for the 2008-2009 school by an amount approximating 37,041.45;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed S-21 as Chapter 19, P.L. 2009 that provides school districts with two options concerning their obligation to pay the Public Employees Retirement System , namely payment in full by April 30, 2009, or payment of one-half of the pension obligation by April 30, 2009;

**AND WHEREAS**, payment of one-half of the pension obligation requires the district to apply for a deferral schedule, which will start in April 2012 and continue for 15 years to repay the deferred portion to the retirement system;

**AND WHEREAS**, deferred payments are subject to normal actuarial growth on accrued liabilities of the pension system, which most recently was a rate of 8.25%;

**AND WHEREAS**, the School Business Administrator has reviewed the cash flow needs of the Oradell school district, the surplus balance position of the district, and the impact of the deferral on future budgets if the district should elect to take the deferral or reject the deferral;

**NOW BE IT RESOLVED** by the Oradell Board of Education that, it hereby rejects the offer of a deferral by the New Jersey Public Employees Retirement System and authorizes the School Business Administrator to pay the 2009 PERS pension obligation in full before April 30, 2009.

2. FY 09 IDEIA Consolidated Grant Award - It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in concert with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Oradell Board of Education accepts the IDEIA Consolidated Grant award amount for FY 09 as follows:

	<u>Total</u>
IDEA Basic	\$186,749
IDEA Preschool	\$ 12,816

3. Transfer of Funds and Monthly Transfer Reports for the Month End, March 2009– Approval the transfer of funds and monthly transfer reports March 2009 as follows.

Description	ANUM	Trans Amt	Date
Consultation Fees	11-000-213-600-04-	-200.00	03/12/2009
Consultation Fees	11-000-216-320-04-	200.00	03/12/2009
BCSS transfer	11-000-100-562-04-	-2,533.00	03/17/2009
BCSS transfer	11-000-100-565-04-	2,533.00	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-217-101-51-	6,237.50	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-219-104-51-	1,681.63	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-223-320-03-	-537.14	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-223-610-03-	-500.00	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-230-331-01-	226.38	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-240-110-51-	810.76	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-240-580-03-	-1,000.00	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-240-600-03-	-500.00	03/17/2009

Appropriation Transfers	11-000-251-330- -	2,989.48	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-251-340- -	-899.00	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-251-580- -	-689.48	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-261-420-06-	-6,000.00	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-270-512- -	573.50	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-270-514- -	3,554.04	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-291-280- -	-800.00	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-291-290- -	108.72	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-000-291-290-PR-	3,424.13	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-120-100-101-50-	97.30	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-190-100-610-03-0200	-3,000.00	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-190-100-610-03-0205	-1,000.00	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-190-100-610-08-0203	-3,281.82	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-190-100-640-03-0204	-1,270.00	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-213-100-101-51-	675.00	03/17/2009
Appropriation Transfers	11-213-100-640-04-	-1,000.00	03/17/2009
Payroll transfers	11-000-213-101-51-	-1,500.00	03/23/2009
Payroll transfers	11-000-216-100-50-	2,500.00	03/23/2009
Payroll transfers	11-000-217-100-50-	7,000.00	03/23/2009
Payroll transfers	11-000-230-100- -	-3,000.00	03/23/2009
Payroll transfers	11-000-262-100- -	-3,000.00	03/23/2009
Payroll transfers	11-000-262-102-54-	12,000.00	03/23/2009
Payroll transfers	11-120-100-101-50-	-8,000.00	03/23/2009
Payroll transfers	11-120-100-101-51-	8,000.00	03/23/2009
Payroll transfers	11-213-100-101-50-	5,000.00	03/23/2009
Payroll transfers	11-230-100-106-50-	5,000.00	03/23/2009
Park Academy	65-216-100-101- -	600.00	03/23/2009
Park Academy	65-216-100-610- -	750.00	03/23/2009
Park Academy	65-216-220-500- -	-500.00	03/23/2009
Park Academy	65-216-223-500- -	-200.00	03/23/2009
Park Academy	65-216-230-320- -	200.00	03/23/2009
Park Academy	65-216-291-280- -	-850.00	03/23/2009
Speech/Lang Pymt	11-000-216-320-04-	1,045.00	03/31/2009
Speech/Lang Pymt	11-000-230-339-01-	-1,045.00	03/31/2009
Fingerprint Reimb	11-000-291-260- -	48.00	03/31/2009
Fingerprint Reimb	11-000-291-280- -	-189.00	03/31/2009
Fingerprint Reimb	11-000-291-290- -	141.00	03/31/2009
Nurse's evaluations	11-000-213-300-04-	720.00	04/03/2009
Nurse's evaluations	11-000-213-600-04-	-400.00	04/03/2009
Nurse's evaluations	11-000-213-890-04-	-320.00	04/03/2009
Nurse's evaluations	11-000-213-300-04-	273.00	04/04/2009
Nurse's evaluations	11-000-219-600-04-	-273.00	04/04/2009
		<b>0.00</b>	

4. Payment of April Bills/Invoices – It is hereby moved that the Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to pay bills during the month of April 2009 with retroactive approval at the next scheduled Regular Public Business Meeting of the Oradell Board of Education.

5. Acceptance of Preliminary Eligible Cost (PEC) for the Boiler Replacement Project – It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, in concert with the Business Administrator, that the Board authorizes the Superintendent to accept the Preliminary Eligible Cost (PEC) figure from the State of New Jersey, Department of Education, Office of School Facilities for Oradell's Boiler Replacement Project #3870-050-09-1001.

E. PERSONNEL – Mr. Schwartz, Chairperson noted the committee met on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Minutes from this meeting have been delayed to Mr. Mohre. Mr. Schwartz noted that the CSA Evaluation process was completed and delivered to Mr. Mohre.

Mr. Walsh asked to pull E1. Mr. Walsh asked about the terms of the head custodian's notification of his termination of employment and asked if the notification was 90 days? Mr. Mohre noted that certificated personnel are required to provide 60 days notice. Mr. Mohre further thanked Mr. Martone for his many fine efforts and for fostering a family atmosphere with his custodial team in the short time he was with OPS. Mr. Mohre wished Mr. Martone well in his new position. Mr. Schwartz commented that Mr. Martone's resignation letter was received a week before the board members were notified of Mr. Martone's resignation. Mr. Mohre noted that he had received a call from Ms. Cioppi on April 7<sup>th</sup> while on vacation with his family.

*On a motion by Mr. Walsh seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried by roll call vote 9-0 the board approved E-2, E3, E4 (Mrs. Norian abstained), E5.*

1. Acceptance of Head Custodian Resignation – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board accepts, with regret the resignation of Head Custodian, Armondo Martone, effective May 1, 2009.
2. Retroactive Approval of P/T (.2) Music Teacher – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the retroactive appointment of Mrs. Bonnie Laub to the position of part-time (.2) Music Teacher BA/Step 5 at an annual salary of \$8,843.00 to be prorated beginning April 6, 2009 through June 30, 2009.
3. Approval of Substitute Teachers for the 2008/09 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 2008/09 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 2008/09 school year:

Meeta Kohli  
Katherine Kelly  
Vincent Maffei

4. Student Teacher for the 2009/2010 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the following student teacher for the 2009/2010 school year:

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>College/University</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher</u>
Jessica Bova	St. Thomas Aquinas	9/1/09-10/23/09	Mrs. Elinor Goeller
Jessica Bova	St. Thomas Aquinas	10/26/09-12/18/09	Ms. Lesley Maklin

5. Conferences/Workshops 2008/2009 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approves the below listed staff members/board members to attend the following conference/workshop (and related expenses) as outlined in the A5 School District Accountability Act:

**Name:** Jeffrey Mohre

**Conference/Seminar/Workshop:** Powering Through the Recession: Strategies to help District Leaders keep student achievement on track.

**Date:** May 11, 2009

**Location:** Jersey City, NJ

**Registration Fee:** \$295.00

**Mileage:** 14.84

**Name:** Rita Cioppi

**Conference/Seminar/Workshop:** Powering Through the Recession: Strategies to help District Leaders keep student achievement on track.

**Date:** May 11, 2009

**Location:** Jersey City, NJ

**Registration Fee:** \$295.00

6. Approval of P/T Instructional Aide – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the appointment of the following Instructional Aide P/T (.5 ) through June 30, 2009:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Eileen Gallagher	\$9,299.00 (to be prorated)

7. Approval of Extension of Hours for ABA Therapists – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves an extension of hours for ABA Therapists effective May 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Hourly Rate</u>
Brooke Martire	4 hours per week	\$30.00 p/hr
Suhair Najjar	4 hours per week	\$30.00 p/hr

8. Acceptance of Resignation – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board accepts, with regret the resignation of Kari Dekhayser, Special Education Teacher, effective June 30, 2009.
9. Appointment of Leave Replacement Teacher – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the appointment of Ms. Michelle Reilly as Second Grade Leave Replacement Teacher effective May 4, 2009 through June 30, 2009 at BA/Sept 3-4 at an annual salary of \$43,715.00 (to be prorated)
10. Substitute Lunch Aide – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the appointment of the following substitute lunch aide for the 2008/2009 school year at a rate of \$14.00 per hour:

Lisa Quinn

- F. POLICY – Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Chairperson asked the committee chairs for their committee structures.
- G. PUBLIC RELATIONS/NJQSAC – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson noted that she did not compile a synopsis of the Key Communicators meeting because it was the dry run for the budget presentation and Mrs. Norian recommended that the committee follow this procedure in the future. Mrs. Norian stated that she will meet with Mr. Carter regarding the 80<sup>th</sup> celebration. Mrs. Norian pointed out that the Budget Newsletter was mailed. Mrs. Norian distributed pictures of the OPS Advanced Handbell Choir which performed at the Volunteer Center for Bergen County function and applauded the children's performance.
- H. NJSBA/BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT – Mr. Walsh, Delegate stated the next meeting is May 15, 2009. Mr. Walsh reported on Personalized Learning Plan and feels we should apply for the available funds. Mr. Mohre offered to bring it up with Dr. Graham and the Superintendents next week.

## **X. OLD BUSINESS**

The board discussed the Tri-District Curriculum Coordinator position. Board members expressed the following comments and/or opinions relevant to the position and the overall tri-district concept:

- Mr. Samuel inquired about grants applied for and received by the Tri-District Office. Mr. Mohre cited the Bristol-Meyers Squibb Grant. Mr. Samuel asked if there was a second grant. Mr. Mohre will secure an answer for the board.

- Mr. Gardner asked if there was an additional expense incurred by OPS beyond the Tri-District budget? Mr. Mohre responded no.
- Mr. Schwartz mentioned that Grant Wiggins was hired by River Dell as a consultant. Mr. Mohre noted that he would make inquiry to River Dell and report back to the board.
- Mr. Gardner asked why the Interlocal agreement refers to 10 months instead of 12 months. Mr. Mohre shared that it may be due to the fact that the agreement was issued in September.
- Mr. Gardner asked about the Tri-District payment schedule. Mr. Mohre shared that two payments are made. One in fall and the other after the first of the year.
- Mr. Schwartz would like to see more Tri-District presentations to the board. Mr. Mohre recommended that the new Board President appoint more than one person to the *Bi-Boro Committee* as in the past the committee has been comprised of three members.
- Mr. Schwartz would like to more say regarding Tri-District. Mr. Mohre recommended that this be discussed by the personnel committee to generate ideas in terms of the types of information the board is seeking.
- Mrs. Norian suggested that the Tri-District curriculum newsletter issued to teachers could also be shared with the board.
- Mr. Schwartz expressed that he prefers face-to-face interactions.
- Mr. Schwartz expressed that we needed to do a better job with the math and cited the coordination of recent board resolutions related to mathematics.
- Mr. Samuel requested:
  1. Year-end financial statement of expenditures/ budget detail for Tri-District line items (07-08 & 08-09).
  2. Details for projected Tri-District summer work projects and consultants, 09-10.
- Mrs. Nichols requested, for the record, that the information be printed directly from the accounting system.
- Mrs. Robertson would also like details regarding summer curriculum projects.
- Mr. Gardner would like to see EDM unit assessment results ... wants more frequent assessments.



- Mrs. Robertson would like to know what is in-house and what is Tri-District in terms of curriculum responsibilities.
- Mrs. Robertson would like to see more concrete data to support Tri-District recommendations.
- Dr. Westlake applauded the work in area of curriculum development and the degree to which teachers have collaborated in the creation of such curriculum. He delineated curriculum writing v. curriculum delivery and added that curriculum should be the school's focus.
- Mr. Schwartz expressed that the board is in favor of Tri-District and wants to ensure that money is being spent to its satisfaction. He added that the board agrees with concept and is not out to get anyone or any department.
- Mr. Walsh believes that Tri-District should be sustained through self-sustaining funds.
- Mr. Schwartz commented that if the presentation on the Connected Math was planned better by the Tri-District Coordinator the board may not have defeated it.
- Mr. Schwartz suggested that all three boards hear the same presentation and perhaps the outcome would be different. Mr. Gardner commented that the Deputy Commissioner of Education brought forward their recommendation and that is the reason the motion was defeated.
- Mr. Gardner asked, if we (the board), need to make a motion that Mr. Mohre provide the board with information requested this evening for the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Mohre indicated he would get this information to the board for May 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Samuel requested that the board receive a copy of the Interlocal Agreement prior to Board approval in order to review its contents. He additionally requested that board approval of the Agreement occur at the next board meeting.
- Mr. Samuel stated he is in favor of the Tri-District position, but not in favor of funding as it currently stands.
- Mrs. Watson-Nichols pointed out that the confusion might be with the implementation of the Connected Math, and she was not sure if the problem is a spending issue as opposed to what occurred.

Mrs. Robertson asked for an update on the following issues:

- The bills she requested on Study Island.
- The Summer Theatre Program Flyer sent home with students.

- Reverse 911 and the ramification if a person is not home when the system makes its call.
- Suggestions from a parent on Emergency Contact forms.
- Memory Book Ad – is the board participating or not?

Mr. Gardner asked Mr. Mohre about the status of the resolution passed on January 14<sup>th</sup> regarding:

- Staff attendance and written reports.
- Assignment/evaluation of substitutes.
- Development of job description for the CSA.

Mr. Mohre stated he asked for clarification from the board and has not yet received any. The board reviewed the items on the list and determined to place items 1, 2, and 4 under “Personnel” for discussion for the next meeting.

## **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Norian asked about the Technology Program for Seniors. Mr. Mohre said the response from the seniors was a deep appreciation for the program, they felt privileged and would like to do it again.

Mr. Samuel commented on the positive feedback he heard from parents on the Web Presentation. Mr. Samuel made a suggestion to provide a one-page user guide.

## **XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

The meeting was open to the public at 10:19 pm.

Mark Potolski commented on the following:

- Key Communicators committee needs to be reinvigorated because the number of participants involved has declined.
- Feels the Tri-District Coordinator should be asked to attend and provide answers to the board’s questions and concerns at the next board meeting.
- Applauds the videotaping of this meeting.
- Questioned if the Seniors paid for the Technology program and asked if the board could consider assessing a charge.
- Web Presentation was excellent, even though 5-6 parents attended.

Dorothea Durand commented on the following:

- The Tri-District recommendations on the math program and felt much analysis was left out.
- No clearly stated goals regarding the Connected Math Program.
- Need to define long-term studies on the program.
- Would like to see community involvement in the Tri-District process.
- What is the Coordinator’s role and who is in charge of implementation?
- Is there an assessment to address deficiencies?
- What is the total amount for consultants and how are they being paid?

Susan Hart commented on the following:

- Asked the Oradell BOE to get the full breakdown of costs/expenses from RiverDell.
- Feels there is no need for a Tri-District Coordinator position.
- Biggest problem is that we are lacking communication.

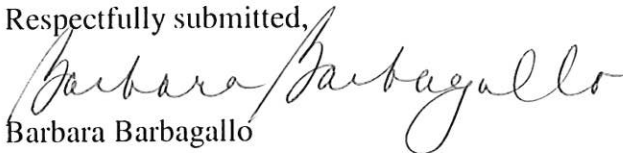
### **XIII. CLOSED SESSION**

*On a motion by Mrs. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Samuel the Board adjourned into closed session at 10:45 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue.*

### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

*On a motion by Mrs. Robertson seconded by Mr. Samuel, the board meeting adjourned at 10:55 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Barbagallo  
Secretary to the Business Administrator

