

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

Work Session Meeting – February 11, 2009

MINUTES

- I. The meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** at 8:11 p.m. by President Gardner.
- II. The **FLAG SALUTE** was led by Mrs. Robertson.
- III. The **SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT** was read by Mrs. 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. Samuel.

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: Mrs. Robertson., Mr. Samuel, Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols,
Dr. Westlake arrived at 8:38 pm, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Gardner

Absent: Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Norian

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, Ms. Rita Cioppi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary approximately 3 members of the public.

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

Amy Beutel, OPS teacher, questioned D2. She asked if documentation was given out. Mrs. Robertson responded only after board approval.

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

Mr. Mohre reminded the public of the winter recess Feb. 16-Feb 20th.

Mr. Gardner informed the public that on Feb. 5, 2009 the state posted NJASK scores. Mr. Gardner did his own analysis of Oradell Public School's scores to comparative

districts. Mr. Gardner asked that his analysis of the NJASK scores be attached to the minutes.

VIII. MINUTES

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

- A. BI-BOROUGH/SHARED SERVICES - Dr. Westlake, Chairperson
- B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS/SAFETY – Mr. Murphy, Chairperson
- C. CURRICULUM - Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson asked “for the record”, that the committee report be added to the minutes.
- D. FINANCE – Mr. Samuel, Chairperson
On a motion by Mr. Samuel, seconded by Mrs. Watson-Nichols and carried by roll call vote 6-1-2(Mr. Murphy and Mrs. Norian absent, Mr. Gardner voted no) the board approved D1.

Mr. Schwartz asked what the cost OPS is paying in-total for professional development (tri-district).

On a motion by Mr. Samuel, seconded by Mrs. Watson-Nichols and carried by roll call vote 7-0-2(Mr. Murphy and Mrs. Norian absent) the board approved D2.

- 1. Tentative Budget 2009/2010 School Year – It is hereby moved that the Oradell Board of Education adopts the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oradell Board of Education approve/adopt a tentative 2009/2010 school district budget for submission to the voters as follows,

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>
General Fund	\$ 10,165,075	\$ 9,453,471
Special Revenue Fund	\$ -0-	\$ N/A
Debt Service Fund	<u>\$ 555,564</u>	<u>\$ 555,564</u>
Totals	\$ 10,720,639	\$ 10,009,035

BE IT FURTHER Resolved to apply for a Commissioner’s Adjustment to the base tax levy of \$353,542 for the FY 2009-10 school budget for increase in capital outlay of \$390,885 for Boiler Replacement Project.

- 2. Acceptance of Oradell Kids Foundation Mini-Grant Projects for the 2008/2009 School Year - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board accepts the following Oradell Kids Foundation Mini Grant Projects for the 2008/2009 school year:

- Special Education Phonetically Based Readers \$721.00

• 2 nd Grade	High Touch/High Tech	\$750.00
• 3 rd Grade	Liberty Science Center Electricity & Magnetism Program	\$750.00
• 5 th Grade	Continental Soldier Program	\$750.00
		=====
		\$2971.00

E. PERSONNEL – Mr. Schwartz, Chairperson

On a motion by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Gardner and carried by roll call vote 7-0-2 (Mr. Murphy and Mrs. Norian absent) the board approved EI.

1. Approval of Nurse Substitute 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 individual as nurse substitute for the 2008/09 school year, at a per diem rate of \$120.00 per day.

Elizabeth Lin

F. POLICY – Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Chairperson

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

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

X. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Schwartz informed the Board that even though Nancy Stern, our former NJSBA field representative, is willing to come out of NJSBA retirement to aid the board in going through the Superintendent Evaluation process, we should find out who our new representative is and have that individual go through the process instead. Mr. Mohre will need to complete a self-evaluation and Mr. Schwartz will email the evaluation form to the board. Mr. Schwartz indicated that NJSBA will then tabulate and review the evaluation. Mr. Walsh asked if Oradell has been assigned a new field representative from NJSBA. Mr. Schwartz commented that it would be good for Mr. Murphy and Mr. Samuel to go through the process because they are new board members.

Mr. Gardner passed out the CSA policy.

Mr. Schwartz stated that the Superintendent should have his self-evaluation ready for the February 25, 2009 meeting.

Mr. Gardner stated for the record, Mr. Mohre will get his self-evaluation to the board before the 25th of February and then Mr. Gardner stated that the board will decide who will compile the evaluation. Mr. Gardner also stated for the record, that his e-mail to Mr. Mohre be placed in the minutes.

Mr. Samuel recommended that if Nancy Stern conducts the evaluation process free of charge, then she should compile the evaluation information.

Mr. Schwartz will submit a schedule for the next meeting.

Mr. Samuel suggested board members send him a list of requests for the new budget in priority order to be discussed with the Administration in future finance committee meetings.

Mr. Gardner asked if Mr. Mohre responded to a parent's complaint letter. Mr. Gardner asked if in the complaint policy the person to whom the letter is addressed should respond.

Mrs. Robertson inquired as to when the board will discuss the 2009/2010 School Calendar.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Robertson discussed the upcoming school calendar and would like to see Nov. 3rd a full day of school since voting does not take place in the school any more. Going forward we should not have that day off. Mr. Mohre replied that election day is an agreed-upon tri-district day.

Mrs. Robertson asked if January 18, 2010 will be a professional day. She mentioned that teachers may not show up and we pay for the professional development day. Mr. Mohre felt that no matter what day OPS picks, we will have the same situation.

Mrs. Robertson felt that two graduations (Oradell and River Dell) should not be on the same day, June 24th because if a parent has children in both schools, it would be a little much for them. Mr. Gardner also agreed and stated that it would be trying for elderly parents.

Mrs. Robertson asked if Mr. Mohre consults with the other tri-district superintendents on the calendar, and further asked if there was ever any consideration given to having a shortened February break.

Mrs. Watson-Nichols asked about the timing of spring break. Mr. Mohre replied it is aligned with RiverDell and the week of April 26th is NJASK 7-8 week.

Mr. Schwartz asked again if the graduation date could be changed so it is not on the same day as RiverDell. Mr. Mohre said that he would speak with his Administration.

Board members discussed RICE notice procedures. Mr. Gardner asked if we could get a written legal opinion on the procedures of RICE notices for clarification.

Mr. Mohre discussed the school Nurse's authority and the school's procedures for head lice.

On a motion by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. Robertson and carried, 5-2-2 (Mr. Samuel, Mrs. Watson-Nichols voted no, Mr. Murphy and Mrs. Norian absent) the board approved to contribute \$500.00 to the Dollars & Sense grassroots group.

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Potolsky commented on the following:

- Board compensation for outside activities. Is the school compensated for custodial overtime and any utilities used for those hours.
- Thanked the board for refilling paper towel dispensers.
- Based on the conversation of the board, Mr. Potolsky mentioned that attorney bills should be timelier.
- It was mentioned that Nov 3rd on the 09/10 calendar was an issue.
- Mr. Potolsky suggested that when the tape stops recording, the conversation should be on hold until the tape is reinserted.

Mrs. Yolanda Perez commented that the public would like more information on the budget presentation.

Mr. Walsh asked if the budget presentation could be televised.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION - None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Schwartz the meeting adjourned at 10:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rita Cioppi

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

