

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

**Regular Session Meeting – February 4, 2009**

**MINUTES**

- I.** The meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** by President Gardner at 8:04 p.m.
- II.** The **FLAG SALUTE** was led by Mr. Samuel.
- 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. Walsh.

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

**Absent:** Mr. Murphy

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, Ms. Rita Cioppi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Ms. Suzanne Lynch, Tri-District Curriculum Coordinator, Mrs. Jeanne Black, OPS Teacher and approximately 29 members of the public.

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

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

Mr. Mohre read the following resolution regarding School Board Members Recognition Month.

- WHEREAS,** The New Jersey School Boards Association and the National School Boards Association have declared January 2009 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time that all residents might acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and
- WHEREAS,** The Oradell Board of Education is one of more than 600 local school boards in New Jersey that sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and
- WHEREAS,** The Oradell Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and
- WHEREAS,** New Jersey's local school boards help determine community goals for the education of 1.4 million children in Pre-Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade; and
- WHEREAS,** New Jersey's 4,800 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and
- WHEREAS,** School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and
- WHEREAS,** Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and
- WHEREAS,** New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in indicators such as high school graduation rates, class size, college entrance exam participation, and Advanced Placement offerings and test scores. Now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED,** That the Oradell Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2009 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the Oradell Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the improvement of our children's education.

A presentation was made by Mr. Mohre and Ms. Lynch regarding the implementation of the EveryDay Mathematics Program.

At this time the meeting was open to the public for questions and comments regarding the EveryDay Math Presentation.

The following members of the public commented on the EveryDay Math program: An Oradell resident (refused to give name), Kathy DiBenedetto, Stephanie Landau, Tom Beltoff, Serafina Bergelt, Pat Knorr, Dorothy Doran and Julie Pedersen.

The following are comments made by the residents:

- A resident mentioned that he was aware of two states that dropped the math program. Ms. Lynch stated that Texas was one of the states and that the DOE can only suggest a program, but cannot dictate what is to be taught. She also stated that the DOE Clearing House would have more information on it.
- Training of staff is short on instructional time.

- Most parents with children in 4<sup>th</sup> grade were very pleased with the teacher and the program.
- There were many concerns with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade program. Parents felt that the program was a drastic change for the children and would have been better had it been introduced to the lower grades first so the children could grow with it. They felt the math program was very confusing to their children since they started school with the traditional math and then were thrown into a totally different approach in 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Mr. Mohre and Ms. Lynch both welcomed the opportunity to meet with parents to address their concerns.
- Parents wanted a better website for EveryDay Math. Ms. Lynch commented that the web site would be up by the end of February.
- A parent asked why workbooks were not allowed to be brought home. Ms Lynch stated that since the program is so new, the workbooks would be confusing to the parents at this point in time.

Mr. Schwarz, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Samuel, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Mr. Walsh gave the following comments on the EveryDay Math program:

- The public is commenting negatively on the program, while the board was given a positive response from the teachers and questions why the parents are complaining? Ms. Lynch stated that the research was done for 6 months before presenting the program. She feels that the parents need to give the program a chance.
- Is there a plan for struggling students? Has all feedback been received from those teachers not in favor of the program?
- The Board feels that the parents want to see both the Traditional Method and the EveryDay Math taught together, this way the student can learn and understand the difference in the new program.
- A Board member suggested that a parent meeting should be scheduled to address their concerns.

Mr. Mohre acknowledged and congratulated all of the student musicians who shared their musical talents as part of the recent choral and instrumental concerts. He extended thanks and appreciation to Mr. Butcher and Ms. Richardi for their many fine teaching efforts.

Mr. Mohre announced that the House of Representatives recently approved, the “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009”. If passed into law, this would mean that Oradell Public School District would receive the following funding increases for the next two years: IDEA 2009: \$100,000; IDEA 2010: \$115,110.

## VIII. MINUTES

Dr. Westlake called for consent agenda on all board items requesting action. Mrs. Robertson asked to pull B1a and inquired if the Summer Recreation Program would interfere with the Schaefer Program. Mr. Mohre stated it would not. Mrs. Robertson asked to pull D2 asking if the date for the public hearing could be earlier. Ms. Cioppi corrected the approval for tentative budget date to February 11, 2009. Mr. Walsh asked to pull D5 and questioned the word “retroactive” in the resolution. Ms. Cioppi replied that the wording is according to Mr. Koch, our Architect.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES –

- January 14, 2009      Work Session

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *On a motion by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mrs. Robertson and carried by roll call vote 7-0-1 (Mrs. Norian abstained, Mr. Murphy absent.) the board approved the following meeting minutes:*

- December 11, 2008      Work/Regular Session

**IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION**

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

B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS/SAFETY – Mr. Murphy, Chairperson  
Mr. Schwartz gave an update on the Kiss-Off lane committee meeting.

*On a motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Schwartz and carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Mr. Murphy absent), the board approved B1a.*

1. Use of School Facilities – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve the following request for use of school facilities:

*a. **Summer Recreation Program** – sponsored by the Oradell Recreation Committee beginning Monday, June 29, 2009 through Friday, August 7, 2009 (9 a.m. – 3 p.m.), requesting use of the Oradell Public School gymnasium. No fee will be charged for the use of the school facilities.*

C. CURRICULUM - Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson

D. FINANCE – Mr. Samuel, Chairperson requested a closed session at the next meeting for nonpublic matters.

*On a motion by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mrs. Robertson and carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Mr. Murphy absent) the board approved D1, D3, D4.*

*On a motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Mr. Murphy absent) the board approved D2.*

*On a motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Schwartz and carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Mr. Murphy absent) the board approved D5.*

1. Monthly Certifications –The Financial Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Moneys for the month end November 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 2008/2009 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.

2. Annual School Election 2009 – It is hereby moved that the following Election and Budget Timetable be approved as follows:

Approval of Tentative Budget for submission to County Office	Feb. 11, 2009
Deadline for Filing Nominating Petitions	March 2, 2009 – 4:00 PM
Last Day to File Objections to Candidates’ Petitions	March 6, 2009
Last Day for Candidates to Withdraw/Amend Defective Petitions	March 9, 2009
Drawing for Position on Ballot (Board Office Conference Room)	March 11, 2009 – 4:00 PM
Advertise budget for public hearing	March 17, 2009
Public Hearing – Adopt Final Budget	March 25, 2009
ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION AND BUDGET VOTE 2:00PM – 9:00 PM	Tues., April 21, 2009

3. Acceptance of PTA Mini-grants 2008/2009 School Year - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board accepts the following PTA Mini Grants for the 2008/2009 school year:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Kindergarten	Health Barn USA Food Fair	\$500.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Liberty Science Ctr. Visit	\$750.00
5th Grade	Joe Ryan, Living History Speaker	\$750.00
		<u>\$2,000.00</u>

4. Payment of Invoices – It is hereby moved that the invoices for the period of December 16, 2008 –January 28, 2009 be retroactively approved as follows:

Fund 10 ( <i>General Current Expense</i> )	\$ 988,644.53
Fund 12 ( <i>Capital Outlay</i> )	\$ 0.00
Fund 20 ( <i>Special Revenue Funds</i> )	\$ 77,122.92
Fund 30 ( <i>Capital Projects Funds</i> )	\$ 0.00
Fund 40 ( <i>Debt Service Fund</i> )	\$ 0.00
Fund 50 ( <i>Summer School</i> )	\$ 0.00
Fund 51 ( <i>Region V</i> )	\$ 0.00
Fund 55 ( <i>Milk</i> )	\$ 0.00

Fund 63 ( <i>Schaefer Explorations</i> )	\$	0.00
Fund 64 ( <i>Nil School Lunch Prog</i> )	\$	290.16
Fund 65 ( <i>Park Academy</i> )	\$	<u>72,140.23</u>
Total		\$1,138,197.84

- Submission of the Boiler Replacement Project Application - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in concert with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board approves the submission to the State of New Jersey Grant Program for School Facilities Projects for Regular Operation District, the project application for the following work and to seek state grant funding retroactive to January 30, 2009:

**Boiler Replacement at Oradell Pubic School**

- PERSONNEL – Mr. Schwartz, Chairperson, stated no report at this time. Would like to schedule a meeting.

*Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, on a motion by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mrs. Robertson and carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Mr. Murphy absent) the board approved E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7.*

- 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:** Michelle Rudolph

**Conference/Seminar/Workshop:** Differentiating Instruction in General Ed. Classrooms

**Date:** March 13, 2009 and April 3, 2009

**Location:** East Orange, NJ

**Registration Fee:** \$36.00

**Mileage:**

**Name:** Corinne Lynch

**Conference/Seminar/Workshop:** NJECC Yearly Conference

**Date:** March 17, 2009

**Location:** Montclair University

**Registration Fee:** \$90.00

**Mileage:** \$9.30

**Name:** Jane Jeffs

**Conference/Seminar/Workshop:** Facilitating Teacher Inclusion through Differentiating Instruction in

General Ed. Classrooms: Focus on Literacy Block (K-3)

**Date:** March 13, 2009 and April 3, 2009

**Location:** East Orange, NJ

**Registration Fee:** \$36.00

**Mileage:** \$12.40

2. 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:

Ellen Levine  
Anneris Marmolejos  
Gina Sconza  
Maris Sattely  
Jakilynn Raider

3. Movement on Teachers Salary Guide for 2008/2009 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approves movement on the teachers salary guide for the following staff member at the degree and step as set forth below:

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>from</u>	<u>to</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Amy Beutel	BA + 15 Step 6	MA Step 6	retroactive to September 18, 2008

4. Approval of Special Service – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the board approves the appointment of Mrs. Susan Champagne for providing applied behavior analysis parent training for student #66 at a rate of \$25.00 per hour not to exceed 32 hours retroactive to January 5, 2009.
5. Approval of Student Intern – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves Student Intern Ilana Rosenzweig for a period of ten weeks, commencing March 3, 2009.
6. Approval of P/T (.5) Instructional Aide – It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approves the appointment of Mrs. Magda Ivonne Garcia to the position of PT (.5 ) Special Education Instructional Aide, effective February 5, 2009 through June 30, 2009 at an annual salary of \$9,299.50 to be prorated.
7. College Junior Practicum Student Placement for 2008/2009 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board retroactively approve the following College Junior Practicum Students for the 2008/2009 school year:

<u>College Student</u>	<u>College/University</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher</u>
Nicole Althoff	Felician College	2/3/09-5/5/09	Mrs. Roberta Kenyon
Erin Coughlin	Felician College	2/3/09-5/5/09	Ms. Jennifer Powers
Tiffany Crespo	Felician College	2/3/09-5/5/09	Mrs. Linda Masiello

F. POLICY – Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Chairperson

1. Acceptance of First Reading of 5000 Series- *It is hereby moved by Mrs. Watson-Nichols, seconded by Mrs. Robertson, that the board accepts the first reading of the following 5000 Series policies:*

5020	Role of Parents/Guardians
5111	Admission
5113	Absences and Excuses
5114	Suspension and Expulsion
5118	Non-Residents
5119	Transfers
5120	Assessment of Individual Needs
5124	Reporting to Parents and Guardians
5125	Student Records
5126	Awards for Achievement
5127	Commencement Activities
5131	Conduct and Discipline- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying
5131.5	Violence and Vandalism
5131.6	Substance Abuse
5131.7	Weapons and Dangerous Instruments
5133	Gifts to School Personnel
5134	Married/Pregnant Pupils
5136	Fundraising Activities
5141	Health
5141.1	Accidents
5141.2	Illness
5141.3	Health Examinations and Immunizations
5141.4	Child Abuse and Neglect
5141.21	Administering Medication
5142	Pupil Safety
5142.1	Safety Patrols
5145.4	Equal Educational Opportunity
5145.5	Photographs of Pupils
5145.6	Pupil Grievance Procedures
5145.11	Questioning and Apprehension
5145.12	Search and Seizure
5200	Non Public School Pupils

\*Policies are available for viewing in the Superintendent's Office

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

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

X. OLD BUSINESS



Mrs. Robertson asked about the following:

- Status on reverse 911. Are we implementing anything for the school?
- What is status on authority of the nurse enforcing the lice issue?

Mr. Samuel commented that the reverse 911 is working for the police.

#### **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Gardner handed out the survey on EveryDay Math.

Mr. Schwartz would like Martin Luther King day to be a full day off for students.

Mr. Walsh inquired about the regionalization feasibility study by Dr. Graham.

Ms. Cioppi asked the board to complete the NJSBA survey and return it to her.

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

Mr. Potolsky inquired about the following:

- The cost of the new boiler.
- County report on inspection and its availability.
- No paper towels in the MPR during Saturday basketball.

For the record, Mrs. Pestic stated the following: In California schools, calculators are not used. She will not support the math program and will pull children from the school. She does not like the EveryDay math program. If the school continues to move ahead with testing, then the school needs to separate tutored students from non-tutored because she felt that the test will be skewed. Testing is a waste of time. Construction of the EveryDay Math program is bad.

Mrs. Schoenberg commented on the following:

- Policy guidelines
- Mr. Ryan is not returning phone calls.
- Substitute aide giving out candy canes to students and her son is allergic.

Dr. Westlake complimented the district personnel on the NJQSAC monitoring.

#### **XIII. CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY) - None**

#### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

*On a motion by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mrs. Norian the meeting adjourned at 11:28 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,



Rita Cioppi  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

