

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

Work Session Meeting – January 14, 2009

MINUTES

- I.** The meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** at 8:12 p.m. 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, 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 Mrs. Norian.

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 arrived at 8:20 p.m., Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Dr. Westlake, Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Gardner

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, Ms. Rita Cioppi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Mr. Reuben Camins, Mr. Wolfgang Albrecht, and approximately 13 members of the public.

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

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

- Mr. Camins of the Oradell Lions Club presented awards to the student winners of this year's Peace Poster Contest. After the presentation, the Board took a brief recess at 8:24 p.m. The board resumed the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

- Boro Administrator, Mr. Albrecht, gave a presentation on the proposed Church Street Drop-Off Lane.
- A single session day is scheduled for Monday, January 19, 2009 – 12:30 dismissal. Professional Development is planned for the afternoon.
- The District was monitored on Monday, January 12, 2009 by the NJ State Department of Education. Mr. Mohre reported that the exercise was successful and a certification of the results is forthcoming from the NJDOE.
- OPS *Winter Concerts* are scheduled for Tuesday, January 27 (choral) and Thursday, January 29 (instrumental).
- The second EveryDay Mathematics Parent Night will take place on Thursday evening, January 22, 2009 at River Edge's Roosevelt School.
- Executive Bergen County Superintendent, Dr. Graham, advised the NJ State Department of Education that the districts of Oradell, River Edge, and River Dell are ready for a regionalization feasibility study. A meeting is forthcoming to discuss the study process.

President Gardner spoke about the following:

- The Public is invited to attend a presentation on EveryDay Math at the next board meeting, January 28, 2009.
- A letter was received from Mrs. Schoenberg, PTA President, requesting a reverse 911 program.

The following were concerns/questions/comments of board members regarding the Kiss-Off Lane:

- Planters are expensive, as they need to be mounted on the concrete slabs.
- Planters located near the curb might be in the way of snow removal.
- Have there been discussion with the Oradell Police Dept about safety and monitoring issues. Question was raised as to the projected cost of the project. The projected cost is \$84,000, landscaping \$20,000.00. Additional money is needed to accommodate the board's request to cement Prospect Avenue curbs with either pavers or pre-cast concrete.
- Mr. Mohre expressed a concern regarding the relocation of utility poles, specifically those that may house transformers, as he does not want transformers immediately outside the second story classroom windows.
- Mr. Mohre reinforced the need for police presence whenever possible as the widening of Church St. may encourage speeding.
- A council meeting is scheduled for January 21st. January 27th the council will endorse a resolution of the plan with a tentative construction date to start after July 4th. It was suggested that the construction start after Schaefer Explorations ends July 18th. Any other questions the board may have should be sent to Ms. Cioppi so she may forward them to Mr. Albrecht.

The meeting was opened to the public for suggestions on the 2009/2010 Budget.

Mark Potolski commented on the following:

- Expanding use of website to save money on paper.
- Better use of energy
- Farming out staff functions
- Eliminate the VP position

Julie Pederson commented on the following:

- Establish policy on Key Communicator.
- EveryDay Math in her opinion is not written well.
- Post changes in curriculum on website for the community to view and comment prior to making any changes.
- Would like to see Language Arts textbooks used by teachers
- Standardized assessments should be budgeted.

Trish Lyons commented on the following:

- Decrease sixth grade class size.
- Classrooms libraries need to be increased.

VIII. MINUTES

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES –

- December 11, 2008 Work/Regular Session

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

On a motion by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Murphy and carried by roll call vote 9-0 the following minutes were approved:

- November 12, 2008 Work/Regular Session
- November 12, 2008 Closed Session Minutes (*Mrs. Watson-Nichols abstained*)
- September 25, 2008 Regular Session (with revisions)
- October 15, 2008 Work/Regular Session

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

- A. BI-BOROUGH/SHARED SERVICES - Dr. Westlake, Chairperson, reported that the committee is meeting tomorrow evening.
- B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS/SAFETY – Mr. Murphy, Chairperson stated a meeting is scheduled for tomorrow evening. He further reported that OK Kids Foundation would fundraise for the auditorium chair refurbishment.
- C. CURRICULUM - Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson stated a committee meeting is scheduled for next week. Mrs. Robertson questioned the cost of the numbers for

the windows and stated for the record “that the board did not request numbers to be posted on the classroom windows”.

- D. FINANCE – Mr. Samuel, Chairperson requested that a budget meeting be set up. *On a motion by Mr. Samuel, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried by roll call vote 9-0 the Board approved D1, D2, D3.*

1. Payment of Invoices – It is hereby moved that the invoices for the period of November 13, 2008 – December 15, 2008 be retroactively approved as follows:

Fund 10 (General Current Expense)	\$1,242,063.21
Fund 12 (Capital Outlay)	\$ 0.00
Fund 20 (Special Revenue Funds)	\$ 22,708.92
Fund 30 (Capital Projects Funds)	\$ 39,992.69
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)	\$ 268.35
Fund 65 (Park Academy)	\$ 34,884.85
Total	\$1,339,918.02

_____ Motion _____ Seconded

ROLL CALL

2. Approval of Receiving Students for Park Academy Special Education Program for 2008/2009- It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Superintendent, in concert with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Oradell Board of Education, in administering the Park Academy Special Education Program for Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education, retroactively approves the following student and tuition for the 2008/2009 school year as follows:

<u>Student</u>	<u>Sending District</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
P#15-08	Hasbrouck Heights	\$37,928.53

Note: The Part Academy Special Education Program is a special education program created and coordinated by Region V and administered by the Oradell Public School District. Salary and benefits associated with this program are paid for with tuition moneys collected by the Oradell Business Office from the students' home districts. Such expenses are not part of and in no way impact the Oradell Public School's 2008/2009 budget.

3. Conferences/Workshops 2008/2009 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approves the revision

in the mileage amount for the below listed staff member (previously approved on Dec. 12, 2008):

Name: Judy Crystal

Conference/Seminar/Workshop: Attention, Language Processing and Sensory Motor Disorders in Children

Date: January 23, 2009

Location: Saddle Brook, NJ

Registration Fee: \$188.00

Mileage: \$4.96

- E. PERSONNEL – Mr. Schwartz, Chairperson
Mr. Samuel asked where the money is coming from in regards to E1.
Mr. Gardner asked who sets the hours for E2. Mr. Schwartz commented on summer hours should not be discontinued but the hours should be communicated to the public. Mr. Schwartz also commented on the excessive use of substitute teachers. Mr. Mohre will review.

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried 9-0 the board approved E1, E2, E3.

1. Retroactive Approval of Teacher Aide - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the retroactive appointment of Mrs. Susan Champagne to the position of full time teacher aide at a salary of \$18,599.00 to be prorated beginning January 5, 2009-June 30, 2009.
2. Approval of Additional Work Hours – Special Services – It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, in concert with the Supervisor of Special Services, that the Board retroactively approves the following special services, for the 2008/09 school year as set forth below:
 - Johanna Bargisen - 6 additional hours weekly for behavioral consultation @ \$45.00 p/hr
3. Student Teacher for the 2008/2009 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the following student teacher for the 2008/2009 school year:

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>College/University</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher</u>
Ted Georgallas	Felician College	1/20/09-5/8/09	Mrs. Gail Tobey

- F. POLICY – Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Chairperson asked that committee chairs submit committee charges as part of the policy revision project and suggest any other policy revisions relevant to their respective committees.

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS/NJQSAC – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson commented on NJQSAC. Mrs. Norian will provide a meeting summary for the next board meeting.

H. NJSBA/BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT – Mr. Walsh, Delegate reported that on January 22, 2009, the Passaic/Essex County School Boards Association would hold a program on joint legal issues. Monica Peck is one of the presenters.

X. OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Westlake left the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

President Gardner presented a list of “open “board member items.

On a motion by President Gardner, seconded by Mrs. Robertson and carried by roll call vote 8-0-1 (Mrs. Norian abstained) the board accepted President Gardner’s open board member item list for review/resolved by the administration and to be included in the minutes.

Mrs. Robertson asked about the following:

- After school prep program and if the format is the same as last year?
- Is this program part of the budget?
- School Emergency cards need to be automated. Mr. Samuel asked if there are neighboring districts who have automated this service. Mr. Mohre shared that this is being investigated for next year.
- Confirmed staff presentation on EveryDay Math, and if possible, could the board have a copy of the presentation ahead of time?

XI. NEW BUSINESS

On a motion by President Gardner, seconded by Mr. Schwartz and carried by roll call vote 8-0-1 (Mrs. Norian abstained) the board accepted the list of requested information to be provided to the Board on Policy #4151 and Policy #2131. President Gardner asked that this list and a copy of the policies be attached to the minutes.

Mr. Mohre and Ms. Cioppi provided the Board and public with an update regarding the progress made toward district goals (attached).

Mr. Walsh asked if the inauguration would be televised for the students. Mr. Mohre replied that Mr. Ryan is planning for that to occur.

Mr. Walsh asked about the budget timeline.

Mrs. Robertson commented on the district website bulletin on head lice. She asked how the nurse and administration are being proactive.

Mr. Schwartz asked the following:

- Set up a meeting with the CSA for the spring.
- Address district goals by early February.

- Confirm meeting with Mr. Albrecht and DOT - Ms. Cioppi responded that Mr. Albrecht is in the process of scheduling that meeting.

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mrs. Pederson commented on the following:

- The lice issue in the school.
- Substitute teacher costs should be cut down.
- Professional Ed. Days for staff should be limited to two-three times per year.
- Some one-day conference fees for staff look expensive.

Lou Suarez commented on the following:

- Provide more microphones for the board members so that the public can hear them.
- Offered to provide a Veteran's Awareness program for the children.
- Martin Luther King Day be a full day off for the children next year.

Mark Potolski commented on the following:

- Likes the new work session agenda with 2 "Open to Public" sections.
- Closing school for a half day or full day for Martin Luther King Day should be coordinated with other surrounding districts.
- Special session for "at risk".
- Anti-Terrorist grant for security system.
- Concert with children.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY) - None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

It is hereby moved by Mr. Gardner, seconded by Mr. Samuel that the meeting adjourns at 11:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rita Cioppi
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

