

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

Work Session Meeting – June 10, 2009

MINUTES

- I. The meeting was called to order at 8:08 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. 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: Mr. Ferrante arrived at 8:13 p.m., Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Samuel, Mr. Walsh, Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Mr. Gardner
Absent: Mr. Murphy, Dr. Westlake

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, Ms. Rita Cioppi, BA/BS and approximately 12 members of the public.

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

The following members of the public spoke: Serafina Bergelt , Stephanie Landau, Liz Beltoff, Renata Pestic and Mrs. Delbordo. The comments and questions from the public focused around the Everyday Mathematics program that is currently in place through the Tri-District curriculum. There is still concern over the 5th grade everyday math program which the public feels should have been blended more with the traditional math because the parents feel it is confusing to their children.

There were also concerns that since the State of New Jersey did not finalize the core curriculum standards as yet, the Tri-District seems to be moving forward on programs without waiting for the standards to be announced. The public is asking for the Tri-District's vision for the schools on curriculum.

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

Mr. Mohre shared the following information items:

Mr. Mohre congratulated all OPS student musicians for sharing their musical talents during the recent choral and instrumental concerts. He commended Mr. Butcher and Ms. Richardi for their many fine teaching efforts!

The final three days of school, Monday, 6/22; Tuesday, 6/23; and Wednesday, 6/24 are abbreviated sessions. Students will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m.

A team of OPS educators visited the Hawes Elementary School in Ridgewood to discuss the Learnia Assessment Program. Learnia is a web-based formative assessment system that provides educators with periodic information on the progress of students toward acquiring the skills and knowledge inherent in the NJCCCS. A presentation to the board is being planned.

Mr. Mohre invited the board members to attend the 6th grade commencement exercises on the morning of June 22nd.

President's Report:

President Gardner discussed the Everyday Math survey that was presented from the University of Chicago and wanted to know if it was given to the OPS teachers. He also mentioned that a number of parents had concerns and OPS was supposed to be sending a survey to them as well. Mrs. Robertson stated that the Curriculum Committee was involved in the contents of this public survey. The committee added content to the survey but did not remove anything from it.

President Gardner also addressed the coaching of second grade softball. He stated that a number of parents approached him over the discontent of the second grade breakfast this year because of the time change, it was inconvenient for the working parents. Is there any way we can look at that and rectify this problem for the future?

VIII. MINUTES

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – It is hereby moved by Mr. Ferrante, seconded by Mr. Samuel and carried by roll call vote that the following minutes be approved:

May 6, 2009

Reorganization (Mrs. Norian abstained, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Robertson abstained up to the time they were sworn in as a board members)

May 6, 2009

Regular Session

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

- A. BI-BOROUGH/SHARED SERVICES - Dr. Westlake, Chairperson
Mr. Samuel asked if meetings could be scheduled for the year.
- B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS/SAFETY – Mr. Murphy, Chairperson
Mrs. Robertson stated that the Building & Grounds committee should plan another meeting with the Boro to further discuss the landscaping for the Kiss-Off Lane.

Ms. Cioppi mentioned that she and Mr. Murphy had a meeting with the OPS Police Lieutenant to share some insight on a security system for the school.

- C. CURRICULUM - Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson
Mrs. Robertson stated that a meeting was scheduled for 6/4 to discuss a number of items. Mr. Mohre will write a summary. On 6/6 the committee met with the Superintendent from RiverDell to discuss the Tri-District program.

On a motion by Mrs. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Samuel, the following motion was amended and carried by roll call vote, 4-2-1 (Mr. Murphy, Dr. Westlake absent, Mr. Ferrante abstained, Mrs. Robertson and Mr. Walsh voted no) the board approved C1.

1. Tri-District Grade 6 Mathematics Curriculum Revision - It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the board approves the district's participation in the Tri-District Grade 6 Curriculum Revision based on the 2009 New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards. The proposed curriculum, materials and teaching tools are subject to board approval at a future date.

Mr. Walsh requested to be updated on any future Tri-District meetings with the Superintendent. Mr. Mohre said that he would provide updates. Mr. Walsh asked if the Oradell teachers would be involved in the Tri-District meetings in time for the fall program since River Edge and River Dell have already been having meetings. Mr. Mohre responded in a positive manner.

Coordination of agenda with the Board President was discussed. The Board President will outline process.

Mrs. Robertson asked to have stated in the minutes a recommendation for tools and materials for September 2009 for the 6th grade by June 30, 2009.

Mr. Samuel suggested that the board be kept aware of any changes or new programs that may come up in the Tri-District meetings. He suggested the board have more interaction with the Tri-District programs.

- D. FINANCE /TECHNOLOGY– Mr. Samuel, Chairperson
Mr. Samuel requested that the revised agenda be emailed to board members prior to the board meeting for review.

On a motion by Mr. Samuel, seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried by roll call vote 7-0 the board approved D1, D2. (Mr. Murphy, Dr. Westlake absent)

1. Schaefer Explorations 2009/2010 Summer Program Checking Account – It is hereby moved that the Board of Education establish a checking account for the Schaefer Explorations 2009/2010 Summer Program in accord with Board Policy #3451, in the amount of \$2,000.00. This account is for supplies and miscellaneous purchases, not to exceed the sum of \$50.00 per purchase.
2. Approval of Signatories for BCBANC and TD Bank – It is hereby moved that the Board of Education approves the following signatories for the Oradell Public Schools during the 2009/2010 school year with the Bergen County Banking Consortium(BCBANC) and TD Bank:

Michael Gardner	Board President
Dorothy Watson-Nichols	Board Vice President
Ronald Amorino	Treasurer of School Monies
Jeffrey Mohre	Superintendent
Rita Cioppi	Business Administrator/Board Secretary
W. Scott Ryan	Principal

- E. PERSONNEL/NEGOTIATIONS – Mrs. Watson-Nichols, Chairperson
Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion by Mrs. Watson-Nichols, seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried by roll call vote 7-0 (Mr. Murphy and Dr. Westlake absent) the board approved E1.

1. Approval of Unpaid Leave of Absence – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the board approves an unpaid leave of absence for Mrs. Nancy Treby, commencing September 1, 2009 and concluding June 30, 2010.

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion by Mrs. Watson-Nichols, seconded by Mr. Gardner and carried by roll call vote 6-1 (Mr. Walsh voted no, Mr. Murphy and Dr. Westlake absent) the board approved E2.

Mr. Samuel asked if the revisions from the prior meeting were included in the agreement, and were the payments to the Tri-District changed to twice a year. Mr. Mohre responded “yes”.

2. Approval of Tri-District Interlocal Services Agreement 2009/2010 School Year- It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the Tri-District Interlocal Agreement for the provision of coordinating curriculum services for the 2009/2010 school year.

- F. POLICY – Mr. Ferrante, Chairperson noted that a meeting has been scheduled for discussion on July 8th regarding the 6000 Series.
- G. PUBLIC RELATIONS/NJQSAC – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson commented on a project involving Oradell graduates.
- H. NJSBA/BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT – Mr. Walsh, Delegate reported on Bill S1882 and OPRA.
- I. KEY COMMUNICATORS – Mrs. Norian.

X. OLD BUSINESS

President Gardner asked if Mr. Ryan could put something together to meet with the 5th grade parent regarding Everyday Math to address any concerns. He suggested a day and evening meeting to be able to meet with all parents who want to be involved.

Mrs. Robertson asked about the status of the Vice-Principal position. Mr. Mohre mentioned the cutoff date for applicants is July 12th.

President Gardner and Mrs. Robertson asked to review Policy # 9323 and 9324 concerning the agenda.

President Gardner asked to have a date set aside for the Board Retreat. Mr. Samuel suggested having the Board Retreat on July 22nd and the Regular Board Meeting moved to July 15th. The board members were all in agreement. President Gardner asked Ms. Cioppi to email the entire board of this decision.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Grade level meetings with parents.
- 2. Meeting with 6th grade parents to get feedback.

Mr. Walsh asked the Board and Administration if the Delegate Debate could be held at OPS . President Gardner suggested that the fee for seniors be waved.

Mrs. Norian stated that there were public hearing dates set for input on the changes being sought for the Accountability Act. They were to start June 16 and included at least 3 other dates. One was to take place at Bergen Community College. She suggested that the NJSBA website be accessed to confirm dates.

Mr. Samuel asked to have a procedure added to one of our policies mandating the school to be closed by the Superintendent in order to avoid confusion.

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mrs. Pederson thanked Mr. Ryan for planning to have a meeting with the parents. She also stated for the record that the Curriculum Committee should look at the number of books that are being distributed to the students. She also asked when the NJASK scores would be available and if the school will have a summer program for math.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION - None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Ferrante, seconded by Mrs. Norian, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rita Cioppi
Business Administrator/Board Secretary