

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

**PUBLIC WORK/BUSINESS SESSION MEETING
Oradell Public School Library/Media Center
JANUARY 25, 2012**

MINUTES

- I.** The meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:31 p.m. by President Watson-Nichols.
- II.** The **FLAG SALUTE** was led by Dr. Westlake.
- III.** The **SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT** was read by President Watson-Nichols.

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 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. Derian, Mr. Ferrante, Mrs. Norian, Mr. Samuel, Mrs. Walker,
Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Watson-Nichols
Absent: None

Also present were Dr. Maria Nuccetelli, Interim Superintendent, Ms. Rita Cioppi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and approximately 10 members of the public.

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

- 2011-2012 District Goal Update

The Business Administrator, Director of Special Services, and Vice Principal presented their district goals to the Board of Education and Public.

A motion by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried by roll call vote 9-0, the Board approved the following resolution:

1. Establishing the Election of Members of the Oradell Board of Education as the First Tuesday after the First Monday in November – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the following:

WHEREAS, P.L. 2011, c.202 (Senate Bill 3148) authorizes a local board of education to change the election date of school board members from the third Tuesday in April to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November (the General Election); and

WHEREAS, Such action requires the adoption of a resolution by a majority vote of a quorum of the local board of education; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2011, c.202 (S-3148) requires that the change in election date remain in effect for four years; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2011, c.202 (S-3148) eliminates the annual voter referendum on the proposed general fund tax levy (i.e., the base budget which is at or below the statutory tax levy cap) in school districts where board of education members are selected at the General Election; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2011, c.202 (S-3148) requires that an additional general fund tax levy proposal (i.e., for an expenditure in excess of the tax levy cap) be presented to voters as a separate question at the General Election; and

WHEREAS, The Oradell Board of Education believes that the financial interest of its constituents is safeguarded by the state's tax levy cap and the thorough review of the proposed school budget by the Executive County Superintendent and the Executive County School Business Administrator; and

RESOLVED, That, pursuant to P.L. 2011, c.202 (S-3148), the Oradell Board of Education changes the annual election date for its members from the third Tuesday in April to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November (the General Election), beginning in 2012; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, pursuant to P.L. 2011, c.202 (S-3148), this change will remain in effect at least through November 2015;

RESOLVED, That, pursuant to P.L. 2011, c.202 (S-3148), the annual organization meeting of the Oradell Board of Education will take place in the first week of January following the November General Election and that the board of education's next organization meeting will take place on January 9, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That, pursuant to P.L. 2011, c. 202 (S-3148), members of the Oradell Board of Education whose terms would have expired by May 1, 2012 will continue to serve in office until the January 2013 organization meeting; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution be transmitted to Governor Christopher Christie, Lieutenant Governor/Secretary of State Kimberly M. Guadagno; Richard E. Constable, III, Acting Commissioner, Department of Community Affairs; Robert F. Giles, Director, Division of Elections, Department of State; Bergen County Clerk; the Bergen County Board of Elections; Christopher Cerf, Acting Commissioner of

Education; the Division of Finance, New Jersey Department of Education; and Dr. Robert Gilmartin, Executive County Superintendent for Bergen County; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be provided to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

The Oradell Board of Education members asked many questions prior to their vote on the above-referenced resolution; some of their concerns were as follows:

Mr. Samuel asked if the budget goes to public vote in April and is defeated, does the public have say as to which items will be cut. Dr. Nuccetelli said "no", it goes to the Municipal Council and they will make cuts.

Mr. Samuel asked if there isn't a vote in April and July 1 starts the new budget, what if there is a problem in November.....what happens? Dr. Nuccetelli stated that the tax levy cannot go over 2% unless there are certain allowable waivers. If you have to go over the 2% cap then you need to put those items to vote in November.

Mr. Ferrante said the government put out rules that are unbelievable. We save on election costs because we have to follow the rules.

Mr. Samuel asked if the board members stay on until January. Dr. Nuccetelli responded "yes".

Mr. Derian said the 2% cap is marginal and not worth voting on, but are we still going to present the budget to the public? Dr. Nuccetelli said we still go through the same process as before, it just doesn't go to vote.

President Watson-Nichols said the 2% cap was from Governor Christie, what is that changes? Dr. Nuccetelli said both laws will change with it.

Mr. Walsh said the government wants to change to a calendar year, are we staying under 2%. Dr. Nuccetelli said we still cannot go over 2%; the state is fiscal so that won't change.

Mr. Samuel asked if a board member gets elected for January, what happens in year 2. Dr. Nuccetelli said that member stays until next January, same as council.

Mrs. Robertson asked if the month that state aid is normally given change? Dr. Nuccetelli said state aid is always given 48 hours after the Governor's message.

Mrs. Norian stated that we should reach out to the public for the public hearing being there will not be an election.

The Public was allowed to asked questions regarding this resolution:

Mrs. Jane Gattlin asked if there is a change in the school system, will the public be able to vote?

Mr. Joe Mansley felt changing the election to November was a good idea because it will allow the Administration to better plan because it knows how much money it has.

Enrollment Report as of December 31, 2011. Mr. Ferrante requested to have a column added showing the number of classes for each grade.

Grade	Enrollment
Pre-K	28*
Kindergarten	80
First	114
Second	102
Third	100
Fourth	134
Fifth	126
Sixth	97
LLD	15
Total	796

*including Integrated Students

Incident Report for the month of December 2011:

Grade	Incidents
Pre-K	0
Kindergarten	0
First	0
Second	0
Third	0
Fourth	0
Fifth	0
Sixth	0
Total	0

2. Acceptance of Interim Superintendent's Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Monthly Reports – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board accepts the Interim Superintendent's Monthly Report to the Board relevant to the NJ Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights. (as attached)

Dr. Nuccetelli discussed the following items:

- All Day Kindergarten – the committee to explore this initiative had its first meeting on Monday, January 16th at 4:00 pm in the IMC. The committee reviewed the charge from the Board of Education and the previous study that had been done in 2007. Some of the research was shared with the committee and the committee was also alerted to the NJDOE website for additional information. The committee created a survey which will be used to gather people's opinions and thoughts on the topic from the community. The survey was emailed and/or mailed to parents/guardians, posted on the website and shared with the borough and The Patch for further exposure. The committee is also holding a public hearing on February 1 in the OPS Auditorium at 7:00 pm to give folks another opportunity to share their thoughts.

- 2012-2013 School Calendar – On tonight's agenda is a resolution to amend the 2012-2013 calendar which would result in moving the Spring Break to the week of April 15th. This is being done to ensure that our students are in school the week prior to testing. This week would serve as an opportunity to review with our students as they prepare to take the NJASK the following week.
- Updates to the 2011-2012 District Goals – Tonight our three administrators will be updating the Board relative to the progress in achieving the district goals for the 2011-2012 school year. These goals were adopted by the Board in September as a result of discussions that took place during July and August. The goals are in the areas of basic skills, student achievement and finance.
- 2012-2013 School District Budget – The administration continues to work on the 2012-2013 school district budget based on using the parameters of the 2% cap and receiving the same state aid that the district originally received in the 2011-2012 school year. The Governor is expected to give his budget message to the State Legislature by February 15. Contained in this message will be status of school funding. The budget software is available to districts to begin to input information and expenditures. State aid figures are usually available on the same day as the budget message or within 24 hours of the message. The state aid figures are automatically loaded into the budget software in the second download.
- The next board meeting is February 15, 2012 at 7:30 pm in the IMC.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Watson-Nichols asked the board members to work on the RSC evaluation. Dr. Nuccetelli said "if you do it quickly then NJSBA will get it back quickly".

VII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mr. Joe Mansley said he was glad the board was unanimous on changing the vote to November.

VIII. MINUTES

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES –

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – It is hereby moved by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried by roll call vote 8-0-1 (Dr. Westlake abstained) the Board approved the following minutes.

- December 14, 2011 Work/Regular Business Session Meeting

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

- A. TRI-DISTRICT/SHARED SERVICES - Dr. Westlake, Chairperson spoke about the committee meeting held on January 19, 2012. Regionalization was discussed. A K-12 did not receive much support as the local control would be dissolved. Dr. Nuccetelli discussed the fact that there would still be a 5 – 4 vote with Oradell being the minority. The feasibility study would not address these changes, you need a funding formula. Dr. Westlake mentioned after going through a number of meetings, we should look at the initial problem, use the report as dialog whether it

revolves around a K-12 or combing the two elementary districts or just sharing amongst districts. Mr. Ferrante made the following suggestion:
 If we became a K-12 as a town without looking at each district (Oradell/River Edge), we should all pay one tax rate. We should bring in a tax assessor and create one tax rate for all. Dr. Nuccetelli said it would combine the ratable for all districts and come up with one unified tax rate.

B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS/SAFETY – Mr. Derian, Chairperson

A motion by Mr. Derian, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried 9-0 the Board approved B1.

1. Use of School Facilities – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board of Education approve the following request for use of school facilities for the 2011-2012 School Year:

Organization	Event	Area of Building	Dates	Time	Custodian Overtime
*Oradell Recreation	Summer Program	Gym	June 25, 2012-Aug. 3, 2012	9-3 PM	No charge
Organization	Event	Area of Building	Dates	Time	
*6 th Grade Parents Activity Committee	Spring Fling	MPRs	June 1, 2012	3-10 PM	

*No Cost to use the facilities

C. CURRICULUM – Mr. Ferrante, Chairperson

Dr. Nuccetelli explained the change in the 2012/1013 School Calendar reflecting Spring Recess to take place from April 15-19 to allow the students to return to school one week prior to testing.

A motion by Mr. Ferrante, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried by roll call vote 9-0, the Board approved C1, C2.

1. Approval of Revised School Calendar for 2012-2013 School Year – It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the revised 2012-2013 School Calendar as attached.
2. Approval of Field Trip for 2011/2012 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the following field trip(s):

Grade	Destination	Date	Cost
TAG Program-Odyssey of the Mind Grades 5 & 6	Regional Tournament- Parlin, NJ	March 17, 2012	Transportation for school bus only
6 th Grade – Pool Party	Oradell Swim Club, Oradell NJ	June 14, 2012(rain date June 15, 2012)	-0-
6 th Grade – Graduation Luncheon	TBD	June 20, 2012 (tentative)	-0-

D. FINANCE/TECHNOLOGY – Mr. Samuel, Chairperson

Mrs. Walker thanked the Oradell Junior Basketball for their generous donation.

A motion by Mr. Samuel, seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried by roll call vote 9-0, the Board approved D1, D2, D3, D4, D5, D6.

1. Monthly Certifications –The Financial Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Moneys for the month end December 2011, 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 2011/2012 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. Payment of Invoices – It is hereby moved that the invoices for the month of January 2012 be retroactively approved as follows:

Fund 10 (<i>General Current Expense</i>)	\$ 686,265.81
Fund 12 (<i>Capital Outlay</i>)	\$ 0.00
Fund 20 (<i>Special Revenue Fund</i>)	\$ 67,555.00
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 60 (<i>Integrated PreSchool</i>)	\$ 0.00
Fund 63	\$ 0.00
Fund 64 (<i>Ntl School Lunch Prog</i>)	\$ 482.56
Fund 65	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total	\$ 754,303.37

3. Acceptance of PTA Mini Grant Award Monies for the 2011/2012 school year- It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board accepts with deep appreciation, mini-grant award monies in the following amounts from the Oradell Parent-Teacher Association in support of the following programs:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Mini Grant</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2 nd	Newark Museum Trip	\$1,000.00
	Ancient Egypt	

4. Acceptance of donations from the Oradell Junior Basketball Program for 2011/2012 school year- It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board accepts with deep appreciation, donations from the Oradell Junior Basketball Program as follows:

\$500 (Check)	for Phys Ed/Gym Equipment
\$300 (cash value)	purchased basketball equipment for the Hoops Program delivered to the school.

5. Special Education Tuition Contract for 2011/2012 School Year - It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves in accord with Chapter 46, Title 18A, NJ Statutes, the 2011/2012 School Year tuition contract for the following student, **and furthermore, approves the settlement agreement related to Student #82, authorizes the execution of such agreement and directs that the administration act in accordance herewith.**

PROGRAM/PROVIDER	Student	Cost	Duration
The Windsor School	#82	\$54,000 (to be prorated)	2/6/12-6/30/12

6. Refunding Process – It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the start-up costs for the refunding process on the Oradell Public School's existing referendum, not to exceed \$1,000,00.

E. PERSONNEL /NEGOTIATIONS– Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson

A motion by Mrs. Robertson, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried by roll call vote 9-0, the Board approved E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7, E8(Mr. Walsh abstained) E9.

1. Approval of the Job Description for Business Administrator/Board Secretary – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the job description for the Business Administrator/Board Secretary as per the attached.
2. Approval of Medical Leave of Absence – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the (paid) medical leave of absence for Ruth Simpson from January 19, 2012 to March 19, 2012 (utilizing 37 sick days).
3. Approval of Leave of Absence – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the (paid) medical leave of absence for Jennifer Amoroso from January 27, 2012 to February 9, 2012 (utilizing 10 sick days) and approves the (unpaid) Family and Medical Leave of Absence (FMLA) from February 10, 2012-March 9, 2012.
4. Approval of Part-Time Instructional Aide for 2011/2012 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the appointment of Elizabeth Shuler from Lunch Aide to Part-Time Instructional Aide effective 1/26/12 to 6/30/12 at a salary of \$9,718.00 (to be prorated).

*Until a contract agreement is ratified for the 2011/12 school year by the Oradell Board of Education and the Oradell Education Association, salary is the same as the 2009/10 annual salary. All adjustments will be made after settlement of the new contract.

5. Approval of Replacement Leave Teacher for 2011/2012 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board retroactively approves the appointment of Adrianna Pestrichella from Full-Time Instructional Aide to Replacement Leave

Teacher effective 1/23/12 to 6/30/12 at BA/Step 1, salary of \$45,210.00(to be prorated).

*Until a contract agreement is ratified for the 2011/12 school year by the Oradell Board of Education and the Oradell Education Association, salary is the same as the 2009/10 annual salary. All adjustments will be made after settlement of the new contract.

6. Approval of Full-Time Instructional Aide for 2011/2012 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board retroactively approves the appointment of Joanne Lam from Part-Time Instructional Aide to Full-Time Instructional Aide effective 1/23/12 to 6/30/12 at a salary of \$19,436.00 (to be prorated).

*Until a contract agreement is ratified for the 2011/12 school year by the Oradell Board of Education and the Oradell Education Association, salary is the same as the 2009/10 annual salary. All adjustments will be made after settlement of the new contract.

7. Approval of Staff Attendance Plan for the 2011/2012 School Year– It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the 2011/2012 Staff Attendance Plan as per the attached.

8. Conferences/Workshops 2011/2012 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim 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: Michele Kalotkin

Conference/Seminar/Workshop: Power Solving: Problem Solving Outside the Box for More Effective Teaching and Social Skills Development

Date: February 3, 2012

Location: Paramus, NJ (Region V)

Registration Fee: \$0

Mileage and Tolls: \$0

Name: Amy Rabinowitz

Conference/Seminar/Workshop: Power Solving: Problem Solving Outside the Box for More Effective Teaching and Social Skills Development

Date: February 3, 2012

Location: Paramus, NJ (Region V)

Registration Fee: \$0

Mileage and Tolls: \$0

Name: John Walsh

Conference/Seminar/Workshop: NJSBA Delegates Assembly

Date: May 19, 2012

Location: Plainsboro, NJ

Registration Fee: \$0

Mileage and Tolls: \$47.52

9. Amend previously approved School Musical Stipend Amounts – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that

the Board amends the stipend amount previously approved on the Dec. 15, 2011 minutes for the below listed staff members to reflect the following:

<u>Staff</u>	<u>Stipend Amount</u>
James Butcher	850.00
Sheri Giacomini	850.00
Carol Richardi	850.00

F. POLICY – Mrs. Walker, Chairperson

Mrs. Walker pulled the second reading of Policy 5141.8.

1. Second Reading – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the board adopts the following policy:

<u>Policy #</u>	<u>Policy</u>
5141.8	Sports Related Concussion & Head Injury

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS/KEY COMMUNICATORS – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

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

X. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mrs. Jane Gattlin asked for an update on negotiations for the teachers. President Watson-Nichols said they reached a tentative agreement in November 2011. The School Attorney approved the salary guides which were exchanged with the OEA. Currently there are discussions concerning the salary lines.

Mrs. Tarra Russo asked about the Superintendent search. Mrs. Robertson responded that the board reached out to a number of people for interviews. We will definitely have an Interim-Superintendent chosen in March and are advertising for a permanent position.

XI. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Ferrante discussed the renovation plans for the ball field. Now that the drainage issue has been resolved, the ball field could be worked on. The Little League is planning to have it done for this spring. It was too late last spring to reseed the field, so it will be done in time this year. Mrs. Robertson asked what is the time frame? Mr. Ferrante responded two or three days.

Mr. Samuel discussed some of the items on the action item list and asked Ms. Cioppi to add the energy audit to the list for the next meeting.

Mr. Derian mentioned that the web was not functional at one point because Cablevision was down. He also mentioned that he wanted to revisit the remaining Hemlock Tree because the school looks lopsided and we need a symmetrical façade.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Robertson asked if the ongoing funding for the garden grant comes out of the school budget. Dr. Nuccetelli responded "no". Mrs. Robertson also asked "what happens to the vegetables that grow. Dr. Nuccetelli said that the students get to take them home.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION – A motion by Mrs. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Walsh the Board entered into closed session at 10:00 p.m.

WHEREAS, a matter to be considered by the Board of Education deals with personnel, negotiations and/or possible litigation, and

WHEREAS, public disclosure of this matter may be prejudicial to the public good,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this matter be considered in a meeting closed to the public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Minutes of this meeting be sealed until the matter is resolved.

A motion by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mrs. Norian the Board entered back into public session at 10:15 p.m.

XIV. A motion by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mrs. Norian the meeting adjourned at 10:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Rita Cioppi
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

