

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

**SPECIAL SESSION MEETING
Oradell Public School Library/Media Center
MARCH 1, 2012**

MINUTES

- I.** The meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:30 PM by President Watson-Nichols.
- II.** The **FLAG SALUTE** was led by Mr. Walsh.
- 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 Mrs. Walker.

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, Mr. Samuel, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Walsh,
Dr. Westlake, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Watson-Nichols
Absent: Mrs. Norian

Also present were Dr. Maria Nuccetelli, Interim Superintendent, Ms. Rita Cioppi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and approximately 20 members of the public.

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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

Dr. Nuccetelli presented the 2012-2013 School Budget.

- Discussion of 2012-2013 Preliminary Budget – questions from Board members and the public were discussed after the presentation:

Questions from Board Members:

Mr. Ferrante asked if the health benefit deduction was in the budget and also if OPS is changing grades, are class sizes remaining the same. Dr. Nuccetelli

responded, we want to keep the same number of teachers at each grade level the same, so student size is also the same.

Mrs. Robertson asked for a description of instructional support (ESL, BSI, etc.), is that over and above what we have now. Dr. Nuccetelli responded "yes", we added a BSI teacher and ESL/BS will be split in order to stay compliant. Also, more money was added to the Gifted and Talented program.

Dr. Nuccetelli also spoke about the new Teacher Evaluation Process being introduced by the State. There are four methods to choose from, we need to see which one is good for OPS. We are also going to try and form a consortium with the Tri-District.

Questions from the public:

Mrs. McGill asked about the six sections of 5th grade going into 6th grade next year, how will that work out? Dr. Nuccetelli responded one less first and fourth grade, two more of sixth grade.

Mrs. Boccanfuso asked why the state aid figure was higher in the newspaper than in the presentation. Ms. Cioppi responded that the newspaper does not include the debt service assessment that the state takes away from state aid. That figure is only shown on the reports submitted to the schools.

Mrs. Boccanfuso also asked why another school was able to exceed the 2% cap. Dr. Nuccetelli responded that they are going out for a separate budget question.

Mrs. Schwartz asked why the schools are being forced to put money aside for State Evaluations, the Principals already have certification to do that. Dr. Nuccetelli responded that the Federal Government said waivers would be available because they want to improve student achievement and be assured that the system being implemented is uniform and has the same level of expertise.

Mrs. Schwartz also asked for an explanation of WIFI and the technology slide. Dr. Nuccetelli responded that easiteach is a projector and together with a white board becomes a smart board. The PTA has helped the school a lot with this purchase. In addition to installation we need professional development. Mrs. Lynch will provide lessons on a shared drive. We are also setting up a WIFI (wireless) in the library as a start-up. These are all one time expenditures.

Mrs. Shapiro asked what makes up the difference in revenue between the total budget and the tax levy. Dr. Nuccetelli read off the items from the slide and also mentioned that the presentation was on the OPS website in case she wanted to view it herself.

Mrs. Wright asked if the teachers will be evaluating each other. Dr. Nuccetelli responded that it is a peer result, it is done together as a group.

Mrs. Wright also asked if anything was decided about additional staff for all day kindergarten classes. Dr. Nuccetelli responded that if OPS has a larger enrollment, the administration would have to look at it.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Watson-Nichols welcomed the newly appointed Business Administrator, Alfredo Aguilar, who was sitting in the audience.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

A. TRI-DISTRICT /SHARED SERVICES – Dr. Westlake, Chairperson –No report

B. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS/SAFETY – Mr. Derian, Chairperson- No report

C. CURRICULUM - Mr. Ferrante, Chairperson

Mrs. Robertson questioned as to why the April break was changed. Dr. Nuccetelli responded because of Region V and the request for all schools in the region to have the same calendar.

A motion by Mr. Ferrante, seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Mrs. Norian absent) the Board approved C1.

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.

D. FINANCE/TECHNOLOGY – Mr. Samuel, Chairperson

A motion by Mr. Samuel, seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Mrs. Norian absent) the Board approved D1.

1. Approval of 2012/2013 Preliminary Budget – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the following:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oradell Board of Education approves/adopts a preliminary 2012/2013 school district budget as follows:

	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>	<u>Budget</u>
General Fund	\$ 9,846,269	\$10,475,410
Debt Service Fund	\$ 567,127	\$ 567,127
Totals	\$10,413,396	\$11,042,537

And further authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to make any and all changes to the budget as mandated by the State.

E. PERSONNEL /NEGOTIATIONS– Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson

A motion by Mr. Ferrante seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried by roll call vote, the board entered into closed session at 8:34 p.m. to discuss personnel items on the agenda.

A motion by Mr. Ferrante, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the board returned to open session at 9:04 p.m.

A motion by Mrs. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Mrs. Norian absent) the Board approved E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6,E7.

1. Approval to Appoint Interim Superintendent – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the appointment of Dr. Jeffrey Feifer to serve as Interim Superintendent effective March 23, 2012, (consulting days not to exceed 5 days prior to the effective date), at a daily rate of \$557.69 or whatever the state cap allows, 3 days per week.
2. Abolishment of Positions – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board abolishes the following positions effective June 30, 2012:
 - Current 40 hour per week, Bookkeeper Payroll Officer
 - Current 17 hour per week, Accounts Payable Clerk/Bookkeeper
3. Creation of Positions – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the following:

Whereas, the Oradell Board of Education has determined that a number of hours per week employees working in the positions of Payroll and Accounts Payable should be changed; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the position of Payroll shall be reduced from full-time to 24.5 hours per week, effective July 1, 2012; and be it further

Resolved, that the position of Accounts Payable shall be increased from 17.0 hours per week to 24.5 hours per week, effective July 1, 2012.

4. Employee Payroll Health Benefits Officer Position and Job Description – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the establishment of a 12-month Employee Payroll/Health Benefits Officer position, not to exceed 24.5 hours per week effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 as per the attached job description.
5. Accounts Payable/Receivable Officer Position and Job Description – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the establishment of a 12-month Accounts Payable/Receivable Officer position, not to exceed 24.5 hours per week effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 as per the attached job description.
6. Approval of Revised Job Description – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the revised job description for the Administrative Assistant/Risk Management Officer effective July 1, 2012 as per the attached.

7. Approval of the creation of a Part-Time Special Education Resource Room Instructor Position– It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the creation of a Part-Time Special Education Resource Room Instructor position to begin on or about March 15, 2012.

F. POLICY – Mrs. Walker, Chairperson stated a meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2012.

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS/KEY COMMUNICATORS – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson-No report.

H. NJSBA/BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT – Mr. Walsh, Delegate stated that the Delegates Assembly is in May. Odyssey of the Mind is March 17, 2012.

IX. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mrs. Kiress, Mrs. Shapiro, and Mrs. Hunt asked about the future of the Superintendent's position. There were questions asking why another interim was hired and not a permanent superintendent. President Watson-Nichols responded that the board ran ads and decided the Interim would have a two-year contract with a 30-day escape clause in case a permanent superintendent was found. She said the board does not want to rush just to say we have a permanent superintendent and get the wrong person, we want to take our time and be comfortable that the right person was chosen.

The public asked if a search firm was being used. Mr. Samuel said search firms charge a lot of money. The board wants to do the interviewing to make sure they get the right person. Mr. Derian mentioned the expertise of an interim which right now is welcomed.

Mrs. Bollinger asked why the Tri-District was not considered. Mrs. Robertson said there was no interest by either River Edge or River Dell to do it, even with numerous discussions.

There was also a couple discussions concerning the full day kindergarten, some parents felt it best to keep the kindergarten the way it is. Dr. Nuccetelli said it would be decided at the March 14th meeting.

X. OLD BUSINESS - none

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Nuccetelli mentioned there would be a science room dedication on Saturday, March 10th at 10:00 am for Wally Schirra.

Dr. Nuccetelli said the next board meeting was changed to March 13, 2012.

XII. CLOSED SESSION (IF NECESSARY)

It is hereby moved that the Board of Education retire to Closed Session.

_____ Motion _____ Seconded
ROLL CALL

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.

XIII. A motion by Mr. Ferrante, seconded by Dr. Westlake the meeting adjourned at

Respectfully submitted,



Rita Cioppi

Business Administrator/Board Secretary