

ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649

PUBLIC WORK/BUSINESS SESSION MEETING
Oradell Public School Library/Media Center
MARCH 13, 2012

MINUTES

- I. The meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:35 p.m. by President Watson-Nichols.
- II. The **FLAG SALUTE** was led by Mr. Derian.
- III. The **SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT** was read by Mr. Derian.

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, Mrs. Norian, Mr. Samuel arrive at 8:46 PM, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Walsh, Dr. Westlake, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Watson-Nichols

Absent: Mr. Ferrante

Also present were Dr. Maria Nuccetelli, Interim Superintendent, Ms. Rita Cioppi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and approximately 50 members of the public.

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

- Recognition of the OPS Winners of the NJ Agricultural Society's 2011 Farm-City Poster and Essay Contest
- Presentation of All Day Kindergarten Program

Board member comments:

Mr. Samuel mentioned that in the response from the survey to parents 61 favored all day kindergarten and 30 did not.

Mr. Walsh asked if Mrs. Capodanno is working on a full day kindergarten at River Edge? Dr. Nuccetelli said River Edge is going to have an all day kindergarten in September.

Mrs. Robertson said that Mrs. Capodanno is starting a committee for other programs and for quality kindergarten programs. Dr. Nuccetelli said Dr. Feifer could implement these programs and see what is best for Oradell.

President Watson-Nichols asked this committee would help to change the curriculum. Dr. Feifer said the curriculum would not change, there are many programs to visit and make it happen. President Watson-Nichols asked if the curriculum would be in place for September. Dr. Feifer said we can work with Toni Capodanno to have it ready for September if that is what the board wants.

Mrs. Walker mentioned that using aides in the kindergarten classroom are primary. She also mentioned that Cheryl Magill (Superintendent Secretary) took all the surveys and put them together to form a very comprehensive survey on full day kindergarten vs. modified. I think full day would be best for our kids.

Mr. Walsh said that since River Edge voted for full day kindergarten and Oradell is voting today, Toni Capodanno needs to draw up a curriculum for both districts. Mr. Walsh also asked if there any discussion about having both a full-day and modified program. Dr. Nuccetelli responded that it was discussed but what if we have more parents that want full day or half day, how do we handle that situation.

Dr. Westlake was more in favor of full day kindergarten because the children miss at least 36 hours of instruction being in a modified program. We need to do what is best for the students.

President Watson-Nichols said there are some programs that start out half day and then transition into a full day program. Dr. Nuccetelli said a period of one month of half day and then transition into full day would be good.

Mrs. Norian mentioned that knowing only half day from when her children went to school, it is difficult to accept a full day kindergarten program because her children are successful. Either situation could work, but it is still difficult to accept this change. "It's a hard call".

Mr. Samuel asked Dr. Feifer "if the board decided not to go with a full day kindergarten today, how would you proceed"? Dr. Feifer responded "we could work with the teachers to see what works. I have seen both programs and they both work. At this point in time, Jersey is committed to rigorous standards and full day gives more time to the students."

Comments from the Public:

Mrs. Betsy Iris prefers kindergarten to stay as is and all the teachers should have aides because it is a huge responsibility.

Mrs. Nancy Bandet said what we have now is a jewel. Give the students a quality education, not extra hours. It is not a day-care.

Ms. Ericka Wright, Teacher asked if can add another teacher to make class sizes smaller. Dr. Nuccetelli responded, only if we have more kindergarten students.

Mrs. Chris York said she is a teacher and has a classroom aide, she doesn't know what she would do without her. She asked the board to take more time, don't rush into this decision.

Mrs. Nancy Shapiro asked Dr. Westlake what do our children need to compete? She spoke about what happens in kindergarten class now and how great it is. We need a good quality program and would love for the program to stay as is.

Mrs. Kathy Sears said class size is a concern. If teaching to the test is a burden, let the parents fill in the gap at home during the day. Take some time to make this decision, don't rush into it.

Mrs. Jane Kiernan said our kindergarten program is fine the way it is. She commended Mrs. Malwitz for how great she was with her son.

Mrs. Kelly Brancato said that parents are active with their kids and are qualified to teach their kids a lot, so they are not just sitting home. Why do they need the extra hours of kindergarten class.

Dr. Nuccetelli did a presentation on 2011 Assessment Data for District Factor Group I. The board had discussions concerning the scores and how the school plans to improve on language arts. The math scores are stronger, the language arts was disappointing to the board especially 4th and 5th grade. Compared to other schools OPS needs improvement, it is a very tough competitive environment.

Dr. Nuccetelli also discussed the following items:

- 2012-2013 School District Budget – the Board approved a 2012-2013 preliminary budget on March 1 and submitted it to the Executive County Superintendent for his approval. Today, we received notice that he has approved the budget and the district can advertise the budget in anticipation of the public hearing. The hearing will take place on March 28 at 7:30 pm in the Council Chambers at Borough Hall. The budget presentation on the 28th will be televised.
- After School NJASK Test Prep Classes – classes began on February 27 and will run for 15 weeks on Mondays and Thursdays after school. The program is designed to enhance the skills of our students in testing procedures and content knowledge. The students are assigned classes that are all Language Arts, all math or Language and Math.
- Dedication of the Science Lab – took place last Friday evening prior to the Science Fair. Our lab is now known as the Wally Schirra Science Lab. Mr. Ruffini, the district's science consultant, served as Master of Ceremonies. Isabelle Samuel and Laura Rizik, sixth grade students, provided reflections on the life of Mr. Schirra as did our Borough Historian, George Carter. Mrs. McGill also provided information on Mr. Schirra. The Boy Scouts displayed a flag which was flown on the naval ship named after Mr.

Shirra. Board members were aided by OPS students as a ribbon was cut and the plaque was unveiled. Thank you to all who made this such a wonderful event and tribute to a former Oradell resident.

- Final Thoughts from Dr. Nuccetelli – Tonight is my final Board Meeting in Oradell and I just wanted to thank everyone for a really enjoyable time here in Oradell. It has been a pleasure being here to serve the children of Oradell. The community and especially the OPS PTA are truly supportive of a high quality education and what is best for kids.

The teachers and support staff are a very important part of what is best at OPS. Everyone works very hard to provide our children with a safe, nurturing and effective learning environment. I would especially like to thank the administration for their support and to recognize the efforts of the administrative assistants in central office.

Lastly, the Oradell Board of Education is an amazing group of individuals. They are dedicated to the district and their community and take the responsibility of overseeing the education of the children very seriously. They are genuinely concerned about what is best for them. I will miss them.

- The next meeting is March 28, 2012 at 7:30 pm in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Watson-Nichols read a parting letter to Dr. Nuccetelli (attached). All the member of the Board of Education spoke very highly of Dr. Nuccetelli and of the good times they will always remember.

President Watson-Nichols welcomed Dr. Jeffrey Feifer, new Interim-Superintendent.

VII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

VIII. MINUTES

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES –

- January 25, 2012 Work/Regular Session Meeting
- February 15, 2012 Work/Regular Session Meeting, Closed Session
- March 1, 2012 Special Meeting, Closed Session

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – *It is hereby moved by Dr. Westlake, seconded by Mr. Derian and carried by roll call vote (Mr. Ferrante absent, Mr. Samuel abstained) that the Board approved the following minutes.*

- January 11, 2012 Work/Regular Business Session Meeting

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION

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

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

A motion by Mr. Derian, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Mr. Ferrante absent) the Board approved B1, B2.

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	Date(s)	Time	Custodian Overtime
*Oradell Little League	Coaches Clinic Inst.	GYM	March 19, 22, 26, 2012	7-9PM	-0-
	Coach Run Practice	MPRs	March 12-15, 2012	7-10 PM	-0-
*Oradell Little League	Coach Run Practice	MPRs	March 17, 2012	7:30-4:30 pm	\$387.00 (9 hrs at \$43** p/hr)
*Girl Scouts Troop 5246	Award Ceremony	Auditorium	May 21, 2012	6-10 PM	-0-
*Cub Scouts 2 nd Grade	Den Meeting	MPR D	March 20, 2012	3-4PM	-0-

*No fee to use the facilities

**rates subject to change pending negotiations

2. Approval to solicit proposals for District Architect for the 2012/2013 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approves the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to solicit proposals through the RFP process for the District Architect for the 2012/2013 school year.

C. CURRICULUM – Mr. Ferrante, Chairperson

A motion by Mrs. Robertson, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried by roll call vote 6-2 (Mr. Ferrante absent) the board approved C1 (Mrs. Robertson and Mrs. Watson-Nichols voted no). A motion by Mrs. Robertson, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried 7-0-1 the board approved C2 (Mrs. Watson-Nichols abstained).

1. Approval of **Revised** School Calendar for 2011/2012– It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the revised 2011/2012 School Calendar (attached.)
2. Approval of All Day Kindergarten Program for 2012/2013– It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves All Day Kindergarten Program for the 2012/2013 School Year.

D. FINANCE/TECHNOLOGY – Mr. Samuel, Chairperson

Mrs. Robertson and Mrs. Walker thanked the Oradell Kids Foundation for their generous donation.

A motion by Mr. Samuel seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried by roll call vote 8-0 (Mr. Ferrante absent) the Board approved D1, D2, D3, D4(as amended), D5, D6, D7, D8.

1. Monthly Certifications –The Financial Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Moneys for the month end January 2012, 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 February 2012 be retroactively approved as follows:

Fund 10 (<i>General Current Expense</i>)	\$ 876,881.39
Fund 12 (<i>Capital Outlay</i>)	\$ 0.00
Fund 20 (<i>Special Revenue Fund</i>)	\$ 7,490.43
Fund 30 (<i>Capital Projects Funds</i>)	\$ 2,745.35
Fund 40 (<i>Debt Service Fund</i>)	\$ 431,719.38
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>)	\$ 671.89
Fund 65	\$ 0.00
Total	\$ 1,319,508.44

3. Transfer of Funds – It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approve the attached transfer list in accordance with Title 18A:22-8.1 and furthermore designates the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to make budget transfers between line items, and to make additional transfers as necessary between monthly meetings of the Board.
4. Amend -Approval to purchase a Professional Studio Piano – It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the purchase of a Kawai Model UST-9, 46" Professional Studio Piano at a cost NOT TO EXCEED \$5,110 from Forte Piano, Paramus, NJ.
5. Approval to purchase a Kubota Cab and Mower – It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the purchase of the following from Wilfred McDonald, Inc, South Hackensack, NJ:

Kubota Soft Sided Cab	\$3,475.00
Kubota Mid Mount Mower	\$2,768.00

6. Acceptance of Oradell Kids Foundation Grant Award Money for the 2011/2012 school year- It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board accepts with deep appreciation, grant award money from the Oradell Kids Foundation in support of the following program:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Grant</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Kindergarten	Health Barn-USA Program	\$550.00
Second	Story Writing-Bare Books Inc.	\$345.95
Fourth	Franklin Institute	\$500.00
Fifth	The Hermitage Museum	\$780.00

7. Approval of Special Education Services for the 2011/2012 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the following special education services:

PROVIDER	Student	DESCRIPTION/RATE
Community School	#72	6 hours of NJASK Prep Instruction at \$45 p/hr
Region III	#79	2 Sessions OT p/wk @\$60 p/session .

8. Approval to Refund a Portion of School Bonds – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the following:

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF ORADELL IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY (i) AUTHORIZING THE MAKING OF AN APPLICATION TO THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 18A:24-61 THROUGH 62 FOR APPROVAL TO ISSUE REFUNDING SCHOOL BONDS TO REFUND A PORTION OF ITS OUTSTANDING 2004 SCHOOL BONDS AND (ii) APPROVING A REFUNDING SCHOOL BOND ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION THEREWITH-

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of the Borough of Oradell in the County of Bergen, New Jersey (the “Board” when referring to the governing body and the “School District” when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) issued \$7,217,000 aggregate principal amount of tax-exempt school bonds dated December 15, 2004 (the “2004 School Bonds”); and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the current tax-exempt interest rate environment may enable it to realize going-forward debt service savings for the School District property taxpayers through the issuance by the Board of Refunding School Bonds, Series 2012 (the “Refunding School Bonds”) to refund all or a portion its outstanding 2004 School Bonds in the amount of \$4,607,000 maturing on or after February 15, 2015 (the “Refunded Bonds”); and

WHEREAS, in efforts to realize such taxpayer savings, the Board now desires to adopt a refunding school bond ordinance (the “Refunding Bond Ordinance”) authorizing the issuance of the Refunding School Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$5,100,000, the net proceeds of which shall be used to refund the Refunded Bonds in accordance with their terms; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:24-61 through 62, the Board has determined to make application (the “Application”) to the Local Finance Board within the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (the “LFB”) for approval to adopt the Refunding Bond Ordinance and to issue the Refunding School Bonds (collectively, the “Refinancing”); and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that:

- (a) it is in the public interest to accomplish the Refinancing;
- (b) the Refinancing is for the health, wealth, convenience or betterment of the inhabitants of the School District;
- (c) the amounts to be expended for the Refinancing are not unreasonable or exorbitant; and

(d) the Refinancing is an efficient and feasible means of reducing the costs of providing services for the needs of the inhabitants of the School District and will not create an undue financial burden to be placed upon such School District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF ORADELL IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN, NEW JERSEY as follows:

Section 1. The preparation of the Application and the filing of same with the LFB for its approval are hereby approved, and the school officials and officers, including but not limited to, the Board President and Vice President, the Superintendent, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and any other Board representative, together with bond counsel, Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey ("Bond Counsel"), and the auditor, Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP, Fair Lawn, New Jersey are each hereby authorized and directed to represent the Board in such matters pertaining thereto.

Section 2. The LFB is hereby respectfully requested to consider the Application and to record its findings, recommendations and/or approvals as provided by N.J.S.A. 18A:24-61 through 62.

Section 3. The Refunding Bond Ordinance attached hereto as Exhibit A is hereby approved. Bond Counsel is hereby authorized and directed to publish the required notice of pending ordinance of the Refunding Bond Ordinance in The Record in the form and at the time required by N.J.S.A. 18A:24-61.4.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

E. PERSONNEL /NEGOTIATIONS– Mrs. Robertson, Chairperson
*Mrs. Walker commended Ms. Melissa Pizza for a good job as the Literacy Coach.
Dr. Nuccetelli stated that the district will advertise outside for a replacement.*

*A motion by Mrs. Robertson, seconded by Dr. Westlake and carried by roll vote
8-0 (Mr. Ferrante absent) the Board approved E1, E2, E3, E4, E5, E6, E7, E8.*

1. Withholding of Increment – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the following:

Whereas, a recommendation was made by the Interim Superintendent of Schools to the Oradell Board of Education ("Board") to withhold the 2012/2013 employment increment and adjustment increment of Employee #4394 ; and

Whereas, the Board has considered the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools and approves same;

Now therefore, be it resolved, the Board on the recommendation of the Superintendent approves the withholding of the employment increment and adjustment increment in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:29-14 for the 2012-2013 school year; and

Be it further resolved, that Employee # 4394 salary for the 2012/2013 school year shall be the same salary as received for the 2011/2012* school year.

*Pending ratification of the contract agreement 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.

2. Acceptance of Resignation of Position – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board accepts the resignation of Melissa Pizza as Literacy Coach, effective June 30, 2012. Effective for the 2012/2013 school year she will return to the position of classroom teacher.
3. Acceptance of Resignation – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board accepts with regret, the resignation of Scott Kirsch, Custodian, effective on or about March 29, 2012.
4. Approval to appoint Part-time Special Education Resource Room Instructor – It is hereby moved upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board approves the appointment of Lisa Lowery from Part-time Special Education Instructional Aide to the position of Part-time Special Education Resource Room Instructor to begin on or about March 15, 2012 at BA/Step 1, salary of \$45,210.00 (to be prorated*).

*Pending ratification of the contract agreement 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. Amend the start date for Interim Superintendent – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board amends the previously approved resolution on March 1, 2012, Agenda Item E1 for Dr. Jeffrey Feifer to serve as Interim Superintendent effective March 22, 2012.
6. Amend resolution regarding NJASK Prep Course/ Teachers – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent that the Board amends the previously approved resolution on February 15, 2012, Agenda Item IX.E11 as follows:

Kevin Stokes - Total of (7) – One hour sessions at \$45 per hour plus 2 hours prep time over the 8 week period at rate of \$20.00 per/hr.

Peter Kasturas - Total of (8) – One Hour sessions at \$45.00/hour plus 2 hours prep time over the 8 week period at a rate of \$20.00 per/hr.

7. 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: Barbara Barbagallo

Conference/Seminar/Workshop: NJASBO –Central Office Secretaries the

Date: May 24, 2012
Location: Rockaway, NJ
Registration Fee: \$75.00
Mileage and Tolls: \$21.32

Name: John Norton
Conference/Seminar/Workshop: The Impact of the Common Core Standards in Our Schools
Date: March 15, 2012
Location: Tenafly, NJ
Registration Fee: \$40.00
Mileage and Tolls: \$3.52

Name: John Norton
Conference/Seminar/Workshop: EE4NJ-Teacher Evaluation System Seminar
Date: March 16, 2012
Location: North Brunswick, NJ
Registration Fee: \$50.00
Mileage and Tolls: \$37.51

Name: Scott Ryan
Conference/Seminar/Workshop: EE4NJ-Teacher Evaluation System Seminar
Date: March 16, 2012
Location: North Brunswick, NJ
Registration Fee: \$50.00
Mileage and Tolls: \$37.51

Name: Debra Silverstein
Conference/Seminar/Workshop: Supporting English Language Learners' Achievement of the Common Core State Standards
Date: March 22, 2012
Location: Union, NJ
Registration Fee: \$149.00
Mileage and Tolls: \$22.68

Name: Judith McGavin
Conference/Seminar/Workshop: Word Study: Using a Five-Block Method to Improve Literacy Skills
Date: March 28, 2012
Location: Newark, NJ
Registration Fee: \$195.00
Mileage and Tolls: \$15.50

8. Approval of Substitute Teachers for the 2011/12 School Year – It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, that the Board approve the appointment of the following individuals as substitute teachers for the 2011/12 school year, at a per diem rate of \$80.00 which increases to \$85.00 per day after the 10th day of service during the 2011/12 school year:

Maryann Nelson
Lenna Kesenci

F. POLICY – Mrs. Walker, Chairperson

Mrs. Norian inquired about the Concussion and Other Head Injuries Policy and was told by Dr. Nuccetelli that the policy was being reviewed by the attorney.

G. PUBLIC RELATIONS/KEY COMMUNICATORS – Mrs. Norian, Chairperson commented that she read on the River Dell Patch about the Science Fair.

H. NJSBA/BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT – Mr. Walsh, Delegate stated that he will be attending the Odyssey of the Mind competition on Saturday, March 17, 2012.

X. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mrs. Nancy Shapiro welcomed Dr. Jeffrey Feifer. She also stated that she was not happy with the Board's decision to approve all-day kindergarten for the 2012-2013 school year.

XI. OLD BUSINESS - none

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Robertson thanked the PTA, Mr. Stokes, Mr. Kasturas, and other PTA members for one of the best science fairs, and also including the dedication for the science lab.

Mrs. Robertson also stated that although she has every song from Alice in Wonderland, she was upset with the play rehearsals because children are putting in 20 hours next week and NJASK is coming up. The kids are missing a lot of instruction time because of the play and she is concerned.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION –

XIV. A motion by Dr. Westlake seconded by Mrs. Norian the board meeting adjourned at 10:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Rita Cioppi
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

