

**ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649
REORGANIZATION & PUBLIC WORK/BUSINESS MEETING
Oradell Public School Auditorium
Wednesday, January 3, 2024**

MINUTES

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Ms. Bozios, Superintendent and Acting Board Secretary

II. The flag salute was led by a student.

III. The Sunshine Law Statement was read by Ms. Bozios.

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 are posted in the Borough Hall, Oradell Public Library, OPS main office, and filed with The Record and Town News and all persons requesting such notice.

IV. The Mission Statement was read by Ms. Bozios.

The Oradell Public School is dedicated to the ongoing pursuit of educational excellence through comprehensive innovative curriculum and instruction. The District is committed to providing opportunities for social, emotional, and academic discovery to foster curiosity, courage, and character. Our goal is to prepare our students to become life-long learners who are self-directed, resilient, productive and responsible citizens.

Adopted by the Oradell Board of Education March 27, 2019

REORGANIZATION SESSION:

V. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - REORGANIZATION SESSION ITEMS ONLY

No members of the public addressed the Board.

VI. BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT ON ELECTION RESULTS

The Board Secretary calls the meeting to order and serves as President Pro-Tem until the new Board Members are sworn in and the Board elects a new President.

Election Results - It is hereby moved that the Board acknowledge the election results from November 2023 as reported herein by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

Annual School Election Results

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Official Board Candidate Results

(3) Full Three Year Terms

Candidate	Total
Rita J. Walker	1,718
Christopher W. Nutland	1,249
James Del Greco	1,432
Robert J. Graham Jr.	929

1. Oath is administered by the Board Secretary based on these results to the following newly elected Board Members:

Rita J. Walker	3 Years
Christopher W. Nutland	3 Years
James Del Greco	3 Years

2. ***Roll Call – Present: Mrs. Acosta, Mr. Del Greco, Mrs. Downey, Mrs. Norian, Mr. Nutland, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Derian, and Mrs. Watson-Nichols***

Mrs. Walker was absent.

Mrs. Megan Bozios, Superintendent, was present.

Mr. Iappelli, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, was absent.

3. Oradell Board of Education Trustees and Expiration of Terms of Office:

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Expiration of Term</u>
James Del Greco	2026
Christopher Nutland	2026
Rita Walker	2026
Jamie Downey	2025
John Walsh	2025
Dorothy Watson-Nichols	2025
Alena Acosta	2024
Gregory Derian	2024
Mary Katherine Norian	2024

4. Nomination and Election of President - The Board Secretary received nomination(s) for the election of the President of the Oradell Board of Education. If there was more than one nomination, the Board would have voted by written and signed ballots, and then tabulated by the Board Secretary.

A motion by Mr. Derian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0 nominated Mrs. Dorothy Watson-Nichols as Board President.

Board Secretary relinquished the chair to the newly elected president.

5. Nomination and Election of Vice-President - The Board President received nomination(s) for the election of the Vice President of the Oradell Board of Education. If there was more than one nomination, the Board would have voted by written and signed ballots, and then tabulated by the Board Secretary.

A motion by Mrs. Watson-Nichols, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 7-1 nominated Mr. Greg Derian as Board Vice President.

6. Code of Ethics – It is hereby moved, that the Board adopts the following Code of Ethics developed by the New Jersey School Boards Association as the code to which each Oradell Board Member subscribes:

I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.

I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.

I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.

I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.

I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.

I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.

I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.

I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.

I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.

I will refer all complaints to the chief school administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

A motion by Mrs. Watson-Nichols, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0, the Board adopted the Code of Ethics.

A motion by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0, the Board approved items 7-16.

7. Calendar of Meeting Dates for 2024 – It is hereby moved that the Board approves the below listed schedule of meeting dates for 2024 to be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (unless otherwise stated) beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the OPS Auditorium.

January 24, 2024
February 7, 2024
February 28, 2024
March 13, 2024
March 27, 2024
April 10, 2024
April 24, 2024
May 8, 2024
May 22, 2024
June 12, 2024
June 26, 2024
July 10, 2024 [Board Retreat - 5:30 PM @ River Dell Middle School]
July 24, 2024
August 21, 2024
September 4, 2024
September 18, 2024
October 9, 2024
October 23, 2024
November 20, 2024
December 11, 2024
January 7, 2025 [Re-org. Mtg.]

Note: Public Work/Business Session meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month (unless otherwise stated) beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. Action is taken at all Public Work/Business Session meetings. Closed Session meetings may precede and/or follow the Work/Business Session meetings. Meeting location, dates & times are subject to change. Notices for all meetings (scheduled, non-scheduled, cancelled or changed) are posted in the Business Office, the hall outside OPS main office, The Oradell Public Library, The Oradell Town Hall and district website (www.oradellschool.org).

8. Designation of Official Board of Education Newspapers - It is hereby moved that the Board designates The Record, and The Town News as the official newspapers of the Oradell Board of Education for bid advertisements, and be it further resolved that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized to advertise for bids and other legal advertisements for the period January 1, 2024 through the 2025 reorganization meeting.
9. Parliamentary Procedure – It is hereby moved that the Board establishes that meetings be governed by parliamentary procedure of Robert’s Rules of Order.

10. Board Policies, Regulations, and Job Descriptions – It is hereby moved that the Board adopts all existing Board Policies, Regulations and Job Descriptions currently in force and subject to revision, adoption, and continuous review by the Board from January 1, 2024 through the 2025 reorganization meeting.

11. Designation of Companies to Provide Voluntary Insurance - It is hereby moved that the Board approve the following companies to provide voluntary insurance plans to the employees of the Oradell Board of Education from January 1, 2024 through the 2025 reorganization meeting.
 - Prudential
 - AFLAC

12. 403 (B) Agent Authorization- It is hereby moved that the Board approve the following 403(B) plans from January 1, 2024 through the 2025 reorganization meeting.
 - AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company
 - Brighthouse (Metropolitan Life Investors)
 - The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company
 - The Vanguard Company
 - Invesco (Oppenheimer)
 - Security Benefit (NEA)

13. Prescribed Mileage Reimbursement – It is hereby moved that the Oradell Board Education approves the reimbursement rate for auto travel at \$0.47 per mile to conform with the per mile rate established by the OMB Circular for the calendar year 2024.

14. Cash Management – It is hereby moved that the Oradell Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to perform the following:
 - Transfer funds among the various bank accounts of the District.
 - Transfer line item accounts among the various budgetary accounts.
 - Invest school funds as The Investment Officer of the Board, as permitted by statute.
 - Make payment on the Bills and Claims, prior to their approval by the Board when it is deemed necessary, and then present them for approval at the next Board Meeting.

15. Appointment of Professional Service Providers – It is hereby moved that the Oradell Board of Education approve the following appointments for the period from January 1, 2024 through the 2025 reorganization meeting:
 - Board Counsel: Cornell, Merlino, McKeever and Osborne, LLC
 - Auditor: Lerch, Vinci and Bliss, LLP
 - Architect – LAN Associates
 - Risk Manager: Balken Risk Management
 - School Physician– Dr. Ann DeAngelo, MD
 - Treasurer of School Monies – Angelo DeSimone

16. Approval of Curriculum – It is hereby moved that the Oradell Board of Education approve all existing curriculum guides for continuation of the 2023-2024 school year:
 - K-6 Comprehensive Health/Physical Education
 - K-6 Math Curriculum

- K-6 Reading Curriculum
- K-6 Science Curriculum
- K-6 Social Studies Curriculum
- K-6 Visual and Performing Arts Curriculum
- K-6 Writing Curriculum
- K-6 World Language Curriculum

PUBLIC WORK/BUSINESS SESSION MEETING:

I. ROLL CALL

Roll Call – Present: Mrs. Acosta, Mr. Del Greco, Mrs. Downey, Mrs. Norian, Mr. Nutland, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Derian, and Mrs. Watson-Nichols

Mrs. Walker was absent.

Mrs. Megan Bozios, Superintendent, was present.

Mr. Iappelli, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, was absent.

II. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

No members of the public addressed the Board.

III. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REMARKS

No remarks at this time.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

*Ms. Bozios wished everyone a Happy New Year and reinforced the theme of GRIT.
 Planning a walkthrough with our safety and security vendor
 Early Learning Network Improvement Community (ELNIC) math initiative
 January 15th Professional Day
 STEAM Tank Challenge
 Culture and climate survey going out to parents in grades 3-6*

Ms. Bozios thanked the Board, as January is School Board Appreciation Month.

V. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Mr. Iappelli was absent.

VI. MINUTES

A motion by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 6-0, the Board approved the review of the meeting minutes of December 13, 2023, and the meeting minutes from November 15, 2023. Mr. Del Greco and Mr. Nutland abstained.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

- December 13, 2023 Work/Business Section

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- November 15, 2023 Work/Business Section

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

A motion by Mr. Derian, seconded by Mrs. Norian, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0, the Board approved A1-A3.

A. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A1. School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey, January 2024

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2024 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time when all residents can acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Oradell Board of Education is one of 581 local school boards in New Jersey, which sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The Oradell Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine the educational goals for approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 5,000 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in key achievement indicators such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, and the preparation for college through advanced placement offerings and SAT assessments; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Oradell Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2023 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Oradell Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the advancement of our children’s education.

A2. **HIB Report for November 2023** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education affirms the decisions and findings of the listed HIB Report(s) as reported by the Superintendent to the Board of Education:

1	11.13.2023.1
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A3. Safe Return Plan Update – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the submission of the updated ARP ESSER Safe Return Plan for the 2023-2024 school year.

B. **BUILDING & GROUNDS/ SAFETY**- Mr. Derian, Chairperson

C. **CURRICULUM**- TBD, Chairperson

D. **FINANCE/ TECHNOLOGY**- TBD, Chairperson

A motion by Mr. Derian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0, the Board approved D1-D3.

D1. Hand Check Payroll Register for **December 15, 2023**– It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board retroactively approves the disbursements on the Payroll Hand Check Register for December 15, 2023 in the amount of \$475,834.35

D2. Hand Check Payroll Register for **December 22, 2023**– It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board retroactively approves the disbursements on the Payroll Hand Check Register for December 22, 2023 in the amount of \$434,934.35

D3. High Impact Tutoring Grant – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board approve the acceptance in the amount of \$34,020 for the implementation of a tutoring program to support students in grades three and four.

E. **NJSBA/ BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT**- Mr. Walsh, Delegate
Nothing to report at this time.

F. **PERSONNEL**- TBD, Chairperson

A motion by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0, the Board approved F1.

F1. It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board accepts and approves the Personnel Committee Report dated **January 3, 2024**.

G. **POLICY-** Mrs. Norian, Chairperson
No report at this time.

H. **PUBLIC RELATIONS-** Mrs. Acosta, Chairperson
No report at this time.

VIII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No members of the public addressed the Board.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Derian reiterated that it is an honor that the Borough is using the OPS auditorium to hold their re-organization meeting.

X. NEW BUSINESS

None.

XI. CLOSED SESSION- *The Board did not go into a Closed Session.*

XII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Mrs. Watson-Nichols, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0, the Board meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Business Administrator/Board Secretary