

**ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649
REORGANIZATION & PUBLIC WORK/BUSINESS MEETING
Oradell Public School Media Center
Wednesday, January 4, 2023**

DRAFT MINUTES

I. *The meeting was called to order at 7:39 p.m. by Mr. Marmora, Board Secretary.*

II. *The Flag Salute was led by Mr. Griffin.*

III. *The Sunshine Law Statement was read by Mr. Marmora.*

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. *Mission Statement was read by Mrs. Norian.*

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 - *None*

VI. BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT ON ELECTION RESULTS

Mr. Marmora reported on the School Board Election vote totals and announced the newly elected members.

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 2022 as reported herein by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

**Annual School Election Results
Tuesday, November 8, 2022**

**Official Board Candidate Results
(3) Full Three Year Terms**

Candidate	Total
Jamie Downey	1,514
John A. Walsh	1,459
Dorothy Watson-Nichols	1,344
Nancy Shapiro	1,305

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

Jamie Downey	3 Years
John A. Walsh	3 Years
Dorothy Watson-Nichols	3 Years

2. Roll Call – Mrs. Acosta, Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam, Mrs. Downey, Mr. Griffin, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Derian, and Mrs. Watson-Nichols

Also in Attendance: Megan N. Bozios, Superintendent
John M. Marmora, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Expiration of Term</u>
Jamie Downey	2025
John Walsh	2025
Dorothy Watson-Nichols	2025
Alena Acosta	2024
Gregory Derian	2024
Mary Katherine Norian	2024
Pooja Bhatia-Nigam	2023
Jeremy Griffin	2023
Rita Walker	2023

4. Nomination and Election of President - The Board Secretary receives nominations for the election of the President of the Board. If there is more than one nomination, the Board votes, via written, signed ballots, tabulated by the Board Secretary.

Mr. Walsh nominated Mrs. Dorothy Watson-Nichols. There were no other nominations. A motion by Mr. Walsh seconded by Mrs. Walker and carried a roll call vote of 8 ayes and 1 abstention electing Mrs. Nichols as president. Mrs. Nichols abstained.

Roll Call – Mrs. Acosta, Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam, Mrs. Downey, Mr. Derian Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Walsh, and Mr. Derian. Mrs. Watson-Nichols abstained.

Mr. Marmora relinquishes the chair to Mrs. Nichols, newly elected president.

5. Nomination and Election of Vice-President - The Board President receives nominations for the election of the Vice-President of the Board. If there is more than one nomination, the Board votes, via written, signed ballots, tabulated by the Board Secretary.

Mrs. Nichols nominated Mr. Gregory Derian. There were no other nominations. A motion by Mrs. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Walsh and carried a roll call vote of 7 ayes and 2 abstention electing Mr. Derian as Vice-President. Mr. Derian and Mrs. Norian abstained.

Roll Call – Mrs. Acosta, Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam, Mrs. Downey, Mr. Griffin, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Walsh, and Mrs. Watson-Nichols. Mrs. Norian and Mr. Derian abstained.

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:

Mr. Derian asked that each of the Board Members read aloud a statement from the code of ethics. A motion by Mr. Derian, seconded by Mrs. Walsh and carried a roll call vote of 9-0 the Board approved the Code of Ethics.

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.

Mrs. Nichols asked for a motion for a consent vote on agenda items 7-14. A motion by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mrs. Walker and carried a roll call vote of 9-0 the Board approved items 7-14.

7. Calendar of Meeting Dates for 2023 – It is hereby moved that the Board approves the below listed schedule of meeting dates for 2023 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 18, 2023
February 8, 2023
March 8, 2023
March 22, 2023
April 19, 2023
May 10, 2023
May 24, 2023
June 14, 2023
June 28, 2023
July 12, 2023 [Board Retreat]
July 26, 2023
August 16, 2023
September 6, 2023
September 20, 2023
October 4, 2023
October 18, 2023
November 15, 2023
December 13, 2023
January 3, 2024 [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.
9. 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 for the SY 2022 - 2023, subject to revision, adoption, and continuous review by the Board, until the next reorganization meeting in January 2024.
10. 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 until the next reorganization meeting in January 2023.

Prudential
AFLAC

11. 403 (B) Agent Authorization- It is hereby moved that the Board approve the following 403(B) plans until the next reorganization meeting in January 2024:

AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company
Brighthouse (Metropolitan Life Investors)
The Variable Annuity Life Insurance Company
The Vanguard Company
Invesco (Oppenheimer)
Security Benefit (NEA)

12. 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 2023.

13. 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.

14. Appointment of Qualified Purchasing Agent – It is hereby moved that the Oradell Board of Education appoints John M. Marmora the Qualified Purchasing Agent for SY 2022 - 2023:

WHEREAS, the changes to the Public School Contracts Law gave the Boards of Education the ability to increase their bid threshold up to \$44,000; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A 18A:18A-3a, permits an increase in the bid threshold if a Qualified Purchasing Agent is appointed, as well as, granted the authorization to negotiate and award such contracts below the bid threshold; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C 5:34-5 et seq. establishes the criteria for qualifying as a Qualified Purchasing Agent; and

WHEREAS, John M. Marmora, possesses the designation of Qualified Purchasing Agent as issued by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in accordance with N.J.A.C 5:34-5 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education desires to increase the bid threshold as provided in N.J.S.A18:A-3, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Oradell Board of Education, in the County of Bergen, in the State of New Jersey, hereby increases its bid threshold to \$44,000.00; and it further

RESOLVED, that the governing body hereby appoints John M. Marmora, as the Qualified Purchasing Agent to exercise the duties of a purchasing agent pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:18A-2b, with specific relevance to the authority, responsibility, and accountability of the purchasing activity of the Board of Education; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in accordance with N.J.A.C 5:34-5.2, the Board of Education Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution and a copy of John M. Marmora's certification to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, as required

PUBLIC WORK/BUSINESS SESSION MEETING:

VII. ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Acosta, Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam, Mrs. Downey, Mr. Griffin, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Derian, and Mrs. Watson-Nichols.

Also present were John M. Marmora, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and Megan Bozios, Superintendent, and 1 Administrator.

VIII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mr. Hagopian congratulated the newly appointed BOE member.

IX. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REMARKS – None

X. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Bozios reported in the OPS events that occurred during the final week of school in December. Mr. Derian commented on his experience watching the OPS students practice for the Songfest. Ms. Bozios presented on the Spring 2022 NJSLA test scores compared to other districts in Oradell grouping and field questions from the board.

XI. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Marmora acknowledged this month is School Board Recognition Month. Mr. Marmora reminded the Board about mandated training deadlines.

XII. MINUTES

A motion by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, the approval of the 11/16/2022 Meeting Minutes and the review of Meeting Minutes of 12/14/2022 were approved and carried by a roll call vote of 7-0. Mr. Griffin abstained.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

- December 14, 2022 Work/Business Section

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- November 16, 2022 Work/Business Section

XIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A motion by Mr. Derian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0 the Board approved A1-A3.

- A1. **Approval of 2023-2024 School Calendar** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the 2023-2024 School Calendar.
- A2. **Approval of 12-Month Employee Calendar for 2023-2024** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the 12-Month Employee Calendar for 2023-2024.
- A3. **School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey, January 2023 -**

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2023 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.

B. BUILDING & GROUNDS/ SAFETY- Mr. Derian, Chairperson - *None*

C. CURRICULUM- Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

Mrs. Nichols noted this is the first field trip into New York City since the pandemic.

A motion by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0 the Board approved C1.

C1. Approval of Field Trip(s) – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the following field trip(s) for SY 2022-2023:

#	Destination	Grade	Date	Cost to District	Cost to Parents
1	Bronx Zoo, Bronx, NY	4	April 2023	\$0	\$30 per student*

*cost offset by anticipated PTA mini grant for grade 4

D. FINANCE/ TECHNOLOGY- TBD, Chairperson

Board members discussed GL Group payments.

A motion by Mr. Derian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 8-0 the Board approved D1-D9. Mrs. Downey abstained.

D1. Hand Check Payroll Register for **December 15, 2022**– 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, 2022 in the amount of **\$431,334.96**.

D2. Hand Check Payroll Register for **December 23, 2022**– 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 23, 2022 in the amount of **\$380,783.12**.

D3. Check Register for **January 4, 2023** - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, that the Board approves the disbursements on the January 4, 2023. Check Register in the amount of **\$94,643.12** check numbers **001711** and **023471 - 023516**.

D4. Approval of the **Financial Reports** of the Board Secretary and Treasurer – It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the Report of the Board Secretary, A148, and the Treasurer, A149, as of **October 31, 2022**.

- D5. **Transfer of Funds** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the Monthly Transfers Report as of **October 31, 2022**, 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.
- D6. **Monthly Budgetary Line Item Certification** – RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary for the Oradell Board of Education certifies that pursuant to N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3 as of **October 31, 2022**, that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (a) ; and
- FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oradell Board of Education certifies that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4 that after review of the Board Secretary’s Report (A148) and Treasurer’s Report (A149) and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that any major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- D7. Approval of the **Financial Reports** of the Board Secretary and Treasurer – It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approve the Report of the Board Secretary, A148, and the Treasurer, A149, as of **November 30, 2022**.
- D8. **Transfer of Funds** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the Monthly Transfers Report as of **November 30, 2022** 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.
- D9. **Monthly Budgetary Line Item Certification** – RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary for the Oradell Board of Education certifies that pursuant to N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3 as of **November 30, 2022**, that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (a) ; and
- FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oradell Board of Education certifies that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4 that after review of the Board Secretary’s Report (A148) and Treasurer’s Report (A149) and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that any major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year.

E. **NJSBA/ BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT**- Mr. Walsh, Delegate - *None*

F. **PERSONNEL** - Mrs. Walker, Chairperson

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

F1. It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board accepts and approves the Personnel Committee Report dated **January 4, 2023**.

G. **POLICY-** Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam, Chairperson - *None*

H. **PUBLIC RELATIONS-** Mr. Griffin, Chairperson
Mr. Griffin reported on the newsletter which will be going out soon.

I. **COVID-19 TASK FORCE-** Mr. Griffin, Chairperson – *None*

XIV. **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - None**

XV. **OLD BUSINESS - None**

XVI. **NEW BUSINESS**
Mr. Derian presented on the new board member shirts and thanked Mrs. Walker for her work.

XVII. **CLOSED SESSION**

A motion by Mr. Derian, and seconded by Mrs. Norian, the board entered closed session at 8:19 pm. and carried a roll call vote of 9-0.

WHEREAS, a matter to be considered by the Board of Education deals with student matters, 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 Mrs. Norian, and seconded by Mrs. Bhatia, to exit closed session at 8:44pm, and carried a roll call vote of 9-0.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Mrs. Norian, and seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried a roll call vote of 9 -0, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



John M. Marmora
Business Administrator/Board Secretary