

ORADELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
ORADELL, NEW JERSEY 07649
PUBLIC WORK/BUSINESS SESSION MEETING
Oradell Public School Auditorium
March 15, 2023

MINUTES

I. *The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by Mrs. Nichols, Board President.*

II. *The flag salute was led by Mr. Walsh.*

III. *The Sunshine Law Statement was read by Mrs. Nichols.*

All requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act 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. Derian.*

The Oradell Public School District 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 responsible citizens.

Adopted by the Oradell Board of Education March 27, 2019

V. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Mrs. Acosta, Mrs. Downey, Mr. Griffin, Mrs. Norian, Mrs. Walker, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Derian, and Mrs. Nichols.

Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam arrived at 7:38 p.m.

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

VI. **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - None**

VII. **BOARD PRESIDENT’S REMARKS**

Mrs. Nichols explained a resolution brought forward by Mrs. Norian, requesting sustainable funding supporting school-based mentoring programs. The board discussed the resolution.

VIII. **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Ms. Bozios reported on Odyssey of the Mind, 6th grade Shark Tank and Steam Tank. Additionally, Ms. Bozios shared persuasive letters from OPS students.

IX. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

- Tentative 2023-2024 Budget Presentation

X. MINUTES

A motion by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mrs. Walker, and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0, the board approved the 1/18/2023 meeting minutes and the review of the 2/15/2023 meeting minutes.

REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES

- February 15, 2023 Work/Business Section

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- January 18, 2023 Work/Business Section

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

Ms. Bozios explained the Comprehensive Equity Plan and fielded questions from the board.

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

A. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A1. Approval of the Comprehensive Equity Plan Statement of Assurance 2023-2024.

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

Mr. Derian reported on the buildings and grounds committee meeting, which took place on March 15, 2023.

A motion by Mr. Derian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0, the board approved B1.

B1. Use of School Facilities- It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education approves the following requests for use of school facilities for the **SY 2022-2023** in accordance with **Board Policy #1330**:

#	Organization	Event	Area of Building	Dates	Time	Custodian OT	Facility Charge
1	Oradell PTA	Read and Rap Book Club	Classroom/Art Room	3/8/2023	3:00 – 4:00 PM	N/A	N/A
2	Oradell PTA	Author Visit – Jack Curry	Auditorium	3/16/2023	6:30 – 9:00 PM	N/A	N/A
3	6 th Grade Spring	Committee Meeting	MPR	3/25/2023	10:30-11:30 AM	N/A	N/A

	Fling Committee						
4	Oradell Little League (Category B)	Softball Practices & Games	Softball Field	4/15/2023 – 7/31/2023	4:00 – 8:00 PM M-F 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM SAT	N/A	91 days @ \$15 per day = \$1365 *Payment for field maintenance will offset fee
		Pre-Season Workouts	MPR 1 Section	3/15/2023 – 4/15/2023	4:00 – 8:00 PM M-F	N/A	23 days @ \$15 per day = \$345

Mr. Derian inquired about Oradell Little League, and Mr. Marmora responded.

C. CURRICULUM- Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam, Chairperson

A motion by Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam, seconded by Mrs. Norian, 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	Odyssey of the Mind State Finals (Princeton, NJ)	4, 5 & 6	April 2023	\$150 Tournament Fee (2 teams @ \$75 per team) \$150 Faculty Stipend	\$0

D. FINANCE/ TECHNOLOGY- Mr. Griffin, Chairperson

Mr. Griffin thanked Mr. Marmora for all his hard work on the 2023-2024 school year budget.

A motion by Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0, the board approved D1-D9.

D1. Hand Check Payroll Register for **February 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 February 15, 2023 in the amount of **\$385,514.73**.

D2. Hand Check Payroll Register for **February 28, 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 February 28, 2023 in the amount of **\$383,351.56**.

D3. Hand Check Payroll Register for **March 15, 2023**– It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, that the Board

approves the disbursements on the Payroll Hand Check Register for March 15, 2023 in the amount of **\$378,159.25**.

- D4. Check Register for **March 15, 2023** - It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, that the Board approves the disbursements on the March 15, 2023 Check Register in the amount of **\$489,448.75** check numbers **001714, 023616-023673, and 990143-990145**.
- D5. 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 **February 28, 2023**.
- D6. **Transfer of Funds** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approves the Monthly Transfers Report as of **February 28, 2023**, 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.
- D7. **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 **February 28, 2023**, 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.
- D8. **Adoption of the Tentative 2023-2024 School District Budget** – It is hereby moved, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board approved the 2023-2024 school district budget for submission to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools to meet minimum educational standards as follows:

General Fund	\$ 14,864,726
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 269,188
Debt Service Fund	\$ <u>450,200</u>
Total Budget	\$ <u>15,584,114</u>

BE IT RESOLVED that as per N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.2(d) the general fund appropriations include a \$100,000 withdrawal from the Maintenance Reserve Account for use on required

maintenance activities for a school facility as reported in the comprehensive maintenance plan pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.5.

BE IT RESOLVED that included in the general fund appropriations is \$141,457 for deposit into the Board of Education’s approved Capital Reserve Account for future funding of capital projects and represent expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

BE IT RESOLVED that included in the general fund appropriations, budget line 620 is a withdrawal from Capital Reserve – Excess Costs & Other Capital Projects in the amount of \$330,000 for Building Staircase Renovations and Center Street Site Improvement. The total costs of these school facility projects are \$330,000 which represents expenditures for construction elements or projects that exceed the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards as recommended by the Superintendent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following General Fund and Debt Service tax levies be approved to support the 2023-2024 budget:

General Fund	\$ 12,881,081
Debt Service Fund	\$ 450,200

D9. Approval of a Maximum Travel Expenditure for SY 2023-2024 –

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Oradell Board of Education established \$40,000 as the maximum travel amount for the current school year and has expended \$7,306 as of this date; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, to a maximum expenditure of \$40,000 for the 2023-2024 school year.

BE IT RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

E. NJSBA/ BCSBA DELEGATE REPORT- Mr. Walsh, Delegate

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

A motion by Mrs. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Norian, and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0, 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 **March 15, 2023**.

G. **POLICY-** Mrs. Norian, Chairperson

Ms. Bozios reported on various policies that need an update, and recommended that a policy meeting be set up to address this.

H. **PUBLIC RELATIONS-** Mrs. Acosta, Chairperson

I. **COVID-19 TASK FORCE-** Mr. Griffin, Chairperson

XII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Nichols let the board members know that if they had any questions regarding the budget, or anything else that they may direct their questions towards Mr. Marmora and the finance committee.

The mentor resolution was discussed by the board.

Mr. Griffin shared his experience at the Odyssey of the Mind competition, and Mrs. Bhatia-Nigam inquired about the continuation of Odyssey of the Mind into middle school.

Mrs. Norian stated that River Dell sent a letter regarding their new Superintendent.

XV. CLOSED SESSION

A motion by Mr. Derian, seconded by Mrs. Norian, and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0, the board entered closed session at 8:40 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 Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mr. Walsh, and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0, the board exited closed session at 9:05 p.m.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Mrs. Norian, seconded by Mrs. Walker, and carried by a roll call vote of 9-0, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



*John M. Marmora
Business Administrator/Board Secretary*