

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641  
MINUTES  
February 24, 2015**

**I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:34 p.m.**

**II. FLAG SALUTE**

**III. SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT**

All requirements of the Open Public Business Meetings Law have been met for this meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of Haworth. On December 17, 2014 advance written notice was emailed to **The Suburbanite and The Record**, filed with the Borough Clerk, posted on the school website and forwarded to the Presidents of the Home and School Association and Teachers Association, and all persons requesting such notice.

**IV. MISSION STATEMENT**

The Haworth Public School District, a safe and nurturing small school environment, in partnership with our community, is dedicated to providing every student with educational excellence through a comprehensive, innovative and rigorous curriculum that fosters productive and responsible life-long learners in a global society. Adopted—May 28, 2013.

**V. ROLL CALL:**

- Mr. Jeff Ashkenase
- Mrs. Michele DiIorgi
- Mrs. Mary Anne Doran
- Mr. Matthew Gilbert
- Mrs. Anna Reduce
- Mrs. Nicole Brennan, Vice President
- Mr. Warren Sutnick, President

Ms. Jennifer Montesano, Superintendent/Board Secretary

**VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

*The Board is interested in hearing your comments. In order to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to speak, we are asking that you speak once and limit your comments to three minutes. We further ask that all comments be directed to the Board. We recognize that everyone has the freedom to speak but advise you that anything said in public may have legal ramifications. There is no protection regarding statements made by the public. Please state your name before you begin.*

**VII. CLOSE THE PUBLIC PORTION**

Mr. Sutnick: We would like to start this evening's meeting by talking about an issue that is very important to all of us. A large majority of the parents here have or will have children attending Northern Valley Demarest High School. It is a fantastic high school and the opportunities at the high school are incredible. Unfortunately, whether at this school or at the high school, in order to remain an excellent educational facility we constantly have to invest in our schools. We have to invest in our infrastructure and our technology as this is what the world is much more focused on now than it ever has been. Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math are on the forefront and in order for our high school to remain competitive and remain one of the top high schools in the state, we as tax payers have to decide whether we are willing to invest our tax dollars in continuing to improve and maintain the stature of our high school district. I mention this because there is a bond referendum that is coming up for our high school. While the numbers will sound quite high, it is spread out over all of the seven towns in the regional district. It is a little over a \$13 million bond that has been proposed. That will be up for referendum on March 10<sup>th</sup> and it is a special election that takes place. We have invited Dr. George Kipel who is Haworth's representative on the Northern Valley Regional High School district's Board of Education. Dr. Kipel served on the Board of Education of Haworth for over 10 years and he represents Haworth vigorously at the high school.

Dr. Kipel: Thank you for having me tonight. I would like to take this time to thank the board members of Haworth on all of their hard work and dedication. In two weeks from today on March 10<sup>th</sup> the referendum is going to go up for vote. It is the first referendum in the last 13 years. People frequently ask why improvements cannot be made using the budget and have the repairs done little by little. The reason is that there is a 2% cap on the budget. With salary and health care increases that takes up most of the cap, so there is very little wiggle room for making any improvements without a special referendum. There are some special features with this referendum that we feel it is an important time. Of that \$13 million we will get \$4.7 million (40%) back from the state upon the completion of the project. This translates to approximately \$60 per month to the average assessed home of \$600,000 in Haworth. There are 8 projects at Old Tappan High School and 10 projects at Demarest High School that will be covered with this referendum. The main feature of this referendum are the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) classrooms which will be upgrades to existing classrooms to meet the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We also need generators and an upgrade on the tennis courts which are over 30 years old, as well as the track. We would also like to upgrade the sound system in the auditorium, as well as the HVAC system. We also have something for the special needs community within the referendum with the Junction Program which is for 18-21 year olds to transition from life after school is over. We currently rent the old train depot in Closter but we would like to build our own home on the Demarest High School campus to house the people from the ages of 18-21 to build life skills. It will be a full functioning house where they will learn to clean, cook, take care of their hygiene, amongst other things. Once they transition out they will be able to find jobs in the community. Those are the big features of the referendum. Maintaining the excellence of the regional high schools here will benefit not only anyone who has children planning to attend the high school, but to anyone that wants to maintain the resale value of their home. Please come out and vote March 10, 2015 from 2:00-9:00. More information can be found at [nvnet.org](http://nvnet.org).

## **VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S/BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORTS**

- Enrollment for February 2015
- HIB/Incident Report to date – Mr. Wolford

Kids with Character Award Presentation – criteria for the month of January is Fairness. For January the following children have been chosen:

Kindergarten: Talia Zirin and Brody Calvert  
Grade 1: Helen Diggle and Gabriel Ceylan  
Grade 2: Ava Buckley and Ivan Timochko  
Grade 3: Finley Aspholm and Ryan Cohen  
Grade 4: Anna Hoyng and Georgios Ceylan  
Grade 5: Riley Gilbert and Kyle Miller  
Grade 6: Ramya Anant and Jake Ashkenase  
Grade 7: Taylor Hoyng and Michael Shalonov  
Grade 8: Alyssa Abrams and Andrew Pantelis

N. Brennan Moved, M. Doran Seconded  
All in favor. Motion carries 7/0

## **IX. MINUTES**

- a. Approval of meeting minutes from the January 6, 2015 reorganization meeting, January 6, 2015 work session meeting and January 20, 2015 regular business meeting.

A. Reduce Moved, J. Ashkenase Seconded  
All in favor. Motion carries 7/0

## **X. PROGRAM AND PERSONNEL**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade field trip to the Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, NJ on May 15, 2015 at an approximate cost of \$16 per student, plus bus fee. Trip coordinators: Cathy Stokesbury and Erin Ehlers.
- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 5<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to the Museum of Natural History, New York, NY on May 29, 2015 at an approximate cost of \$40 per student. Trip coordinators: Cynthia Talty and Rebecca Hall.
- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the registration fee payment of \$150 for the Rube Goldberg Machine Contest for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade GATE students.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Marcia Gayle as a substitute teacher for the 2014-2015 school year, pending criminal history approval.
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education

approves the amendment of the stipend for Nicole Carnicelli to \$700 as the Science Fair Coordinator. (Previously approved for \$500 on June 17, 2014).

- f. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following St. Joseph’s University graduate level courses for Nicole Carnicelli at a total cost of \$1,986:
  - Foundations of Special Education (3 credits)
  - Families, Schools & Communities (3 credits)
- g. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Stephanie Delshad from LIU Hudson to perform 18 hours of classroom observation in the middle school social studies and math classes.
- h. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Katherine Conway to attend the 2015 Everyone Reading Conference at the City University of New York on March 3, 2015, at a cost of \$205, plus travel expenses.**
- i. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Joyce Kim as a Substitute Classroom Aide for the 2014-2015 school year, pending criminal history approval.**

A. Reduce Moved, N. Brennan Seconded  
Roll Call: 7/0

**XI. FINANCE**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the bills for the period of January 1, 2015 to January 31, 2015 which had previously been approved by the various committees be approved and payment made through the Valley National Bank from funds in the appropriate accounts as follows:

Payroll	\$ 475,228.69
Fund (10, 20, 40, 50)	\$ 264,811.08
Fund (30)	\$ 3,339.57

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Bills and Claims for the month of January, 2015. (Attachment)
- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the principal and interest payment of \$306,670 to the Bergen County Improvement Authority Bonds, Series 2009A payable February, 2015.

- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education accepts the State share of the Media Center Window Replacement Project from the New Jersey Schools Development Authority as part of the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act Grant Agreement in the amount of \$36,527.35.
- e. **Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Report of Board Secretary, Report of the Treasurer, and the Report of Monthly Transfers for the month of January, 2015. (Attachment)**
- f. **Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Region III/Slice Program Tuition for February 2, 2015 to June 30, 2015 in the amount of \$4,641.00.**

J. Ashkenase Moved, A. Reduce Seconded  
Roll Call: 7/0

## **XII. FACILITY**

- a. **Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the revised Use of Facilities Form. (Attachment)**

M. DiIorgi Moved, A. Reduce Seconded  
Roll Call: 7/0

## **XIII. POLICY**

## **XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance  
Facilities  
Policy  
Program/Personnel  
BCSBA/NJSB  
Joint Boards  
Public Relations  
Haworth Home & School Association  
Northern Valley Regional HS/  
NV Educational Foundation  
Legislative Chairperson  
Senior Citizens Liaison

Town Council Liaison  
Negotiations

**XV. Open to the Public on any item – 8:03 p.m.**

*The Board is interested in hearing your comments. In order to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to speak, we are asking that you speak once and limit your comments to three minutes. We further ask that all comments be directed to the Board. We recognize that everyone has the freedom to speak but advise you that anything said in public may have legal ramifications. There is no protection regarding statements made by the public. Please state your name before you begin.*

Dr. Kipel: I know the Region III issue is a controversial one with the possible lease or purchase of Holy Family in Norwood. I will keep you apprised of the progress of this and any other issues.

M. DiIorgi: If you happen to lease Holy Family what kind of provisions do you make that it is not handicapped accessible? Are you going for waivers with the state? I thought portions of the building were not handicapped accessible.

Dr. Kipel: That is part of what we are looking in to, what the cost would be to bring the building up to state specifications. That would clearly be a significant cost. We will be getting appraisals.

**XVI. OLD BUSINESS**

**XVII. NEW BUSINESS**

W. Sutnick: About two weeks ago Ms. Montesano and I met with the new mayor and there were a couple of topics that were discussed. One was the idea to memorialize our shared service agreement with regards to snow removal and some of the grounds keeping, so we think it makes sense and we brought it to the mayor's attention. We also explained to him what a 2% increase meant so that he had an understanding. The mayor has also assured us that the town will be getting our check to us by the 10<sup>th</sup> of every month. The mayor also told us that he will be our representative. It was a very pleasant meeting and I am sure we will continue to have a good relationship with the mayor and council.

**XVIII. CLOSED SESSION 8:10 p.m.**

N. Brennan Moved, M. Doran Seconded  
All in favor.

**WHEREAS** the following subject is not appropriate to be discussed in a public meeting and is within the exemptions which may be discussed and acted upon and,

**WHEREAS** only the following subject shall be discussed in private recess by the Board and the minutes made available to the public as soon as the reason for exemption no longer exists, it is therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** at the Public Meeting of the Borough of Haworth Board of Education on this day Tuesday, February 24, 2015 pursuant to Sections 7 & 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, the following subject shall be discussed in a session of the Board closed to the public:

**Please be advised that the Board will be going into executive session for approximately 1 hour to discuss personnel. Action will not be taken in public after the executive session.**

**XIV. MOTION TO ADJOURN.**

W. Sutnick Moved, N. Brennan Seconded  
Roll Call: 7/0

**ADJOURNMENT 9:17 p.m.**

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Warren Sutnick, President  
Haworth Board of Education

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Jennifer Montesano  
Superintendent/Board Secretary