

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
May 13, 2020**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:32 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 January 8, 2020 and February 21, 2020 advance written notice was emailed to **The Record and The Ridgewood News**, 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:**

Mrs. Ilisha Borek  
Mrs. Alanna Davis  
Mrs. Mary Anne Doran  
Mrs. Karen Leddy  
Mr. Michael Rodino, President  
Mrs. Stacey Wunsch, Vice President  
Mr. Paul Wolford, Business Administrator  
Dr. Peter Hughes, Superintendent  
Mrs. Stacey Cherry, Esq., Fogarty & Hara  
Mrs. Kristi Giambona, Board Secretary

**VI. WORK SESSION TOPICS**

a. 2019-20 Revised District Calendar

*M. Doran: asked if the Governor announces that the school year can be shortened, would the days be taken off the end of the year?*

*Dr. Hughes: responded yes, they would be taken off the end of the year.*

b. Summer Enrichment Program

*Dr. Hughes: stated that guidance for summer programs has not yet been given by the state. He suggested that virtual summer enrichment may be the best option and stated that he will work on a plan for a digital version of the summer enrichment program for Board review. He also confirmed that the extended school year would be virtual through Region III.*

*Members of the Board suggested more of a unique summer enrichment program, more of a virtual camp to give students opportunities to remain busy as many summer plans may now be cancelled.*

c. End of Year Protocols - Presentation of “Current & Future Challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic” - PowerPoint by Dr. Hughes

i. Plans for student locker clean-out, materials, and laptop collection

*Plans are being made following state guidelines. May have to bag all belongings and have students pick-up by grade from designated assigned areas. Medication pick-up from the nurse will have separate protocols. Discussing various ideas for laptop collection.*

ii. Plans for teacher classroom set up

*Plans are being made for teachers to re-enter the building with a staggered schedule of one teacher in each wing at a time.*

d. Plan for virtual Philadelphia Trip

*The trip coordinator is working on a virtual Philadelphia trip, with students visiting historic sites through virtual tours. Core curriculum will revolve around the history of Philadelphia.*

e. Olympics Theme for Special Areas

*The special areas will hold a virtual “Haworth Olympics”, which will incorporate activities and events for the students to participate in from home.*

f. Update on Graduation Guidance from the Attorney General

*The state has mandated that there be no in-person events with more than 10 people. The district is working on a virtual graduation with cap & gowns, diplomas, and a photo shoot. We will allow for the best graduation possible while following all guidelines.*

g. New revision requirements to the emergency closure plan

*The state has added an attendance audit to the plan, as well as a few other requests. The plan will be updated accordingly, resubmitted to the county, and posted to the district website.*

h. Update on the end of this school year and reopening

*Dr. Hughes: explained that all formal assessments for students would be done in the fall.*

*Dr. Hughes: explained that there is a possibility of district funding reductions. 10-15% of state aid, 20% of federal aid, as well as any repercussions of the municipality’s tax collection.*

*Dr. Hughes: reviewed the challenges that would be faced upon re-opening:*

- *Health screenings for staff and students; temperature assessments, etc.*
- *Anticipated teacher and substitute shortages.*
- *Social distancing procedures in classrooms.*
- *Arrival, dismissal and lunch break social distancing.*
- *Possible split classes/split sessions*
- *Class passing time. Possibility of having only the teachers change classrooms and not students.*
- *Learning loss from virtual classes*
- *Mental health of students. Anxiety, depression, anger.*
- *Sanitation protocols, equipment, and resources.*
- *Nurses office and conversion of Wellness Room into an isolation room.*
- *Addition of touchless faucets and toilets to bathrooms.*
- *Masks for all students,*
- *Challenges of physical education classes, band, and chorus.*
- *School day guidelines per NJDOE.*

i. Board of Education Committee Meeting Scheduling

*Committee meetings will be scheduled virtually for the remainder of the school year. Dr. Hughes stated that he has been having HTA Liaison meetings once per week. He congratulated Ms. Carr and Mr. Talty on being elected as the new co-presidents of the HTA.*

j. Review of Draft Agenda for 5/19/20

**V. Open to the Public on any item – 8:48 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.***

*J. Heit, 369 Wheeler Place: questioned is the state will have additional mandates and guidelines in place if the new school year has to begin virtually?*

*Dr. Hughes: answered that he hopes so.*

*J. Heit: stated the importance of working closely with Closter and Demarest so all of the students stay in line with each other and on the same level. All of the districts should have similar schedules.*

*K. Leddy: asked how Haworth's virtual learning is compared to Closter and Demarest?*

*Dr. Hughes: explained that all of the districts have a blended model of synchronous and asynchronous virtual learning but scheduling and enrichment differs.*

**Close the Public portion: 8:58 p.m.**

**VI. CLOSED SESSION 8:58 p.m.**

M. Doran Moved, I. Borek 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 Work Session Meeting of the Borough of Haworth Board of Education on this day Wednesday, May 13, 2020 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 30 minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel. Action will not be taken in public after the executive session.

**Return to public meeting: 9:58 p.m.**

**VII. MOTION TO ADJOURN.**

S. Wunsch Moved, I. Borek Seconded  
All in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT 10:00 p.m.**

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Michael Rodino, President  
Haworth Board of Education

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Kristi Giambona  
Board Secretary