

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641  
MINUTES  
December 12, 2019**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER – 6:50 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 November 21, 2019 advance written notice was emailed to **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 - **ABSENT**  
Mrs. Nicole Brennan  
Mrs. Mary Anne Doran - **LATE 6:56 p.m.**  
Mrs. Judy Eig  
Mrs. Karen Leddy  
Mr. Michael Rodino  
Mrs. Stacey Wunsch  
Mr. Paul Wolford, Business Administrator  
Dr. Peter Hughes, Superintendent  
Mrs. Stacey Cherry, Esq., Fogarty & Hara  
Mrs. Kristi Giambona, Board Secretary

**VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - 6:51 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.*

**VII. CLOSE THE PUBLIC PORTION - 6:51 p.m. - NO PUBLIC COMMENT**

**VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S/BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORTS**

**BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION & PRESENTATION OF PLAQUES:**

**Mr. Jeffrey Ashkenase:**

**WHEREAS** Mr. Ashkenase has served as a member of the Haworth Board of Education since January 7, 2014, and

**WHEREAS** Mr. Ashkenase’s term will expire from the Haworth Board of Education effective January 7, 2020 and,

**WHEREAS** Mr. Ashkenase gave 6 years of dedicated and effective service to the community and the children of Haworth and,

**WHEREAS** during that time, Mr. Ashkenase served in a leadership role as Vice President. He was a member of the Finance & Facilities and Negotiations Committees, and also served as the Town Council Liaison and Joint Boards Representative,

**WHEREAS** the Haworth Board of Education is desirous of recognizing his many years of service to the school district and also wishes to express their appreciation and gratitude for his efforts,

**Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this resolution be read into the record of the December 12, 2019 Haworth Board of Education minutes as permanent testimony to his outstanding service as a member of the Haworth Board of Education.

**Mrs. Judy Eig:**

**WHEREAS** Mrs. Eig has served as a member of the Haworth Board of Education since January 4, 2017, and

**WHEREAS** Mrs. Eig’s term will expire from the Haworth Board of Education effective January 7, 2020 and,

**WHEREAS** Mrs. Eig gave 3 years of dedicated and effective service to the community and the children of Haworth and,

**WHEREAS** during that time, Mrs. Eig served as a member of the Finance & Facilities, Policy, Program & Personnel, and Public Relations Committees, and also served as the HHS Representative,

**WHEREAS** the Haworth Board of Education is desirous of recognizing her many years of service to the school district and also wishes to express their appreciation and gratitude for her efforts,

**Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that this resolution be read into the record of the December 12, 2019 Haworth Board of Education minutes as permanent testimony to her outstanding service as a member of the Haworth Board of Education.

M. Rodino Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded  
Roll Call: 5/0

Dr. Hughes: spoke regarding the 2020-21 district calendar. Looking to change to trimesters in order to implement standard based report cards. K-5 will transition before the Middle School. Election Day will be a half day. The Board should consider the October 30th as a half day with teacher professional development in the afternoon.

Dr. Hughes presented on Dyknow, which is a student monitoring software. The district is looking into this software because the staff is finding that students are playing games during down time. The parents and the students will be informed of this before it is rolled out.

Dr. Hughes presented possible BOE meeting structures. He proposed three types of meeting options.

- #1 Committees to separate workflow. Voting done all in one meeting per month.
- #2 Workshop meeting alternating with a Voting meeting. At the Workshop meeting the committee meeting topics can be shared.
- #3 Committee of the Whole. Dissolve committees and function as a whole group on all decisions.

The Board all agreed that option #2 would be the best option for this Board.

## **IX. ROUTINE RESOLUTIONS**

- a. **Enrollment** Report to Date - 398
- b. Emergency & Crisis Situations **Drill Record:**
  - Fire Drill: November 11, 2019
  - Security Drill: November 6, 2019
- c. **HIB** Report for November 2019:
  - Reported Cases: 0
  - Number of Cases Open: 0
  - Number of Cases Closed: 0

M. Rodino Moved, K. Leddy Seconded  
 Roll Call: 5/0

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items IX a. through c.**

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Ashkenase				✓
s. Brennan	✓			
s. Doran				✓
s. Eig	✓			
s. Leddy	✓			
Rodino	✓			
s. Wunsch	✓			

**X. MINUTES**

- a. Approval of **meeting minutes** from the November 18, 2019 Public Business meeting.
- b. Approval of **meeting minutes** from the November 18, 2019 Executive Session meeting.

M. Rodino Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded  
 Roll Call: 5/0

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items X a. and b.**

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Ashkenase				✓

s. Brennan	✓			
s. Doran				✓
s. Eig	✓			
s. Leddy	✓			
Rodino	✓			
s. Wunsch	✓			

**XI. CURRICULUM**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following **field trips**. Transportation costs will apply where applicable.

<b>#</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>GRADE / CLUB</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>COST PER STUDENT</b>	<b>STAFF IN CHARGE</b>
1.	1/3/20	Instrumental Music	Northern Valley High School, Demarest, NJ	0	V. Nasta
2.	5/13/20	Gr. 2	Liberty Science Center, Jersey City, NJ	\$24.00	C. Stokesbury, E. Burns, T. Leeshock
3.	6/2/20	Brainbusters Finals	Bergen Community College, Lyndhurst, NJ	0	A. Kosakowski & D. Talty
4.	6/12/19	Gr. 8	Haworth Swim Club, Haworth, NJ	0	A. Kosakowski

M. Rodino Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded  
 Roll Call: 6/0

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XI a.**

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Ashkenase				✓
s. Brennan	✓			
s. Doran	✓			
s. Eig	✓			
s. Leddy	✓			
Rodino	✓			
s. Wunsch	✓			

**XII. PERSONNEL**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the attendance and registration costs, if applicable, for the below indicated **professional development and/or training workshops or conferences** for the following employees. Travel & accommodation expenditures reimbursed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.

#	NAME	DATE(S)	CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP	LOCATION	COST (not to exceed)
1.	R. Siniscalchi	11/22/19, 12/12/19, 2/14/20, 4/7/20 & TBD	Dyslexia & Reading Workshop Think Tank	New York, NY	\$1,000.00
2.	A. Talamo	2/17 & 2/18/20	Get Your Teach On Conference	Houston, TX	\$1,500.00
3.	D. Turner	3/23 & 3/24/20	NJ Building & Grounds Expo Conference	Atlantic City, NJ	\$550.00

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the

**spring 2020 graduate level courses** for the following staff members; reimbursement to be paid at the 2019-20 state college or university graduate level course rate for 3 total credits, pursuant to Article VII of the Haworth Teacher’s Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.

<b>Item</b>	<b>STAFF MEMBER</b>	<b>COURSE(S)</b>	<b>College/University</b>
1.	A. Talamo	READ 511 Case Studies of Reading Difficulties	Montclair State University
2.	A. Fannell	ELRL 6240 Administration & Supervision of Reading Programs	William Paterson University
3.	A. Homan	ELRL 6240 Administration & Supervision of Reading Programs	William Paterson University

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Dr. Hugh Bases, Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrician, as a CST evaluator for the 2019-20 school year, at a rate of \$450.00 per re-evaluation.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Riley Hall as a part-time Classroom Aide for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year, at a prorated annual salary of \$22,500.00, not benefit eligible.
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Cynthia Ambartsoumean, Lunch Aide, effective December 19, 2019.

M. Rodino Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded  
 Roll Call: 6/0

Dr. Hughes: Explained the reasoning behind out of state workshops, being clear about the finance concerns they bring to the budget set aside for professional development. He assured the Board that he would be judicious about what is recommended to the Board for approval.

The Board expressed concern about the cost if more teachers decide they would like to do this. If they move forward with this request, then a hiatus would be put on any other requests until the Board gets reports back from the teachers who attended, and see how they are sharing and disseminating their learning to their peers. This practice would ensure something beneficial was coming from the

investment. The Board would like to see if some of these workshops are closer to home, where no airfare and hotel costs are involved. It also could be suggested that the teacher pay for a portion of the costs.

Dr. Hughes pointed out that Mrs. Siniscalchi being selected by Teacher’s College for their Think Tank is a prestigious honor.

Motion to Modify the resolution XII a. 2. to the cost not to exceed \$1,200.

M. Rodino Moved, J. Eig Seconded

Roll Call: 4/2/0

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves the modification of Item XII. a.2.**

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Ashkenase				✓
s. Brennan	✓			
s. Doran		✓		
s. Eig	✓			
s. Leddy		✓		
Rodino	✓			
s. Wunsch	✓			

M. Rodino Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded

Approval of all Personnel items with the modification of XII a. 2.

Roll Call: 6/0

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XII. a. through e. (with the modification XII a. 2.)**

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Ashkenase				✓



s. Brennan	✓			
s. Doran	✓			
s. Eig	✓			
s. Leddy	✓			
Rodino	✓			
s. Wunsch	✓			

**XIII. FINANCE & FACILITIES**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the bills for the period of **November 1, 2019 to November 30, 2019** which has previously been approved by the various committees and payment made through the Valley National Bank from funds in the appropriate accounts as follows:

<b><i>Bills Description</i></b>	<b><i>Dated</i></b>	<b><i>Amount</i></b>
Payroll - Operating	11/15/2019	\$275,927.84
Board Share - FICA	11/15/2019	\$5,481.29
State Share - FICA	11/15/2019	\$14,215.94
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$295,625.07</b>

<b><i>Bills Description</i></b>	<b><i>Dated</i></b>	<b><i>Amount</i></b>
Payroll - Operating	11/30/2019	\$252,251.38
Board Share - FICA	11/30/2019	\$3,758.56
State Share - FICA	11/30/2019	\$14,127.42
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$270,137.36</b>

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the

**Bills and Claims for the month of December, 2019.**

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Budget Development Schedule/Calendar for the 2020-2021 school year.

J. Eig Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded  
 Roll Call: 6/0

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XIII. a. through c.**

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Ashkenase				✓
s. Brennan	✓			
s. Doran	✓			
s. Eig	✓			
s. Leddy	✓			
Rodino	✓			
s. Wunsch	✓			

**XIV. NEGOTIATIONS**

NO RESOLUTIONS

**XV. POLICY**

NO RESOLUTIONS

**XVI. SUBMISSIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the certification and submission of the following NJDOE reports:

- A Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials - 2019 Revisions
- 2020-2021 Application for State School Aid
- 2019-2020 Mid-Year Budget Review

M. Rodino Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded  
 Roll Call: 6/0

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XVI. a.**

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mr. Ashkenase				✓
s. Brennan	✓			
s. Doran	✓			
s. Eig	✓			
s. Leddy	✓			
Rodino	✓			
s. Wunsch	✓			

**XVII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Finance & Facilities
- Curriculum
- Policy
- Negotiations
- Public Relations
- BCSBA/NJSBA
- Joint Boards
- Haworth Home & School Association
- Northern Valley Regional High School
- NV Educational Foundation

Legislative Chairperson  
Senior Citizens Liaison  
Town Council Liaison

S. Wunch: Thanked Mrs. Fannell for the outstanding TREP\$ event.

Dr. Hughes: Drone project will be on hold for now. The BOE would like the students to be exposed to cutting edge technology. There is a possibility of a drone being donated.

**XVIII. Open to the Public on any item – 7:45 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.*

**Close the Public portion: 7:45 p.m. - NO PUBLIC COMMENT**

**XIX. OLD BUSINESS**

**XX. NEW BUSINESS**

**XXI. CLOSED SESSION 7:45 p.m.**

M. Rodino Moved, S. Wunsch 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, December 12, 2019 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 and the referendum. Action will not be taken in public after the executive session.

**XXII. MOTION TO ADJOURN.**

M. Rodino Moved, M. Doran Seconded  
All in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT 8:49 p.m.**

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Nicole Brennan, President  
Haworth Board of Education

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Kristi Giambona  
Board Secretary