

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
March 17, 2021**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:30 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 11, 2021, 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. During meetings held remotely for some or all participants, a member of the public wishing to provide comments during public comment on agenda items or public comments on all other items, is directed to type his or her name, address, and group affiliation, if any, in the “chat” window at the start of the public comment section where he or she wishes to be recognized. The Board President will recognize each member of the public individually when it is his or her turn to speak and will unmute his or her audio at that time. If a member of the public wants to provide a comment, but cannot access the “chat” he or she can verbally state their name, address, and group affiliation, if any, and the Board President will inform him or her when it is his or her turn to comment. The Board will also read written comments submitted in accordance with the Board’s resolution. All public comments are limited to three minutes, including time for the Board to respond. At all other times, members of the public will be muted. The Board will follow its adopted bylaws, procedures, and resolutions with regard to conduct during the Board meeting, including during public comments.

**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  
Mr. Charles Crowley  
Mrs. Alanna Davis  
Dr. Danielle Insalaco-Egan  
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. WORK SESSION TOPICS

- a. ELA & Math Action Plans - Mrs. Patricia Voigt and Mr. Paul Wolford  
*Presentations on record in the Board office.*

*M. Rodino asked how we measure success?*

*P. Wolford explained that there is a 5th element measured with the data driven instruction. You can go back and address topics again to ensure understanding. Keep repeating the cycle, keep it going and it will never end. Form C of LinkIt provides this feedback to the teachers.*

*P. Voigt explained that LinkIt is just one benchmark that is used for data collection. She shared that the teachers look at many forms of data all of the time. This helps them track students who are not moving up. Conversations with the teachers are important, as they evaluate the students daily.*

*I. Borek inquired at what point the teachers are communicating with the parents for students who are struggling?*

*P. Voigt shared that if a parent does not hear from their child's teacher, then that is a good sign. There is also the I&RS process when needed, which involves the parents.*

*P. Wolford added that teacher and parent conversations are typically on going, but the frequency is depending on the level of deficiencies with the student. Teachers communicate when needed via email, as well as during scheduled teacher/parent conferences.*

*M. Rodino said that he is looking forward to seeing the administration recommendations on where the state aid funds can be used.*

*Dr. Hughes shared a PowerPoint presentation regarding an update on the district reopening. The presentation is on record in the Board office. He also inquired if the Board would like to have COVID screening done after spring recess, and have school be all virtual until all results are received back?*

*The Board members agreed that since this protocol has worked in the past, that continuing this practice is the safest thing to do. They did request that Dr. Hughes inquire with the lab about the use of the newer, more accurate rapid tests.*

*The Board shared their concern about being virtual for a full week after the testing. Their suggestion was to do the testing on a Monday, and then open the school as soon as all of the results are back, even if the decision is made the night before.*

*Dr. Hughes asked if the Board would like to reinstate the police officer presence on school grounds after spring break? The Board unanimously agreed that they would like to go back to*

*this practice for the safety of the school population.*

*S. Wunsch commended the school administration, the teachers and staff for all of the work that has been done amidst an unprecedented year.*

- b. BE IT RESOLVED by the Haworth Board of Education, that the Board, upon recommendation of the Business Administrator, approves the following resolution regarding Employee Travel and Related Expenses:

WHEREAS, school district policies 4131/4131.1, 4133, 4231/4231.1 and bylaw 9250 regarding travel reimbursement and related expenses and N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b) provides that the Board of Education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for the 2020-2021 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2021-2022 Tentative Budget in the sum of \$15,000; and

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

- c. Approval of Preliminary 2021-2022 Budget

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approve the following Preliminary Budget for the 2021-2022 School Year and authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit the 2021-2022 preliminary budget to the Executive County Superintendent for approval in accordance with statutory submission dates:

	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>TOTAL TAX LEVY</b>
General Fund (Fund 10)	\$10,180,523.00	\$9,427,171.00
Special Revenue Fund (Fund 20)	\$85,100.00	
Debt Service Fund (Fund 40)	0	
<b>Total Tentative Budget</b>	<b>\$10,265,623.00</b>	

- d. Review of March 23, 2021 BOE Meeting Agenda Draft

S. Wunsch Moved, D. Egan Seconded  
Roll Call: 6/0

**VII. Open to the Public on any item - 8:40 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. Gladstein - 35 Grant Street: Asked for elaboration on the plans for a longer in-person school day, as well as a later morning drop-off after spring break.*

*Dr. Hughes: A longer school day is still being explored, and the main issue will be staffing. Drop-off will begin at 8:15 a.m. after spring break due to the elimination of individual temperature checks. The screening questionnaire will still be required each morning. The Pandemic Response Team meeting tomorrow will address all of these topics in greater detail.*

*L. DeLuca - 8 Littlefield Court: Asked what was the percentage of students that tested positive as a result of the COVID testing after the February recess?*

*That is a question that involves confidentiality, and cannot be addressed.*

*D. Klain - 350 Whitman Street: Asked is the parents could volunteer to be the lunch monitors to assist in lunch time being in the school?*

*M. Rodino: Responded that the option would be discussed with the Pandemic Response Team, as well as included in the parent survey questions.*

*C. Bacci - 392 Schraalenburgh Road: Supports being informed the night before if school can open early after the spring recess testing results are received.*

*K. Chang - 81 Beacon Street: Expressed her gratefulness for everyone's efforts and for putting safety first. Reminded everyone that we are still in the middle of a pandemic and should continue to take it one step at a time.*

*B. Adler - 233 Whitman Street: Understands the opinions of both sides. Believes that our procedures are keeping the school with less exposures to the virus. She also asked what the extended school day would mean.*

*Dr. Hughes: Replied that dismissal would be somewhere between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.*

*H. Thatcher - 440 Lake Shore Drive: Appreciates all that has been done, and believes that the school is a safe place to be if all precautions are in place.*

*A. Walker - 76 Pleasant Street: Asked if the summer Jump Start programs will be offered this summer?*

*Dr. Hughes: Responded that the plan at this point is to offer the programs.*

**Close the Public portion: 8:59 p.m.**

**VIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN.**

C. Crowley Moved, I. Borek Seconded  
All in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT: 9:00 p.m.**

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Michael Rodino, President  
Haworth Board of Education

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Kristi Giambona  
Board Secretary