

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641
MINUTES
January 19, 2021**

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:33 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, President
Mr. Gregory Stott
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. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - 7:35 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 - 7:36 p.m. NO PUBLIC COMMENT

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S/BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

- a. Kids with Character Award Presentation – criteria for the month of December is “Kindness”. For December the following students have been awarded:

Kindergarten: Jaclyn Adler, Harleigh Green, Charlotte Griffin, Fletcher Volpi
Grade 1: Mira Kushner, Cooper Lax, Nir Melamed
Grade 2: Valentina Albert, Logan Scott
Grade 3: Valentina Diaz, Teddy Giannotti, Olivia Gutierrez
Grade 4: Paige Gladstein, John Higgason
Grade 5: Max Davis, Chloe Guevarra
Grade 6: Victoria Albert, Carter Heit
Grade 7: Isabel McAllister, Anthony Sabbagh
Grade 8: Max Brickman, Shiri Sobol

- b. **2021 BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEES:**

It is hereby moved that the Haworth Board of Education accepts the 2021 Committees as appointed by the BOE President, per Policy 0155:

Curriculum: Committee of the Whole

Finance & Facilities: Stacey Wunsch (chair), Charles Crowley, Michael Rodino

Policy: Danielle Insalaco-Egan (Chair), Greg Stott, Michael Rodino

Negotiations: Stacey Wunsch (chair), Ilisha Borek, Michael Rodino

Public Relations: Alanna Davis (chair), Ilisha Borek, Michael Rodino

BCSBA/NJSBA: Stacey Wunsch

Joint Boards: Michael Rodino

HHSA: Ilisha Borek

NVRHS/NVEF: Danielle Insalaco-Egan

Legislative Chair: Charles Crowley

Senior Citizens: Greg Stott

Town Council: Alanna Davis

Governance/Onboarding (AdHoc Committee): Stacey Wunsch, Charles Crowley, Danielle Insalaco-Egan

- c. COVID Update and Stages of Return to Normalcy Presentation - Dr. Peter Hughes
(PowerPoint presentation on record with approved Minutes)

The Board discussed the option of COVID testing before returning to school after the February Winter Recess. All of the Board members agreed to this.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

The following resolutions are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be voted on by one vote. Any Board of Education member wishing to remove any items from the consent agenda and request an individual vote may do so.

- a. **Enrollment Report to Date - 411**
- b. **Emergency & Crisis Situations Drill Record: December**
 - Fire Drill: per class model held on various days per COVID guidelines
 - Security Drill: per class model held on various days per COVID guidelines
 - Administrator in charge: Mr. Paul Wolford
- c. **HIB Report for December 2020:**
 - Reported Cases: 0
 - Number of Cases Open: 0
 - Number of Cases Closed: 0

MINUTES:

- d. Approval of meeting minutes from the December 9, 2020 Work Session meeting.
- e. Approval of the meeting minutes from the December 9, 2020 Closed Session meeting.
- f. Approval of meeting minutes from the December 15, 2020 Regular Business meeting.
- g. Approval of meeting minutes from the December 15, 2020 Closed Session meeting.
- h. Approval of meeting minutes from the January 6, 2021 Reorganization meeting.
- i. Approval of meeting minutes from the January 6, 2021 Work Session meeting.
- j. Approval of meeting minutes from the January 6, 2021 Closed Session meeting.
- k. **SUBMISSIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS:**
 - 1. 2020-21 Statement of Assurance regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff

I. Borek Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

X. CURRICULUM

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

2021-2022 school district calendar.

C. Crowley Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Item X. a.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mrs. Borek	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Mrs. Davis	✓			
Dr. Insalaco-Egan	✓			
Mr. Rodino	✓			
Mr. Stott	✓			
Mrs. Wunsch	✓			

XI. PERSONNEL

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves payment, per the Haworth Teachers' Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, to the following certified staff for successful completion of graduate level courses which were previously approved by the Board of Education.

#	STAFF MEMBER	COURSE APPROVAL DATE	SCHOOL	CREDITS	PAYMENT
1.	Jessica Buchheister	August 18, 2020	William Paterson University	3	\$2,358.00
2.	Erin Carr	August 18, 2020	Fairleigh Dickinson University	3	\$2,550.00
3.	Lori Scheps	August 18, 2020	Fairleigh Dickinson University	3	\$2,550.00
4.	Angelica Talamo	May 19, 2020	Montclair State University	3	\$2,190.84

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves stipends for the following employees for the 2020-2021 school year. Payment per the Haworth Teachers Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.

#	CATEGORY/STIPEND	NAME	RATE
1.	2 - Science Olympiad	L. Burkholder & J. Barclay	\$1,968 (split)
2.	3 - 8th grade Coordinator	A. Kosakowski	\$2,547
3.	3 - Kindergarten Coordinator	C. Alcoser	\$2,547

- c. 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.	S. Schmalzer	1/27 & 1/28/21	Grief Counseling for Children & Adolescents: Developmentally-Appropriate Assessment & Treatment Strategies for Processing Grief	Virtual	\$439.99
2.	K. Ross	1/19, 1/21, 1/26, 1/28, 2/2, 2/4, 2/9 & 2/11/21	Advancing Thinking ThroughWriting 1	Virtual	\$1,000.00

- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Gregg Cobb as a Leave Replacement Middle School Teacher, from February 8, 2021 through June 23, 2021. He will receive the first 20 days pay at the substitute rate of \$90 per day and then an annual prorated salary of \$53,244.00, BA, Step 3 from the 21st day, benefit-eligible after the required days of employment.
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of employee #65454308 effective April 13, 2021.
- f. **RESOLVED** that Employee #91172734 (hereinafter referred to as the “Employee”) be granted a leave of absence for child rearing purposes pursuant to the New Jersey Family Leave Act and the Family and Medical Leave Act from February 22, 2021 through May 7, 2021, without pay and with medical benefits, subject to the employee’s payment of their contribution for same; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the employee shall return to work May 10, 2021 or on an earlier return date subject to advance notice to the Haworth School District (hereinafter referred to as the “District”) administration, whereupon the above leave dates may be administratively adjusted as appropriate;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any requests to extend or change the terms of the employee’s leave of absence shall be made to the Board, which request shall be subject to Board approval, Federal and State statutes and regulations, and the Collective Negotiations Agreement between the Board and the Haworth Education Association; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the dates of said leave may be adjusted based on changes to the District’s calendar.

S. Wunsch Moved, A. Davis Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Item XI. a. through f.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mrs. Borek	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Mrs. Davis	✓			
Dr. Insalaco-Egan	✓			
Mr. Rodino	✓			
Mr. Stott	✓			
Mrs. Wunsch	✓			

XII. FINANCE & FACILITIES

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the bills for the period of December 1, 2020 to December 30, 2020 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:

<i>Bills Description</i>	<i>Dated</i>	<i>Amount</i>
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Payroll - Operating	12/15/2020	\$265,299.72
Board Share - FICA	12/15/2020	\$3,976.10
State Share - FICA	12/15/2020	\$14,746.46
	TOTAL:	\$284,022.28

<i>Bills Description</i>	<i>Dated</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Payroll - Operating	12/23/2020	\$266,067.78
Board Share - FICA	12/23/2020	\$4,034.86
State Share - FICA	12/23/2020	\$14,746.46
	TOTAL:	\$284,849.10

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Bills and Claims for the month of January, 2021.
- c. **Be It Resolved**, that the Haworth Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the **appropriation of the 2019-2020 Extraordinary Aid** in the amount of \$154,694.00 into the 2020-2021 budget as allowable and as awarded by the New Jersey State Department of Education. The District's total amount to be appropriated was \$154,694.00. The funds shall be appropriated in the 2020-2021 fiscal year as follows:

11-190-100-340-050-00	Purchase Tech Services/Repair (Instruction)	\$40,000.00
11-190-100-610-050-19	Instructional Supplies	\$40,000.00
11-000-230-340-050-00	Purchase Tech Services (District Upgrades)	\$20,000.00
11-000-252-600-050-00	Technology Supplies	\$15,000.00
11-000-261-420-050-02	Contract Services-Building	\$24,694.00

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11-000-262-490-050-02	Misc. Purchase Property Services	\$10,000.00
11-000-230-590-050-00	Misc. Purchased Services	\$5,000.00
	Total	\$154,694.00

A. Davis Moved, D. Egan Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Item XII. a. through c.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mrs. Borek	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Mrs. Davis	✓			
Dr. Insalaco-Egan	✓			
Mr. Rodino	✓			
Mr. Stott	✓			
Mrs. Wunsch	✓			

Mr. Wolford explained that extraordinary aide is granted from the state from the money spent on Special Education in the previous year. Schools qualify for a small refund the following school year. Any extra funds above the budgeted amount need to be allocated to specific lines wherever there is need.

XIII. NEGOTIATIONS

NO RESOLUTIONS

XIV. POLICY

NO RESOLUTIONS

XV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Facilities

Curriculum

Policy

Negotiations

Public Relations

BCSBA/NJSBA

Joint Boards

Haworth Home & School Association - *Mrs. Borek reminded the public that the HHSA is currently looking for volunteers, and to inquire with them if interested.*

Northern Valley Regional High School

NV Educational Foundation

Legislative Chairperson

Senior Citizens Liaison

Town Council Liaison

XVI. OLD BUSINESS

XVII. NEW BUSINESS

XVIII. Open to the Public on any item – 8:11 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.

Dorothy Klain - 350 Whitman Street: Inquired if the BOE has ever researched the change in homework pattern from the elementary grade levels to the middle school grade levels? She has noticed that with her children, the academic rigor of the at home assignments at the middle school level should be higher.

Mr. Rodino: Responded that any parent concern regarding workload or students not being challenged academically, should first be directed to the classroom teacher. If that does not help, then at that point it should be brought to the attention of the administration.

Close the Public portion: 8:17 p.m.

XIX. CLOSED SESSION

C. Crowley 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 Tuesday, January 19, 2021 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 45 minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel and negotiations. Action will not be taken in public after the executive session.

XX. MOTION TO ADJOURN

A. Davis Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded
All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:39 p.m.

Michael Rodino, President
Haworth Board of Education

Kristi Giambona
Board Secretary