

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641
WORK SESSION MINUTES
November 11, 2020**

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:31 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, February 21, 2020, and October 22, 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. 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. Robert Rose
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. Video Presentation on Virtual Instruction - Dr. Melissa Quackenbush
Dr. Quackenbush gave an overview of the district's virtual learning environment. She showed examples of specific software learning tools, classroom engagement, and student connections.
- b. Curriculum
 - Afternoon sessions - *options for improving student engagement and programming looking at everyday live streaming for all classes in middle school.*
 - Middle school curriculum
 - Analysis of increasing in person middle school time
Dr. Hughes presented options regarding maximizing in-school time for middle school students and the pros and cons of this.
 - Alternatives
*Pursue more student engagement in the afternoons.
Special area report card grades will be a challenge for the special area teachers.*
- c. Holidays and travel - option to survey parents and staff?
Dr. Hughes gave an overall COVID update for the district. Reviewed states on the NJ travel restriction list.
- d. Antigen testing after breaks
*3 options: Don't Test / Antigen Test / PCR Test.
Rates of false positives with our building population using Antigen Testing would be around 15 people.
Stacey Cherry, Esq. gave legal overview of testing staff and students. Explained that testing would be voluntary.
Survey staff and parents regarding travel plans over the school breaks, as well as ask what percentage of people would be willing to test post break.
The Cares Act can be used for testing reimbursement through December 31, 2020.*
- e. Snow Days
2 options: 1. Make snow days all virtual and end school early at end of year. 2. Adhere to the 3 built-in snow days and fully close on snow days to allow kids to enjoy the snow. The Board agreed to keep 3 snow days in the calendar and cap it at 3. Any snow days beyond the 3 days would then be all virtual days.
- f. Board Retreat, training, certification
Preferred dates, times and locations. In-person or virtual. The Board agreed to hold a Board retreat in-person either at a later date once COVID cases start going down, or everyone take a PCR test before.
- g. Review of draft Agenda for 11/17/20

VII. Open to the Public on any item - 9:00 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: Likes the idea of 80% of middle school students in school on a rotating schedule. Feels that it would allow more time for those students who want in person learning. She feels secure that the students are safe in the school, as the school is following all of the virus protocols. Suggested that if a student decides on all virtual learning then they have to commit to that decision, so there is no back and forth on being in school and out of school.

Close the Public portion: 9:04 p.m.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION

S. Wunsch Moved, R. Rose 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, November 11, 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 45 minutes for the purpose of discussing legal matters. Action will not be taken in public after the executive session.

IX. MOTION TO ADJOURN.

S. Wunsch Moved, D. Egan Seconded
All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:40 p.m.

Michael Rodino, President
Haworth Board of Education

Kristi Giambona
Board Secretary