

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641
WORK SESSION MINUTES
August 12, 2020**

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, February 21, 2020, June 19, 2020, and July 28, 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
Mr. Charles Crowley
Mrs. Alanna Davis
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

A motion was made to move the Public Comment section:

S. Wunsch Moved, C. Crowley Seconded

All in favor.

VI. Open to the Public on any item - 7:36 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.

D. Stott - 328 Hennessey Street - Expressed concern about in-person schooling being limited. Questioned how many students will be leaving the district due to the limited in-person learning? She also asked that once the students leave school at 12:40 p.m., would everyone begin school again virtually after lunch?

D. Klain - 350 Whitman Street - Questioned why the last survey sent out to parents did not include a full day hybrid schedule?

J. Gladstein - 35 Grant Street - Asked that Dr. Hughes confirm that Haworth will not be applying for full day remote learning.

Dr. Hughes - Confirmed that the district will not be applying for full day remote learning.

K. Bevilacqua - 376 Maple Street - Asked what a 2.5 day hybrid schedule was decided upon instead of a full day hybrid schedule? Asked that if there will be full day live streaming from the classroom to the home. Questioned that since there will not be any changes of classes in middle school, how will the math students be tiered?

A. Walker - 76 Pleasant Street - Thanked the administration for their great work on the reopening plan. Inquired if there would be an opportunity for spanish classes to be reintroduced? Also asked if there would be an option for 504 students to go to school 5 days per week?

J. Heit - 369 Wheeler Place - Inquired about the Special Education students who are pulled out of class for various therapies? Asked to hear about the various cohorts and schedules for their needs.

J. Levison - 70 Delaware Avenue - Asked for an explanation on synchronous learning.

B. Adler - 233 Whitman Street - Thanked Dr. Hughes for the reopening plan and the FAQ woking document. Asked what will be done for the teachers with child care issues? Also, what would be done to support teachers mental health? She suggested to research ways the community could help with any bandwidth issues.

Close the Public portion: 7:57 p.m.

Dr. Hughes answered many of the public questions:

He stated that the district is working on upgrading bandwidth to gigabytes.

The reason a full day hybrid schedule was not addressed is because we only have a certain amount of teachers, therefore the same teachers have to be available for both in person and virtual teaching. Currently there are 20% of middle school students, and 10% of the lower grade students staying home. A half day was decided upon because the school has to give the full virtual learners one-on-one time with their teachers.

Mr. Wolford explained that with the special area classes being held in the afternoon, the instructional time will be very close to what students have in a full day of in-school instruction. There will be asynchronous learning during all classroom lessons. He explained that half day is a deceiving description. With this schedule, the students will only be losing 32 minutes per day of in-person instructional time.

VII. WORK SESSION TOPICS

- a. District Goal Alignment & Measurement Presentation - Mr. Matthew Lee, New Jersey School Boards Representative

“2020 BOE Goal Setting” Presentation - attached

The BOE worked on the 2020-21 goals with Mr. Lee. He will provide the BOE with a written copy of the final goals that were decided upon.

b. **Parent/Teacher Summer Workshops**

3 hours per session to assist parents with virtual school.

- 1. Social & Emotional Supports - Ms. Schmalzer*
- 2. See Saw Instruction - Ms. Chamberlain*
- 3. Google Classroom Instruction - Mr. Talty*

c. **State of the District**

● **Internet Service Discussion**

Looking to move away from nvnet for internet access and will begin to set up for a switch next school year. Currently under contract so cannot switch now.

● **PPE**

Ordered enough supplies to get through 4 months of in-person/hybrid education, and we are ready to go for September. Eight tents are currently on order for outdoor classrooms while the weather permits.

d. **Review of Draft Agenda for 8/18/20**

Dr. Hughes explained that a Supervisor of Special Education will be recommended, as well as a teacher and a leave replacement teacher.

VIII. Voting Resolution:

- a. Due to financial burdens brought on by the coronavirus pandemic and the subsequent reduction of \$23,849.00 in state aid, at the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, the Haworth Board of Education is electing to reduce appropriations for planned Facility Maintenance Projects in the 2020-2021 budget (12-000-261-730). The reduction amount will be equal to the loss in state aid of \$23,849.00, resulting in a new budgeted allocation of \$275,948.00 for the 2020-2021 school year.

M. Rodino explained to the public that this resolution needs to be voted on at this meeting due to a deadline for submission to the county office prior to August 15th. The resolution is approving the reduction in state school aide.

A. Davis Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded

Roll Call: 5/0

IX. CLOSED SESSION - 9:34 p.m.

S. Wunsch Moved, I. Borek Seconded

Roll Call: 5/0

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, August 12, 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 15 minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel. Action will not be taken in public after the executive session.

Returned to Public Session - 9:57 p.m.

X. MOTION TO ADJOURN.

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

ADJOURNMENT - 9:58 p.m.

Michael Rodino, President
Haworth Board of Education

Kristi Giambona
Board Secretary