

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641
WORK SESSION MINUTES
March 8, 2023**

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 5, 2023 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:

Mr. Tae Chang
Mr. Charles Crowley
Dr. Danielle Insalaco-Egan
Mrs. Deborah Munoz-Maniscalco
Mr. Michael Rodino
Mr. Robert Rose
Mrs. Stacey Wunsch
Mr. Paul Wolford, Business Administrator/Acting Superintendent
Mrs. Kristi Giambona, Board Secretary

VI. WORK SESSION TOPICS

- a. Covid procedures and NVD districts
 - i. How are the BOH's coordinating of it all
 - ii. Surrounding town mask and containment practices

Mr. Wolford explained that we follow the specific guidelines of the Board of Health which have not changed at all recently. The surrounding towns are still following the same guidelines as before which have not been changed since the return to school plan was submitted to the NJDOE.

Mr. Crowley suggested that the procedural information be sent out as a ParentSquare as a reminder.

Mr. Rose suggested to also post it to the website for parents to review when in question.

b. 2024 Curriculum - Teacher's College/Math/STEAM

Mr. Wolford explained that Haworth started with Teacher's College (TC) start in 2015, at which time we were very invested in this program. After a few year's our staff requested starting to scale back the training. At this time we are currently running the professional development quarterly, with new staff needing to learn the TC system.

Math is getting good feedback regarding iReady from the teachers, but we need more time to see the results of this effort, but so far it has been going well and we would like to continue the iReady program.

For STEAM we are hoping to see some of the equipment we already have in the building get used to its fullest extent.

c. 2023-2024 Haworth Pre-K 4 Pilot Program / TIP Program

Mr. Wolford explained that we will need to buy the curriculum from a company which will send in coaches for the Pre-K staff. We already have some in-house staff that are certified and interested in teaching Pre-K. We will have one teacher and one paraprofessional. To start the program off in the fall the district will have 5 special needs placements, as well as 5 spaces for resident students that are 4 years old, which will be chosen via lottery. The lottery will be held on March 4th. The district will have a self imposed cap of 8-10 kids to start off the program as to not be overwhelmed at the beginning and to have time for everyone to get acclimated to the program.

Mr. Wolford discussed that the TIP program that is currently housed in Norwood and explained that they do not have room in their building anymore for the program. Haworth has offered to house only one special needs classroom for the 2023-24 school year. All of the employees will be from the TIP Program, as well as a supervisor. There will be one class housed in Haworth and two classes housed at another school in the valley. The payment Haworth will receive for this from the TIP Program will help to subsidize other upcoming costs.

D. Egan - asked if us housing this program will impact our school nurse?

P. Wolford - responded that it will have some impact on her workload when those students need her care.

d. Kitchen Project Update

Mr. Wolford - shared that the plans are complete and that we will advertise to bid at end of March. He assured the Board that the High school is supportive if we need to utilize their services longer than expected until the kitchen is completed. Pomptonian Services staff will come and cook the food and our staff will help serve and clean up.

e. Review of March 15, 2023 BOE Meeting Agenda Draft
C. Crowley - asked what the Kid's with Character changes are exactly?

Mr. Wolford explained that we are exploring ways to expand the criteria to include more kids. Recognize more kids and show that collectively showing these character traits make the school a better place. The teachers will provide examples for each act that the various students do for the month at the assembly.

Mr. Rodino inquired about the Principal search.

Mr. Wolford shared that we received approximately 46 applicants. The administration has reviewed them and will wind it down to 10 interviews for 1st round and move on from there.

VII. FINANCE RESOLUTION

- a. Be it resolved that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator approves the following resolution:

Whereas, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2023-24 school year, and

Whereas, the Haworth Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that participation in SEMI would not provide a cost benefit to the district based on the projection of the district's available SEMI reimbursement for the 2023-24 budget year.

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Haworth Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2023-24 school year.

S. Wunsch Moved, R. Rose Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

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

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

VIII. Open to the Public on any item - 8:22 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, address and group affiliation (if any) before you begin.

Mrs. Samples - 560 Sylvan Place - inquired that with the TIP Program coming to the building, will the referendum construction noise affect their learning environment?

Mr. Wolford stated that the architects consider the heaviest construction be done when school is out whenever they work with schools.

Close the Public portion: 8:23 p.m.

IX. MOTION TO ADJOURN.

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

ADJOURNMENT: 8:24

Michael Rodino, President
Haworth Board of Education

Kristi Giambona
Board Secretary