

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

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 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 - **LATE 7:34 p.m.**
Mr. Michael Rodino
Mr. Robert Rose
Mrs. Stacey Wunsch
Mr. Paul Wolford, Business Administrator/Acting Superintendent
Mrs. Stacey Cherry, Esq., Fogarty & Hara
Mrs. Kristi Giambona, Board Secretary

VI. WORK SESSION TOPICS

a. 2023-24 District Calendar review

Mr. Wolford reviewed the calendar draft and noted that it aligns as much as possible with Northern Valley Demarest High School, as well as the other Northern Valley districts. A meeting was had with all of the district Superintendent's where all of the calendar drafts were shared. All of the districts did the best they could to keep alignment with each other, although there will always be some small differences. The first day of school seems to vary per district. Haworth, Norwood & Harrington Park are proposing Wednesday, September 6th; Northern Valley High School, Demarest, Old Tappan and Northvale are proposing Tuesday, September

5th; and Closter is proposing Thursday, September 7th. These are different mainly due to teacher union contracts on when the first day for teachers to do their professional development can be. He also explained that the reason for not closing school for Juneteenth is because it would be the last day of school, although if snow days are not used then school could be out sooner than that. June 19th was made a half day in the event that it winds up being the last day of school.

- b. HIB Review Process - Stacey Cherry, Esq. of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs.
PowerPoint presentation on file in the Board office.
- c. Daily COVID Protocols
Mr. Wolford explained that we are still following the advice of the Bergen County Department of Health regarding protocols in the building regarding COVID. We use these recommendations to try to curb the spread of COVID.
- d. Referendum Update
Mr. Wolford reviewed where the district is at in the Design-Build phase of the project. He explained that the request for quote will be going out by the end of this week. The district will select a bid by the April BOE meeting.
- e. Review of February 15, 2023 BOE Meeting Agenda Draft

f. WHEREAS, the Haworth Board of Education has committed to a major multi-phase additions and alterations project that includes the construction of a new one-story classroom addition for four additional classrooms to be connected to the northeast wing of the existing facility; a new one-story addition to be connected to the north entrance of the building which will contain administrative offices, a maker space, media center and new building entry; renovations and expansion of the existing gymnasium; renovations to the existing Library/Media Center; renovations to existing classrooms, offices and restrooms; and upgrades to existing building services and systems; and

WHEREAS, the Architect of Record estimates that the project has a cost equal to or exceed \$5,000,000, but less than \$12,500,000; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey law allows for public entities to use a “Design-Build” bid solicitation process in lieu of a traditional “Design-Bid-Build” model; and

WHEREAS, based upon conversations with and documents furnished by the Architect of Record, the Board believes that when compared to the “Design-Bid-Build” process, the “Design-Build” project delivery will facilitate a shorter overall design and construction process including, but not limited to, reducing the likelihood of work stoppages and change orders that would increase project costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby authorizes the Superintendent/Business Administrator and the Architect of Record to issue a Request for Qualifications within the meaning of N.J.A.C. 5:34-10.2 for the above-referenced project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby requires the Superintendent/Business Administrator and the Architect of Record to ensure that the procedures for the solicitation and award of the Design-Build Contract are consistent with the requirements set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:34-10.3, including, but not limited to, the establishment of a Technical Review Committee for the review and evaluation of responses furnished by bidders in response to the RFQ; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby determines that following the receipt of a Statement of Qualifications from prospective bidders, the Technical Review Committee shall select a maximum of four bidders to submit proposals in the second phase of the solicitation process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby authorizes the Superintendent/Business Administrator to take such action as is necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution.

R. Rose Moved, D. Egan Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

VII. Open to the Public on any item - 8:27 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.

Close the Public portion: 8:33 p.m.

Mrs. Maniscalco asked if there is a policy on Artificial Intelligence?

Mr. Rodino suggested updating the Cheating/Plagiarism policy to include Chat GPT and OpenAI.

Mr. Wolford explained that the students cannot get onto it while in the school building as it is blocked.

Mrs. Maniscalco asked if Dr. Hughes' YouTube channel videos can be transferred to a Haworth Public School YouTube channel and remove them from his personal channel.

Mr. Wolford said he will look into this.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION

D. Egan 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 Meeting of the Borough of Haworth Board of Education on this day Wednesday, February 8, 2023 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 30 minutes for the purpose of discussing district matters and HIB. Action will not be taken in public after the executive session.

X. MOTION TO ADJOURN.

R. Rose Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded
All in favor

ADJOURNMENT: 8:57 p.m.

Michael Rodino, President
Haworth Board of Education

Kristi Giambona
Board Secretary