

HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641
Minutes
December 20, 2023

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 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, President
Mr. Robert Rose
Mrs. Stacey Wunsch, Vice President - LATE 7:34 p.m.
Mr. Paul Wolford, Superintendent
Mr. Kevin Lane, Business Administrator/MS Supervisor
Mrs. Stacey Cherry, Esq., Fogarty & Hara, Esqs.
Mrs. Kristi Giambona, Board Secretary

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - 7:34 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.

S. Borek, 387 Wheeler Place - Thanked Mr. Rodino for his time on the Board and his commitment to the children of Haworth, and shared his appreciation for all of his efforts. He wished him the best of luck as he moves on to serve on the town council.

VII. CLOSE THE PUBLIC PORTION - 7:36 p.m.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S/BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORTS

- a. 2022-23 Audit Presentation & Approval - Mr. John Mooney, CAP, RMA, PSA, and Partner at Nisivoccia, LLP - *Presentation and audit books on record in the Business office.*
- b. **Kids with Character Award Presentation** – the theme for the months of November is “Honesty”. For November the following students have been awarded:

Kindergarten: Claire Bacci, Tyler Green, Tino Karalian, Olivia Perez, Benji Spence

Grade 1: Harley Harris, James Nakashian

Grade 2: Claire Esposito, Audrey Park, Ryuji Tani, Ann Varela

Grade 3: Callista Chan, Harleigh Green, Hendrix Hereghty, Carlo Karalian, Catherine Knaggs, Jayden Lee, Tatum Levine

Grade 4: Jake Boyev, Enzo Cammalleri, Talia Kornblatt, Ivan Serada

Grade 5: Valentina Albert, Eera Chasin, Joanna Chung, Shunya Hirai, Austin Liao

Grade 6: Sydney Davis, Sasha DeCosta, Valentina Diaz, Dylan Fisher, Josh Herstik, Jackson Kushner, Aiden Lee, Nicolas Saporito

Grade 7: Giselle Fermano, Ran Peles

Grade 8: Chloe Guevarra, Alyson Ludwig, James McLaughlin, Luke Miller

Staff Shout Out’s: Jessica Buchheister, Rebekah Chung, Maria DiCarlantonio, Ali Gjana, Rebecca Hall, Alicia Kosakowski, Melissa Mohr, Abigail Ronberg, Michael Rucereto, Gianna Russo, Derick Talty

Mr. Wolford - gave an update on the work being done on the science curriculum with Mr. Lane, Mrs. Huettenmoser and the teachers who are meeting weekly on this goal. They are working on providing rigorous and formative assessments using guides from NJSLA. They have created a document with all lesson standards to help align the curriculum. He shared that this is an ongoing process as one of the BOE goals and he is proud of the work being done thus far.

c. BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER RECOGNITION:

WHEREAS Mr. Rose has served as a member of the Haworth Board of Education since September 9, 2020, and

WHEREAS Mr. Rose’s term will expire from the Haworth Board of Education effective December 31, 2023 and,

WHEREAS Mr. Rose gave 3 1/2 years of dedicated and effective service to the community and the children of Haworth and,

WHEREAS during that time, Mr. Rose served as a member of the Public Relations, Finance & Facilities, and Curriculum Committees, and also served as the Senior Citizens Liaison,

WHEREAS the Haworth Board of Education is desirous of recognizing his service to the school district and also wishes to express their appreciation and gratitude for his efforts,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be read into the record of the December 20, 2023 Haworth Board of Education minutes as permanent testimony to his service as a member of the Haworth Board of Education.

WHEREAS Mr. Rodino has served as a member of the Haworth Board of Education since January 1, 2018, and

WHEREAS Mr. Rodino's term will expire from the Haworth Board of Education effective December 31, 2023 and,

WHEREAS Mr. Rodino gave 6 years of dedicated and effective service to the community and the children of Haworth and,

WHEREAS during that time, Mr. Rodino achieved certification as a master board of education member and served in leadership roles as President and Vice President. He was a member of the Curriculum, Public Relations, Negotiations, Finance & Facilities, and Policy Committees. He also served as the NJSBA and Joint Boards Representative,

WHEREAS the Haworth Board of Education is desirous of recognizing his service to the school district and also wishes to express their appreciation and gratitude for his efforts,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be read into the record of the December 20, 2023 Haworth Board of Education minutes as permanent testimony to his service as a member of the Haworth Board of Education.

S. Wunsch Moved, D. Egan Seconded
Roll Call: 6/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items VIII. a. and c.

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

S. Wunsch - stated that the BOE appreciates both members for their services to the school. She continued that specifically in regards to Mr. Rodino for everything he has brought to the Board and the children is immeasurable. His leadership, skillset and prioritizing working in conjunction with the teachers to make us whole again and move the district forward. Nothing can adequately express how extremely grateful the Board is and how much he will be missed.

M. Rodino - expressed that it has been wonderful working on the Board. One thing that drives him and results in success is mutual respect from the members. Patience is the key to success and it is important for everyone to remember why we are here, and that it is for the children. He thanked the administration, the HTA, and everyone for their partnership.

P. Wolford - to sum it all up.....Mr. Rodino was always a voice of reason, consistent and kind.

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 - 466**
- b. **Emergency & Crisis Situations Drill Record: November**
 - Fire Drill: November 8, 2023
 - Security Drill: November 22, 2023 and November 28, 2023
 - Administrator in charge: Mr. Paul Wolford

MINUTES:

- c. Approval of meeting minutes from the November 29, 2023 Regular Business meeting.
- d. Approval of meeting minutes from the November 29, 2023 Closed Executive session.

SUBMISSIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS:

- e. 2021-22 Civil Rights Data Collection
- f. 2023-24 Pre-K Outcomes Survey
- g. 2024-25 Application for State School Aid (ASSA)
- h. 2023-24 NJ Family Care

i. HIB Report for November, 2023:

Reported Cases: 1
 Number of Cases Open: 1
 Number of Cases Closed: 0

D. Egan Moved, T. Chang Seconded
 Roll Call: 6/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items IX. a. through i.

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

X. CURRICULUM

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the The Magic in YOU! assembly for grades K-5, at a total cost of \$995.00.
- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following field trips. Transportation costs will apply where applicable.

#	DATE	GRADE/ CLUB	LOCATION	COST PER STUDENT	STAFF IN CHARGE
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1.	January 5, 2024	Science Olympiad	Cranford, NJ	\$0	J. Burgy
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C. Crowley Moved, D. Egan Seconded
Roll Call: 6/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items X. a. and b.

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

XI. PERSONNEL

- a. 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	REGISTRATION COST
1.	Gregg Cobb	January 11, 2024	Gravity Goldberg: Foundational Reading and Writing Skills	virtual	\$179.00

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

Armendi as a substitute teacher for the 2023-24 school year, not benefit eligible.

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Kelly LaMorte as a substitute aide for the 2023-24 school year, not benefit eligible.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 2024 graduate level courses for the following staff members; reimbursement to be paid at the 2023-24 state college or university graduate level course rate, pursuant to Article VII of the Haworth Teachers Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.

#	NAME	COURSE	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
1.	Katelyn Arbadji	C-S 596 Individual Studies	Pennsylvania State University
2.	Katelyn Arbadji	ED 5193 Foundations of Education	American College of Education

- e. **RESOLVED** that Employee #10308567 (hereinafter referred to as the “Employee”) be granted a leave of absence due to their own disability as a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, which leave shall be without pay or benefits from January 2, 2024 to June 30, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Employee shall return to work on the first day of the 2024-2025 school year;

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, the availability of sick days, Federal and State statutes and regulations, and the Employee’s contract; and

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

S. Wunsch Moved, T. Chang Seconded
Roll Call: 6/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XI. a. through e.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Chang	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			

Dr. Egan	✓			
Mrs. Maniscalco	✓			
Mr. Rodino	✓			
Mr. Rose				✓
Mrs. Wunsch	✓			

XII. FINANCE & FACILITIES

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the bills for the period of November 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023 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:

<u><i>Bills Description</i></u>	<u><i>Dated</i></u>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
Payroll - Operating	11/15/2023	\$341,905.49
Board Share - FICA	11/15/2023	\$6,802.89
State Share - FICA	11/15/2023	\$18,077.21
	TOTAL:	\$366,785.59

<u><i>Bills Description</i></u>	<u><i>Dated</i></u>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
Payroll - Operating	11/30/2023	\$301,635.09

Board Share - FICA	11/30/2023	\$4,042.82
State Share - FICA	11/30/2023	\$17,293.82
	TOTAL:	\$322,971.73

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Bills and Claims for the month of December, 2023.
- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the purchase of an 8x12 A-style roof shed for storage from East Sheds, Inc, at a cost of \$4,125.00.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Sage Alliance Schools tuition (10 month program) for student ID number 2011989020 at a total cost of \$71,656.00.
- e. **Whereas**, the Haworth Board of Education hereby approves the submission of the project to construct building expansions to the Haworth Public School for Final Educational Adequacy Review to the NJ Department of Education, Office of School Facilities and Finance; now

Be It Resolved, that the Haworth Board of Education, approves the submission of the **Haworth Public School Expansion Project** (SP#2090-050-20-1000), to the NJ Department of Education, Office of School Facilities and Finance, as a "School Facilities Project" consistent with the District's Long-Range Facilities Plan (LRFP), seeking State aid, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-5.5.
- f. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Frontline - Recruiting and Hiring with Proactive Solution for the purpose of educational staff recruiting and hiring assistance, at a cost of \$10,459.22.

C. Crowley Moved, D. Egan Seconded
Roll Call: 6/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XII. a. through f.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Chang	✓			

Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mrs. Maniscalco	✓			
Mr. Rodino	✓			
Mr. Rose				✓
Mrs. Wunsch	✓			

P. Wolford - pointed out that Item e. is for the final submission to the state for the referendum. Once it is approved then we can break ground with phase 1.

K. Lane - shared that he is looking around with the science staff at other labs for ideas.

D. Maniscalco - inquired if there will be equipment in the STEM lab then?

P. Wolford - stated that it is planned for Fall 2024 to begin the STEM Lab and yes, it will be equipped upon completion.

T. Chang - asked if the tuition for line-item d. is that for this school year?

PW - responded, yes.

XIII. NEGOTIATIONS

NO RESOLUTIONS

XIV. POLICY

NO RESOLUTIONS

XV. EDUCATION

- a. BE IT RESOLVED that the Haworth Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) hereby affirms the Superintendent’s decision in a HIB matter Case #254980 and directs the Board Secretary to transmit a copy of the Board’s decision to the affected students’ parents forthwith.

M. Rodino Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded

Roll Call: 5/0/1

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education affirms Items XV. a.

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

XVI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Finance & Facilities
- Curriculum & Instruction
- Negotiations
- Public Relations
- BCSBA/NJSBA
- Haworth Home & School Association
- Northern Valley Regional High School & NV Educational Foundation
- Legislative Chairperson
- Senior Citizens Liaison
- Town Council Liaison
- Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS

S. Wunsch - attended the county NJSBA meeting and noted that Mr. Rodino was honored as a retiree. She reported that the NJSBA had a positive audit presentation. It was highlighted that they are also facing the challenges of the rising costs of operation. She shared that there is a podcast that airs on the NJSBA site that has a lot of information on BOE training and live sessions.

XIX. Open to the Public on any item – 8:03 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.

J. Samples - 560 Sylvan Place: inquired about Personnel Item e. and asked if that happens to be about a classroom teacher? If yes, is there a plan in place for a replacement?

P. Wolford - explained that personnel items cannot be discussed with the public but he stated that yes, there is a plan in place.

J. Samples - asked how the next BOE President is chosen?

M. Rodino - explained that the district bylaws it explains that the new Board will vote on a new President at the Reorganization meeting.

Close the Public portion: 8:06 p.m.

XX. MOTION TO ADJOURN

D. Egan Moved, T. Chang Seconded
All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:06 p.m.

President
Haworth Board of Education

Kristi Giambona
Board Secretary