

HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641
Minutes
November 29, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:30 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 - **ABSENT**
Mr. Charles Crowley
Dr. Danielle Insalaco-Egan
Mrs. Deborah Munoz-Maniscalco
Mr. Michael Rodino, President
Mr. Robert Rose
Mrs. Stacey Wunsch, Vice President
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 - 7:31 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.

VII. CLOSE THE PUBLIC PORTION - 7:31 p.m. NO PUBLIC COMMENT

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S/BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORTS

- a. **Kids with Character Award Presentation** – the theme for the months of October is “Respect”. For October the following students have been awarded:

Kindergarten: Emily Francisco, Cameron Green, Solomon Spiegel

Grade 1: Amalia Chasin, Daniel Lamberta, Brody Mills, Eva Samples

Grade 2: Noam Ben-Yehuda, Gavin Fleischer

Grade 3: James Beardsley, Charlotte Griffin, Riley Harrison, Levi Hennig, Shayne Hereghty, Anna Kim, Ellie Lebel, Christian Lee

Grade 4: Dylan Gladstein, Cooper Lax, Alexandra Newsom

Grade 5: Aiden Kennedy, Sam McGuirk

Grade 6: Sebastian DeCosta, Theodore Giannotti, Chloe Jun, Charli Kornblatt, Max Krasny, Zoe Lebel, Madeline Lewis, Thomas Pavlos, Gavin Thatcher

Grade 7: Tristyn Buckner, Theodore Gilbert, Jonas Lee, Jhoel Mateo, Sadie Poirot

Grade 8: Arman Ambartsoumean, Emily Goldstein, James Kim, Lauren Knaggs, Jordan Liao, Luke Miller, Michael Saporito, Zachary Schneider, Addison Scott

Staff Shout Out: Pam Bagot, Erin Carr, Jeanne Gregg, Cristina Martell, Karen Oddo, Judy Powers, Michelle Robson, Vanessa Vaglio, Josefina Winik

- b. Referendum Update - Mr. Paul Wolford

Mr. Wolford updated the Board on the progress of the referendum project. He shared that there have been weekly meetings with the construction company. The permits will be ready for submission on December 20, 2023 and they will break ground on January 8, 2024. The project is scheduled for completion in December, 2024. He explained that the phases of the project have been adjusted a bit to fit the timeline of the needs of the school.

M. Rodino - asked, if the company has any fall-back dates for unforeseen circumstances if there are delays?

Mr. Wolford - they do not anticipate any delays. We will keep the timeline updated on the website.

Mr. Wolford told the BOE to mark your calendars for December 13th for the after-school staff announcement of the 2024 Governor’s Educator of the Year.

Mr. Wolford shared that enrollment continues to grow. There has been 20% growth over the last two years.

Mr. Wolford reminded everyone to get their tickets now for the Lion King Jr production.

Mr. Wolford reported that the School Report card was certified with all goals being met and also that the district exceeded expectations in some areas as well.

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 - 467**
- b. **Emergency & Crisis Situations Drill Record: October**
 - Fire Drill: October 26, 2023
 - Security Drill: October 27, 2023
 - Administrator in charge: Mr. Paul Wolford

MINUTES:

- c. Approval of meeting minutes from the October 25, 2023 Regular Business meeting.
- d. Approval of meeting minutes from the October 25, 2023 Closed Executive session.

SUBMISSIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS:

- e. 2023-24 District Report of Transported Resident Students
- f. 2023-24 School Safety & Security Plan Annual Review
- g. 2023-24 M-1 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan
- h. **HIB Report for October, 2023:**
 - Reported Cases: 0
 - Number of Cases Open: 0
 - Number of Cases Closed: 0

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

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

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

Mrs. Wunsch	✓			
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X. CURRICULUM

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Forest Friends program for grade 2, at a total cost of \$2,250.00 for 6 sessions.
- 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
1.	January 12, 2024	G&T Grades 5 & 6	Englewood, NJ	\$0	C. Martell
2.	January 31, 2024	G&T Grades 5 & 6	Englewood Cliffs, NJ	\$0	C. Martell
3.	February 6, 2024	G&T Grade 6	Lyndhurst, NJ	\$0	C. Martell
4.	February 12, 2024	G&T Grades 7 & 8	Demarest, NJ	\$0	C. Martell
5.	March 22, 2024	G & T Grade 4	Paramus, NJ	\$0	C. Martell
6.	May 20, 2024 (tentative date)	G & T Grade 4	Paramus, NJ	\$45.00	C. Martell
7.	June 5, 2024 (tentative date)	G & T Grade 8	Paramus, NJ	\$0	C. Martell

D. Egan Moved, R. Rose 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	✓			

D. Maniscalco - Can you share the status of the science curriculum improvements mentioned at the last presentation of the state test scores?

Mr. Wolford - replied that it is something the district is looking into.

D. Maniscalco - Given that bus contracts are more expensive now, has the school explored any grants for an electric school bus?

Mr. Wolford - noted that a committee has been formed and that they have been collaborating as a team, as well as working with NVCC to come up with an initiative by February tentatively.

XI. PERSONNEL

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Jocelyn Santiago, student from Mercy University to obtain her observation hours with Josefina Winik, Music teacher and Cristina Martell, World Language teacher, dates TBD, at no cost to the district.
- b. 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.	Vanessa Vaglio	February 23, 2024	Spheros K-8 Workshop	Bloomfield, NJ	\$0
2.	Vanessa Vaglio	March 1, 2024	Dashbots K-3 STEM	Bloomfield,	\$0

			Learning	NJ	
3.	Donald Turner	February 9, 2024	Integrated Pest Management Training	Mahwah, NJ	\$0
4.	Donald Turner	February 23, 2024	PEOSH/NJADP Training	Mahwah, NJ	\$0
5.	Paul Wolford	November 17, 2023	School Safety Speaker Series	Randolph, NJ	\$0

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Anna Prenselaar, Teacher, effective January 1, 2024.

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

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

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 October 1, 2023 to October 31, 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	10/15/2023	\$322,406.47
Board Share - FICA	10/15/2023	\$5,703.75
State Share - FICA	10/15/2023	\$17,687.12
	TOTAL:	\$345,797.34

<u><i>Bills Description</i></u>	<u><i>Dated</i></u>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
Payroll - Operating	10/30/2023	\$300,012.32
Board Share - FICA	10/30/2023	\$3,990.61
State Share - FICA	10/30/2023	\$17,687.12
	TOTAL:	\$321,690.05

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Bills and Claims for the month of November, 2023.
- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Neglia Group for referendum engineering services, at a cost of \$16,462.00, plus the cost of any reimbursable expenses.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the payment of \$16,525.00 to T.M. Adams, Inc. for emergency pipe line repairs.
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the shared

services agreement with the Northern Valley Regional High School District to provide non-NSLP meals at a to be determined set cost per meal paid for by the students for the 2023-24 school year.

S. Wunsch Moved, R. Rose Seconded
Roll Call: 6/0

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

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

S. Wunsch - asked what item d. is for?

Mr. Wolford - explained that there was a leak in an old pipe in the building and it needed to be replaced. The company had to break some walls to get to the pipe. The new pipe will be routed through the crawl space in case of another break in the future.

XIII. NEGOTIATIONS

NO RESOLUTIONS

XIV. POLICY

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the second reading and adoption of the following new/revised district policies and regulations:

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Policy or Regulation	Policy Title	New/Revised/Abolished	Designation	1st Reading	2nd Reading
P 5112	Entrance Age	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
R 9700	Special Interest Groups	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P 1524	School Leadership Councils	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P & R 1642.01	Sick Leave	New	Recommended	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P 2270	Religion in the Schools	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P & R 2419	School Threat Assessment Teams	New	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P 3161	Examination for Cause	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P & R 3212	Attendance	Revised	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P 3324	Right of Privacy	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P & R 3432	Sick Leave	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023

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P 4161	Examination for Cause	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P & R 4212	Attendance	Revised	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P 4324	Right of Privacy	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P & R 4432	Sick Leave	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P & R 5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students	Revised	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P & R 5116	Education of Homeless Children & Youths	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P & R 5460.02	Bridge Year Pilot Program	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P 6361	Relations with Vendors for Abbott Districts	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P 8500	Food Services	Revised	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P 8540	School Nutrition Programs	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023
P 8550	Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Service Bill	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	November 29, 2023

R. Rose Moved, D. Egan Seconded
Roll Call: 6/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XIV. a.

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

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 #251077 and directs the Board Secretary to transmit a copy of the Board’s decision to the affected students’ parents forthwith.

M. Rodino Moved, C. Crowley Seconded
Roll Call: 5/0/1

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves 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 - *it is time to engage for the next contract period and the letter from the BOE to begin will be going out within the month.*
 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 - Congratulated Mr. Krasny and Mrs. Russell on their elections and thanked Mrs. Feygin for her interest on behalf of the entire Board.

XIX. Open to the Public on any item – 7:51 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.

Jen Samples - 550 Sylvan Ave. - inquired about the threat assessment team policy and the food services policy.

Mr. Wolford - said that they were both mandated by the state. The state is requiring all districts to have a threat assessment team to process and evaluate any students that are posing a threat to the district. All members of the team received a full day of state training. As of right now we do not have food services as we are bringing in the food, but we have adopted the policy so it is in place for when we need it.

D. Krasny 118 Harrison Street - asked about Community Communications for outside groups for purposes of advertising for events, etc.

Mr. Wolford - shared that specifics were just updated and adopted in Regulation 9700, Special Interest Groups. Mr. Wolford said that all of the new policies would be updated on the district website by the end of the week.

Close the Public portion: 7:55 p.m.

XX. CLOSED SESSION - 8:00 p.m.

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, November 29, 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 45 minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel and HIB. Action will be taken in public after the executive session.

Motion to reconvene into public session - 8:30 p.m.

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

a. **RESOLVED** that Employee #10308567 (hereinafter referred to as the “Employee”) be granted a leave of absence due to their own disability under the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (“FMLA”) from November 20, 2023 through December 15, 2023 (four weeks); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Employee’s leave shall be with pay, subject to the use of eight accumulated sick days, two sick days provided through the Collective Negotiations Agreement between the Haworth Board of Education and Haworth Teachers Association, and three personal days; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Employee’s leave shall be with pay, less the cost of a substitute, pursuant to the Collective Negotiations Agreement and N.J.S.A. 18A:30-6, from December 9, 2023 to January 1, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Employee’s leave shall be with medical benefits subject to the Teacher’s payment of her contribution for same, from November 20, 2023 to December 15, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Employee is granted a leave of absence as a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act, which leave shall be without benefits from December 18, 2023 to January 1, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Employee shall return to work on January 2, 2024, or on an earlier return date subject to advance notice to the Haworth School District (hereinafter referred to as the “District”) administration, whereupon the above leave dates may be administratively adjusted as appropriate;

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.

D. Egan Moved, R. Rose Seconded
Roll Call: 6/0

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

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Chang				✓

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

- b. Be it resolved that the Haworth Board of Education accepts the resignation of Employee #23873607, effective January 2, 2024.

C. Crowley Moved, S. Wunsch Seconded
Roll Call: 6/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XX. b.

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

XXI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

D. Egan Moved, R. Rose Seconded
All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:38 p.m.

Michael Rodino, President
Haworth Board of Education

Kristi Giambona
Board Secretary