

**1HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641
WORK SESSION MINUTES
September 13, 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, Superintendent
Mr. Kevin Lane, Business Administrator/MS Supervisor
Mrs. Kristi Giambona, Board Secretary

VI. WORK SESSION TOPICS

- a. 2023-24 Additional Stipend Proposals
*P. Wolford - shared that additional stipend ideas were proposed by some staff members and that there would have to be sidebar agreements made for these additions if approved as the HTA current contract is in effect through the end of 2024. Here is what was proposed:
Peer Leaders - from Ms. Honovich.*

ESL - from Ms. Jackson and would be aligned to state mandates. The district is required to have someone in charge of ESL testing & communications. The code requires a supervisor or chairperson.

Environmental Club/Green Team - from Ms. Budinich.

Boy's Volleyball and Girl's Softball - from Mr. Doran and Mr. Cobb.

D. Egan - asked if there is any interest in Boys' Volleyball?

P. Wolford - not much at the moment, but would like to take the year to gain interest for a team next year. The Volleyball season is now so it is hard to get it going at this moment, but if we start to promote it for next year it may gain some momentum.

D. Maniscalco - asked what grades would be for the Environmental Club?

S. Wunsch - inquired if the Environmental Club can role into the Garden Club?

P. Wolford - responded that we can either roll them together or have one club be K-5 and the other be Middle School.

S. Wunsch - asked if Peer Leaders is the same as has been going on in years past?

P. Wolford - this would delve deeper and involve before and after school time as well.

S. Wunsch - suggested that we start sports teams that aline with what is offered at NVD? Such as lacrosse and field hockey.

P. Wolford - shared that the Middle School is going to have a Club Fair and that we will also create a student interest survey to see what the students would like offered.

S. Wunsch - stated that she wants to ensure we are offering the right clubs, so having the Club Fair and a survey would be beneficial.

S. Wunsch - asked if there is an increase in numbers for ESL?

P. Wolford - responded, yes. There is work and testing done in the summer and additional state reports throughout the school year. This stipend position is something that is needed.

b. Policy 5112 - Entrance Age

P. Wolford - explained that our policy states a child has to be the age of 5 by Oct. 1 to start Kindergarten. There is no leeway given in the Policy wording. Neighboring districts are similar but have some differences. Some are Oct. 15th or have "exceptions".

P. Wolford - shared that he feels the BOE should consider adding some language to the policy to give more flexibility.

M. Rodino - asked for volunteers for an Ad-Hoc Committee to review this Policy. The committee will be Dr. Egan, Ms. Wunsch and Mr. Rose and they will meet to discuss this before the October BOE meeting.

c. Election Polling Location at HPS

P. Wolford - noted that the Town Clerk and Mayor have reached out to the Bergen County Board of Elections to say that the library was too small to hold the elections. The Fire Dept and Ambulance Bldg are not sufficient per the County, therefore they need the school building for elections. He suggested that maybe after this year, we close school on Election Day.

S. Wunsch - reminded the members that we need to also try to create a calendar that is cognizant to the holidays of the various faiths in the district as well and that they need to try to create a calendar that covers everyone's needs.

P. Wolford - shared that for this years election day he will work on a security plan with the town.

d. Finalization of wording for 2023-24 BOE District Goals

P. Wolford - would like to polish up the wording for Goals 3 & 4.

The BOE reconfigured the wording for Goals 3 & 4 and the the final goals will be up for approval at the September 20th BOE meeting.

e. Emergency evacuation location for Apple Tree Pre-School (276 Haworth Ave.)

The BOE would like Mr. Wolford to reach out to the police department to see if they concur that the Haworth School is the best safe haven for the children at that Pre-K school.

f. NJSBA Convention attendance interest (10/23 - 10/26/23)

Mr. Wolford and Ms. Maniscalco will attend in person and the district will pay for the package ticket price so the other BOE members can attend virtually if needed.

g. Review of September 20, 2023 BOE Meeting Agenda Draft

New Business -

S. Wunsch - proposed moving back to just one meeting per month and eliminating the Work Session meeting. Suggested doing a "pre" meeting earlier if needed instead.

P. Wolford - proposed having more consistent committee meetings and Minutes given to members before the voting meetings, but concurred that pre meetings is an option as well.

The full BOE was in agreement to move to one business meeting per month starting in October. The Board Secretary will send public notice of this change.

VII. RESOLUTIONS

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to BOE policy 5111, the Haworth Board of Education hereby accepts student #314063 as a tuition student through January 1, 2024 or until residency is established (pending execution of a tuition contract).
- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and pursuant to BOE policy 5111, the Haworth Board of Education hereby accepts student #304072 as a tuition student through January 1, 2024 or until residency is established (pending execution of a tuition contract).

R. Rose Moved, T. Chang Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

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

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

VIII. Open to the Public on any item - 8:13 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: 8:14 p.m. NO PUBLIC COMMENT

IX. MOTION TO ADJOURN.

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

ADJOURNMENT: 8:15 p.m.

Michael Rodino, President
Haworth Board of Education

Kristi Giambona
Board Secretary