

HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER - 7:30 PM

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act this is to announce that adequate notice of this meeting was provided in the following manner: On April 30, 2009, advance written notice was faxed to **The Suburbanite, Twin Boro News, The Record, Press Journal**, filed with the Borough Clerk, posted on the school bulletin board and forwarded to the Presidents of the Home & School Association and Teachers Association.

Please all rise to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

Mrs. Marilyn Coats-Thomas
Dr. David Hershan
Dr. George Kipel
Mrs. Marie Malajian
Mrs. Anna Reduce – *Absent*
Mr. Sutnick, Vice President
Mrs. Weintraub, President

Dr. Paul Arilotta

3. SUNSHINE RESOLUTION

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,

Resolved, at the Public Meeting of the Borough of Haworth Board of Education on this day Tuesday, January 19, 2010, 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:

Personnel/Negotiations/Litigation.

Please be advised that the Board may be going into executive session for approximately ___ minutes. Action may/may not be taken in public after the executive session.

4. RECONVENE TO PUBLIC MEETING – 8:00 PM by *Board President*

5. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- a. Superintendent/Principal/Board Secretary
 1. Enrollment **5a1.**
 2. Suspensions/Detentions **5a2.**
 3. Fire Drills **5a3.**
- ❖ *Dr. Arilotta welcomed our guests, two teachers from South Korea, Jung Eun Lee and Seok Young Lee. They are spending some time with us observing our classes, having conversations with our teachers and working with Dr. McDonald. They represent South Korea extremely well.*
- ❖ *The Two teachers spoke. “Haworth teachers are passionate; classes are intensive; students are attentive.” “Great pleasure to meet you all and an honor to be here. Students are very studious and very enthusiastic.” “Will remember being here when I go back home.” “Great career experience.”*
- ❖ *Dr. Arilotta: Great experience for us too. We share so much. We agree on what good instruction is. We hope you stay in touch with us in this technological age. We are not oblivious to what is going on in Haiti. Ms. Volpe and Ms. Gallagher had a meeting with the student council. The council will meet again tomorrow. The students have brought some recommendations to Ms. Volpe and Ms. Gallagher. We will have something set to go after tomorrow. Home and School Association will support our efforts with anything we wanted to do. This will be a community-wide effort. G&T Program on Jan. 7 offered our 7th and 8th graders the opportunity to be challenged with linguistics and problem-solving exercises. Dr. Arilotta then offered the floor to Zach Jureller, a student who participated in these events.*
- ❖ *Zach Jureller: We did this last year as 7th graders, and now we are with high school students. We had less than an hour to do the main challenge. Less than 30 minutes to do to the linguistics challenge. It went well.*
- ❖ *Dr. Arilotta: Our sixth graders are participating in “A Journey Through the Decades.” The administration regrets to inform you that Dave Rinderknecht has left the district effective yesterday. He is a phone call and email away. David Blake is being recommended tonight at interim B.A. He comes highly recommended. Regarding B.A. position, the Board of Education has asked that I take a look at shared services. I met with Ray Jacobus about the possibility of purchasing those services. I will keep the Board of Education up to date. The grade two teachers visited some colleagues at the Anna C. Scott School in Leonia concerning their literacy instruction. Last week, our third grade teachers went to P.S. 6 in Manhattan and observed K-3 teachers and their literacy program. We talked about getting some classroom-level libraries in our third grade. I would like to publicly thank Mrs. Geller who made the visit possible. On Jan. 4, Dr. Bob Ballentine, retired superintendent from Park Ridge, came to spend the day with me and take a look at the facility. His leaving comment was, “This is a school in which you feel warmth, a sense of comfort and you get a good sense about what is*

going on here.” I would like to thank my colleagues for making him welcome. Toward the end of last week, Mrs. Weintraub and I signed an application for grant and federal program for Race To The Top. Federal government has put aside \$400,000,000. \$200,000,000 will go to Title I districts and the rest to other districts in New Jersey. There is a bit of controversy, however. Looking at artifacts of students’ work, how they are progressing toward a specific criteria. Problem is that we have a secretary of education who is a well-meaning individual who comes to this position as an urban educator. He looks at the opportunity to take a place like Haworth and say there is a lot of good stuff going on here to be celebrated. We cannot use a summative process and tie that to a person’s evaluation. It does not make sense and it is not fair. It is a measure that we have to take seriously. If there are problems with our schools, we have to see how to make the schools better. I have a problem with the fact that we cannot sit at the table and have a conversation. At the highest levels, there have not been conversations about how we could do this. We have been talking about this for 40 years – tying students’ performance to evaluations. I think we should sit at the table and talk about how to do this. If we are approved for this grant, and we find out it is not feasible, we can opt out. If we do not agree, it would buy us more time to do the research if we sign now. But if we did not participate, we would certainly lose out.

- ❖ *Mrs. Malajian: And if we do not buy into this agreement of assessing teachers based on students’ performance?*
- ❖ *Dr. Arilotta: All details are yet to be determined. I have not seen anything laid out as to that effect. Concerning Professional Development Day on 1/18/10, we had a very good afternoon. We had a bullying and harassment workshop presented by Mrs. Sasson and Dr. McDonald. Seventh and eighth grade teachers had a CAP (Child Assault Prevention) workshop. There will be a parent meeting on this subject next Monday before we actually get started with the program. We also had a discussion to define what our beliefs are as to How Children Learn.*

6. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

8:31 PM – Open to public.

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 before you begin.

- ❖ *Mrs. Cabourg spoke on Race To The Top. NJEA has relayed their concerns to the local Associations. RTTT ends up being a very complex issue and has capability to impose significant restrictions on our district, which can also be costly. This contract is nebulous; we do not know all the things that will be asked of the district. The grant process was untimely – had to be signed so quickly. The process is not clear and not complete yet. Much is at stake here. The name “Race To The Top” in itself seems to be fostering competition. We all know the best educational practices come from*

collaboration, not competition.

- ❖ *Mrs. Wise brought up the calendar, mentioned the give-back date at the bottom should be Tuesday, May 31, not Wednesday, June 1.*
- ❖ *Mrs. Weintraub: Mrs. Cabourg, the Board of Education is aware that the grant application was rushed, and we will make sure it is something we will not be bound to.*

8:34 PM – Closed to public.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

8. AGENDA ITEMS – The Board of Education Meeting Agenda is divided by categories/committees. The Board President and Secretary will conduct a single roll-call, consent vote for each category. Any Board Member may request a separate vote for any/all items within the category or for any specific item on the agenda.

a. Finance/Budget/Facilities –

1. Hand/Void Check Register as of 12/31/09; December Budget Report dated 12/31/09; Report of the Treasurer & Board Secretary's Report dated 11/09
8a1.
2. Teachers' trips/conferences **8a2:**
 - ❖ Charlotte Kantz – 37th Conference on Dyslexia and Related Learning Disabilities.
 - ❖ Lesley Carboneri – Trip to PS 6 in Manhattan regarding literacy program (post-approval), New York, NY, 1/12/10. *Dr. Arilotta mentioned that no one knew ahead of time Lesley Carboneri would be driving her own car to PS 6.*
 - ❖ Bonni Ehrhardt – 25th Learning Differences Conference, Boston, MA, 3/18 – 3/21/10.

b. School Operations and Curriculum

1. Courses **8b1:**
 - ❖ Lesley Carboneri: Helping Students Become Self-Directed Learners, MaryGrove College.
 - ❖ Natalie Volpe: Case Study – Reading Difficulties, Montclair State University.
 - ❖ Kerry-Ann Hoy: Collaboration Theory, William Paterson University.
 - ❖ Anne Marie Dunn: Introduction to Teacher Leadership, MaryGrove College.
 - ❖ Lisa Maketansky: Introduction to Professional Counseling, Long Island University.
 - ❖ Erin Magee: Motivating Today's Learner, MaryGrove College.

- ❖ Erin Magee: Helping Students Become Self-Directed Learners, MaryGrove College.
 - ❖ Alicia Kosakowski: Teaching Writing through Literature, Montclair State University.
 - ❖ Anna McGhee: Helping Students Become Self-Directed Learners, MaryGrove College.
2. Trips **8b2**:
- ❖ Liberty Science Center, Grade 2, 4/23/10
 - ❖ NVRHS for musical, “Pippin”, Grade 8, 2/23/10
3. Tenure for Maria Clarke.
4. School calendar for the 2010-11 school year **8b4**.
- ❖ *Mrs. Weintraub: The Board will take the HTA’s letter into consideration regarding the calendar days for next year.*
 - ❖ *Mr. Sutnick: Have you looked at the NVRHS calendar and compared ours to it?*
 - ❖ *Dr. Arilotta: We are in agreement with NVRHS on major points. The inconsistencies are in reference to start date, Martin Luther King Day and Jewish holidays.*
 - ❖ *Discussion continued.*
 - ❖ *Mr. Sutnick: For parents who have children in both schools, we would like some consistency.*
 - ❖ *Mrs. Weintraub: Years ago, concerning the Martin Luther King Day, Board of Education asked for a teachable day in reference to community service and tolerance. Asked administration to make sure there was a program to push students in that direction. I hope that whatever we decide for MLK Day in the future, if we are open, we should have a whole school community service project or something that speaks about the direction of the day.*
 - ❖ *Dr. Arilotta: All teachers presented something for the day to Dr. McDonald regarding Dr. King’s message.*
 - ❖ *Mrs. Coats-Thomas: Calendars will never stack up exactly because there are half days for mid-terms and all sorts of other things at NVRHS.*
5. Eighth grade commencement exercise **8b5**.
- ❖ *Mr. Sutnick: We received a memo from Dr. McDonald about graduation for this year. Could he speak to the eighth grade committee who is preparing for graduation so we can take their opinion into account when we make our decision about where to have graduation? There is a bigger financial issue if we do it here in renting the risers. At high school, we will incur cost for room rental, busing the band, but cost holding it at high school is \$750 as opposed to \$2,000 for holding it here.*
 - ❖ *Discussion continued.*

6. *Dr. Kipel* Moved, and *Mr. Sutnick* Seconded.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Winter Enrichment Program Brochure (**hard copy in packet**).

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: *All*

Against:

Abstentions:

7. *Mr. Sutnick* Moved, and *Mrs. Malajian* Seconded.

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following student teachers for the 2009-2010 school year **8b7**:

- ❖ Kimberly Chamberlain (3-Carboneri)
- ❖ Ellen Levine (5-Hall)

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: *All*

Against:

Abstentions:

Revised motion

8. *Mr. Sutnick Moved, and Dr. Kipel Seconded.*

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy in the position of business administrator for the 2009-2010 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Haworth Board of Education is desirous of appointing an interim business administrator while it institutes the procedures for filling the vacancy;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT David Blake be appointed interim business administrator for the period beginning January 20, 2010, (retroactive to January 15, his first day) **8b8**.

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: *All*

Against:

Abstentions:

c. Board Operations

1. Minutes from 12/15/09 Board of Education meeting **8c1**.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Budget

Finance – George Kipel, Warren Sutnick:

Facilities – David Hershan, George Kipel:

School Operations & Curriculum

Policy – Marilyn Coats-Thomas, George Kipel, Warren Sutnick:

Program & Personnel – Marie Malajian, Anna Reduce, Marilyn Coats-Thomas:

- ❖ *Mrs. Malajian: The P&P will set up a meeting soon. Will speak with Mrs. Reduce and Mrs. Coats-Thomas.*

Board Operations

BCSBA/NJSBA – Anna Reduce:

Joint Boards – Warren Sutnick, Donna Weintraub:

Public Relations – Marilyn Coats-Thomas, Warren Sutnick, George Kipel:

Haworth Home & School Assn. – Donna Weintraub, Anna Reduce:

- ❖ *Mrs. Weintraub attended meeting. Save The Date for the Fashion Show: 4/29/10. We have \$72,000 in bank. Working on golf event. Marcia's Attic and Shoe In will participate.*

Northern Valley Regional H.S. – Marilyn Coats-Thomas, George Kipel:

Legislative – Warren Sutnick:

Town Council – Warren Sutnick, David Hershan:

NV Educational Foundation – George Kipel:

Negotiations – David Hershan, Warren Sutnick, George Kipel:

10. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

8:48 PM Open to public.

Please be advised that each member of the public will be limited to speak for three minutes during the Open Session.

- ❖ *Mrs. Cabourg: Regarding the HTA's letter, you will find consistencies across the board in towns, but we had 65 students out on Monday. That is a bit more than just related to being ill. Most were back in school today. Parents are off from work. Students are home from college that day also. Any example program or lesson to minimize what this man did for the social vision of America does not have to be done that day. It should be done before that day. We realize that having that day off extends our school year.*
- ❖ *Mr. Sutnick: Did you hear from children who specifically said that they were staying home for Martin Luther King Day?*
- ❖ *Mrs. Cabourg: Yes.*
- ❖ *Discussion continued.*
- ❖ *Dr. Hershman: The reason we had a half day is because people just took the day off and did not really consider MLK. In the past, that is why we specifically had a day off.*
- ❖ *Mrs. Cabourg: We have off on Memorial Day. People are away on vacation; stores are open; all holidays turn into that. Everybody brings to the day whatever they need. I felt disrespectful when I told a teacher from another town that I had to work.*
- ❖ *Mrs. Weintraub: Thank you. The Board will discuss this at the Program and Personnel Meeting or in Old or New Business.*

8:53 PM Closed to public.

11. OLD BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

- ❖ *Dr. Kipel: Concerning MLK Day, we tried to intend the day as a unique experience. As far as a day of community service, we did not take that initiative. It might be a much better experience if we do a community service. For Memorial Day, a lot of students give of their time marching in the parade, playing in the band and participating in the ceremony.*
- ❖ *Mrs. Weintraub: We should make a concerted effort to support the administration and staff in some sort of community service and do something important on that day.*

13. ADJOURNMENT

8:58 PM. Dr. Kipel Moved, and Mr. Sutnick Seconded. All in favor.

Donna Weintraub, President
Board of Education

Paul Arilotta, Ed. D.
Superintendent/Principal/Board Secretary

ADDENDUM I

Mr. Sutnick Moved, and Mrs. Malajian Seconded.

The Haworth Board of Education authorizes EI Associates to proceed with schematic design for mechanical upgrades and ROD grant application as presented in their proposal dated 12/30/09 (Phase I) at a cost of \$3,500.

- ❖ *Dr. Arilotta: The actual cost is \$3,500. Any fees the Board of Education would pay come under the same 60/40 rule if the grant is successful. In the first phase, we get an estimate of the cost and a general scheme, not the engineering drawings. All of this work, if we go with any project contained in the proposal, would have to be done anyway. This is the first step in any of these processes.*
- ❖ *Mr. Sutnick: We have 180 days to submit what we want to do and once it gets approved, we can send it out to bid.*
- ❖ *Discussion continued.*

Roll Call Vote:

In Favor: All

Against:

Abstentions: