

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641**  
**Minutes**  
**October 25, 2023**

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**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  
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 - ABSENT  
Mrs. Stacey Cherry, Esq., Fogarty & Hara, Esqs.  
Mrs. Kristi Giambona, Board Secretary - ABSENT

**VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - 7:32 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 - 7:32 p.m.**

## VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S/BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

**Notice of Meeting Cancellation:** *(to be read aloud per Policy 0161)*

NOTICE is hereby given that the Haworth Board of Education has canceled its meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room of the Haworth Public School, 205 Valley Road, Haworth, N.J. 07641. This meeting will be rescheduled for Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in the multi-purpose room of the Haworth Public School. Closed session may follow the open session. Action will be taken.

- a. 2022-2023 NJSLA District Scores Presentation - Mr. Paul Wolford  
*PowerPoint presentation on file in the Board Office.*

*R. Rose: noted that the math numbers are great and that it has taken a great effort to get to this point and he commended the staff for getting this done. He asked what particular programs were the most beneficial to achieve these standards?*

*P. Wolford: shared that the extra period per week of math has been significant, and also having programs that give customized learning to each students ability level such as the supplemental iReady period. It helps both the teachers and students to identify the gaps. Small group instruction in the classroom throughout the day, the BSI program has improved a great deal over the past few years, as well as all of the before school extra help being offered. A combination of all of the initiatives that have been implemented and the time that is being put into it. We are on the right track.*

- b. County School Board Meeting Update - Mrs. Stacey Wunsch

*S. Wunsch - attended the county school boards meeting. There was a presentation by Lester Taylor, Esq. who gave a full review on the issues currently facing school districts. Transportation shortage, confidentiality laws surrounding parents of children or the children themselves wanting to be labeled differently than their birth assignments and some current litigation going on within the state regarding this topic. There was a review of the new educational opportunities for newly elected BOE members. Governor Murphy has opened up additional grants and maybe some Bergen County schools will be able to benefit from them.*

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

**Kindergarten:** Matthew Finetto, Harmony Horning, Wyatt Levison, Julianna Mateo

**Grade 1:** Mackenzie Dodd, Harley Harris, Natalie Mui, Lucas Napoli, Robert Sandor

**Grade 2:** Levi Alley, Lizzie Baldino, Olivia Bruno, Katharine McGuirk, Emily Spence, Taylor Stott, William Yanofsky

**Grade 3:** Kensleigh Erfurt, Marcus Finetto, Harleigh Green, Julia Kaluza, Hunter Lee, Emma Leyvi, Brandon Thatcher, Madison White

**Grade 4:** Hannah Giannotti, Akemi Hallowell, Talia Kornblatt, Elizabeth Polifroni

**Grade 5:** Valentina Albert, Sky Auh, Victoria Barber, Rose Bartlett, Ariel Ben Zaken, Lili Biasi, Zoe Bush, Eera Chasin, Joanna Chung, Elly Kim, Martina Salazar, Zoe Schag, Nicole Szukics, Alisa Zhou

**Grade 6:** Zoe Lebel, Avery Miskovitz, Claire Natale, Kyle Quayle, Abby Spiegel, Roally Vijay

**Grade 7:** Blake Barba, John Higgason, Andreas Miltiadou, Yeseul Sung

**Grade 8:** Nick Biasi, Abby Jacobs, Jillian Montello

**Staff Shout Out:** Ms. Homan, Ms. Huettenmoser, Ms. Kosakowski, Mr. Rucereto, Ms. Santostefano

**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** - 463
- b. **Emergency & Crisis Situations Drill Record: September**  
 Fire Drill: September 20, 2023  
 Security Drill: September 7, 2023 & September 19, 2023  
 Administrator in charge: Mr. Paul Wolford

**MINUTES:**

- c. Approval of meeting minutes from the September 13, 2023 Work Session meeting.
- d. Approval of meeting minutes from the September 20, 2023 Regular Business meeting.

**SUBMISSIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS:**

- e. 2023-24 Health & Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist
- f. 2023-24 Gifted & Talented Education Service Report
- g. **HIB Report for September, 2023:**  
 Reported Cases: 1  
 Number of Cases Open: 0  
 Number of Cases Closed: 1

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

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

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
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 following field trips. Transportation costs will apply where applicable.

#	DATE	GRADE/ CLUB	LOCATION	COST PER STUDENT	STAFF IN CHARGE
1.	October 18, November 14, December 11, 2023, January 18, February 28 & March 20, 2024  <i>back up dates:</i> 10/24, 11/15, 12/18/2023 & 1/23, 2/29, 3/25/2024	BrainBusters Meets	Northern Valley Schools	\$0	A. Kosakowski
2.	May 22, 2024	Grade 4	New York, NY	\$12.00	J. Winik
3.	November 17, 2023	Grade 4	West Orange, NJ	\$13.00	K. Arbadji
4.	February 9, 2024	Middle School Music Dept.	Newark, NJ	\$8.00	J. Winik

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Omegaman Assembly for grades K-5 on January 9, 2024 at a total cost of \$795.00

S. Wunsch Moved, C. Crowley Seconded

Roll Call: 7/0

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

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
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.

<b>#</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE(S)</b>	<b>CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>REGISTRATION COST</b>
1.	Vanessa Vaglio	October 19, 2023	K-2 Computer Science Primer	Montclair, NJ	\$0
2.	Adrienne Huettenmoser	November 29, 2023	Women’s Ed Leadership Forum	Union, NJ	\$0

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves movement on the guide for the following staff members for the 2023-24 school year:

#	NAME	TITLE	MOVING FROM	MOVING TO
1.	Jessica Buchheister	Gr. 5 Teacher	MA + 15	MA + 30
2.	Nicole Chamberlain	BSI Teacher	MA + 30	MA + 60
3.	Anna Premsehaar	Special Ed. Teacher	MA	MA + 15
4.	Angelica Talamo	Gr. 1 Teacher	MA	MA + 30
5.	Jennifer White	Speech/Language Therapist	MA	MA + 15

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Isabella Vitolo as a substitute teacher and/or aide for the 2023-24 school year, not benefit eligible.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education accepts the following 2023-24 stipend position resignations:
- Lisa Ferrara - Girl's Basketball
  - Gregg Cobb - School Store Coordinator & Overnight Field Trip Coordinator - Philadelphia
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves stipends for the following employees for the 2023-2024 school year:

Paul Doran	Girl's Basketball Coach	\$2,200.00
Jina Choi	School Store Coordinator	\$1,968.00 (prorate 2 months)
Abigail Ronberg	Overnight Field Trip Coordinator - Philadelphia	\$290.00
Melissa Jackson	ESL Coordinator	\$2,547.00

- f. 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.

<u>#</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>COURSE</u>	<u>COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY</u>
1.	Josefina Winik	ET 5033 Technology for Learning and Assessment	American College of Education

- g. **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 September 26, 2023 through November 17, 2023 (eight weeks); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Employee’s leave shall be with pay and medical benefits subject to the use of accumulated sick days; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Employee shall return to work on November 20, 2023 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.

- h. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Dominik Musial, Region III employee, as a volunteer assistant Boys Basketball coach for the 2023-24 school year, criminal history approved.
- i. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Linda Bernstein as a substitute teacher for the 2023-24 school year, not benefit eligible.

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

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

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Mr. Chang	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mrs. Maniscalco	✓			

Mr. Rodino	✓			
Mr. Rose	✓			
Mrs. Wunsch	✓			

*D. Munoz-Maniscalco: mentioned that she saw a program at the NJSBA Convention that would assist with subs called Frontline and is curious if we have considered it.*

*P. Wolford: yes, we have been using that program in our district for many years. The program is beneficial to us.*

**XII. FINANCE & FACILITIES**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the bills for the period of September 1, 2023 to September 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	9/15/2023	\$320,384.09
Board Share - FICA	9/15/2023	\$6,665.87
State Share - FICA	9/15/2023	\$16,586.92
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$343,735.88</b>

<u><i>Bills Description</i></u>	<u><i>Dated</i></u>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
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Payroll - Operating	9/30/2023	\$300,199.65
Board Share - FICA	9/30/2023	\$5,181.45
State Share - FICA	9/30/2023	\$16,498.58
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$321,879.68</b>

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Bills and Claims for the month of October, 2023.
- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 2023-24 NJASA EAA annual membership fee of \$450.00 for Kristi Giambona.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the contract with Brainspring to provide the Phonics First program for the 2023-24 school year at a total cost of \$2,390.00
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the West Bergen Mental Healthcare contract for all Region III districts for the 2023-2024 school year.

D. Egan Moved, C. Crowley Seconded  
Roll Call: 7/0

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

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Mr. Chang	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mrs. Maniscalco	✓			
Mr. Rodino	✓			

Mr. Rose	✓			
Mrs. Wunsch	✓			

**XIII. NEGOTIATIONS**

NO RESOLUTIONS

**XIV. POLICY**

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

<b>Policy or Regulation</b>	<b>Policy Title</b>	<b>New/Revised/Abolished</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>1st Reading</b>	<b>2nd Reading</b>
P 5112	Entrance Age	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	
R 9700	Special Interest Groups	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	
P 1524	School Leadership Councils	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	
P & R 1642.01	Sick Leave	New	Recommended	October 25, 2023	
P 2270	Religion in the Schools	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	
P & R 2419	School Threat Assessment Teams	New	Mandated	October 25, 2023	

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P 3161	Examination for Cause	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	
P & R 3212	Attendance	Revised	Mandated	October 25, 2023	
P 3324	Right of Privacy	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	
P & R 3432	Sick Leave	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	
P 4161	Examination for Cause	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	
P & R 4212	Attendance	Revised	Mandated	October 25, 2023	
P 4324	Right of Privacy	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	
P & R 4432	Sick Leave	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	
P & R 5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students	Revised	Mandated	October 25, 2023	
P & R 5116	Education of Homeless Children & Youths	Revised	Recommended	October 25, 2023	
P & R 5460.02	Bridge Year Pilot Program	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	

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P 6361	Relations with Vendors for Abbott Districts	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	
P 8500	Food Services	Revised	Mandated	October 25, 2023	
P 8540	School Nutrition Programs	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	
P 8550	Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Service Bill	Abolished	Mandated	October 25, 2023	

S. Wunsch Moved, R. Rose Seconded  
Roll Call: 7/0

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

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

**XV. EDUCATION**

NO RESOLUTIONS

**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**

*R. Rose: explained that he ran into the director of the rec sports program and he asked if there was a way we can hand out their announcements for their program registrations.*

*D. Egan: explained that the regulation 9700 was discussed and will be revised to include rec programs from the area being allowed to promote their programs through the school.*

*P. Wolford: all contracts with Catcord Construction for the referendum have been executed at our kick off meeting on October 11th. Our construction timeline is very close to being on track beginning in January, 2024. All surveys are clear and we are good to begin.*

**XIX. Open to the Public on any item – 8:18 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.*

*B. Faxvaag, 136 Valley Road: stated that some parents believe that it is important for the public to understand the school's current policy on smart device usage during school hours and to have an opportunity to provide input on any proposed changes. Is there a current policy on screen time? Also, recess & free time during bad weather should be screen free.*

*P. Wolford: the protocol for not going outside in the rain due to the hazard of slipping and falling. We also follow the heat index and wind factors on determining outdoor time for students.*

*M. Rodino: the Policy committee can look into adding verbiage regarding using devices during free time. It is a good suggestion.*

*C. Russell, 346 Christie Avenue: gave praise to the new Pre-K program. Appreciates the staff and administration for being so supportive. Her son is thriving and she is very pleased with the program and thanked the Board for bringing it to fruition.*

**Close the Public portion: 8:27 p.m.**

**XX. CLOSED SESSION**

S. Wunsch Moved, D. Egan 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, October 25, 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 15 minutes for the purpose of discussing HIB. Action will not be taken in public after the executive session.

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

**XXI. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

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

**ADJOURNMENT: 8:47 p.m.**

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Michael Rodino, President  
Haworth Board of Education

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Kristi Giambona  
Board Secretary