

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641  
MINUTES  
April 28, 2015**

**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 February 18, 2015 advance written notice was emailed to **The Suburbanite and The Record**, 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. Jeff Ashkenase  
Mrs. Michele DiIorgi  
Mrs. Mary Anne Doran  
Mr. Matthew Gilbert - ABSENT  
Mrs. Anna Reduce  
Mrs. Nicole Brennan, Vice President  
Mr. Warren Sutnick, President

Ms. Jennifer Montesano, Superintendent/Board Secretary

**VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

*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.*

**VII. CLOSE THE PUBLIC PORTION - 7:32**

**VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S/BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORTS**

- Enrollment for April 2015
- HIB/Incident Report to date – Mr. Wolford
- **Budget Presentation – Mrs. DeRiso (Power Point Presentation Attached)**

**Kids with Character Award Presentation – criteria for the month of March is Citizenship. For March the following children have been chosen:**

**Kindergarten: Elise Lopez and Ethan Fridman**  
**Grade 1: Gillian Sutura and Harrison Davis**  
**Grade 2: Chloe Hoehn and Charlie Brennan**  
**Grade 3: Zoe Weill and Hayden Monaco**  
**Grade 4: Eleni Brennan and Quinn Postman**  
**Grade 5: Yasmine Azmi and Jack Scuro**  
**Grade 6: Laretta Martin and Robert Osder**  
**Grade 7: Yuki Ando and Travis Rosenfeld**  
**Grade 8: Amanda Welish and Aidan Bain**

W. Sutnick: Once again one of our neighboring communities is grieving this evening. For those of you that have not heard, a high school senior in Emerson suffered a tragedy a few days ago. It is important that this Board of Education sends our condolences to the Emerson community and our hearts go out to them.

**IX. MINUTES**

- a. Approval of meeting minutes from the March 10, 2015 work session meeting and March 24, 2015 regular business meeting.

A. Reduce Moved, J. Ashkenase Seconded  
All in favor.

**X. PROGRAM AND PERSONNEL**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the attendance of Jennifer Montesano at the Anti-Bullying Conference in Atlantic City, NJ on May 27 & May 28, 2015. Registration fee of \$225, plus travel expenses.
- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following graduate level courses at New Jersey City University for Kimberly Michalski, no re-imbusement requested.

- Working with Families of Students with Disabilities
  - Helping Exceptional Children & Youth in the Regular Classroom
  - Classroom Management
- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following graduate level courses at Rutgers University for Richard Paciuto, no re-imburement requested.
- Group Dynamics
  - Clinical Social Work I
  - Field Practicum III
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Ruben Maldonado Lopez as a substitute custodian for the 2014-2015 school year, pending criminal history review. Not benefit eligible.
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the attached list of students from Northern Valley Regional High School to participate in the Senior Service Program at Haworth Public School from May 18, 2015 to June 22, 2015. (Attachment)
- f. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education renews the following non-tenured teachers:
- Robert McQuade – year 4
  - Jennifer Eisberg – year 3
  - Karen Foglio – year 3
  - Nancy Polifroni – year 3
  - Erika Dunn – year 2
  - Kimberly Michalski – year 2
  - Richard Pasciuto – year 2
  - Caitlin Sobota – year 2
  - Josefina Winik – year 2
- g. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Josefina Winik to attend the Orff Levels I, II, III workshop for 5 days in July, 2015 at a total cost of \$800, plus travel expenses.
- h. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the annual salary of \$32,640 for custodian Vivian Arcos, black seal certified, effective May 1, 2015.**
- i. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Nancy Polifroni as summer school nurse for 12 days of the Summer School**

2015 session at a rate of \$2,500.00.

- j. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 2015 Proposal for the Summer Literacy Committee/Curriculum Development. (Attached)
- k. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following staff for the 2015 Summer Literacy Program. Meeting times not to exceed 16 hours on July 8, 9 & 10, at a stipend of \$1,000 each:
- Alcoser, Connie
  - Cabourg, Jane
  - Carr, Erin
  - Chamberlain, Nicole
  - DiCarlantonio, Maria
  - Jackson, Melissa
  - Maketansky, Lisa
  - Stokesbury, Cathy
  - Talty, Cyndi

TABLE items X. j. & k.

A. Reduce Moved, N. Brennan Seconded  
All in favor.

Approve items X. a through i.

A. Reduce Moved, M. DiIorgi Seconded  
Roll Call: 6/0

W. Sutnick: How many black seal custodians do we have in the building?

P. DeRiso: This will make 3.

## XI. FINANCE

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the bills for the period of March 1, 2015 to March 31, 2015 which had previously been approved by the various committees be approved and payment made through the Valley National Bank from funds in the appropriate accounts as follows:

Payroll	\$ 469,229.80
Fund (10, 20, 40, 50)	\$ 616,868.04
Fund (30)	\$ -0-

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Bills and Claims for the month of March, 2015. (Attachment)

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the transfer of \$26,332.90 from the Capital Projects to Capital Reserve due to the completion and close out of the Partial Roof Replacement Project #1.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the transfer of \$139,140.00 from Capital Projects to Capital Reserve due to the completion and close out of the SDA Grant/HVAC Upgrade Project #1.
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the transfer of \$36,527.35 from Capital Projects to General Account due to the completion and close out of the SDA Grant/Media Center Window Project.
- f. **WHEREAS**, the health of New Jersey’s public employee retirement systems affects the state’s economy and its citizens’ quality of life, and impacts critical functions, ranging from the state’s ability to borrow to finance public works projects to its annual budget including state aid to education and, consequently, the operation of the public schools; and,

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Pension and Health Benefits Study Commission, appointed by Governor Chris Christie in 2014, has issued its final report, “A Roadmap to Resolution,” which proposes monumental changes in how public employee benefits, particularly the Teachers’ Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and the School Employees’ Health Benefits Program (SEHBP), are financed and administered; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Haworth Board of Education believes that reform must balance the health of the state’s retiree benefits programs with local school boards’ responsibility to provide sound educational programming; and,

**WHEREAS**, TPAF benefits are established by the state and not through local school board action; and,

**WHEREAS**, post-retirement medical benefits are provided to TPAF retirees through state legislation, not local school board action; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Haworth Board of Education believes that the TPAF and any new retirement program for certificated school district staff must be funded by the state government; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Haworth Board of Education believes that transferring payment of the employer’s contribution to the teacher retirement plan and post-retirement medical benefits from the state to local school districts would have a detrimental impact on the resources necessary to maintain educational programming; and,

**WHEREAS**, to restore solvency to, and avert future default of, the state’s retirement programs, the pension and benefits reform act of 2011 (*P.L. 2011, c.78*) includes a schedule of annual state payments designed to close the deficit of the plans that serve school district employees; and,

**WHEREAS**, medical benefits for retired school employees, which will total over \$1 billion in 2015-2016, are a major cost-driver in the state budget; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Haworth Board of Education supports the current statutorily required employee contributions toward health benefits, which reflect current practice in the private sector and in public employment in other states, and have provided significant financial relief for local school districts, thereby enabling them to direct resources toward educational programming, including teacher employment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Haworth Board of Education urges the state Legislature and Governor to ensure that the employees’ cost for teacher pensions and post-retirement medical benefits – financial obligations created by the state – are not transferred to local school districts; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that to provide local school districts and local property taxpayers with financial relief, the Legislature should amend *P.L. 2011, c.78* to make the current employee contributions toward health coverage a permanent requirement and not a subject of labor negotiations; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that to provide further control over the cost of health benefits, the Legislature should give local boards of education unilateral authority to enroll in the School Employee Health Benefits Program if the board determines that such action would generate financial savings; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that the Haworth Board of Education supports the goal of reducing the overall costs of public employee health and retirement benefits and urges the state Legislature and Governor to take a studied and comprehensive approach that will ensure the long-term solvency of the state’s public employee retirement programs without unduly burdening local school district budgets and endangering educational programming; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that this resolution be sent to Governor Chris Christie, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto; and the 39<sup>th</sup> Legislative District’s representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; and be it further,

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the New Jersey School Boards Association and all Bergen County Public School Districts.

**g. BE IT RESOLVED the Haworth Public School approves the total tax levy of 1.98% and hereby approves the preliminary 2015-16 school budget as follows:**

	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>LOCAL TAX LEVY</b>
<b>General Fund</b> .....	<b>\$8,835,366</b> .....	<b>\$8,219,020</b>
<b>Special Revenue Fund</b> .....	<b>\$ 93,107</b>	
<b>Debt Service Fund</b> .....	<b>\$ 619,755</b> .....	<b>\$ 538,231</b>

**TOTAL BASE BUDGET.....\$9,548,228**

- h. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Tax Payment Schedule for the 2015-16 School Year. (Attachment)**
- i. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Report of Board Secretary, Report of the Treasurer, and the Report of Monthly Transfers for the month of March, 2015. (Attachment)**
- j. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Bergen County Special Services Extended School Year Tuition which will be offered from July 6, 2015 to July 29, 2015 at a cost of \$4,400. Additional related services and transportation provided for this program will be billed separately. Not to exceed \$3,000.**
- k. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Bergen County Special Services 2013-14 tuition adjustment of \$2,852.**

J. Ashkenase Moved, A. Reduce Seconded  
Roll Call: 6/0

W. Sutnick: I know we are making our final payment for the roof. There were some small lingering issues and I would like to know if they have all been resolved at this point?

P. DeRiso: Yes, they were here over April break and they will be here again when there is an availability for them to go up onto the roof again when students are not present and they will finish repairing the final two leaks.

A. Reduce: I just want to make a comment that the Finance Committee with Jeff running it is the best it has ever been. Between Jeff & Pat they really break down the numbers to make it recognizable and understandable.....so thank you.

J. Ashkenase: You're welcome.

## **XII. FACILITY**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the services of Ice Age Heating, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration, Inc. to furnish and replace five heat exchangers, five inducer motors on rooftop units and one condenser fan motor on rooftop unit. Work to be completed by June 30, 2015 at a cost not to exceed \$13,000.**
- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the services of Century Sports, to install fire retardant custom padding in the gymnasium at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.**

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the services of FKA Architects for the Haworth School Main Entry Safety and Security Upgrades Project at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.**
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the submission of the project application to the New Jersey Department of Education for the Haworth School Main Entry Safety and Security Upgrades.**
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education authorizes the amendment to the current Long Range Facilities Plan to include the Haworth School Main Entry Safety and Security Upgrades Project.**

M. DiIorgi Moved, A. Reduce Seconded  
Roll Call: 6/0

M. DiIorgi: I was not aware of the retardant custom padding being installed. What is this for?

P. DeRiso: This is for the padding that goes around the bottom of the stage in the gymnasium. It is torn and before anyone gets hurt we have decided to replace it.

M. DiIorgi: The other question was about the five heat exchangers.

P. DeRiso: They are up on the roof and have been there in excess of 15 years. They are corroded and may cause carbon monoxide to come down into the building when the heat is turned on again next year. Therefore, we would like them replaced before then.

Discussion ensued.....

### **XIII. POLICY**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the second reading of the following policies:

- 5141.8 - Sports Related Concussion and Head Injury
- 6114 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness
- 6173 - Home Instruction
- 7110 - Long-Range Facilities Planning

M. DiIorgi Moved, A. Reduce Seconded  
Roll Call: 6/0



**XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance  
Facilities  
Policy  
Program/Personnel  
BCSBA/NJSB  
Joint Boards  
Public Relations  
Haworth Home & School Association  
Northern Valley Regional HS/  
NV Educational Foundation  
Legislative Chairperson  
Senior Citizens Liaison  
Town Council Liaison  
Negotiations

A. Reduce: I did attend an NJSBA workshop on Special Education. We are in compliance with everything that was discussed.

W. Sutnick: Are we finished paying for Wellcore? Do we own the curriculum now?

J. Montesano: Yes.

A. Reduce: We do need to follow up with the Municipal Alliance as they had committed to put money towards this program. Did we ever receive it?

J. Montesano: I am not sure but I will follow up on it.

**XV. Open to the Public on any item – 8:06 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 before you begin.*

Cathy Stokesbury: I am wondering if there will be any mold problems from all the water that leaked in through the classroom walls from the roof. Will this be addressed?

Pat DeRiso: Yes. It will all be taken care of by the vendors. It is their responsibility.

J. Montesano: I would like to mention that the school play was this past week and it was a great event. It was a packed house and the kids were excellent.

**XVI. OLD BUSINESS**

**XVII. NEW BUSINESS**

**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 Tuesday, April 28, 2015 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 not be going into executive session.**

**XVIII. MOTION TO ADJOURN.**

J. Ashkenase Moved, M. DiIorgi Seconded  
All in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT 8:09 p.m.**

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Warren Sutnick, President  
Haworth Board of Education

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Jennifer Montesano  
Superintendent/Board Secretary