

Minutes of **Wednesday May 10, 2023, Public Budget Meeting** of the Orange Board of Education held at 6:00 pm.

**Vice President Sueann Gravesande is presiding over tonight's Meeting.**

Ms. Sueann Gravesande

Mr. Derrick Henry

Ms. Samantha Crockett

Ms. Fatimah Turner, Ph.D. -**absent**

Mr. Siaka Sherif

Ms. Shawneque Johnson-**absent**

Mr. Jeffrey Wingfield

Mr. David Armstrong

Mr. Tyrone Tarver

**ROLL CALL (7) PRESENT (0) LATE (2) ABSENT**

**ALSO PRESENT:**

- Mr. Jason Ballard, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
- Mr. Lamont Zachary, Assistant Business Administrator/Board Secretary
- Dr. Tina Powell, Assistant Superintendent of Innovation and Systems
- Jessica Kleen, School Board Attorney Substitute with the firm of Machado

**FLAG SALUTE**

Ms. Gravesande motions to close the Executive session and move into a public meeting.

**Moved by Mr. Jeffrey Wingfield Seconded by Mr. Henry**

**ROLL CALL (7) YEA (0) NAY (0) ABSTAIN (2)ABSENT**

Ms. Gravesande communicates that there will no student representative report tonight and the meeting will begin with Dr. Fitzhugh presentation that will be provided by Dr. Powell.

Dr. Powell communicates and congratulates the STAR students of the month of March.

Dr. Powell proudly communicates the district's scholarship update:

- OHS-\$10,235,325 (As of April 12th)
- STEM-\$13,080,561 (As of April 12th)
- OHS-\$14,641,700 (As of May 2nd)
- STEM-\$18,878,802 (As of May 2nd)

Total as of April 19, 2023: \$23,315,886.00

Total as of May 10, 2023: \$33,520,502.00

Dr. Powell communicates and would like the community to join the district in celebrating all of our wonderful Principals within the Orange district.

Dr. Powell communicates Teacher Appreciation Week which began May 8<sup>th</sup> through May 12<sup>th</sup> and would like to join the district in honoring every teacher in our district.

Dr. Powell communicates National School Nurse's Day and our nurses were celebrated that Wednesday and would like the district to honor our wonderful nurses.

Dr. Powell communicates that NJSLA testing has commenced. New Jersey Student Learning Assessment has commenced within our district at our Elementary and Secondary Levels. ELA assessments will focus on writing effectively when analyzing text. Mathematics assessments will focus on applying skills and concepts and understanding multi-step problems that require abstract reasoning and modeling real-world problems, precision, perseverance, and strategic use of tools. Science assessments will focus on applying scientific concepts and practices within the domains of Earth & space, life, and physical science. Students will demonstrate their acquired skills and knowledge by answering selected-response items, constructed, response items and technology-enhanced questions.

Dr. Powell gives a huge shoutout to Orange School Board President Ms. Johnson for being elected to the Essex County School Board Association as the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Such a great honor and thank you for representing the school district of Orange in such a dynamic way!

Dr. Powell communicates the community to stay updated with all the great things happening throughout our district by downloading the app and checking our social media platforms.

This concludes the superintendent's report.

Ms. Gravesande motions to approve Public Session Minutes

**Moved by Mr. Armstrong Seconded by Ms. Crockett**  
**ROLL CALL (6) YEA (0) NAY (1) ABSTAIN (2) ABSENT**

Ms. Gravesande motions to approve Closed Session Minutes

**Moved by Mr. Henry Seconded by Mr. Armstrong**  
**ROLL CALL (5) YEA (0) NAY (2) ABSTAIN (2) ABSENT**

### **Community Reports:**

**Curriculum Report:** Ms. Crockett communicates to the community that the committee met on April 19 to discuss Seaton Hall University Affiliation agreement. Ms. Crockett communicates that the district also has an affiliation with Fairleigh Dickinson University we currently have an established MOA, and this is a renewal, with upgrades, it will continue to provide courses with dual credit for our students in our digital media, graphic arts and CTE programs at the high school. If the agreement is approved, it will allow us to continue to offer dual enrollment credit which allows students to receive credit for high school and college courses. Ms. Crockett communicates other district news such as STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges is now ranked number nine in the state of New Jersey out of all high schools. There were roughly eight-hundred and sixty-six other schools competing for the

distinction, but we are on the map and ranked in the top ten. This school year 2023 - 2024, we had the largest number of applicants/application submissions, the good news is spreading. We are surpassing those body of schools that have always been a part of the top ten ranking.

**Facilities Report:** Mr. Armstrong communicates to the community the date. The Facilities Committee convened for its monthly meeting on Monday May 1, 2023, at 3:35pm utilizing the Diligent Board Docs platform. The meeting began with Roll Call followed by the review of the minutes from the April 17th meeting. Discussion was held regarding a Facility Use Request, a Resolution to join Educational Data Services cooperative and various facility repairs. A brief update regarding the continuing custodial and maintenance endeavors was presented.

**Finance Report:** Mr. Sherif communicates The Finance Committee Meeting convened for its monthly meeting on Thursday, May 4, at 5:41pm. Members of the committee did not have any questions and approved of moving it forward to the full board. Mr. Ballard kindly assured the attendees that the finance team are always checking the inbox and are readily available to address any issues or concerns accordingly. Following the approval of the minutes, Business Administrator, Mr. Jason E. Ballard discussed facility use requests from the organization Care, NJ who are looking to utilize Heywood Avenue School and Lincoln Avenue School for their Summer 2023 Camp. Following the facility use requests discussion, Mr. Ballard discusses two resolutions that are up for board approval regarding the Cooperative Pricing System Agreement for Participation in the Education Cooperative Pricing System and the 22-23 Joint Transportation Agreement with Neptune Township. Mr. Ballard concluded the meeting by discussing the district's current financial and cash flow status.

Ms. Gravesande motions to move into public comments.

**Moved by Mr. Wingfield Seconded by Mr. Armstrong**  
**ROLL CALL (7) YEA (0) NAY (0) ABSTAIN (2) ABSENT**

### **Public Comments:**

Community member Tisa Singleton communicates that Lincoln Avenue has a different address to its entrance and the school is losing packages and people have a hard time finding the entrance. Ms. Singleton asks the board member if a new school is in the near future due to all the new apartments buildings being built in the district. Ms. Singleton communicates that the district has a lot of new bilingual students, and those students are not being sent to their home school location and was wondering if the district can perhaps provide those students with transportation to make it easier for families and also affordable.

Mr. Ballard explains what the district is planning for all the new buildings. Mr. Ballard communicates the bus transportation to the community.

Ms. Saintclair asks what protocol is in place when a parent calls to make a complaint regarding HIB or bullying.

Ms. Harper communicates that if there is a situation the parent should be bringing that information to the school principal and there is a 10-day investigation and after the investigation it will be determined how to move forward.

Ms. Rivera communicates that at the shuttle station for students is across a garden nursery and that is a very dangerous interception, and it is not safe for students to be there.

Mr. Ballard communicates that he will speak to the town and discuss other alternatives with Ms. Harper.

Dr. Powell provides more clarification to Ms. Singleton's previous inquiry regarding bilingual students.

Ms. Gravesande motions to close public comments

**Moved by Mr. Sherif Seconded by Ms. Crockett**

**ROLL CALL (7) YEA (0) NAY (0) ABSTAIN (2) ABSENT**

Ms. Gravesande motions to approve a consent agenda from H1-M5

**Moved by Mr. Wingfield Seconded by Mr. Sherif**

**ROLL CALL (6) YEA (0) NAY (1) ABSTAIN (2) ABSENT**

Ms. Gravesande would like clarification on H3

Unable to detect the response Ms. Kleen provided Ms. Gravesande due to audio.

Mr. Ballard communicates that this is a resolution for transportation.

Mr. Henry asks if there is a closer location other than Neptune.

Mr. Tarver question is regarding resolution J5

Unable to detect Mr. Ballard's response due to audio.

Mr. Tarver wants clarification on M3

Dr. Powell communicates that is a preferred qualification instead of a mandated.

Ms. Alcantara communicates that those specific positions are already in district positions however the job description were revised.

Mr. Tarver abstained from resolution A1, J2, J3,J4,J5 and is voting no M3, M5.

Mr. Wingfield abstained to resolution J1

Ms. Gravesande motions to approve HIB cases.

**Moved by Mr. Wingfield Seconded by Mr. Sherif**

**ROLL CALL (7) YEA (0) NAY (0) ABSTAIN (2) ABSENT**

Ms. Gravesande motions to approve home instruction.

**Moved by Mr. Wingfield Seconded by Mr. Sherif**

**ROLL CALL (7) YEA (0) NAY (0) ABSTAIN (2) ABSENT**

Ms. Gravesande motions to approve human resource agenda.

**Moved by Mr. Wingfield Seconded by Mr. Sherif**

**ROLL CALL (5) YEA (0) NAY (2) ABSTAIN (2) ABSENT**

The curriculum virtual meeting will be held on May 30 at 3:30 pm

The facility virtual meeting will be held on June 5 at 3:30 pm

The public Relations virtual meeting will be held on June 7 at 4:00 pm  
The financing committee virtual meeting will be held on May 24 at 5:30 pm  
Orange Board of Education's public meeting will be held on June 14 at 7:30 pm at OPA.  
Policy Committee virtual meeting will be held June 8 at 4:00pm.  
Human Resource Committee virtual meeting June 12 at 5 30 pm.

**Board Comments:**

Mr. Tarver communicates that according to the state any parent who goes to charter school has the right to receive a reinstatement up to \$1200.00 for transportation. After June 30<sup>th</sup> the district is not mandated to provide funds after that date.

Mr. Sherif would like to thank the teachers and staff for all their great contributions and assistance. He advises his fellow board members to come together to make the district better.

Mr. Henry communicates the concerns of driving in Orange. Mr. Henry begs the community to be mindful of the children crossing the streets.

Ms. Crockett wants to say Happy Mother's Day and Happy Teacher Appreciation Day!

Mr. Wingfield communicates that he is happy to be here and thanks Dr. Powell for taking the lead today.

Ms. Kleen would like to thank you the district's nurses for their recognition.

Ms. Gravesande moves to have the meeting adjourned.

**Moved by Mr. Armstrong Seconded by Ms. Gravesande**

**ROLL CALL (7) YEA (0) NAY (0) ABSTAIN (2) ABSENT**