

MOONACHIE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Office of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Cafeteria

April 12, 2022

Call to order by Board President Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: David Vaccaro  
James Campbell  
Charles Pallas  
Edmond Monti  
Matthew Vaccaro

Members Absent: None

Also Present: James Knipper, Superintendent  
Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator  
Dana Genatt, Director of Curriculum  
Dennis McKeever, Board Attorney  
Anthony Russo, Board Attorney

Pledge of Allegiance

State of Compliance:

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the rights for the public to have advance notice of, and to attend, the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary has caused notice of this meeting to be sent, announcing time and place thereof, and, to the extent known, the agenda of this meeting to the following: Borough of Moonachie and Office of the Superintendent of Schools.

- Acceptance of Minutes of March 22, 2022, closed session and regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

Motion: Edmond Monti

Seconded: James Campbell

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Acceptance of Correspondence

1. New Jersey Department of Education Preschool Program Plan Approval letter – Attachment 1.2

2. New Jersey Department of Education ESEA Application approval letter – Attachment 1.3

3. New Jersey Department of Education American Rescue Plan Safe Return Plan approval letter – Attachment 1.4
4. State of New Jersey Senate and General Assembly Citation for James Campbell, Moonachie School Board – Attachment 1.5
5. State of New Jersey Senate and General Assembly Citation for Edmond Monti, Moonachie School Board – Attachment 1.6
6. Department of Health Services Satisfactory Sanitary Inspection Report – Attachment 1.7

Motion: James Campbell

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Superintendent’s Report

Motion: Edmond Monti

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Mrs. Genatt presented the Students of the Month. Mr. Knipper congratulated all the students. He stated that state testing will start in May but thanks to the 1:1 initiative, the timeline for testing reduced from 6-8 weeks to 3-4 weeks for all testing to be conducted. Applications for Summer Recreation have gone out via hard copy and email. He thanked the PTO for putting on the Middle School Dance. The PTO will also sponsor an Elementary School Dance in May. Mr. Knipper announced we are partnering with a bullying & harassment organization to conduct assemblies on social conduct due to the uptick in HIB cases recently. He also announced we are having a Wellness Family Night tomorrow evening in collaboration with our mental health provider CarePlus. Speakers will be on hand to present how to support student well-being. He also wanted to thank Austria Cabrales and Donna Vega for their years of service as they announce their retirement at the end of June. They will be missed. He then wished everyone a Happy Easter and Spring Break.

Mr. David Vaccaro thanked the families for coming out and thanked the parents for their support of their children in their academic success. He also announced the Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the school this Saturday.

- Students of the Month

<u>February</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Jace Dentzau	Pre-Kindergarten
Parthi Patel	Kindergarten
Nour Haddad	1st
Gabriella Galindo	2nd
Edy Santacruz	3rd
Agil Nesheiwat	4th

Kiara Cerna	5th
Hailey Friedman	MS Social Studies
Angelina Nesheiwat	MS ELA
Anderson Castano	MS Math
Jaden Obiaya	Physical Education

- **Public Comments - (Agenda Items Only)**

In addition, please be aware that employees of this School District retain the right of privacy and shall retain all rights regarding defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey. The Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public and, in order to protect the privacy rights of employees in the District, the Board shall not respond to statements made by the public of or about District employees.

2. **Finance**

Motion: Charles Pallas  
 Seconded: James Campbell  
 Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the Bills and Claims against the Board of Education for equipment, materials and supplies furnished and delivered, and for work done and performed for March 2022 for a total of \$367,628.40 –Attachment 2.1
2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of March 2022 for \$412,841.69 –Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for March 31, 2022 for \$104,658.07 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the Treasurer’s Report for month ending February 2022 – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to approve the Report of Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for the month ending February 2022 – Attachment 2.5
6. Resolved to set tuition and Related Services for the 2022-2023 school year as follows: Attachment 2.6

**Regular Education Student Tuition**

PreK/K	\$19,830
Grades 1-5	\$14,959
Grades 6-8	\$15,664

**Special Education Student Tuition**

Full Day – Pre-K Dis.	\$12,517
LLD	\$24,918
MD	\$90,597
Related Services	\$80.00 /session

7. Resolved to approve the submission of the American Rescue Plan – Homeless Children and Youth (ARP-HCYII) grant application as part of a consortium with Bergen County Special Services and accept the grant funds of \$3596.00 for Fiscal Year 2022.

3. Policy

Motion: Edmond Monti  
Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro  
Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved that the Moonachie Board of Education approve the Comprehensive Equity Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2022-2023 school year and appoints Donna Gallo as the Affirmative Action Officer and Team Members Brian DeSantis and Dana Genatt to conduct a Needs Assessment and develop a Comprehensive Equity Plan – Attachment 3.1

4. Personnel

Motion: James Campbell  
Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro  
Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to reappoint tenured professional staff for the 2022-2023 school year – Attachment 4.1
2. Resolved to approve the job postings for the Extended School Year Program – Attachment 4.2
3. Resolved to approve Dixie Romero as Substitute for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year, at a per diem rate of \$100.
4. Resolved to approve Luz C. Johnson as ESL/Spanish Teacher for the 2022-2023 school year at MA+15/Step 9 for an annual salary of \$74,595 pending MEA contract approval.
5. Resolved to approve the resignation for the purpose of retirement Austria Cabrales as School Aide effective June 16, 2022 – Attachment 4.5
6. Resolved to approve the resignation for the purpose of retirement Donna Vega as School Aide effective June 16, 2022 – Attachment 4.6
7. Resolved to approve Joseph Gingerelli and Michael Lia to chaperone the middle school dance at \$47.90 from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm on April 8, 2022.

5. Curriculum

Motion: Edmond Monti  
Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro  
Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the Extended School Year program: June 20 – July 29, 2022 Monday-Friday 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. (off July 4) for a total of 29 days.

6. Facilities

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Edmond Monti

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the facilities request from the Borough of Moonachie for the Summer Recreation program – Attachment 6.1

7. Old Business None.

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

8. New Business None.

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

9. Information Items

1. Average Monthly Attendance from 3/1/22 – 3/31/22 – Attachment 9.1

2. Monthly Report of Attendance officer for the month of March 2022 – Attachment 9.2

10. Discussion Items None.

11. Public Comments None.

Open: 6:50 p.m.

Closed: 6:51 p.m.

12. Adjournment to Executive Session with No Action Taken at 6:52 p.m.

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: James Campbell

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Laurel Spadavecchia*

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary