

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Virtual Meeting

April 28, 2020

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

Roll Call

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

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Dr. Jonathan Ponds, Superintendent/Principal
Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
James Knipper, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Rachel Smith, 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 31, 2020, Regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1
Motion: Edmond Monti
Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro
Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.
- PRESENTATION – Public Hearing 2020-2021 School Budget
Laurel Spadavecchia presented the 2020-2021 School budget which was conducted virtually through Google Slides with a link to the presentation on the school website for the public to participate.
- Acceptance of Correspondence None.
- Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Ponds announced that the district is monitoring information sent from state and federal authorities very closely and is awaiting a statement from the governor on May 15 regarding any future opening plans. Part of the preparation in reopening has many concerns such as the requirement of physical examinations, vaccines, personal protective equipment, sanitation of buildings and grounds, etc. As soon as information is disseminated, he will notify the Board of Education. In the meantime, we are addressing issues as they relate to Covid-19 as they come up.

Dr. Ponds also wanted to thank Mr. Knipper for doing a great job with keeping instruction running smoothly and also thanked Mrs. Spadavecchia for keeping the Business Office running in a virtual climate.

Dr. Ponds was also pleased to announce that over 60% of our eighth grade class who applied to choice high schools were accepted into programs. We have several students who are on a wait list and those numbers might grow even higher. Congratulations to all!

David Vaccaro asked if we had heard from the town regarding the Summer Recreation program. Dr. Ponds answered not yet and Kathy Kinsella, as councilwoman, said the town hasn't made any plans yet but they know there will not be any field trips this summer. Mr. Monti also commented on how many parents would still be willing to send their children to the program.

Mr. Monti also asked if there was any plan for graduation. Dr. Ponds said the district is still awaiting guidance on gatherings and he and Mr. Monti could discuss alternative solutions in the event a graduation ceremony cannot take place.

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

▪ Submission of HIB Cases – March 2020	
<u>Investigations</u>	<u>Confirmed Cases</u>
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• **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: Matthew Vaccaro
 Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Motion to adopt the final 2020-2021 school year budget.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Moonachie Board of Education hereby adopts the 2020-2021 school budget in the following manner:

<u>Budget Totals:</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>
Total General Fund	\$ 10,362,860.00	\$ 8,818,946.00
Total Special Revenue Fund	\$ 821,124.00	0.00
Total Debt Service Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Totals	\$ 11,183,984.00	\$ 8,818,946.00

Be it resolved that the General Fund tax levy \$8,818,946.00 is approved to support the 2020-2021 school year budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Moonachie Board of Education authorize the inclusion of \$120,000 from Maintenance Reserve into the preliminary 2020-2021 budget for required maintenance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Moonachie Board of Education authorize the inclusion of \$300,000 from Capital Reserve into the preliminary 2020-2021 budget to replace a portion of the roof, for HVAC rooftop units, repair to the sewer system, repair to exterior building façade and to repair structural damage to the plumbing system of the Robert L. Craig School.

2. Resolved that the Moonachie Board of Education establish the school district travel maximum expenditure amount for the 2020-2021 school year not to exceed \$15,000. The maximum amount for the 2019-2020 school year was budgeted at \$15,000 and the amount spent as of March 10, 2020 for the 2019-2020 school year is \$4,529.60.
3. 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 April 2020 for a total of \$541,665.59 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for April 9, 2020 for \$97,038.10 – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to approve the acceptance of 2020-2021 Preschool Education Aid (PEA) funds of \$540,120 for the 2020-2021 school year.

6. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for March 2020 that no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which total exceed the amount appropriated by the Moonachie Board of Education.
 7. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary of March 2020 that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the Moonachie Board of Education’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
 8. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for April 2020 that no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which total exceed the amount appropriated by the Moonachie Board of Education.
 9. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary of April 2020 that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the Moonachie Board of Education’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
 10. Resolved to accept the Treasurers Report for February 2020 – Attachment 2.10
 11. Resolved to accept the Report of the Secretary of the Moonachie Board of Education for February 2020 – Attachment 2.11
 12. Resolved to approve the Monthly Transfer Report for February 2020 – Attachment 2.12
 13. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of March 2020 for \$289,769.07 - Attachment 2.13
 14. Resolved to approve the Motion to approve check #1141 to Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional Board of Education in the amount of \$9093.00 from the Milk and Lunch account for March 2020 meals.
3. Policy None.
 Motion:
 Seconded:
 Action taken:
 4. Personnel
 Motion: Matthew Vaccaro
 Seconded: Edmond Monti
 Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.
 1. Resolved to reappoint tenured professional staff for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment 4.1
 5. Curriculum None.

Motion:
Seconded:
Action taken:

6. Facilities None.

Motion:
Seconded:
Action taken:

7. Old Business None.

Motion:
Seconded:
Action taken:

8. New Business None.

Motion:
Seconded:
Action taken:

9. Information Items

1. Average monthly attendance from 3/1/20 – 3/31/20 - Attachment 9.1
2. Monthly report of attendance officer for the month ending March 2020 Attachment 9.2

10. Discussion Items

Dr. Ponds announced that we received \$1000 donation from Susan Sartoga to help support the families in our community in their need. This will be a motion for approval at the May 12 Board meeting as well as a discussion on how best to use the money.

David Vaccaro also suggested we reach out to the high schools to check up on our students and ask if they need any of our assistance. Dr. Ponds will follow up.

11. Public Comments None. Open: 7:31 p.m. Closed: 7:32 p.m.

12. Adjournment at 7:34 p.m.

Motion: James Campbell
Seconded: Edmond Monti
Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurel Spadavecchia

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary