

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School  
Cafeteria

March 14, 2023

Call to order by Board Secretary

Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: David Vaccaro  
James Campbell  
Matthew Vaccaro  
Charles Pallas

Members Absent: Edmond Monti

Also Present: James Knipper, Superintendent/Principal  
Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Dana Genatt, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Joseph Mackolin, Esq., 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.

1.

• Resolved to move to Executive Session

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, the Moonachie Board of Education shall conduct a closed executive session pursuant to the exception(s) prescribed by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 for the purpose of discussing personnel matters and legal matters which are attorney-client privileged. It is anticipated that the length of time of this executive session will be 30 minutes and that the discussion undertaken in this closed session can be made public at the time official action is taken.

Motion: James Campbell

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

- Acceptance of Minutes of February 21, 2023, closed session and regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro  
 Seconded: James Campbell  
 Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

- Acceptance of Correspondence

- New Jersey Senate state aid letter from Paul Sarlo, Senator District 36 – Attachment 1.2
- New Jersey Department of Education Playground Capital Project Approval Letter – Attachment 1.3

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro  
 Seconded: James Campbell  
 Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

- Superintendent’s Report

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro  
 Seconded: Charles Pallas  
 Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

Mr. Knipper announced that Mrs. Genatt was working hard on conducting state assessment tests. Saturday school is having a wonderful turnout in attendance.

▪ <b>Submission of HIB Cases – February 2023</b>	
<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: Matthew Vaccaro  
 Seconded: Charles Pallas  
 Tabled: 2.15  
 Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

1. SUBMISSION OF PRELIMINARY 2023-2024 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the preliminary 2023-24 school budget was approved for submission to the Executive County Superintendent by the Board of Education on March 14, 2023, and

WHEREAS, the Moonachie Board of Education authorized the submission of the 2023-2024 Preliminary School Budget to the Bergen County Executive Superintendent of Schools with the following Fund Allocations and requested waivers:

<b><u>Budget Totals:</u></b>	<b><u>2023-2024 Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Local Tax Levy</u></b>
<b>Total General Fund</b>	\$ <b>12,958,003</b>	<b>9,701,087.00</b>
<b>Total Special Revenue Fund</b>	\$ <b>855,578</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Debt Service Fund</b>	\$ <b>0.00</b>	\$ <b>0.00</b>
<b>Totals</b>	\$ <b>13,813,581</b>	\$ <b>9,701,087.00</b>

Be it resolved that the General Fund tax levy \$9,701,087.00 is approved to support the 2023-2024 school year budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Moonachie Board of Education authorize the inclusion of \$130,000 from Maintenance Reserve into the preliminary 2023-2024 budget for required maintenance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Moonachie Board of Education authorize the inclusion of \$1,200,000 from Capital Reserve into the preliminary 2023-2024 budget for repair to the exterior building façade, repair to the sewer system, 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 2023-2024 school year as per N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2 (b) not to exceed \$15,000. The maximum amount for the 2022-2023 school year was budgeted at \$15,000 and the amount spent as of March 14, 2023 for the 2022-2023 school year is \$8,913.06. The Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.
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 March 2023 for a total of \$622,854.98 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for February 28, 2023 for \$105,663.48 with gross wages of \$185,733.43 – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of February 2023 for \$912,911.25 - Attachment 2.5
6. Resolved to approve the acceptance of 2023-2024 Preschool Education Aid (PEA) funds of \$622,146 for the 2023-2024 school year.
7. Resolved to approve the submission of the Moonachie School District 2023-2024 Preschool Education Aid Budget Planning Workbook. The district will

receive \$622,146 for 42 general education full-day preschool students – Attachment 2.7

8. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and the South Bergen Jointure Commission for the 2022-2023 school year – Attachment 2.8
9. Resolved to approve the Telecommunications Contract between the Moonachie Board of Education and T-Mobile for Government for the contract of 3 cellular phones and unlimited data and text services – Attachment 2.9
10. Resolved to approve the Treasurer’s Report for month ending January 31, 2023 – Attachment 2.10
11. Resolved to approve the Report of Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for the month ending January 2023 – Attachment 2.11
12. Resolved to approve the Monthly Transfer Report for January 2023 – Attachment 2.12
13. Resolved to approve the Cintas Fire Protection Semi-Annual Sprinkler Inspection for 8 wet systems for \$2,354.80.
14. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and Windsor Bergen Academy for the 2022-2023 school year – Attachment 2.14
15. Resolved to approve the Bill of Sale between the Moonachie Board of Education and Sabino Cirillo for the purchase of a used scissor lift upright UL-20 in “as-is” condition in the amount of \$3,000.00 – Attachment 2.15

3. Policy

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: James Campbell

Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved that the Moonachie Board of Education approve the Comprehensive Equity Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2023-2034 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

2. Resolved to Re-adopt the following Policies & Regulations:

P1140	Affirmative Action Program	Re-Adopted
P1530	Equal Employment Opportunities	Re-Adopted
P1550	Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination	Re-Adopted
P2210	Curriculum Development	Re-Adopted
P2220	Adoption of Courses	Re-Adopted
P2260	Affirmative Action Program for School & Classroom Practices	Re-Adopted
R2260	Affirmative Action Program for School & Classroom Practices Complaint Procedure	Re-Adopted
P2270	Religion in the Schools	Re-Adopted
P2360	Use of Technology	Re-Adopted
P2411	Guidance Counseling	Re-Adopted
P2415.04	Title I – District –Wide Parental Involvement	Re-Adopted

R2417	Student Intervention & Referral Services	Re-Adopted
P2423	Bilingual & ESL Education	Re-Adopted
P2460	Special Education	Re-Adopted
P3124	Employment Contract	Re-Adopted
P3130	Assignment & Transfer	Re-Adopted
P4125	Employment of Support Staff Members	Re-Adopted
P5111	Eligibility of Resident/Non Resident Students	Re-Adopted
P5500	Expectations for Student Conduct	Re-Adopted
P5750	Equal Educational Opportunity	Re-Adopted
R5750	Equal Educational Opportunity Complaint Procedure	Re-Adopted
P5751	Sexual Harassment	Re-Adopted
P5752	Marital Status & Pregnancy	Re-Adopted
P5755	Equity in Educational Programs & Services	Re-Adopted

4. Personnel

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: James Campbell

Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve Riffat Naqvi as Part-Time Aide at an hourly rate of \$15.00 for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.
2. Resolved to approve Lindsay Dowling as Part-Time Aide at an hourly rate of \$17.00 for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.

5. Curriculum

Motion: Charles Pallas

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the following workshops:

Destination	Date	Cost
Wood-Ridge High School 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation	June 12, 2023	\$250 Bus
Metropolitan Medical Corporation First Aid/CPR Training - Lauren Barnaba, Amanda Mulvaney, Melanie Vocaturo, Jaime Migliorino, Brendalicia Garcia, Tatiana Llanos, Teresa Meyers, Lori Schmatz	March 16, 2022	\$470.00

2. Resolved to approve the Extended School Year Program: June 19 – July 28, 2023 Monday-Friday 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 pm (off July 3 & 4) for a total of 28 days.

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 2/1/23 – 2/28/23 – Attachment 9.1
2. Monthly Report of Attendance Officer for the month of February 2023 – Attachment 9.2

10. Discussion Items      None.

11. Public Comments      None.

Open:      6:48 p.m.  
Closed:     6:49 p.m.

12. Adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Motion:             Matthew Vaccaro  
Seconded:          James Campbell  
Action taken:       4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Laurel Spadavecchia*

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary