

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School
Cafeteria

November 28, 2023

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

Roll Call

Members Present: David Vaccaro
Edmond Monti
Matthew Vaccaro
Candace Tarabocchia
Radley Macalintal

Members Absent: None

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

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.

- Swearing in of new Board Member Radley Macalintal

1.

- Acceptance of Minutes of October 17, 2023, closed session and regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Edmond Monti

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Acceptance of Correspondence

- Comprehensive Maintenance Plan Documents NJ Department of Education approval letter – Attachment 1.2

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia
Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro
Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Superintendent's Report

Mr. James Knipper announced Mrs. Dana Genatt to present the Students of the Month Awards.

Mr. Knipper then announced that the school conducted another successful lockdown drill and thanked Officer Billy for his excellent work and for his positive interactions with the students. He then congratulated Radley Macalintal for his appointment on the School Board. He noted that Mr. Macalintal has been instrumental in his assistance with the 7th and 8th grade students and their high school admissions process over the years.

Mr. Knipper also congratulated the PTO on their very successful pie fundraiser and thanked them for their service to the children and families in the community.

Mr. Knipper announced that Saturday School begins this week and he also noted that the Moonachie School District has been awarded the Afterschool Tutoring grant in the amount of \$20,000 and we look forward to offering these services shortly.

Mr. David Vaccaro congratulated the students and their parents for the Students of the Month awards. He commended the parents for their involvement with their children which allows them to be successful.

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia
Seconded: Edmond Monti
Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- **Students of the Month**

<u>November</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Mckayla Maloney	Pre-K
Giliana Tripodi	K
Vani Nakrani	1
Majed Haddad	2
Brielle Amato	3
Daniella Scheuer	4
Ghemalis Rodriguez	5
Sayed Shah	MS ELA
Yara Abbas	MS Math
Mathias Cabrera	MS Science
Sophia Brattoli	Physical Education

ESL Graduation

Dylan Galarza 2
Sarai Juarez 6

▪ **Submission of HIB Cases – November 2023**

Investigations

1

Confirmed Cases

1

• **Accountability Profile/DFG Presentation**

Mr. Knipper presented the DFG data to the public. Based on the data, Mr. Monti asked if chronic absenteeism has improved, to which Mr. Knipper responded that he has been reaching out to the parents of absent students to encourage their children to attend school regularly as performance is directly linked to attendance.

• 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: Edmond Monti

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 performed for November 2023 for a total of \$703,730.50 – Attachment 2.1
2. Motion Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of October and Unposted Checks for \$377,984.81 – Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for October 31, 2023 for \$112,163.75 with gross pay wages of \$194,942.00– Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for November 15, 2023 for \$118,629.11 with gross pay wages of \$204,721.28– Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for November 2023 that no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Moonachie Board of Education.

6. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for November 2023 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.
7. Resolved to approve the auditing firm of Lerch, Vinci & Bliss, CPA to prepare the School District Audit, and to perform other duties as directed during the 2023-2024 school year at standard billing rates.
8. Resolved to approve the submission of the NJ Department of Education FY24 Projected Preschool Enrollment – Attachment 2.8.
9. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract between the Moonachie Board of Education and the Community School for the 2023-2024 school year – Attachment 2.9
10. Resolved to approve Nickerson as the lowest cost quote for repairs to the gymnasium curtain divider – Attachment 2.10
11. Resolved to approve the renewal of the Lenovo Software Lan School 1 year subscription for the 2023-2024 school year – Attachment 2.11
12. Resolved to approve the Delta-T Group Substitute and Nursing Services Agreement for the 2023-2024 school year – Attachment 2.12
13. Resolved to approve check #1194 to Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional Board of Education in the amount of \$18,914.20 from the Milk and Lunch account for October 2023 meals.
14. Resolved to approve the residency request from a Moonachie twelfth grader attending Wood-Ridge High School who is anticipating moving out of district in January but requesting to complete high school in Wood-Ridge.

3. Policy

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Edmond Monti

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the School Safety and Security Plan Annual Review Statement of Assurance – Attachment 3.1

4. Personnel

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to accept the resignation of Justin Bronner, Teacher, effective December 22, 2023 – Attachment 4.1
2. Resolved to accept the resignation of Tatiana Llanos, Classroom Aide, effective November 17, 2023 – Attachment 4.2

3. Resolved to approve Elizabeth Connely as Leave Replacement Teacher at MA Step 1 at an annual salary of \$56,385 prorated for the 2023-2024 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.
4. Resolved to approve Allison Bullaro as Substitute Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.

5. Curriculum

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Edmond Monti

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the following workshops:

Destination	Date	Cost
NJAHPERD Annual Convention – Forrestral Village, Princeton, NJ - Joseph Gingerelli	February 26-27, 2024	\$275.00 plus travel
NJDOE School Behavioral Threat Assessment & Management Virtual Training ~ Lee Ten Hoeve	January 18, 2024	No Cost
Virtual Zoom Socratic Seminar Intermediate Level 2 Workshop – Greg Keelen		\$215

6. Facilities

1. Resolved to approve the quote from TruView for residency investigation services – Attachment 6.1

2. Resolved to approve the Borough of Wood-Ridge facilities request for indoor recreation soccer practice in the gymnasium on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning on January 9, 2024.

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia

Abstain: Edmond Monti

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

7. Old Business

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

8. New Business

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

9. Information Items

1. Average monthly attendance from 10/1/23 – 10/31/23 - Attachment 9.1
2. Monthly report of attendance officer for the month ending October 2023 Attachment 9.2

10. Discussion Items

High School Residency Request (see Motion 2.14)

11. Public Comments

Open: 7:12 p.m.

Closed: 7:14 p.m.

Mr. Greg Keelen, Social Studies Teacher, welcomed Radley Macalintal to the Board of Education. Mr. Keelen worked closely with Mr. Macalintal over the high school application process and on behalf of the Moonachie Education Association, they are grateful for his service to the community.

Mr. Keelen also wished to recognize a member of the staff, Mrs. Gabriella Minda for her outstanding performance as a teacher at the Robert L. Craig School.

12. Adjournment

7:15 p.m.

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurel Spadavecchia

Laurel Spadavecchia