

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Cafeteria

May 21, 2024

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.

- Acceptance of Minutes of May 7, 2024, Closed and Regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1  
Motion: Edmond Monti  
Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro  
Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.
- Acceptance of Correspondence None.  
Motion:  
Seconded:  
Action taken:

- Superintendent’s Report

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia

Seconded: Radley Macalintal

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Mr. Knipper announced Dana Genatt to present his favorite part of the meeting, the Students of the Month awards. He announced that the last day of school will be June 13, 2024. The Summer Recreation program registration is open for any families who are interested. The program starts June 17 and runs through August 5.

Mr. David Vaccaro congratulated all the Students of the Month and thanked them and their parents for their hard work and involvement in student achievement.

- **Students of the Month**

<u>May</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Marvin Nugra	Pre-K
Liam Castillo	K
Hannah Ali	1
Parthi Patel & Avery Allocco	2
Ian Murillo	3
Zian Avila	4
Leah Allocco	5
Dina Ali	Middle School Science
Kandrew Leavers	Middle School ELA
Carmela Vocaturo	Middle School Math
Ana Velez	Music

- **Submission of HIB Cases – May 2024**

<u>Investigations</u>	<u>Confirmed Cases</u>
2	2

- 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: Edmond Monti

Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia

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 May 2024 for a total of \$367,097.02 – Attachment 2.1
2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of April 2024 for \$207,560.94 - Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for May 15, 2024 for \$125,034.92 with gross pay wages of \$210,512.36 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for May 2024 that no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which total exceed the amount appropriated by the Moonachie Board of Education.
5. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary of May 2024 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.
6. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and Windsor Prep High School for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year – Attachment 2.6
7. Resolved to approve check #1200 to Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional Board of Education in the amount of \$16,931.80 from the Milk & Lunch account for April 2024 meals.
8. Resolved to approve Nu-Way Concessionaires, Inc. as the summer meals vendor at \$2.17 per breakfast, and \$3.67 per lunch, 100 Breakfast and 100 lunches per day for 33 days June 17 – August 2, 2024 – Attachment 2.8
9. Resolved to accept the Treasurer's Report for month ending April 2024 – Attachment 2.9
10. Resolved to accept the Report of Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for month ending April 2024 – Attachment 2.10
11. Resolved to approve the budgetary line-item transfers for April 2024 – Attachment 2.11
12. Resolved to approve the renewal of Realtime Student Information System for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 2.12

3. Policy

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia

Seconded: Edmond Monti

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the New Jersey Department of Education School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights District and School Grade Report for 2022-2023 – Attachment 3.1

4. Personnel

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Radley Macalintal

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Mr. Knipper acknowledged Ms. Anna Dalton in the audience and introduced her as a new teacher, recently graduating from Ramapo College and welcomed her aboard.

1. Resolved to approve Anna Dalton as Teacher at BA+15/Step 1 for an annual salary of \$55,064 for the 2024-2025 school year pending outcome of certification, transcript review and Criminal History Background Screening –
2. Resolved to approve Yannique Dawson as Psychologist at MA+30/Step 10 for and annual salary of \$82,515 for the 2024-2025 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening –
3. Resolved to approve Laurel Spadavecchia as Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Qualified Purchasing Agent for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 4.3
4. Resolved to approve Lauren Barnaba as Teacher Assistant for the Summer Extended School Year 2024 at an hourly rate of \$25.00.
5. Resolved to rescind the offer of Psychologist for Gabrielle Diaby for the 2024-2025 school year.
6. Resolved to approve the job posting for 2024-2025 School Sponsored Activities – Attachment 4.6
7. Resolved to approve the following staff to work the Targeted Learning Loss for Underperforming Students Summer Tutoring Program from June 17, 2024 – July 26, 2024 from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm paid for by the High Impact Tutoring Grant:

Name:	Title:	Rate:
Kim Samarelli	Teacher Tutor	\$51.01/\$52.64 hr
Luz Johnson	Teacher Tutor	\$51.01/\$52.64 hr
Gianna Vitetta	Teacher Tutor	\$51.01/\$52.64 hr

8. Resolved to approve Alexa Durant as Teacher at MA+15/Step 6 for an annual salary of \$65,275 for the 2024-2025 school year pending outcome of Criminal History Background Screening.
9. Resolved to approve the termination of Employee #4439, with cause, effective May 15, 2024.

5. Curriculum

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Mr. Monti stated that he was very happy to see field trips coming back for the students. Mr. Knipper also thanked Mr. Lia for attending the Chief for a Day ceremony on request from a former student. Mr. Macalintal stated that this ceremony was very special when his son was the Chief for a Day a few years ago and said that it made a huge impact on him.

1. Resolved to approve the following field trips/workshops:

<b>Destination</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Strauss Esmay Educational Policy & School Law Seminar ~James Knipper, Laurel Spadavecchia	5/31/24 8:30 am – 3:00pm	No cost
Chief for a Day Luncheon ~Michael Lia	6/13/2024	\$155.00 + travel expenses
Sterling Hill Mining Museum 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip ~Brian DeSantis, Kelly Colacci, Gabrielle Ocasio, Sandra Degirolamo, Donna Gallo	6/10/2024	Tickets \$175.00 Bus \$675.00
Memorial Day Service at the Moonachie Borough ~Greg Keelen, Kim Schmidt	05/25/2024	\$307.00 +travel expenses
Spring Concert ~ Kimberly Schmidt	06/06/2024 9:00 – 11:00	No Cost

6. Facilities

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Radley Macalintal

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Mrs. Spadavecchia updated the Board that the office was still in the process of obtaining quotes for the tree service and the replacement HVAC unit.

1. Resolved to approve the 2023-2024 Submission of Lead Testing Statement of Assurance for a Lead Testing Year – Attachment 6.1

7. Old Business None.

8. New Business None.

9. Information Items

Mr. Knipper announced that the 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance will take place tomorrow evening with pictures at the Graycliff at 6:00 p.m. The Board is welcome to attend. Youth and Government Night will be at Borough Hall at 7:00 p.m. on May 23. This Saturday the student singers will be performing at the annual

Memorial Day celebration at Borough Hall at 10:30 a.m. And on May 30, the school will have its annual Curriculum Night, flyers have been sent to all parents.

Mr. Knipper also announced that there will be a special board meeting on June 25, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria to approve the Superintendent revised contract.

10. Discussion Items            None.
  
11. Public Comments  
    Open:            6:55 p.m.  
    Closed:         6:56 p.m.
  
12. Adjournment            6:57 p.m.  
    Motion:            Edmond Monti  
    Seconded:         Matthew Vaccaro  
    Action taken:      5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

*Laurel Spadavecchia*

Laurel Spadavecchia