

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Cafeteria

September 17, 2024

Call to order by Board Secretary

Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: David Vaccaro

Matthew Vaccaro

Candace Tarabocchia

Radley Macalintal

Edmond Monti

Members Absent: None

Also Present: James Knipper, Superintendent/Principal

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Jaclyn Morgese, 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.

- Acceptance of Minutes of August 27, 2024, regular session and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Radley Macalintal

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

- Acceptance of Correspondence None

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

- Superintendent's Report

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Mr. Knipper announced that the district had a great start to the 2024-2025 school year. Back to School Night will take place on Wednesday, September 18 at 6:30 p.m. and he welcomed all to attend. Professional Development for teachers has already begun. And lastly, he wanted to thank the custodians, teachers, aides and office staff for their hard work in making this the beginning of this school year a success.

- 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: 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 August 2024 for a total of \$265,134.14 –Attachment 2.1
2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of July 2024 for \$317,060.96 - Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for August 29, 2024 for \$76,059.26 with gross pay wages of \$34,681.47 to include \$51,135.45 in Summer Savings Payroll – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for September 15, 2024 for \$100,045.79 with gross pay wages of \$195,853.86 – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for September 2024 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 September 2024 that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended ad 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 Moonachie Board of Education to continue to participate as a member of the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for the purchase of goods and services for the 2024-2025 school year.
8. Resolved to approve the Moonachie Board of Education to participate as a member of the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance for the purchase of goods and services for the 2024-2025 school year.
9. Resolved to approve the Newsela Customer Agreement for a supplemental instructional subscription for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 2.9

3. Policy

Motion: Radley Macalintal

Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the Statement of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff for the 2024-2025 School Year – Attachment 3.1
2. Resolved to approve the 2024-2025 Moonachie School District Nursing Services Plan – Attachment 3.2

4. Personnel

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Mr. Knipper gave a huge shoutout to Ms. Deborah Maiorano, our Social Worker, and thanked her for obtaining a Social Worker Intern for this school year.

1. Resolved to approve Dana Genatt as the district Homeless Liaison and Register for the 2024-2025 school year.
2. Resolved to approve James Knipper as School Safety Specialist for the 2024-2025 school year.
3. Resolved to approve Alejandro Gutierrez as Substitute Custodian at an hourly rate of \$20.00 for the 2024-2025 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.
4. Resolved to approve Social Worker Intern, Anthony Martinez, through Ramapo College, working under Child Study team mentorship for a total of 600 hours during the 2024-2025 school year at no cost to the Board, pending criminal history background check.
5. Resolved to approve Michael Lia, on an as needed basis, for morning bus coverage, at the contractual rate of \$52.64.

5. Curriculum

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

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

Destination	Date	Cost
Crisis Prevention Institute, Edison NJ ~Natasha Dillon	October 15-18, 2024	\$5,849 plus travel
Camp Bernie 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip ~Greg Keelen, Lisa Selle, Caitlin Henrickson, Joseph Gingerelli	October 10, 2024	Tickets: \$288 Bus Cost:\$1,350
NED Show Assembly ~Natasha Dillon	October 10, 2024 1:45pm – 2:30pm	No Cost
Trunk or Treat & Halloween Dance ~PTO	October 26, 2024 9:00am-2:00pm	No Cost
9/11 Memorial & Museum 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip ~Greg Keelen, Valerie Kenny, Daniel Alonso, Donna Gallo	November 1, 2024	Tickets:\$100 Bus Cost: \$725

2. Resolved to recognize the first week in October, the 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, as the 2024 WEEK OF RESPECT in connection with the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying State Legislation.
3. Resolved that the Moonachie School District observe School Violence Awareness Week, October 15 – 18, 2024 in accordance with annual obligations as defined by the NJ State Department of Education.
4. Resolved to approve the submission of the District Professional Development Plan and Mentoring Statement of Assurance – Attachment 5.4
5. Resolved to approve the Teacher Mentoring Plan – Attachment 5.5

6. Facilities

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

Mr. David Vaccaro asked about the status of the façade bid process to which Mr. Knipper replied that the bid openings will take place on premise on Thursday, September 19 at 1:00 pm and Mrs. Spadavecchia will report the results back to the Board.

1. Resolved to accept the Air Clearance Sampling Report from Karl Environmental Group after the removal of asbestos-containing pipe insulation inside the mechanical room of the gymnasium – Attachment 6.1

7. Old Business        None.  
Motion:  
Seconded:  
Action taken:
8. New Business        None.  
Motion:  
Seconded:  
Action taken:
9. Information Items  
Mr. David Vaccaro invited all to attend the Back to School Night on September 18 at 6:30 p.m.
10. Discussion Items
11. Public Comments None.  
While there were no public comments, Manual Singh, 28A Edstan Drive, a new member of the community announced his family.  
  
Open:        6:36 p.m.  
Closed:     6:38 p.m.
12. Adjourned at 6:39 p.m.  
Motion:            Edmond Monti  
Seconded:        Candace Tarabocchia  
Action taken:     5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Laurel Spadavecchia*

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary