

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Cafeteria

September 13, 2022

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

Roll Call

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

Members Absent: None

Also Present: James Knipper, Superintendent
Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator
Dana Genatt, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Anthony Russo, 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 23, 2022, closed session and regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

Motion: James Campbell

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

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

- Acceptance of Correspondence None.

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

- Superintendent's Report

Mr. James Knipper announced the school had a great start to the new year. He's proud of the teachers, faculty, students and parents for all their hard work. He announced that Happy Orchard will be donating \$2000 to the school to enhance its PBIS program. NJSL scores from the May assessment has come out and after his review, he will share the information with the Board on his FYI report. Mr. Pallas inquired if they can also see the results of Little Ferry and South Hackensack, to which Mr. Knipper replied that information will be published in November and he will report it to the Board. STAR Testing will be conducted this week as well as START Strong assessments in two weeks. Mrs. Genatt added that the STAR testing information will allow teachers to assess students' growth and retention and will allow them to refer students for interventions if needed. Mr. Knipper announced that Health and Physical Education town halls will be held in October. Mr. Campbell asked if any parents had questions regarding the new Health and Physical Education curriculum to which Mr. Knipper responded that a few had questions over the summer and he met with both instructors to direct them to not teach the new topics until late spring when parents have had a chance to attend a town hall meeting. Mr. David Vaccaro asked if the Board can be in attendance for those meetings and Mr. Russo said he would find out if that would be acceptable. Mr. Knipper ended by stating he will not be able to attend the September 27 meeting and Mrs. Genatt will announce his Superintendent Report.

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

- 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: James Campbell
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 2022 for a total of \$117,872.98 –Attachment 2.1

2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of July 2022 for \$361,700.95 - Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for August 31, 2022 for \$63,665.60 to include \$42,608.19 in Summer Savings Payroll – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to accept a donation of \$2,000.00 from Happy Orchard for their support of the Robert L. Craig School Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) program – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to accept the Treasurer’s Report for month ending July 2022 – Attachment 2.5
6. Resolved to accept the Report of the Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for month ending July 2022 – Attachment 2.6

3. Policy

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Edmond Monti

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the Local Educational Agency Guidance for Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Programs for the 2022-2023 School Year – Attachment 3.1
2. Resolved to approve the Moonachie School District Goals & Objectives 2022-2023 Short & Long Term Goals – Attachment 3.2

4. Personnel

Motion: Charles Pallas

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve as Jenna Castellano as Substitute Teacher for the 2022-2023 school year.
2. Resolved to approve movement on the salary guide for Lauren Barnaba to BA+15 Step 3 at an annual salary of \$54,017.00.
3. Resolved to approve travel to the New Jersey School Board Association Workshop in Atlantic City from October 24-26, 2022 for a group rate of \$2,100.00 for the following:
James Knipper David Vaccaro James Campbell
Charles Pallas Matthew Vaccaro Edmond Monti
Laurel Spadavecchia
4. Resolved to approve the resignation of Kathleen Reilly as Preschool Teacher – Attachment 4.4

Mr. Knipper formally thanked Mrs. Reilly for her years of service and dedication to the Moonachie School District. Mr. Campbell is sad to see her go as she is an excellent teacher. Mr. Monti and Mr. Matthew Vaccaro added that she will be missed.

5. Resolved to approve the Superintendent/Principal to emergent hire for personnel hired between September 14, 2022 – September 26, 2022 for vacant positions only.

5. Curriculum

Motion: Charles Pallas
 Seconded: James Campbell
 Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the Robert L. Craig School Parent/Student Handbook for the 2022-2023 school year on display in the Main Office.
2. Resolved to approve the Robert L. Craig School 2022-2023 Operational Manual on display in the main office.
3. Resolved to approve the following workshops and field trips:

Destination	Date	Cost
Winter Now 2023 AOE Conference ~ Lee Ten Hoeve	January 27-29, 2023 Virtual Conference	\$119.00
Socratic Seminars International Level 1 Virtual Workshop ~Greg Keelen	October 13, 2022	\$215.00
Camp Bernie 8 th Grade Field Trip ~Greg Keelen, Valerie Kenny, Donna Gallo	October 17, 2022	\$150 Bus Cost TBD

6. Facilities

Motion: Edmond Monti
 Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro
 Action taken: 5 Ayes on Motions 6.1 & 6.2
 4 Ayes and 1 Abstain on Motion 6.3

1. Resolved to accept the donation of hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes from Bloomhouse Production Corporation.
2. Resolved to approve the List of Items Being Discarded – Attachment 6.2
3. Resolved to approve the playground upgrade quote from Ben Schaffer Recreation as a state-approved vendor. Attachment 6.3

7. Old Business

None.

Motion:
 Seconded:
 Action taken:

8. New Business

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

9. Information Items

10. Discussion Items

10. Discussion Items None.

11. Public Comments

Mr. Tony Cirillo stated he is glad that the playground upgrade was passed as he walks by and sees mulch all over the parking lot and also it would be nice to see a newer playground for the children to use.

Open: 6:51 p.m.

Closed: 6:52 p.m.

12. Adjournment 6:53 p.m.

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Charles Pallas

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurel Spadavecchia

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary