

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Media Center

January 2, 2018

Call to order by Board President Meeting opened at 6:45 p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: David Vaccaro, Charles Pallas, Matthew Vaccaro

Members Absent: James Campbell, Edmond Monti

Also Present: Dr. Jonathan Ponds, Superintendent/Principal
 Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
 James Knipper, Director of Curriculum
 Dennis McKeever, Esq., Board Attorney
 Nicholas Savio, 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.

- PRESENTATION – June 30, 2017 Financial Audit – Paul Lerch, CPA
Paul J. Lerch CPS, PSA with the firm of Lerch, Vinci and Higgins, LLP, presented the findings cited in the district’s financial audit for the period beginning 7/1/2016 and ending 6/30/2017. An Audit Synopsis handout for the public was provided which included the Governmental Balance Sheets and a listing of Audit Recommendations as of June 20, 2017. The auditor’s report included comments on the Governmental Balance Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance for the Fiscal year ended June 30, 2017 and a discussion of the Audit Recommendations including the Corrective Action Plan to address these Recommendations. A discussion followed.
- Acceptance of Minutes of December 12, 2017 closed session and regular session, and Superintendent Report Minutes – Attachment 1.1

Motion: Charles Pallas
Second: Matthew Vaccaro
Action Taken: 3 Ayes. 2 Absent. Approved.

- Acceptance of Correspondence

Motion: Charles Pallas
Second: Matthew Vaccaro
Action Taken: 3 Ayes. 2 Absent. Approved.

- Superintendent's Report

Motion: Charles Pallas
Second: Matthew Vaccaro
Action Taken: 3 Ayes. 2 Absent. Approved.

Dr. Jonathan Ponds was happy to report that the school grounds have been well maintained during recent inclement weather.

- Submission of HIB Cases – December 2017

Investigations

1

Confirmed Cases

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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: Charles Pallas
Second: Matthew Vaccaro
Action Taken: 3 Ayes. 2 Absent. Approved.

1. Resolution to table the Bills and Claims against the Board of Education for equipment, materials and supplies furnished and delivered, and for work done and performed for December 2017 for a total of \$280,769.22 until new board members can review by next board meeting on January 23, 2018 – Attachment 2.1
2. Resolution to table the budgetary line-item transfers for November 2017 until new board members can review by next board meeting on January 23, 2018 – Attachment 2.2
3. Resolution to accept the Treasurer's Report for month ending November 2017 – Attachment 2.3

4. Resolution to accept the Report of Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for month ending November 2017 – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolution to approve the Check Register for the month of November 2017 for \$731,421.44 - Attachment 2.5
6. Resolution to approve the Payroll Check Register for December 15, 2017 for \$89,225.42 – Attachment 2.6
7. Resolution to approve the Payroll Check Register for December 31, 2017 for \$87,398.11 – Attachment 2.7
8. Resolution to approve check #1109 to Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional Board of Education in the amount of \$11,402.90 from the Milk and Lunch account for November 2017 meals.
9. Resolution that the Moonachie Board of Education accept the findings expressed by the auditing firm of Lerch, Vinci and Higgins, LLP as cited in their reports entitled Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Auditor’s Management Report (AMR) for year ending June 30, 2017 – Attachment 2.9
10. Resolution to approve the Audit Findings/Recommendations Corrective Action Plan addressing the audit recommendations listed under Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting, School Food Services, Student Body Activities, and Application for State School Aid – attachment 2.10
11. Resolution to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract between Moonachie Board of Education and Northwest Essex Community Healthcare Network Therapeutic School & Preschool effective December 1-December 22, 2017 – Attachment 2.11
12. Resolution to approve the revised Shared-Time Special Education Tuition Contract between Moonachie Board of Education and Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional Board of Education for the 2017-2018 school year – Attachment 2.12
13. Resolution to approve the donation of a \$1,000.00 check from Flomo/Nygala Corporation to purchase healthy snacks for the after school program.

3. Policy

Motion: Charles Pallas
 Second: Matthew Vaccaro
 Action Taken: 3 Ayes. 2 Absent. Approved.

4. Personnel

Motion: Charles Pallas
 Second: Matthew Vaccaro
 Action Taken: 3 Ayes. 2 Absent. Approved.

1. Resolution to approve Catherine Cahill as a Substitute Aide at an hourly rate of \$14.66.
 2. Resolution to approve Nicholas Bullaro as a Substitute Custodian at an hourly rate of \$12.00.
 3. Resolution to approve Gary Eaddy as a Substitute Custodian at an hourly rate of \$12.00 pending outcome of criminal history background screening.
5. Curriculum
- Motion: Charles Pallas
 Second: Matthew Vaccaro
 Action Taken: 3 Ayes. 2 Absent. Approved.
1. Resolution to approve the 2018-2019 school year calendar–Attachment 5.1
 2. Resolution to approve the 2018-2019 Moonachie Board of Education Holiday Calendar – Attachment 5.2
 3. Resolution to approve updated Statement of Assurance–Attachment 5.3
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 12/1/17 – 12/31/17 – Attachment 9.1
 2. Monthly Report of Attendance officer for the month of December 2017 – Attachment 9.2
10. Discussion Items
 Discussion of replacement of outside lighting – Attachment 10.1
 The Board approved replacing six exterior lighting fixtures with LED bulbs.
11. Public Comments
 Mr. Knipper reported that an anonymous donation of nine \$500.00 Costco gift cards were delivered to the school and was delivered to Moonachie families in need of food and clothing.

Open: 7:04 p.m.
Closed: 7:05 p.m.

12. Adjournment at 7:10 p.m.

Motion: Charles Pallas
Second: Matthew Vaccaro
Action Taken: 3 Ayes. 2 Absent. Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurel Spadavecchia

Laurel Spadavecchia
Board Administrator/Board Secretary