

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Virtual Meeting

May 12, 2020

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

Roll Call

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

Members Absent:

Also Present: Dr. Jonathan Ponds, Superintendent/Principal  
Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
James Knipper, Director of Curriculum & Instruction  
Dennis McKeever, Board Attorney  
Rachel Smith, 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.

- Acceptance of Minutes of April 28, 2020, closed session and regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

Motion: Edmond Monti

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Acceptance of Correspondence

1. 2020 Summer Food Service Program application approval letter – Attachment 1.3

Motion: Edmond Monti

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Superintendent's Report

Dr. Ponds announced that distance learning was going very well. He has also discussed with Mr. Monti the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation ceremony as the district continues to follow CDC and the governor's guideline. They will continue to discuss options.

Mr. Knipper announced the collaboration between the district and the YMCA for Zoom tutoring. They are also working with the municipality to provide Zoom classrooms for Art lessons and meetings to the seniors in the summer. Mr. Joshua Frisch will also provide support.

Dr. Ponds followed up by stating the district is in the process of applying for reimbursement and requesting funding from FEMA and the CARES Act for expenses incurred during COVID-19. Mr. Monti inquired whether families had the ability to get technical assistance if needed to which Dr. Ponds replied yes.

David Vaccaro asked Dr. Ponds to notify the Board of Education with any changes to programs, summer recreation, YMCA, or graduation. Dr. Ponds will keep the board apprised of any changes.

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: 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 April 2020 for a total of \$84,080.03 –Attachment 2.1
2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of April 2020 for \$541,665.59 - Attachment 2.2

3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for April 30, 2020 for \$95,234.65 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the School Tax Levy Payment Schedule for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to approve the budgetary line-item transfers for March 2020 – Attachment 2.5
6. Resolved to accept the Treasurer’s Report for month ending March 2020 – Attachment 2.6
7. Resolved to accept the Report of Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for month ending March 2020 – Attachment 2.7
8. Resolved to accept the donation of two \$500.00 checks from Susan Sartoga to help families in need in Moonachie due to Covid-19. Dr. Ponds is exploring the best options for distributing this donation.

3. Policy                      None.  
 Motion:  
 Seconded:  
 Action taken:

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

1. Resolved to reappoint the following non-tenured professional staff for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment 4.1
2. Resolved to approve Ryan Jones as Integrated Pest Management Coordinator for the 2020-2021 school year.
3. Resolved to accept the letter of resignation from Dr. Jonathan Ponds – Attachment 4.3

5. Curriculum                      None.  
 Motion:  
 Seconded:  
 Action taken:

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 None.

10. Discussion Items None.

11. Public Comments

Open: 7:03 p.m.

Closed: 7:04 p.m.

Kathy Kinsella wanted to thank Dr. Ponds for his service to the district and wishes him good luck in the future. She also asked the Board of Education to consider the Moonachie Education Association in their quest for a new Superintendent.

12. Adjournment at 7:05 p.m.

Motion: Edmond Monti

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

*Laurel Spadavecchia*

Laurel Spadavecchia  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary