

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School
Virtual Meeting
March 9, 2021

Call to order by Board President

Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Members Absent: None

Also Present: James Knipper, Acting Superintendent
Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Dana Genatt, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Connor Kimmel, Board Attorney
Dennis McKeever, 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 February 9, 2021, 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. Letter from the New Jersey Department of Education approving the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Waiver for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachment 1.2

- Superintendent’s Report

Motion: James Campbell

Seconded: Edmond Monti

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Mr. Knipper announced that the governor opened up vaccinations to educators and support staff and he is excited to announce that many staff members have already received the vaccine or were able to make an appointment. The district is also happy to announce that the next board meeting on March 23 will be conducted in person with a remote option for those who chose that option to participate.

Mr. Knipper announced that Mrs. Genatt has been researching new curriculum for Math and ELA as our 5 year contract with Pearson is expiring. The district will be moving forward with SAAVAS which was formally known as Pearson, which the students and staff are already familiar with. He is also meeting with representatives from Realtime student database systems to streamline all data platforms into one platform as well as possibly realize some cost savings.

We are currently in the process of developing our operating budget for next school year and are looking at our Long Range Facility Plan to coordinate some needed repairs to our facilities. Tremco conducted the roof scan last week and we are awaiting the results in order to proceed with roof repairs.

We are expanding our partnership with the YMCA to expand tutoring hours and intervention sessions for both remote and live students.

We are excited to announce the graduation date for 8th grade will be held on June 16, 2021 with a rain date of June 17, 2021. The event will operate as it did last year with an outdoor tent and socially distanced seating and masks. As the state continues to lift restrictions, we will reexamine our plan as well.

Finally, we are proud of how hard everyone has been working this year. It’s a pleasure to lead such a wonderful staff and great community.

- **Students of the Month:**

<u>January</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Mia Lazo	1
Anjolie Lena	5
Gabriele Leka	6

- **Submission of HIB Cases – February 2021**

<u>Investigations</u>	<u>Confirmed Cases</u>
0	0

- 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: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

SUBMISSION OF PRELIMINARY 2021-2022 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the preliminary 2021-22 school budget was approved for submission to the Executive County Superintendent by the Board of Education on March 9, 2021, and

WHEREAS, the Moonachie Board of Education authorized the submission of the 2021-2022 Preliminary School Budget to the Bergen County Executive Superintendent of Schools with the following Fund Allocations and requested waivers:

<u>Budget Totals:</u>	<u>2021-2022 Budget</u>	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>
Total General Fund	\$ 11,679,815.00	\$ 9,168,049.00
Total Special Revenue Fund	\$ 795,431.00	0.00
Total Debt Service Fund	\$ 0.00	0.00
Totals	\$ 12,475,246.00	\$ 9,168,049.00

Be it resolved that the General Fund tax levy \$9,168,049.00 is approved to support the 2021-2022 school year budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Moonachie Board of Education authorize the inclusion of \$180,000 from Maintenance Reserve into the preliminary 2021-2022 budget for required maintenance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Moonachie Board of Education authorize the inclusion of \$1,300,000 from Capital Reserve into the preliminary 2021-2022 budget to repair/replace the roof, for HVAC rooftop units, repair to the sewer system, repair to exterior building façade, replace gymnasium bleachers, replace stage flooring and hallway flooring, and to repair structural damage to the plumbing system of the Robert L. Craig School.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Moonachie Board of Education authorize the inclusion of Use of Banked Cap in the amount of \$172,724. In accordance with the N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-10.3 (b), the district has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority. The adjustment will be used to accommodate increasing enrollment in the general education, special education and preschool education population and the subsequent associated costs. The Moonachie Board of Education will complete this by the end of the 2021-2022 budget year and acknowledges that it cannot be deferred or incrementally completed over a larger period of time.

2. Resolved that the Moonachie Board of Education establish the school district travel maximum expenditure amount for the 2021-2022 school year as per N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2 (b) not to exceed \$15,000. The maximum amount for the 2020-2021 school year was budgeted at \$15,000 and the amount spent as of March 9, 2021 for the 2020-2021 school year is \$3,518.38. The Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.
3. Resolved to approve the Bills and Claims against the Board of Education for equipment, materials and supplies furnished and delivered, and for work done and performed for March 2021 for a total of \$634,551.19 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for February 11, 2021 for \$98,463.74 – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of February 2021 for \$136,252.75 - Attachment 2.5
6. Resolved to approve the budgetary line-item transfers for January 2021 – Attachment 2.6
7. Resolved to approve the Treasurer’s Report for month ending January 2021 – Attachment 2.7
8. Resolved to approve the Report of Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for the month ending January 2021 – Attachment 2.8
9. Resolved to approve the Shared Services Agreement for Technology Support Services between the Moonachie Board of Education and Bergen County Technical Schools Board of Education for the 2021-2022 school year – Attachment 2.9
10. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for February 2021 that no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Moonachie Board of Education.
11. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for February 2021 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.

12. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for February 26, 2021 for \$96,627.18 – Attachment 2.12
 13. Resolved to approve the transportation contract between the Moonachie Board of Education and South Bergen Jointure Commission, an approved Coordinated Transportation Services Agency, for the purposes of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the school year 2021-2022. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, The Coordinated Transportation for non-public, out of district special education, vocational and summer programs. Be it further resolved, that the Moonachie Board of Education agrees to abide by the Transportation Services Agreement as published by the South Bergen Jointure Commission and attached to this resolution – Attachment 2.13
 14. Resolved to approve a Moonachie Board of Education \$1,000.00 Scholarship for a Moonachie student graduating Wood Ridge High School in June, 2021. The Board will be notified of the recipient when the award winner is determined.
 15. Resolved to approve check #1154 to Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional Board of Education in the amount of \$22,163.35 from the Milk and Lunch account for January 2021 meals.
 16. Resolved to approve participation in the coordinated transportation between the Moonachie Public Schools and the Warren County Special Services School District in consideration of pro-rated contract costs plus a 4% administrative fee – Attachment 2.16
 17. Resolved to approve the acceptance of 2021-2022 Preschool Education Aid (PEA) funds of \$540,120 for the 2021-2022 school year.
 18. Resolved to approve the submission of the Moonachie School District 2021-2022 Preschool Education Aid Budget Planning Workbook. The district will receive \$540,120 for 40 general education full-day preschool students – Attachment 2.18
3. Policy
- Motion: Edmond Monti
Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro
Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.
1. Resolved to approve Donna Gallo as the Affirmative Action Officer and Team members–Brian DeSantis and Dana Genatt for the 2021-2022 school year and to conduct a Needs Assessment and develop a Comprehensive Equity Plan.

4. Personnel

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: James Campbell

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve Patrick Cao as Substitute Teacher at a per diem rate of \$100.00 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.
2. Resolved to approve Gianna Maurin as Substitute Teacher at a per diem rate of \$100.00 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.
3. Resolved to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, an extended medical leave of absence for employee #4049 from March 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021 with the ability to utilize sick time for this period.
4. Resolved to retain Kelly Thomson as Teacher at BA Step 1, at a pro-rated annual salary of \$50,195 to conduct Special Education and intervention instruction for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

5. Curriculum

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: James Campbell

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the following workshop:

Destination	Date	Cost
NJECC Annual Conference- Virtual Joshua Frisch	March 9-10, 2021	\$160.00

6. Facilities

Motion: Edmond Monti

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Discussion of stage floor replacement and three vendor quotes – Attachment 6.1

1. Motion to award J&J Floors as the vendor for the stage floor replacement.

7. Old Business None.

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

8. New Business

Mr. Knipper took a moment to recognize Corey Sherman, our custodian who recently passed away. He served our district with honor and pride for well

over a decade and is already sorely missed. We have ordered a plaque in his honor and will present it to his family at a future Board of Education meeting.

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

9. Information Items

1. Average monthly attendance from 2/1/21 – 2/28/21 - Attachment 9.1
2. Monthly report of attendance officer for the month ending February 2021 Attachment 9.2

10. Discussion Items

Mr. David Vaccaro requested that Mr. Knipper keep the Board informed as to the recommendation of the new curriculum for Math and ELA. Mr. Knipper will inform the Board once he and Mrs. Genatt have finished researching.

11. Public Comments None.

Open: 7:20 p.m.

Closed: 7:21 p.m.

12. Adjournment at 7:22 p.m.

Motion: Edmond Monti

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurel Spadavecchia

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary