

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Virtual Meeting

November 17, 2020

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

Members Absent: James Campbell

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.

1.

• Resolved to move to Executive Session

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, the Moonachie Board of Education shall conduct a closed executive session pursuant to the exception(s) prescribed by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 for the purpose of discussing personnel matters and legal matters which are attorney-client privileged. It is anticipated that the length of time of this executive session will be 30 minutes and that the discussion undertaken in this closed session can be made public at the time official action is taken.

Motion: Edmond Monti

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Acceptance of Minutes of October 13, 2020, closed session and regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

Motion: Edmond Monti
 Seconded: James Campbell
 Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Acceptance of Correspondence

1. 2020 IDEA Final Report IDEA-B Application approval notification – Attachment 1.2
2. ESEA Consolidated Grant Application final approval notification for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment 1.3
3. ESEA Consolidated FY20 Final Expenditure Report approval notification – Attachment 1.4
4. Title I Comparability Application approval notification the New Jersey Department of Education – Attachment 1.5

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro
 Seconded: Charles Pallas
 Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Superintendent’s Report

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

Mr. Knipper announced the updated hybrid model for the months of November and December which change to full virtual instruction on Mondays and Tuesdays, with full in-person instruction on Wednesdays-Fridays. This plan will be revisited in mid-December. He thanked the teachers for doing a tremendous job in both environments. He noted that students are working hard and stated it wouldn’t be possible without parental support and thanked parents as well. He also wished everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Genatt has been working on a grading rubric for students in grades K-2 and will present it to the board at a later date. She also presented the Students of the Month.

- Students of the Month

<u>October</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Jacob Jurado	1
Devin Panchal	5
Nayab Chughtai	7

- **Submission of HIB Cases – October 2020**

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

- **Public Comments - (Superintendent/Principal Contract Only)**

Mr. McKeever stated that according to the A5 Public Hearing Notice, this is the time in which the public is allowed to comment on the Superintendent contract. He stated that the contract has two typographical errors and after the approval tonight, he will correct the errors and resend to the County Superintendent for approval.

No public comments.

- **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: 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 November 2020 for a total of \$613,316.95 – Attachment 2.1
2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of October 2020 for \$209,890.06 - Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for October 15, 2020 for \$101,540.05 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for November 2020 that no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Moonachie Board of Education.
5. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for November 2020 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.
6. Resolved to approve the Tuition Contract Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and the Wood-Ridge Board of Education for the 2020-2021 school year for \$1,261,304 calculated by \$14,333 per

student for an estimated 88 students attending Wood-Ridge High School. An additional \$39,010 is due to Wood-Ridge Board of Education for prior year credit of \$83,006.10 less \$43,996.70 in deferred tuition owed to the Moonachie Board of Education – Attachment 2.6

7. Resolved to approve the Addendum to the Tuition Contract Agreement to Provide One to One Aide and Related Services between the Moonachie Board of Education and the Wood-Ridge Board of Education for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment 2.7
8. Resolved to approve the Child Study Team Shared Services Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and the Wood-Ridge Board of Education for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment 2.8
9. Resolved to approve check #1151 to Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional Board of Education in the amount of \$20,571.96 from the Milk and Lunch account for October 2020 meals.
10. Resolved to accept the Treasurer’s Report for month ending October 2020 – Attachment 2.10
11. Resolved to approve the budgetary line-item transfers for October 2020 – Attachment 2.11
12. Resolved to accept the Report of Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for month ending October 2020 – Attachment 2.12
13. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for October 30, 2020 for \$98,592.19 – Attachment 2.13
14. Resolved to approve the Contract for “In-School” Nursing Services between the Moonachie Board of Education and Starlight Homecare Agency, Inc. for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment 2.14
15. Resolved to authorize the submission of the School Security Grant application for 2020-2021 and availability of local funds in the event the total estimated costs of the proposed work exceed the school district’s grant allowance and accept the grant award of these funds of \$20,000.
16. Resolved to accept the donation of youth and adult face masks from the New Jersey Department of Education on behalf of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services – Attachment 2.16
17. Resolved to approve the submission of the Annual Preschool Operational Plan Update for the 2021-2022 school year.

3. Policy

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: James Campbell

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the School Safety and Security Plan Annual Review Statement of Assurance – Attachment 3.1

2. Resolved to approve the New Jersey Department of Education School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights District and School Grade Report for 2019-2020 – Attachment 3.2
3. Resolved to approve the procedure for conducting virtual Board of Education meetings as such: meeting agenda, Google Meet link, and the phone call-in option procedure will be posted on the www.moonachieschool.org website Friday preceding the Tuesday Board of Education meeting.

4. Personnel

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Charles Pallas

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the Superintendent/Principal Contract of Employment for James Knipper effective for October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2024 – Attachment 4.1
2. Resolved to suspend the Side Bar Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and employee #4293, effective November 16, 2020 until further notice.
3. Resolved to extend Employee #4049 leave of absence from December 1, 2020 through January 5, 2020 per Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) regulations without pay, use of sick time will supplement income.

5. Curriculum

Motion: Charles Pallas

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the following workshops:

Destination	Date	Cost
Supporting the Process: Returning to In-Person Early Childhood Classrooms -- Kathleen Kinsella	October 26, 2020	\$45.00
Care Plus NJ, Inc: Guidance for Understanding and Helping Youth with Emotional Well-Being and Coping During COVID --Parent Workshop	November 19, 2020	\$250.00
Orton-Gillingham Training- -Danielle Carrione	December 7-11, 2020	\$1,175.00

6. Facilities

1. Resolved to approve the Department of Health Services Sanitary Inspection Report for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment 6.1
2. Resolved to approve the quote from Parent Door Hardware as the lowest cost vendor for the installation of 8 Von Duprin panic bars on entrance/exit

doors using School Security Grant funding for the 2020-2021 school year
– Attachment 6.2

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

7. Old Business

Motion:
Seconded:
Action taken:

8. New Business

Mr. Pallas asked if the Board will be given an Honor Roll Report and Students in Danger of Failing Report to will Mr. Knipper replied that it will be on the next FYI to the Board.

Mr. Monti asked about STAR testing results and if there was any family in need of academic help due to remote learning, to which Mr. Knipper stated that student performance is a real concern and that the district has been diligent in providing continuing interventions and doing its best to meet every student's needs.

Motion:
Seconded:
Action taken:

9. Information Items

1. Average monthly attendance from 10/1/20 – 10/31/20 - Attachment 9.1
2. Monthly report of attendance officer for the month ending October 2020 Attachment 9.2

10. Discussion Items

11. Public Comments

Open: 6:50 p.m.
Closed: 6:51 p.m.

Mr. Anthony Cirillo announced on behalf of the Mayor and Council that they wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and to stay safe. He thanked Mr. Knipper for doing a great job.

Mr. Pallas, Mr. Monti, Mr. Matthew Vaccaro and Mr. David Vaccaro also wished everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. Mr. David Vaccaro also announced that the December Board of Education meeting will also be conducted remotely.

12. Adjournment at 6:55 p.m.

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Edmond Monti

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurel Spadavecchia

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary