

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Cafeteria

August 27, 2024

Call to order by Board Secretary

Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: David Vaccaro

Matthew Vaccaro

Candace Tarabocchia

Radley Macalintal

Members Absent: Edmond Monti

Also Present: James Knipper, Superintendent/Principal

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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 July 23, 2024, regular session and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia

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

- Acceptance of Correspondence

- System for Award Management application approval letter – 1.2

- Department of Agriculture SFA to SFA Vended Meals Contract Approval Letter – 1.3

Motion: Radley Macalintal

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

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

- Superintendent's Report

Presentation: 2024 ACCESS for ELLS Assessment Results

Mr. Knipper announced that the YMCA has been preliminarily approved for another 5 year grant program to continue to service the needs of the district's 3-8 year old population. Preregistration for the program went out last week and the program is hoping to launch on September 9.

He also announced that he conducted two attendance meetings with families of chronically absent students to address attendance concerns for the upcoming school year. Also, Kindergarten had an open house this week for families. Two preschool teachers, Mrs. Maccarrone and Mrs. Barnaba also conducted home visits for preschool families and will also have an open house on Tuesday, September 3.

Mr. Knipper also announced that the school is now fully staffed with teachers and is currently in the process of interviewing for a new custodian. Mr. David Vaccaro suggested looking into contracting out for snow removal, and Mrs. Spadavecchia will research this further. Mr. Knipper gave a shout out to the custodial staff for getting the building ready on schedule despite a shortage of help.

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia

Seconded: Radley Macalintal

Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. 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: Candace Tarabocchia

Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. 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 2024 for a total of \$317,060.96 –Attachment 2.1

2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of June 2024 for \$63,447.28 - Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of July 2024 for \$277,420.14 - Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for July 31, 2024 for \$92,872.89 with gross wages of \$56,554.81 including direct deposit for Teacher Summer Savings Plan – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for August 15, 2024 for \$93,946.56 with gross wages of \$58,340.26 including direct deposit for Teacher Summer Savings Plan – Attachment 2.5
6. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for August 2024 that no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Moonachie Board of Education.
7. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for August 2024 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.
8. Resolved to accept the Extraordinary Aid State School Aid in the amount of \$151,987 for the 2023-2024 school year – Attachment 2.8
9. Resolved to accept the FY 24 Homeless Tuition Reimbursement in the amount of \$28,057 – Attachment 2.9
10. Resolved to approve the Reimbursement of Nonpublic School Transportation Costs in the amount of \$10,465 for the 2023-2024 school year – Attachment 2.10
11. Resolved to approve the following list of petty cash accounts to be used for small purchases only, not to exceed the total amount in the fund, and not to subvert the intent of the regular purchasing procedures. All expenditures shall be established by board approved vouchers and all unused cash will be returned to the depository at the close of the school year. The fund amounts and their custodians for the 2024 – 2025 school year are:

Board Secretary’s Office	\$200.00	Business Administrator
Superintendent’s Office	\$200.00	Superintendent
12. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract Agreements between the Moonachie Board of Education and Ridgefield Public Schools for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 2.12
13. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract between the Moonachie Board of Education and Bergen County Special Services Board

of Education – NOVA North Emerson for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 2.13

14. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract between the Moonachie Board of Education and Bergen County Special Services Board of Education – Transition Center at Wood-Ridge for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 2.14
15. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract between the Moonachie Board of Education and Bergen County Special Services Board of Education – Brownstone School for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 2.15
16. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contracts between the Moonachie Board of Education and the South Bergen Jointure Commission Board of Education for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 2.16
17. Resolved to approve the Tuition Contract for Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities between the Moonachie Board of Education and Windsor Bergen Academy for 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 2.17
18. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract between the Moonachie Board of Education and Carlstadt – East Rutherford Regional Board of Education for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 2.18
19. Resolved to approve check #1204 in the amount of \$2,811.50 from the Milk & Lunch account to Nu-Way Concessionaires for June 2024 summer meals.
20. Resolved to approve check #1205 in the amount of \$5,065.80 from the Milk & Lunch account to Nu-Way Concessionaires for July and August 2024 summer meals.
21. Resolved to accept the donation of \$500 worth of teacher school supplies from Kids in Need Foundation and Burger King Foundation.
22. Resolved to charge the following salary amounts to the 2024-2025 ESEA Title I grant for the provision of Basic Skills instructional services:

	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Benefits</u> <u>to State</u>	<u>Total</u>
Martha Morales(@67% of Salary \$101,050)	\$68,405	\$43,779	\$112,184
Susan Sartoga Support Salary	\$32,701	0	32,601
Instructional Supplies			<u>\$ 800</u>
Total ESEA Title I			\$145,585

23. Resolved to charge the following amounts to the 2024-2025 Preschool Education Aid (PEA) grant:

Employee	Position	Salary
Lauren Barnaba 20-218-100-101	Teacher	\$60,325

Lori Schmatz 20-218-100-101	Teacher	\$58,245
Amanda Mulvaney 20-218-100-101	Teacher	\$52,950
Jaime Migliorino 20-218-100-106	Aide	\$24,021
Melanie Vocaturo 20-218-100-106	Aide	\$24,681
Teresa Meyers 20-218-100-106	Aide	\$20,640
Dixie Romero 20-218-100-101	Relief Teacher	\$23,000
Alexandra Acosta 20-218-100-106	Relief Teacher	\$15.61 hourly \$6,640.00 max
Allison Maccarrone 20-218-200-176	Master Teacher	\$65,260
Laurel Lahullier 20-218-200-176	PEA PIRT	\$32,874
Dana Genatt 20-218-200-102	Director of Curriculum	\$11,200
James Knipper 20-218-200-103	Superintendent	\$16,000
Leslie Sierra 20-218-200-105	Secretary	\$4,250
Linda Esposito 20-218-200-105	Secretary	\$4,334
Rafaele Accetta 20-218-200-110	Custodian	\$4,836
Moonachie Borough: William Meldon 20-218-200-110	Security	\$4,000
Donna Gallo 20-218-200-104	Nurse	\$10,556
Yahnique Dawson 20-218-200-104	Child Study Team	\$7,490
Deborah Maiorano 20-218-200-104	Child Study Team	\$6,526
SBJC Behaviorist 20-218-200-104	Behaviorist	\$5,000

Employee Benefits 20-218-200-200		\$231,458
Transportation 20-218-200-511		\$10,000
General Supplies 20-218-100-600		\$21,045
Total PEA Allocation: Less Transfer from General Fund: PEA Grant		\$705,330 <u>(78,370)</u> \$626,960

24. Resolved to approve the Medical Staffing Agreement In-School Nursing Services through Tkhaya World, Inc. d/b/a Brightstar Care for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 2.24
25. Resolved to accept the Report of the Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for month ending July 2024 – Attachment 2.25
26. Resolved to accept the Treasurer’s Report for month ending July 2024 – Attachment 2.26
27. Resolved to approve the Monthly Transfer Report for July 2024 – Attachment 2.27

3. Policy

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

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

1. Resolved to approve the 2024-2025 Professional Development Plan – Attachment 3.1
2. Resolved to approve the Moonachie School District Goals and Objectives 2024-2025 Short & Long Term Goals – Attachment 3.2
Mr. Knipper reviewed the short and long term goals and asked the Board to begin to think about what projects they would like to work on in the future.
3. Resolved to approve the 2024-2025 Emergency Manual and School Safety Plan available on display in the Robert L. Craig School Main Office.

4. Personnel

Motion: Radley Macalintal

Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia

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

1. Resolved to approve Jessica Kuch as Technology Teacher & Library Media Specialist at MA/1 for an annual salary of \$57,795.00 effective September 1, 2024 for the 2024-2025 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.

2. Resolved to accept the termination of Employee #4459 for cause effective August 1, 2024.
3. Resolved to approve Yusra Ali as Part-Time Aide at an hourly rate of \$18.00 effective September 1, 2024 for the 2024-2025 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.
4. Resolved to approve Conchetta Accetta as Part-Time Aide at an hourly rate of \$16.00 effective September 1, 2024.
5. Resolved to approve the following summer hours for the Child Study Team:
Deborah Maiorano 5 hours at \$52.64
Yahnique Dawson 10 additional hours at \$52.64
6. Resolved to approve movement of the salary guide for the following staff members effective September 1, 2024 upon completion of all coursework and submission of passing grades:

Employee	Step	2024-2025 Salary
Joseph Gingerelli	MA+15/9	\$75,547
Michael Lia	MA+15/6	\$65,275
Gabriella Ocasio	MA/2	\$58,045
Lauren Barnaba	MA/5	\$60,325
Amanda Sokol	MA/5	\$60,325

7. Resolved to approve the following employees to attend Kindergarten Orientation on August 26 and August 27, 2024 not to exceed 12 hours at a rate of \$52.64:
Kim Samarelli Elizabeth Connelly
8. Resolved to approve the following staff to conduct Preschool Home Visits on Monday, August 26, 2024, at the rate of \$52.64 per hour not to exceed 7 hours each:
Lauren Barnaba
Allison Maccarone

5. Curriculum

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro
 Seconded: Radley Macalintal
 Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the adoption of the 2024-2025 Moonachie District Curriculum on display on the website and Director of Curriculum Office.
2. Resolved to approve the following workshops:

Destination	Date	Cost
BCASBO Monthly Meetings – Laurel Spadavecchia 15 Rivervale Road, Rivervale, NJ	9/25/24, 10/17/24 11/20/24, 12/6/24 1/23/25, 2/27/25 3/25/25, 4/24/25	\$275.00

	5/22/25, 6/15/25	
NJPSA Principal/AP/Vp's Survival Guide Seminar ~Natasha Dillon	9/26/24	\$150.00
Welcome Back Breakfast ~ PTO	9/3/2024 7:00 am – 9:00 am	No Cost
Lions Club Vision Screening - All Students Nurse's Office	10/2/2024 8:00 am – 3:00 pm	No Cost
Scholastic Book Fair ~PTO	10/21/24 6pm-8pm 10/22/24 9am-6pm 10/23/24 9am-3pm	No Cost

6. Facilities

Motion: Candace Macalintal

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

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

Discussion: Façade Project

Discussion: Geese; Mr. Knipper announced that the Department of Agriculture has offered their services to help prevent geese from remaining on school grounds at no cost to which the Board agreed to allow them to come on property before and after school hours.

1. Resolved to accept the EPA AHERA Six Month Surveillance Report from Karl & Associates Environmental Group – Attachment 6.1
2. Resolved to accept the Effective and Economical Environmental Solutions Lead in Drinking Water Sampling Report from Karl & Associates Environmental Group – Attachment 6.2

7. Old Business

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

8. New Business

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

9. Information Items

10. Discussion Items

11. Public Comments None.

Open: 6:54 p.m.

Closed: 6:55 p.m.

12. Adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurel Spadavecchia

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary