

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Cafeteria

May 20, 2025

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

Roll Call

Members Present: David Vaccaro  
Edmond Monti  
Radley Macalintal  
Candace Tarabocchia

Members Absent: Matthew Vaccaro

Also Present: James Knipper, Superintendent  
Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator

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 May 6, 2025, Regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1  
Motion: Edmond Monti  
Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia  
Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved,
- Acceptance of Correspondence      None.  
Motion:  
Seconded:  
Action taken:
- Superintendent's Report  
Motion: Candace Tarabocchia  
Seconded: Edmond Monti  
Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

Mr. Knipper awarded the Students of the Month and announced that the following students wrote and published a book for their ESL project presentation: Kaylee Verga, Daniela Ortiz and Gaith Al-Darwish. This is a huge accomplishment and we are so proud of their hard work!

Mr. Knipper also announced that as the school year is coming to a close, summer planning is up and running. The NJSLA testing period ends tomorrow. Field day will be Friday, weather permitting. The school chorus will be performing at the Memorial Day ceremony on Saturday at the Borough Hall at 10:30 am. Mr. Keelen and Ms. Schmidt will also be in attendance.

Mr. David Vaccaro congratulated the students of the month and thanked them and their parents for their hard work.

### **Students of the Month**

<u>May</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Laury Angeles & Martina Goicoechea	Music
Ethan Montero & Eileen Montero	Middle School Social Studies
Haseeb Shah	Middle School ELA
Valentina Arias	Middle School Math
Jacob Echeverry Wu	Middle School Science
Qusay Ali	ESL
Matias Vargas	ESL Graduate
Clara Gonzales	5
Keira De Leon	4
Noah Kaba	3
Alejandro Perez	2
Keila Sanchez	1
Annabelle Walczak	Kindergarten
Kylie Andrade	Pre-Kindergarten

### **▪ Submission of HIB Cases – May 2025**

<u>Investigations</u>	<u>Confirmed Cases</u>
1	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: Edmond Monti

Seconded: Radley Macalintal

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 May 2025 for a total of \$463,833.64 –Attachment 2.1
2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of April 2025 for \$52,541.67 - Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for May 15, 2025 for \$115,890.17 with gross pay wages of \$201,875.83 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for May 2025 that no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which 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 of May 2025 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 Special Education Tuition Contract Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and Windsor Prep High School for the 2024-2025 school year – Attachment 2.6
7. Resolved to approve check #1216 to Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional Board of Education in the amount of \$15,131.74 from the Milk & Lunch account for April 2025 meals.
8. 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 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.8
9. Resolved to approve the Strauss Esmay Associates, LLP School Policy and Regulation Consultants renewal for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.9
10. Resolved to approve the Breakfast and Lunch Program Meal Prices for the 2025-2026 School Year as follows:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Cost to District</u>	<u>Full Price</u>	<u>Reduced Price</u>
Breakfast	\$3.18	\$3.00	\$.30
Lunch	\$5.30	\$4.95	\$.40
Milk	\$ .35	\$ .35	----

And approve a vended meals agreement with Carlstadt-E.Rutherford Regional High School District for vended meals to include delivery, set up

and steamtable at a cost of \$3.18 per breakfast and \$5.30 per lunch for a total estimated cost of \$242,316 – Attachment 2.10

3. Policy

Motion: Radley Macalintal

Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia

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

1. 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 2023-2024 – Attachment 3.1

4. Personnel

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia

Seconded: Edmond Monti

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

1. Resolved to rescind the offer of summer employment for Gabrielle Ocasio as Extended School Year 2025 Teacher Aide.
2. Resolved to approve Rajwinder Ghotra as an Extended School Year 2025 Teacher Aide at an hourly rate of \$22.09, salary to be adjusted beginning July 1, 2025 pending the forthcoming Moonachie Board of Education 2025-2026 salary increase resolution.
3. Resolved to approve Laurel Spadavecchia as Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Qualified Purchasing Agent for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 4.3
4. Resolved to approve Stefano Cirillo as Summer Custodian and Substitute Custodian at an hourly rate of \$40.00.
5. Resolved to approve travel to the New Jersey School Board Association Workshop in Atlantic City from October 20-23, 2025 for a group rate of \$2,200.00 for the following:

James Knipper	David Vaccaro	Edmond Monti
Matthew Vaccaro	Candace Tarabocchia	Radley Macalintal
Laurel Spadavecchia		
6. Resolved to approve the resignation of Melissa Plaza as Teacher, effective June 30, 2025 – Attachment 4.6
7. Resolved to approve the job posting for 2025-2026 School Sponsored Activities – Attachment 4.7
8. Resolved to approve Molly Ward as Special Education Teacher at BA/1 for the 2025-2026 school year, current year 2024-2025 salary of \$52,500 will be determined upon the ratification of the Moonachie Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending certification and the outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.
9. Resolved to approve Michael Pohrischak as Science Teacher at step MA30/15 for the 2025-2026 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal

History Background Screening. The current year 2024-2025 salary of \$102,575 will be adjusted upon the ratification of the Moonachie Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.

5. Curriculum

Motion: Radley Macalintal

Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia

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

1. Resolved to approve the following field trips/workshops:

Destination	Date	Cost
Active Shooter Response Training ~Moonachie Police Department	6/18/25 4pm-8pm 6/21/25 8am-12pm	No cost
Chief for a Day Luncheon ~Michael Lia and Dixie Fealey	6/13/2025	No Cost
Memorial Day Service at the Moonachie Borough ~Greg Keelen, Kim Schmidt	05/24/2025	3 Hours each
Little Ferry Board of Education Basketball Fundraiser Tournament ~Moonachie Gymnasium	5/31/25 9am-3pm	No Cost; Little Ferry BOE to pay custodial fees of \$260.00
ANSI Accredited Online Food Manager Training ~Sandy Diaz	Online	Not to exceed \$200

6. Facilities None.

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Information Items

Mr. David Vaccaro invited everyone to attend the Memorial Day Celebration at the Moonachie Borough Hall on Saturday at 10:30 am. He wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day.

Mr. Knipper announced that the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade dance will be on May 21 and Curriculum Night will be held on May 29.

10. Discussion Items None.

11. Public Comments

Open: 6:46 p.m.

Closed: 6:47

12. Adjournment at 6:48 p.m.

Motion: Edmond Monti

Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia

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

Respectfully Submitted,

*Laurel Spadavecchia*

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary