

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Cafeteria

June 9, 2025

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

Roll Call

Members Present: David Vaccaro
Matthew Vaccaro
Radley Macalintal
Candace Tarabocchia

Members Absent: Edmond Monti

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.

1. Acceptance of Minutes of May 20, 2025, closed session and regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

Motion: Radley Macalintal

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

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

• Acceptance of Correspondence None.

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

• Superintendent's Report

Motion: Candace Tarabocchia

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

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

Mr. Knipper announced that field day took place today and was a successful event, despite the weather. He announced Pre-K Graduation will take place

on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m., Kindergarten Graduation will take place on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., and 8th Grade Graduation will take place on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. He invited the Board of Education to attend.

Mr. Knipper also announced that he is recommending the Board of Education approve the Moonachie Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement and thanked President David Vaccaro and Vice-President Edmond Monti, Jason Selle, Greg Keelen, and Lisa Selle for the tireless efforts during the negotiation process.

Mr. Knipper also introduced Ms. Savannah Whelan, in attendance, as his recommendation for a new Teacher.

▪ **Submission of HIB Cases – June 2025**

Investigations

Confirmed Cases

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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: Candace Tarabocchia

Seconded: Radley Macalintal

Abstain: Matthew Vaccaro – Motion 2.35

Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. 1 Abstain Motion 2.35.

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 June 2025 for a total of \$414,722.20 –Attachment 2.1
2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of May 2025 for \$463,833.64 - Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for May 31, 2025 for \$118,723.96 with gross pay wages of \$205,576.38 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for June 2025 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 June 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 revised Tuition Contract for Approved Private Schools For Students With Disabilities between the Moonachie Board of Education and The Bergen Center for Child Development for the 2024-2025 school year to include 1:1 Aide services– Attachment 2.6
7. Resolved to approve the Robert L. Craig School 2025 Graduation Awards as follows:

First Honors	\$500.00	Carmela Vocaturo
Second Honors	\$300.00	Valentina Arias
Third Honors	\$200.00	Dayana Arias
Edward G. Terragni Memorial Scholarship	\$100.00	Jessica Chimbay
Check #1033 Terragni Memorial Scholarship Fund		
Charles Pallas Most Improved in Mathematics Scholarship:		
\$250.00	Aaron Ramos	
Mae Pallas Most Improved in English Language Arts Scholarship:		
\$250.00	Aaron Ramos	
Dr. Ponds Always Do Your Best Memorial Scholarship:		
\$500.00	Emely Sanchez	
8. Resolved to approve the list of anticipated contracts as pursuant to PL 2015, Chapter 47; the Moonachie Board of Education intends to renew, award, or permit to expire during the 2025-2026 school year the following contracts previously awarded by the board of education. These contracts are, have been, and will continue to be in full compliance with all state and federal statutes and regulations; in particular, New Jersey Title 18A:18. Et. Seq. NJAC Chapter 6A:23A, and Federal Procurement Regulations 2CFR Part 200.317 et. Seq – Attachment 2.8
9. Resolved to approve the use of State Contracted vendors for the 2025-2026 school year.
10. Resolved to authorize the submission of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) application and accept the grant award of these funds for the 2025-2026 school year.
11. Resolved to authorize the submission of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) grant application for period July 1, 2025-September 30, 2026 and accept the grant award of these funds for the 2025-2026 school year.
12. Resolved to approve check #1371 from the Payroll Agency account to Gabriela Vega in the amount of \$550.00 for mentor fees owed from Anna Dalton.
13. Resolved to approve check #1372 from the Payroll Agency account to Danielle Abbruzzessi in the amount of \$550.00 for mentor fees owed from Dominique Fina.

14. Resolved to accept the Treasurer's Report for month ending April 2025 – Attachment 2.14
15. Resolved to accept the Report of the Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for month ending April 2025 – Attachment 2.15
16. Resolved to approve the Monthly Transfer Report and budgetary line-item transfers for April 2025 – Attachment 2.16
17. Resolved to approve the Players Health Student Accident Coverage Proposal – Attachment 2.17
18. Resolved to approve the submission of the 2024-2025 Tuition Reimbursement for State-Responsible Homeless Children.
19. Resolved to approve the Chasan Lamparello Mallon & Cappuzzo Agreement to Provide Legal Services for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.19
20. Resolved to approve Ritco Security Systems Annual Cleaning, Testing and Inspection of Fire Alarm System – Attachment 2.20
21. Resolved to approve the Tuition Contract for Approved Private Schools For Students With Disabilities between the Moonachie Board of Education and ECLC of New Jersey for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.21
22. Resolved to approve the Contract for Nursing Services between the Moonachie Board of Education and Starlight Homecare Agency, Inc d/b/a Star Pediatric Home Care Agency for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.22
23. Resolved to approve Educational Data Services, Inc. License and Maintenance for co-op school supply purchasing service for the 2025-2026 school year at \$370.00 quarterly payments – Attachment 2.23
24. Resolved to approve the Finalsite Core Communications Platform renewal for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.24
25. Resolved to approve the National Junior Honor Society membership renewal for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.25
26. Resolved to approve the Newsela School License and PD Pass for ELA, Science, Social Studies and Writing renewal for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.26
27. Resolved to approve the Imagine Learning Language and Literacy program renewal for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.27
28. Resolved to approve the Medical Staffing Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and Ikhaya World, Inc d/b/a BrightStar Care for the 2025- 2026 school year – Attachment 2.28
29. Resolved to approve the quote from J&J Floors for the annual gym floor recoating - Attachment 2.29
30. Resolved to approve Ritco Security Systems, Inc. Central Station Monitoring Service for the fire alarm system at \$384.00 quarterly payments and Central Station Monitoring Service for the Cellular Signal Transmission for 3 units per quarter at \$120.00 quarterly– Attachment 2.30

31. 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	\$0.00
Lunch	\$5.30	\$4.95	\$0.00
Milk	\$.35	\$.35	\$0.00

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 – Attachment 2.31

32. Resolved to approve carpet cleaning proposal from Only the Best Carpet Cleaning LLC for the 2025-2026 school year– Attachment 2.32

33. Resolved to approve the Tuition Contract Only for Approved Private Schools For Students With Disabilities between the Moonachie Board of Education and Windsor School for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.33

34. Resolved for transfer of Current Year Surplus to Reserve

WHEREAS, NJSA 18A:21-2 and NJSA 18A:7G-13 permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a Board of Education to transfer anticipated excel current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Moonachie Board of Education wishes to deposit a portion of anticipated current year surplus into a Capital Reserve account at year end, and

WHEREAS, the Moonachie Board of Education has determined that an amount not to exceed the maximum amount of the District’s Long Range Facility Plan is available for such purpose of transfer;

WHEREAS, the Moonachie Board of Education wishes to deposit a portion of anticipated current year surplus into a Maintenance Reserve account at year end, and

WHEREAS, the Moonachie Board of Education has determined that (an amount not to exceed) \$500,000 is available for such purpose of transfer;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Moonachie Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district’s School Business

Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

35. Resolved that the Moonachie Board of Education hereby approves the collective bargaining agreement between the Board and the Moonachie Education Association for term July 1, 2025- June 30, 2028 – Attachment 2.35
36. Resolved to approve check #1217 to Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional Board of Education in the amount of \$18,633.00 from the Milk and Lunch account for May 2025 Meals.
37. Resolved to approve Nu-Way Concessionaires, Inc. as the summer meals vendor at \$2.22 per breakfast, and \$3.76 per lunch, 60 Breakfast and 60 lunches per day for 32 days June 23 – August 7, 2025 – Attachment 2.37
38. Resolved to approve the White Rock Cybersecurity renewal for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.48
39. Resolved to approve the Tuition Contract Agreements between the Moonachie Board of Education and the South Bergen Jointure Commission for Summer 2025 – Attachment 2.39

3. Policy

Motion: Radley Macalintal

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

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

1. Resolved to approve that the Moonachie Board of Education approve the Comprehensive Equity Plan for School Years 2025-26 through 2027-28 and submission of the Comprehensive Equity Plan – Attachment 3.1
2. Resolved to approve the School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill report (in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:27-11.2) as follows: On October 3, 2024 at 8:05 a.m. - 8:50 a.m. all bus students participated in a bus emergency evacuation drill. The drill took place in front of the school and included Bus IN308A, IN308B & IN203 (Leckie) RLC 1 and RLC 2 and Pre-Kindergarten, and Bus IN241 & 6061 (Mayor Transportation) RLC3 and Special Education Busing. James Knipper and Michael Lia supervised the drill – Attachment 3.2
3. Resolved to approve the School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill report (in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:27-11.2) as follows: On May 30, 2025 at 8:10 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. all bus students participated in a bus emergency evacuation drill. The drill took place in front of the school and included Bus IN308A, IN308B & IN203 (Leckie) RLC 1 and RLC 2 and Pre-Kindergarten, and Bus IN241 & 6061 (Mayor Transportation) RLC3 and Special Education Busing. James Knipper and Michael Lia supervised the drill – Attachment 3.3
4. Resolved to approve the School Security Drill Statement of Assurance – Attachment 3.4

4. Personnel

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro
Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia
Abstain: Radley Macalintal – Motions 4.2, 4.7, 4.9, 4.15
Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. 1 Abstain Motions 4.2, 4.7, 4.9, 4.15.
Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the Superintendent/Principal to emergent hire for personnel hired between June 10, 2025 – August 31, 2026 for school year 2024-2025.
2. Resolved to approve a salary increase of 3.5% for all non-affiliated Moonachie Education Association staff members for the 2025-2026 school year.
3. Resolved to reappoint the following Secretarial Staff for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 4.3
4. Resolved to reappoint the following Business Office Administrative Staff for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 4.4
5. Resolved to reappoint the following Custodians for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 4.5
6. Resolved to reappoint the following Classroom Aides for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 4.6
7. Resolved to reappoint the following School Aides for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 4.7
8. Resolved to reappoint the following Pre-School Classroom Aides for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 4.8
9. Resolved to approve the following list of Substitute Teachers for the 2025-2026 school year at a per diem rate of \$115.00 – Attachment 4.9
10. Resolved to reappoint Lucrezia Maurin as Attendance Officer/ Food Service Director/Facilities Administrative Assistant for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 4.10
11. Resolved to approve the Car Allowance Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and Lucrezia Maurin, courier for the Robert L. Craig School for the 2025-2026 school year - Attachment 4.11
12. Resolved to approve professional consulting fees and data coordinator services not to exceed \$6,500.00 for Jason Diaz for additional duties of data gathering and input as well as assisting with state reports for the 2025-2026 school year.
13. Resolved to reappoint Ernest Turner as Treasurer of School Monies for the 2025-2026 school year at the annual fee of \$6500.00.
14. Resolved to approve Brian Corvino as Substitute Custodian at an hourly rate of \$18.00 for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year and the 2025-2026 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.

15. Resolved to approve the Superintendent evaluation for the 2024-2025 school year.
16. Resolved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between Montclair State University (MSU) and the Moonachie School District for providing a practicum environment for MSU students in the Masters of Social Work program – Attachment 4.16
17. Resolved to approve Natasha Dillon as Director of Special Services for the 2025-2026 school year, pending certification at an annual salary of \$105,000.00 – Attachment 4.17
18. Resolved approve Savannah Lopez Whelan as Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year at step MA/10, current year 2024-2025 salary of \$75,790.00 will be determined upon the ratification of the Moonachie Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.
19. Resolved to approve Katelyn Bergen as a Social Worker Intern from Ramapo College at no cost for the 2025-2026 school year.

5. Curriculum

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro
 Seconded: Candace Tarabocchia
 Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

5. Resolved to approve the following workshop:

Sandy Hook Promise Say Something Implementation Workshop ~ Deborah Maiorano	June 5, 2025	No Cost
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6. Facilities

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

1. Resolved to apply for approval of Toilet Room Facilities for Early Intervention, Pre-Kindergarten, and Kindergarten Classroom – Room 9 Multiply Disabled Program – K-2nd for the 2025-2026 school year for submission to the Executive County Superintendent – Attachment 6.1
2. Resolved to apply for approval of Toilet Room Facilities for Early Intervention, Pre-Kindergarten, and Kindergarten Classroom – Room 11 Multiply Disabled Program – K-2nd for the 2025-2026 school year for submission to the Executive County Superintendent – Attachment 6.2
3. Resolved to apply for approval for Renewal of Temporary Instructional Space for the stage area of the gym to be used for instrumental music for the 2025-2026 school year for submission to the Executive County Superintendent – Attachment 6.3

4. Resolved to apply for Renewal of Temporary Instructional Space for the room of the cafeteria to be used for music for the 2025-2026 school year for submission to the Executive County Superintendent – Attachment 6.4
7. Old Business None.
 Motion:
 Seconded:
 Action taken:
8. New Business None.
 Motion:
 Seconded:
 Action taken:
9. Information Items
 1. Average monthly attendance from 5/1/25 – 5/31/25 - Attachment 9.1
 2. Monthly report of attendance officer for the month ending May 2025 Attachment 9.2
10. Discussion Items
 Mr. Knipper informed the Board that the façade project is complete and the final cost was under budget. DMR Architects are preparing for their final completion report.
- Mr. David Vaccaro informed the public that the paving project is still being reviewed and is moving forward with the Borough of Moonachie. The project might not be completed by the end of summer and, therefore, might carry over into the school year.
11. Public Comments None.
 Open: 6:40 p.m.
 Closed: 6:41 p.m.
12. Adjournment at 6:42 p.m.
 Motion: Matthew Vaccaro
 Second: Candace Tarabocchia
 Action Taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurel Spadavecchia

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary