

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School  
Cafeteria Meeting  
October 14, 2025

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

Roll Call

Members Present: David Vaccaro  
Edmond Monti  
Matthew Vaccaro  
Radley Macalintal

Members Absent: Candace Tarabocchia

Also Present: James Knipper, Superintendent  
Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator  
Dennis McKeever, Board Attorney  
Erin Edley, 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.

- **Acceptance of Minutes of September 16, 2025**, Regular session and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

Motion: Edmond Monti

Seconded: David Vaccaro

Abstain: Matthew Vaccaro, Radley Macalintal

Action taken: 3 Ayes. 2 Abstain. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

- **Acceptance of Correspondence**

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Edmond Monti

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

- NJ Department of Education Executive County Superintendent emergent purchasing authorization for the HVAC replacement units - Attachment 1.2

- **Superintendent’s Report**

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

Mr. Knipper congratulated the Students of the Month, noting they set the bar high for the rest of the year! He thanked the PTO for their involvement in the class parent assignment and meeting, as well as for hosting the upcoming Rag-a-Muffin parade and Halloween dance. He asked parents to read the community updates regarding holiday parties and Halloween costumes.

Mr. Knipper congratulated Ms. Holly Ehle, Principal for SBJC, for her upcoming retirement and thanked her for the wonderful partnership they shared over the years.

Mr. Knipper also thanked Phil Facendola for coordinating the Bergen County Academies presentation for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders applying for high school placements. Lastly, Mr. Knipper announced the road project is well underway with an anticipated completion in 4-5 weeks.

Mr. David Vaccaro thanked Mrs. Dana Genatt for her great presentation of student assessment data and thanked the leadership team for their hard work in preparing the students so well. He also congratulated the Students of the Month and thanked the parents for making an effort to be involved in the children’s lives.

- **Submission of HIB Cases – September 2025**

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

- **Students of the Month**

<b><u>October</u></b>	<b><u>Grade</u></b>
Brielle Amato	5
Enibela Jakupovic	4
Arabella La Cruz	3
Alexandra Perez	2
Domenica Tripodi	1
Leon Jakupovic	Kindergarten
Maria Tripodi	Preschool
Noah Guerrero	Middle School Math
Aidan Acevedo	Middle School ELA
Natalie Youhana	Middle School Social Studies
Christopher La Cruz	Music
Samantha Alarcon Nino	ESL
Juan Barreto	ESL Graduates
Nicolas Andrade Aulestia	ESL Graduates

- PRESENTATION – State Assessment Performance Data by Dana Genatt

- 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: Radley Macalintal

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

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

Discussion of Motion 2.12: Mr. Monti asked if we had any input as to the tuition rate being charged by Wood-Ridge High School to which Mr. Knipper stated that is was a set rate established by the State of New Jersey for our send/receive district. Mrs. Spadavecchia added that the tuition rebill comes from a 2-year look-back also set by the State of New Jersey, in which districts have to adjust their tuitions paid to the send/receive district based on new tuition rates that would apply to the school year from 2 years ago.

The Board is in agreement that they would like to see data that indicates how Moonachie students are performing at Wood-Ridge High School. Mr. Knipper will investigate the best way to establish better communication with them.

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 October 2025 for a total of \$471,934.32–Attachment 2.1
2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of August 2025 and Unposted Checks for a total of \$286,336.45 –Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for September 30, 2025 for \$124,081.66 with gross pay wages of \$210,412.01 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for October 15, 2025 for \$123,694.08 with gross pay wages of \$214,124.59 – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for October 2025 that no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Moonachie Board of Education.
6. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for October 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.

7. Resolved to approve the Moonachie Board of Education Guide for Standard Operating Procedures and Internal Controls – Available for review at the Board Office.
8. Resolved to approve 2025-2026 Budget/Election Calendar – Attachment 2.8
9. Resolved to accept the Treasurer's Report for month ending August 2025 – Attachment 2.9
10. Resolved to accept the Report of Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for month ending August 2025 – Attachment 2.10
11. Resolved to approve the Monthly Transfer Report and budgetary line-item transfers for month ending August 2025 – Attachment 2.11
12. Resolved to approve the sent/receive tuition agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and the Wood-Ridge Board of Education for the 2025-2026 school year for \$1,305,825 calculated by \$17,411.00 per student for an estimated 72 full-time students and 6 shared-time students attending Wood-Ridge High School, with an additional \$55,760 owed for prior year tuition adjustment– Attachment 2.12
13. Resolved to approve Delta-T Group Human Services, Behavioral Healthcare, Nursing and Education services for the 2025-2026 school year – Attachment 2.13
14. Resolved to approve check #1221 from the Milk & Lunch account for \$18,552.20 for September 2025 meals.
15. Resolved to approve the Literacy Initiative for Families and Thriving Comp grant award in the amount of \$19,997 to be used for preschool family engagement.
16. Resolved to approve the Cintas Semi-Annual Sprinkler Inspection for 8 wet systems – Attachment 2.16
17. Resolved to approve the Shared Service Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and the Borough of Moonachie for the paving project – Attachment 2.17

3. Policy

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Radley Macalintal

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

1. Resolved to approve the Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist Statement of Assurance School Year 2025-2026–Attachment 3.1
2. Resolved to approve the submission of the New Jersey Department of Education Performance Report to NJ SLEDS.

3. Resolved to approve the Moonachie Public School District Early Childhood Advisory Council Bylaws – Attachment 3.4

4. Personnel

Motion: Edmond Monti  
 Seconded: Radley Macalintal  
 Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve Yannara Reyna as Part-time Lunch Server at an hourly rate of \$17.50 for the 2025–2026 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.
2. Resolved to appoint Dana Genatt as District Liaison to Law Enforcement for the 2025-2026 school year.
3. Resolved to approve Anthony Smith to observe 10 hours in Mr. Greg Keelen’s classroom as part of his practical applications course topics for Bergen Community College.
4. Resolved to approve a paternity leave of absence for Joseph Gingerelli commencing approximately January 5, 2026 through February 22, 2026 per Family Leave Act (FMLA) regulations without pay, to be supplemented by use of personal leave time, MEA contractual leave time and NJ Family Leave Insurance (NJFLI) – Attachment 4.4
5. Resolved to approve the following list of employees to provide home instruction at an hourly rate of \$54.48 for the 2025-2026 school year:

Allison Stanisci                      Michael Lia

6. Resolved to approve the following staff members for After-School Programs for the 2025-2026 school year to be paid at an hourly rate of \$54.48:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Allotted Hours</b>	<b>Employee</b>
RLC TV	85 hours	Greg Keelen
Performing Arts/Drama	70 hours	Greg Keelen
Yearbook	70 hours	Linda Esposito/Lisa Selle
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Advisors (2)	100 hours shared	Greg Keelen/Lisa Selle
National Junior Honor Society	30 Hours	Greg Keelen

5. Curriculum

Motion: Radley Macalintal  
 Seconded: Edmond Monti  
 Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the following workshops, field trips and facility requests:

<b>Destination</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Bureau of Education & Research “Media Literacy Skills in a Fake News World” ~ Greg Keelen	November 11, 2025	\$295.00

Department of Education Community Parent Involvement Specialists Annual Workshop 2025 ~Allison Maccarrone	November 20, 2025 and February 26, 2025	\$149.00
BCCC General Meeting Dates 2025-2026 ~Dana Genatt	September 26, 2025 8:30 am November TBD December 5, 2025 12:00 pm January TBD March 13, 2026 8:30 am June 5, 2026 12:00 pm	Included with Dues
Metropolitan Medical Corporation CPR Certification for AED Response Team ~Sandy Diaz, Michael Lia, Greg Keelen, Kimberly Schmidt, Joseph Gingerelli	October 28, 2025	\$305.00

6. Facilities

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Radley Macalintal

Abstain: Edmond Monti for 6.4 only

Action taken: 3 Ayes. 1 Absent. 1 Abstain 6.4. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to accept the Department of Health Sanitary Inspection Report – Attachment 6.1
2. Resolved to accept the Fire Protection Service Report from Cintas Fire Protection – Attachment 6.2
3. Resolved to accept the Moonachie School District PEOSH Indoor Air Quality Inspection Report from Karl & Associates, Inc. – Attachment 6.3
4. Resolved to approve the Facility Use Request from Wood-Ridge Recreation Indoor Soccer for Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – Attachment 6.4
5. Resolved to approve the Facility Use Request from the Moonachie Fire Department to conduct a Fire Prevention Assembly on November 17, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Attachment 6.5
6. Resolved to approve the Facility Use Request from the PTO to conduct a Breakfast with Santa on December 6, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Attachment 6.6
7. Resolved to approve the Facility Use Request for the YMCA to conduct a Lights on After School Family Night – Attachment 6.7
8. Resolved to approve the quote from Aeromark Mechanical, Inc for the replacement of two HVAC units for the gymnasium and cafeteria at \$83,900.00 – Attachment 6.8

7. Old Business None.

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

8. New Business None.  
Motion:  
Seconded:  
Action taken:
9. Information Items  
1. Average monthly attendance from 9/1/25 – 9/30/25 - Attachment 9.1  
2. Monthly Report of Attendance Officer for the month ending September 2025– Attachment 9.2
10. Discussion Items None.
11. Public Comments  
Open: 7:40 p.m.  
Closed: 7:41 p.m.  
Deborah Maiorano, RLC Social Worker, thanked Mrs. Dana Genatt for a very informative presentation.
12. Adjournment at 7:42 p.m.  
Motion: Edmond Monti  
Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro  
Action taken: 4 Ayes. 1 Absent. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Laurel Spadavecchia*

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary