

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Cafeteria

December 12, 2022

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

Roll Call

Members Present: David Vaccaro
James Campbell
Charles Pallas
Matthew Vaccaro
Edmond Monti

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator
James Knipper, Superintendent/Principal
Dana Genatt, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Anthony Russo, 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 November 15, 2022, closed session and regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

Motion: Edmond Monti

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Acceptance of Correspondence

- Thank you letter to the Lions Club – attachment 1.2

Motion: James Campbell

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Superintendent’s Report

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Edmond Monti

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Mr. Knipper asked for a moment of silence for Dr. Ronel Cook, Superintendent of Englewood Public Schools who was tragically killed in an automobile accident.

Mrs. Genatt announced the Students of the Month. Mr. Knipper announced that Wood-Ridge High School Choir came to our school for a holiday performance this past Friday. PTO also hosted Breakfast with Santa on Saturday along with a holiday shop. Mr. Knipper thanked the PTO for providing wonderful events for our community. Mr. Knipper also announced that peer tutoring has just launched in which students are partnering with other students. One of our Students of the Month, Sabrina Nieto, is a peer tutor and we are excited for the program’s success. Lastly, Mr. Knipper wished everyone a joyous and peaceful holiday season and thanked the students and parents for their hard work even though it’s a crazy time of year.

Mr. David Vaccaro also congratulated the students and thanked the parents for their support. He stated that although the school does everything it can to provide a great education, with parental support students can go so much further. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from all of the Board of Education.

- **Students of the Month**

<u>November</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Aaryi Patel	Pre-Kindergarten
Jayden Ocello	Kindergarten
Madison Luna	1st
Alexia Carias	2nd
Anam Shah	3rd
Olivia Dengelegi	4th
Eva Fernandez	5th
Sabrina Nieto	Middle School Social Studies
Eileen Montero	Middle School ELA
Alejandra Aguilar Erazo	Middle School Math
Laury Angeles	Music

- **Submission of HIB Cases – November 2022**

Investigations

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Confirmed Cases

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▪ **Presentation: June 30, 2022 Financial Audit – Paul Lerch, CPA**

• **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: Matthew Vaccaro

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 2022 for a total of \$467,566.07– Attachment 2.1
2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of November 2022 for \$456,940.91 - Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for November 15, 2022 for \$118,935.75 with gross wages of \$203,236.23 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for November 30, 2022 for \$110,373.43 with gross wages of \$188,149.88 – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for December 2022 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 December 2022 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 Apple as a proprietary vendor with no direct competition and therefore the purchase of Apple equipment does not have the ability to secure competitive bids against.
8. Resolved to approve check #1181 to Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional Board of Education in the amount of \$17,492.40 from the Milk and Lunch account for October 2022 meals.

9. Resolved to approve the Consultant Services Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and Brown & Brown Benefit Advisors, Inc. effective January 1, 2023 – Attachment 2.9
10. Resolved to accept the Treasurer’s Report for month ending November 2022 – Attachment 2.10
11. Resolved to accept the Report of Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for month ending November 2022 – Attachment 2.11
12. Resolved to approve the renewal of BrainPOP School Combo for the 2022-2023 school year – Attachment 2.12

3. Policy

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

1. Resolved to approve the following revised policies:

P8600	Student Transportation	Revised
R8600	Student Transportation	Revised
R 8630	Emergency School Bus Procedures	Revised

4. Personnel

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

Mr. Knipper thanked Mr. Frisch for his years of service to the district both as a Technology Teacher and as a Robotics Club Leader. He commented that the night the STEAM Team placed 2nd in the robotics competitions was one of the best nights of Mr. Knipper’s career. He also commented that Mr. Frisch was not only professional in his resignation, but was also instrumental in finding a replacement for his position. He stated he is confident in having a successful transition.

1. Resolved to accept the resignation of Joshua Frisch as Technology Teacher effective January 30, 2023 – Attachment 4.1
2. Resolved to approve the following staff as Afterschool Academy Teachers at an hourly rate of \$49.43 to be paid from the ARP ESSER III grant, for the 2022-2023 school year:

Lisa Selle	Kelly Thompson	Gianna Vitetta
Jason Selle	Taylor Trause	Amanda Sokol
Natasha Dillon		
3. Resolved to approve the resignation of Rezarta Osmani as Part-Time Aide effective November 28, 2022 – Attachment 4.3

4. Resolved to move Gabriela Ocasio from Part-Time Aide to Full-Time Classroom Aide at an annual salary of \$20,000 prorated for the 2022-2023 school year.
5. Resolved to approve Isabel Chavez as Food Server at an hourly rate of \$15.00 for two hours per day pending outcome of Criminal History Background Check.
6. Resolved to approve the Superintendent/Principal to emergent hire for personnel hired between December 12, 2022 and January 2, 2023.
7. Resolved to approve Megan Yar as Technology Teacher at MA30 Step 10 for an annual salary of \$82,505 prorated for the 2022-2023 school year, pending outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.
8. Resolved to approve the following staff as Afterschool Academy Teachers at an hourly rate of \$49.43 to be paid from the ARP ESSER III grant, for the 2022-2023 school year:

Lisa Selle	Kelly Thompson	Gianna Vitetta
Jason Selle	Taylor Trause	Amanda Sokol
Natasha Dillon		

5. Curriculum

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

1. Resolved to approve the submission of the Updated American Rescue Plan Act LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan.
2. Resolved to approve the following workshops and field trips:

Destination	Date	Cost
Turtle Back Zoo 1 st Grade Field Trip West Orange, NJ	May 12, 2023 rain date May 15, 2023	Tickets - \$150 Bus - \$475

6. Facilities None.

Motion:
 Seconded:
 Action taken:

7. Old Business None.

Motion:
 Seconded:
 Action taken:

8. New Business

Mrs. Spadavecchia announced that the Moonachie School District is entitled to share representation for two seats on the Ridgefield School District Board of Education with the Edgewater and Fairview sending school districts. Mr. Knipper will investigate how this will be appointed and will report back to the Board.

9. Information Items

1. Average monthly attendance from 11/01/22– 11/30/22 - Attachment 9.1
2. Monthly Report of Attendance Officer for month ending November 2022 -Attachment 9.2

10. Discussion Items

11. Public Comments

Open: 7:12 p.m.

Closed: 7:14 p.m.

Mr. Joshua Frisch thanked the Board and Administration for hiring him and providing a wonderful teaching environment during his tenure at the Robert L. Craig School. He stated that leaving the district was a very hard decision to make but that he accepted his new position for its leadership opportunities. The Board thanked Mr. Frisch for his service and wished him good luck in his new district.

Mr. David Vaccaro announced the Re-Organization meeting will be held on January 3, 2023 at 6:30 in the cafeteria. He then wished everyone a Merry Christmas as Mr. Campbell sang Have a Holly Jolly Christmas.

12. Adjournment 7:15 p.m.

Motion: Matthew Vaccaro

Seconded: Edmond Monti

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurel Spadavecchia

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary