

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School  
Virtual Meeting  
December 15, 2020

Call to order by Board President

Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Members Absent: None

Also Present: James Knipper, Acting Superintendent  
Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Dana Genatt, Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
Connor Kimmel, Board Attorney  
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.

1.

• Resolved to move to Executive Session

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, the Moonachie Board of Education shall conduct a closed executive session pursuant to the exception(s) prescribed by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 for the purpose of discussing personnel matters and legal matters which are attorney-client privileged. It is anticipated that the length of time of this executive session will be 30 minutes and that the discussion undertaken in this closed session can be made public at the time official action is taken.

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

- Acceptance of Minutes of November 17, 2020, 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

1. Thank you letters to the custodial staff, administration, food service director and the school nurse written by Robert L. Craig School Students– Attachment 1.2

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

- Superintendent’s Report

Motion: James Campbell  
 Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro  
 Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Mr. Knipper stated he was proud of the students, parents, and staff for their tremendous efforts during these times. He noted that attendance is extremely high and congratulated everyone for their participation. He also announced that 51 holiday bags were distributed to needy families as a partnership with the South Bergen Rotary Club and the Moonachie Police Department. The bags included toys, blankets, Shoprite gift cards and other goodies. Finally, Mr. Knipper announced that Saturday, December 19 will be a Drive-Thru Letter to Santa Collection drop off as a collaborative effort between the Moonachie PTO, Moonachie Police Department and the Moonachie Borough.

- **Students of the Month**

<u>November</u>	<u>Grade</u>
Emily Cani	K
Jessica Chimbay	4
Yusuf Tunceroglu	6
Shawn Lawton	7

- **Submission of HIB Cases – November 2020**

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

- **Presentation: June 30, 2020 Financial Audit–Paul Lerch, CPA**  
Tabled until January 2021

- **Presentation: K-2 Report Card Rubric Guidelines**  
Tabled until January 2021

- 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:

Seconded:

Action taken:

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 2020 for a total of \$857,890.14– Attachment 2.1
2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of November 2020 for \$613,316.95 - Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for November 13, 2020 for \$95,334.13 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for November 30, 2020 for \$94,592.36 – Attachment 2.4
5. Resolved to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary for December 2020 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 2020 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 accept the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund Bergen CARES grant in the amount of \$25,000 for the 2020-2021 school year.
8. 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.
9. Resolved to approve Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) carryover funds for the 2020-2021 school year in the following amounts:

Title I A	\$2,333.00
Title I SIA Part A	\$10,700.00
Title IIA	\$2,333.00
Title IV Part A	\$1,763.00

10. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract between the Moonachie Board of Education and ECLC of New Jersey for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment 2.10
11. Resolved to accept the revised Treasurer’s Report for month ending June 2020 – Attachment 2.11
12. Resolved to accept the revised Report of Secretary to the Moonachie Board of Education for month ending June 2020 – Attachment 2.12
13. Resolved to approve the Teaching Strategies for Early Childhood Digital Curriculum Resources for the 2020-2021 school year – Attachment 2.13
14. Resolved to approve the Action Plan for Lowering Legal Bills to reduce legal fees in line with state regulations – Attachment 2.14
15. Resolved to approve check #1152 to Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional Board of Education in the amount of \$17,621.40 from the Milk and Lunch account.
16. Resolved to approve the submission and subsequent funding of \$3,841.00 in additional Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief CARES grant – Attachment 2.16

3. Policy

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

4. Personnel

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

1. BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves an extended medical leave of absence for employee #4049 from January 5, 2021 through January 30, 2021 with the ability to utilize sick time for this period – Attachment 4.1
2. Resolved to approve Choeyoung Lee as a Substitute Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year, pending the outcome of the Criminal History Background Screening.
3. Resolved to approve Gianna Vitetta as Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year at BA step 1 for an annual rate of \$50,195 prorated effective January 1, 2021.

5. Curriculum

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

1. Motion Resolved to approve workshops:

<b>Destination</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Bureau of Education & Research Distance Learning: Increase Your Students' Self-Management, Relationship Skills and Responsible Decision Making – Greg Keelen	January 21, 2021	\$279.00

6. Facilities

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

Discussion of building repairs and an infrared scan moisture analysis survey for roofing concerns – Attachment 6.1

7. Old Business

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

8. New Business

Mr. Pallas congratulated Ms. Genatt for her principal certificate.

Motion:

Seconded:

Action taken:

9. Information Items

1. Average monthly attendance from 11/1/20 – 11/30/20 - Attachment 9.1

2. Monthly report of attendance officer for the month ending November 2020 Attachment 9.2

11. Public Comments

Open: 6:45 p.m.

Closed: 6:46 p.m.

Mr. Anthony Cirillo announced on behalf of the Mayor and Council that they wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Pallas, Mr. Monti, Mr. Matthew Vaccaro and Mr. David Vaccaro also wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. Mr. David Vaccaro also announced that the January 5, 2021 Board of Education meeting will also be conducted remotely.

12. Adjournment at 6:50 p.m.

Motion: Edmond Monti  
Seconded: James Campbell  
Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Laurel Spadavecchia*

Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary