

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

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING

Robert L. Craig School

Media Center

September 10, 2019

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

Roll Call

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

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Dr. Jonathan Ponds, Superintendent/Principal
Laurel Spadavecchia, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
James Knipper, Director of Curriculum
Jillian Freda, Board Attorney
Kathleen Nestor, 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: James Campbell

Seconded: Matthew Vaccaro

Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

- Acceptance of Minutes of August 13, 2019, closed session and regular session, and Superintendent Report – Attachment 1.1

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

- Acceptance of Correspondence None.

Motion:
 Seconded:
 Action taken:

- Superintendent's Report

Dr. Ponds announced the school had a wonderful opening of the new school year. There was a little hiccup with the bus but we sent a staff member over to the bus stop and rectified the situation. He recognized the growth in student performance last year and announced that this year we have a chance to become even better.

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

- 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: James Campbell
 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 August 2019 for a total of \$169,149.36 – Attachment 2.1
2. Resolved to approve the Check Register for the month of August 2019 for \$214,071.96 - Attachment 2.2
3. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for August 15, 2019 for \$34,961.56 – Attachment 2.3
4. Resolved to approve the Payroll Check Register for August 31, 2019 for \$21,294.26 – Attachment 2.4

5. Resolved to accept the revised Treasurers Report June 2019–Attachment 2.5
6. Resolved to accept the revised Report of the Secretary of the Moonachie Board of Education for June 2019 – Attachment 2.6
7. Resolved to approve the Special Education Tuition Contract Agreement and Special Education Additional Service Contract Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and Lyndhurst Board of Education for the 2019-2020 school year – Attachment 2.7
8. Resolved to approve the Child Study Team Shared Services Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and the Wood-Ridge Board of Education for the 2019-2020 school year – Attachment 2.8
9. Resolved to approve the following insurance policies through Polaris Galaxy Insurance – Attachment 2.9

Policy Type	Company	Invoice
Flood Insurance	Fireman’s Fund	\$1,226.00
Surety Bond: L.Spadavecchia	Hartford Insurance Co.	\$800.00

10. Resolved to approve the Tuition Contract Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and the Wood-Ridge Board of Education for the 2019-2020 school year–Attachment 2.10
11. Resolved to approve the Addendum to the Tuition Contract Agreement to Provide One to One Aide and Related Services between the Moonachie Board of Education and the Wood-Ridge Board of Education for the 2019-2020 school year – Attachment 2.11
12. Resolved to approve Lori Formisano and Lucy Doka as contracted service providers from the South Bergen Jointure Commission for Speech therapies on Saturdays as part of Title I SIA Part A funding at a total hourly rate of \$150.00 (\$120.00 salary plus \$30.00 for administrative fees) not to exceed \$6,400.00 for the 2019-2020 school year.
13. Resolved to approve, pursuant to the provision of Title 18A: 18A-42, the Moonachie Board of Education to continue to participate as a member of the South Bergen Workers Compensation Pool for the 2019-2020 school year – Attachment 2.13
14. Resolved to renew the Techbook Purchase Agreement between the Moonachie Board of Education and Discovery Education, Inc. at a cost of \$9.00 per student in grades 6th-8th for the 2019-2020 school year.

3. Policy None.
 Motion:
 Seconded:
 Action taken:

4. Personnel

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

1. Resolved to approve Khelly Romero as Substitute Teacher for the 2019-2020 pending the outcome of Criminal History Background Screening.
2. Resolved to approve Amanda Sokol as Classroom Aide an at annual salary of \$20,600 for the 2019-2020 school year.
3. Resolved to accept the resignation of Jacqueline Ginsberg as a Part-time Teacher Aide – Attachment 4.3
4. Resolved to approve to accept the resignation of Jasmine Catala as a Part-time Teacher Aide – Attachment 4.4
5. Resolved to approve Michael Lia as Special Education Teacher at BA/Step 1 for an annual salary of \$49,695.00 for the 2019-2020 school year.
6. Resolved to approve Silvia Suarez as Substitute Teacher for the 2019-2020 pending the outcome of Criminal History Background Screening.
7. Resolved to approve the posting of a Reading & Test Coordinator stipend position for the 2019-2020 school year as per the Moonachie Education Association Collective Bargaining Agreement at an annual rate of \$1,523.36.

5. Curriculum

Motion: Charles Pallas
Seconded: James Campbell
Action taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

1. Resolved to approve the following field trips:

Destination	Date	Cost
Philadelphia 7 th Grade Trip Valerie Kenny, Greg Keelen, Daniel Alonso	10/25/19	Bus: Not to exceed \$900 Tickets: \$160

2. Resolved to approve the following workshops:

Destination	Date	Cost
Free Law/ Fair Law Adventure For Teachers New Brunswick, NJ Lisa Perez & Greg Keelen	10/17/19	No Cost
Classwide Strategies to Promote Positive Behavior and Social Skills Valerie Kenny	10/18/19	\$200.00

3. Resolved to approve ILSI Research Institution Take 10 Physical Activity Program at no cost to the Moonachie School District for the 2019-2020 school year – Attachment 5.3
4. Resolved to approve the Robert L. Craig School Parent/Student Handbook for the 2019-2020 school year on display in the Curriculum Office.

6. Facilities

1. Discussion of Aqua-Mist Irrigation System Installation – Attachment 6.1

Mr. Phil Facendola presented a proposal for Aqua-Mist Irrigation to install an irrigation system to the Robert L. Craig School Garden free of charge to the district. The only cost would be approximately \$50.00 to winterize it. He can perform the work when school is closed to students so that no interruptions to education will occur. David Vaccaro inquired as to whether permits were needed and Mr. Facendola replied that he will check with the town to determine if they are required. He will report back to the Board.

2. Resolved to accept the quote from Advance Professional Plumbing, Heating and Cooling for needed plumbing repairs.

Mrs. Spadavecchia updated the Board on the following facility situations:

1. Annual Sprinkler Inspection

Cintas was our vendor for the annual sprinkler inspection, but they have not updated their “Public Works Apprenticeship” and therefore cannot perform the annual sprinkler inspection. We have two quotes and are in the process of getting one more vendor to quote on. We passed the fire inspection with a notation to have the annual sprinkler inspection completed as soon as possible.

2. Plumbing

We have obtained two quotes to address the plumbing issues (handout). We have reached out to two other vendors to quote, one never showed up and one doesn't perform the work we need done. I would like to have the board approve one of the quotes presented tonight.

3. Playground Repairs

Just an update that Phil Facendola has taken the necessary steps to seek a financial grant from KaBoom! to repair or replace our existing playground. I will keep you informed when the application has been reviewed.

4. Bus

As mentioned in Dr. Ponds' FYI, we have been getting an influx of new students in the Robert L. Craig School and this has had a serious impact on our bussing. To determine how many buses we need, I calculate the average daily attendance which is 95%, and I multiply that by the number of students in need of busing. At our current rate, we have maxed out capacity on both of our buses by 4 seats on one bus and 6 seats on the other. I am in the process of obtaining quotes from First Student who runs our existing routes, and SBJC Transportation who runs all our other

routes. Due to a bus driver shortage, this process is taking longer than expected. I will continue to update the Board as I gain more information.

5. DMR Architects

I will be meeting with Henry Ossi as well as Dave Vaccaro to walk around the building and begin the Long-Range Facility Planning stage. Jim Campbell is invited to attend as a member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

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

7. Old Business None.

Motion:
Seconded:
Action taken:

8. New Business

Mr. Pallas gave the following statement:

My proposed memo: I want to thank Dr. Ponds for the research he performed using the Genesis reports of our students, which revealed a number of inconsistencies and for the creation of the Grading Committee.

Mr. Monti and I met on several occasions with Dr. Ponds and Mr. Knipper to discuss their proposal. Both men spent a lot of time and effort to remedy the problems.

Mr. Facendola thanked Dr. Ponds and Mr. Knipper for all the time and effort they provided for the YMCA 21st Century Grant. The collaboration between the Robert L. Craig School and the YMCA is mutually beneficial. Mr. David Vaccaro expressed his sincere thanks to the YMCA for providing such wonderful services to the children of Moonachie.

Mr. Pallas commented that he has never seen as many grants as this year and he would also like to thank everyone for their hard work.

Motion:
Seconded:
Action taken:

9. Information Items None.

10. Discussion Items

Mr. David Vaccaro announced that 911 Ceremonies will take place at town hall at 6:30 tomorrow night.

11. Public Comments None
Open: 6:58 p.m.
Closed: 6:59 p.m.
12. Adjournment at 7:00 p.m.
Motion: Matthew Vaccaro
Second: James Campbell
Action Taken: 5 Ayes. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurel Spadavecchia

Laurel Spadavecchia
Board Administrator/Board Secretary