

**The Board of Education of Moorestown Township
Moorestown, New Jersey
MINUTES
William Allen Middle School
October 19, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.**

I. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Moorestown Township Board of Education is called to order. This meeting is called in conformance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” with adequate notice provided as follows:

- A. Notice filed with the Courier Post on July 1, 2021
- B. Notice filed with the Burlington County Times on July 1, 2021

II. Moment of Silence

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Roll Call

Present	Dr. Sandra Alberti
Present	Mr. Jack Fairchild
Present	Mrs. Katherine Mullin
Present	Dr. Mark Snyder
Present	Mr. Mark Villanueva
Present	Mr. Maurice Weeks (arrived 6:40 p.m.)
Present	Mr. David A. Weinstein (arrived 5:58 p.m.)
Present	Ms. Lauren Romano, Vice President
Present	Mrs. Caryn Shaw, President
Present	Mr. John Comegno, Esq., Solicitor
Present	Dr. Leonard Fitts, Interim Superintendent
Present	Mr. James M. Heiser, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Absent	Dr. Karen Benton, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Innovation
Present	Dr. David Tate, Director of Special Education
Present	Ms. Carole Butler, Director of Human Resources, Inclusion and Diversity
Present	Mr. Jeffrey Arey, Director of Educational Technology and Innovation (arrived 5:45 p.m.)

V. Executive Session

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Moorestown Township, that it is necessary to meet in executive session to discuss certain items involving:

- Personnel
- Student Matter

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mr. Fairchild Vote: 7 - 0

VI. Return to Public – 7:04 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Weinstein Second: Ms. Romano Vote: 9 - 0

VII. Routine Matters

A. Minutes

Approval of minutes for the following meetings attached as Exhibit #22-71:

August 17, 2021 Executive Session

August 17, 2021 Regular Meeting

Moved by: Dr. Alberti

Second: Ms. Romano

Vote: 6 – 0, Abstain – 3

Abstentions: Ms. Romano,
Mr. Weeks, Mr. Villanueva

September 14, 2021 Executive Session

September 28, 2021 Special Meeting

September 14, 2021 Special Meeting

September 29, 2021 Executive Session

September 28, 2021 Executive Session

September 29, 2021 Special Meeting

Moved by: Dr. Alberti

Second: Ms. Romano

Vote: 9 - 0

B. Communications

C. President's Remarks

D. Student Board Representatives

- Claire Hurren, Senior Class Liaison, reported on senior class activities, which included pep rally, spirit week, homecoming and the organization of a school attire committee to talk about dress code issues.
- Peyton Emmel, Junior Class Liaison, reported on decorating activities for spirit week and daily competitions amongst the grade levels.
- Bhavika Verma, Sophomore Class Liaison, reported on the homecoming dance activities and thanked all the staff that were involved in preparation.
- Advait Wattal, Freshman Class Liaison, reported on the canned goods drive.

E. Educational Highlights –Superintendent's Monthly Report

- Dr. Fitts welcomed the community. Dr. Fitts reported on a \$5,000 reward that a staff member received for winning the "Everyday Champion" award, which recognizes the heroic and outstanding achievements made during the Covid-19 pandemic, honoring courageous and innovative educators and administrators.
- **Moorestown Breakfast Rotary Backpack Project** – Dr. Fitts expressed thanks for the contributions of the Moorestown Breakfast Rotary.
Representatives: Chris Gillies and Vick Bobadilla
Donation of over 125 backpacks and school supplies for PreK-8th grade students
- **Retirement Recognition** – Dr. Fitts, Mrs. Shaw, and Ms. Butler recognized the following retirees:
 - Linda Reid – Paraprofessional, South Valley Elementary School
 - Jane Riley – Bus Driver, Transportation Department
- **Remote Learning Plan Presentation**
 - The Remote Learning Plan presentation was tabled since the presenter had an emergency; however, it was posted on the district website for public view.

F. Board Committee Reports – Questions and Comments

- a. **Finance and Operations Committee** – Mr. Weinstein reported on two recent Finance and Operations committee meetings. Topics included field trips, transportation issues, food service discussions, and bond refinancing outcomes.

- b. **Curriculum** – Dr. Snyder reported on the recent Curriculum committee meeting. Topics included cultural responsiveness professional development, the need for a full plan to be developed in the event a school is forced to close, upcoming graduation requirement changes, and state assessment testing.
- c. **Policy** – Ms. Romano reported on the recent Policy committee meeting. Topics included district wide dress code policies, the potential of placing district regulations on the website, Policy 1990 regarding affiliate organizations, and Policy 2425 which the committee recommended to adopt as it is part of our requirements.
- d. **Communications** – Mrs. Shaw reported on the recent Communications committee meeting. Topics included joining a communications consortium to help address communications strategies.
- e. **Ad Hoc** – Dr. Alberti reported on the recent Ad Hoc committee meeting on Exploring Race and Racism in Moorestown. Topics included an update on sub-committee outcomes and an internal district compilation of data to review and analyze.

G. Public Comment

1. Open Public Comment

MOTION:

A motion is requested to open the floor for public comment.

Moved by: Mr. Weeks Second: Mr. Weinstein Vote: 9 - 0

2. Public Comment on Agenda Items

- a. Dawn Miller of 301 Springhouse Lane read a prepared statement on Executive Order 253. Ms. Miller expressed her concerns around the requirement to test unvaccinated staff members.
- b. Dawn Leusner of 19 Windermere Drive read a prepared statement on Executive Order 253. Ms. Leusner expressed her concerns around the requirement to test unvaccinated staff members. Ms. Leusner specifically stated a staff member's name and her support of the staff member.

3. Close Public Comment

MOTION:

A motion is requested to close the floor for public comment.

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mr. Weinstein Vote: 9 - 0

VIII. Reports to the Board

A. Business Administrator/Board Secretary

- 1. **Financial Reports of the Board Secy.** – July and August, 2021 – Exhibit #22-72
- 2. **Cafeteria Report** – September, 2021 - Exhibit #22-73

Resolution of Board of Education's Monthly Certification Budgetary Major Account/Fund Status:

BE IT RESOLVED:

Board Secretary's monthly certification budgetary line item status:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, I certify that no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, we certify that after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate District officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

3. Approval of Budget Transfers

I recommend approval of the budget transfers for the months of July and August, 2021 attached as Exhibit #22-74.

4. Approval of Bills

I recommend approval of the bills, in the amount of \$10,278,964.81 attached as Exhibit #22-75.

Approval of Items 1 – 3:

Moved by: Ms. Romano

Second: Dr. Alberti

Vote: 9 - 0

Approval of Items 4:

Moved by: Ms. Romano

Second: Dr. Alberti

Vote: 8 – 0, Abstain – 1

Abstention: Mr. Weinstein

IX. Recommendations of the Superintendent

A. 2021 – 2022 Remote Learning Plan

A resolution is requested approving the 2021 – 2022 Remote Learning Plan. Each school district must annually submit a proposed program for emergency virtual or remote instruction (plan) to the New Jersey Department of Education. The plan will be used in the event of mandated school closure due to a public health related district or school closure. The plan will utilize virtual or remote instruction to satisfy the 180-day requirement, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the 2021 – 2022 Remote Learning Plan as per the attached Exhibit #22-76.

Moved by: Dr. Alberti

Second: Dr. Snyder

Vote: 9 - 0

B. Policies and Procedures

1. First Reading

The Policy Committee has reviewed the file codes listed in the attached exhibit and recommends the following Policy be entered on first reading:

- Policy 2425 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M)

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board enter on first reading the Policies and Regulations listed above as Exhibit #22-77.

2. Second Reading

The Policy Committee has reviewed the file codes listed in the attached exhibit and recommends the following Policies and Regulations be entered on second reading:

- Policy 1648.13 School Employee Vaccination Requirements (M)
- Policy 2422 Comprehensive Health and Physical Education (M)
- Policy 2467 Surrogate Parents and Resource Family Parents (M)
- Policy 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Non-resident Students (M)
- Policy 5116 Education of Homeless Children
- Policy 7432 Eye Protection (M)
- Regulation 7432 Eye Protection (M)
- Policy 8420 Emergency and Crisis Situations (M)
- Regulation 8420.1 Fire and Fire Drills (M)
- Policy 8540 School Nutrition Programs

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board enter and adopt on second reading the Policies and Regulations listed above as Exhibit #22-78.

Approval of Items 1 – 2, not including Item 2 - Policy 1648.13:

Moved by: Mr. Fairchild Second: Ms. Romano Vote: 9 - 0

Approval of Item 2 - Policy 1648.13 only:

Moved by: Mr. Fairchild Second: Ms. Romano Vote: 8 – 1
No: Mr. Villanueva

C. Educational Program

1. Burlington County Alternative School Placement for 2021-2022

The students listed are recommended for placement in the program at Burlington County Alternative School for the 2021-2022 school year.

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the students on Exhibit #22-79 for the 2021-2022 school year at Burlington County Alternative School at the prevailing tuition rate not to exceed state maximum rate with transportation provided.

2. Home Instruction 2021-2022

Approval is requested for Home Instruction for students during the 2021-2022 school year.

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the Home Instruction students listed on Exhibit #22-80 for the 2021-2022 school year.

3. Special Education Out-of-District Placement 2021-2022

The following Moorestown student with special needs is recommended for placement in the appropriate out-of-district program and school as mandated in the Individualized Education Program (IEP).

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the student with special needs at the placement listed on Exhibit #22-81 for the 2021-22 school year at the location indicated at the approved tuition rates with transportation provided.

Approval of Items 1 – 3:

Moved by: Dr. Alberti

Second: Mr. Weeks

Vote: 9 - 0

D. Finance and Business

1. Travel Expenditures Approval Requests

The State of New Jersey has enacted P.L.2007, c.53, An Act Concerning School District Accountability. Section 15 of the Act addresses "Travel Expenditures" paid by the school district.

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the travel expenditures requests attached as Exhibit #22-82.

2. Approval of State Contract and Consortium Vendor Purchases

MOTION:

I recommend the Board approve NJ State Contract Interlocal Agreement and consortium purchases as per attached Exhibit #22-83.

3. Donations

MOTION:

I recommend the Board accept the following donation:

- \$1,900 from an anonymous donor to be used as assistance for the High School senior class trip
- Electric Down Marker from All Jersey Driving School to be used by the High School Football Program, with an approximate value of \$1,000
- Remo Frame Drum Bundle from MoorArts to be used by Baker Elementary School, with an approximate value of \$650

4. Non-Resident Tuition Students 2021-2022

A resolution is requested approving acceptance of non-resident tuition students for the 2021-2022 school year.

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the 2021-2022 non-resident tuition student as listed in Exhibit #22-84.

5. Overnight Student Trip

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the overnight trips listed below and detailed in the attached Exhibit #22-85.

Ski Club Trip	Killington, VT	2/4/22 – 2/6/22
Harvard Model Congress	Boston, MA	2/23/22 – 2/27/22
Varsity Wrestling Team	Florham Park, NJ	12/27/21 – 12/28/21
Varsity Wrestling Team	Atlantic City, NJ	3/3/22 – 3/6/22

6. Student Field Trip

Pursuant to regulation N.J.A.C.6A:23A-5.8(c)1, the Board of Education is required to take action regarding student activities by pre-approving field trip destinations.

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the student field trip destinations for the 2021-22 school year as listed in Exhibit #22-86.

7. Joint Transportation Agreement

Approval of the following Joint Transportation Agreement will allow Moorestown to participation in transportation services coordinated with Lenape Regional High School District for two (2) students with special needs.

MOTION:

I recommend the Board approve a Joint Transportation Agreement with Lenape Regional High School District Board of Education for 9/1/21 to 6/30/22 in the amount of \$20.21 per diem, per student for 180 days, totaling \$7,275.60.

8. Exchange Student Sponsoring Agency Approval

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve AIFS Foundation's Academic Year in America (AYA) Program as a sponsoring Agency for an upcoming exchange student from Germany for the 2021-2022 school year as per the attached Exhibit #22-87.

9. Nonpublic Affirmation of Consultations

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the Nonpublic Affirmation of Consultations for the 2021-22 school year as per the attached Exhibit #22-88.

10. Middle School and High School Athletic Schedules – Winter 2021

MOTION:

I recommend the Board approve the Middle School and High School Winter 2021 athletic schedules as listed in Exhibit #22-89.

11. Comprehensive Maintenance Plan

The District's Comprehensive Maintenance Plan (M-2) and Annual Maintenance Budget Worksheet (M-1) require Board approval.

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the 2021-2022 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and Annual Maintenance Budget Worksheet attached as Exhibit #22-90.

12. 2022 American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) Grant Application

MOTION:

The Moorestown Township Public Schools' American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act Grant application for 2022 requires Board of Education approval. This grant includes the following programs:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Public</u>	<u>Nonpublic</u>
Basic	\$210,477	\$197,834	\$12,643
Preschool	<u>\$17,961</u>	<u>\$17,961</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total	\$228,438	\$215,795	\$12,643

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board hereby authorize the submission of the ARP IDEA application for Fiscal Year 2022, and accept the grant award of these funds upon the subsequent approval of the FY 2022 ARP IDEA application.

13. Communications Consortium Shared Services Agreement

MOTION:

I recommend the Board approve a shared services agreement with Haddon Township Board of Education as per the attached Exhibit #22-91.

Approval of Items 1 – 13:

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Dr. Alberti Vote: 9 - 0

E. Employee Relations

1. **Appointments** - Exhibit #22-92
2. **Change of Position/Hours – REVISED** - Exhibit #22-93
3. **Movement on the Salary Guide** - Exhibit #22-94
4. **Leaves of Absence** - Exhibit #22-95
5. **Resignations** - Exhibit #22-96
6. **Retirements** - Exhibit #22-97

7. **Curriculum** - Exhibit #22-98
8. **Substitutes** - Exhibit #22-99
9. **Athletics/Co-Curricular/Clubs – REVISED** - Exhibit #22-100
10. **Salary Adjustment** – Exhibit #22-102

Approval of Items 1 – 10:

Moved by: Mr. Weinstein Second: Dr. Alberti Roll Call Vote: 9 - 0

11. Approval of the Contract for the Superintendent of Schools

A resolution is requested approving the contract for Michael Volpe as the Superintendent of Schools as approved by the Department of Education.

12. Appointment of the Superintendent

A resolution is requested approving the appointment of Michael Volpe as the Superintendent of Schools effective December 18, 2021.

Approval of Items 11 – 12:

Moved by: Dr. Alberti Second: Ms. Romano Roll Call Vote: 9 - 0

X. Suspensions

A. Suspensions – Exhibit #22-101

XI. Informational Only

A. Enrollment Information – October 1, 2021

School	2020-2021	2021-2022
High School	1294	1304
Middle School	628	610
Upper Elementary School	852	859
Elementary School	<u>1044</u>	<u>1076</u>
Total	3818	3849

B. Old Business

C. New Business

D. Public Comment

1. Open Public Comment

MOTION:

A motion is requested to open the floor for public comment.

Moved by: Dr. Alberti Second: Mr. Weeks Vote: 9 - 0

2. Public Comment

- a. Jill Fallows Macaluso of 800 Golf View Avenue thanked Dr. Fitts for his contributions.
- b. Michael Volpe of 104 Perrine Pike, Hillsborough, New Jersey, stated that he is thrilled and excited to get started in the district. Mr. Volpe thanked his nephew, his children, and his wife for their contributions and support.
- c. Sarah Rivera of 105 Smith Court read a prepared statement regarding Mr. Comegno and issues related to his firm.
- d. Karen Vidal of 441 Oldershaw Avenue expressed her concerns related to children's hair being touched on photo day.
- e. Anthony Dragun of 547 Eaglebrook Drive thanked Dr. Fitts for his contributions.
- f. Elizabeth Pollard of 64 Brooks Road stated that it is difficult to listen to comments that mention segregation.

3. Close Public Comment

MOTION:

A motion is requested to close the floor for public comment.

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mr. Weinstein Vote: 9 - 0

XII. Adjournment – 8:27 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Weinstein Second: Mr. Weeks Vote: 9 – 0

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Heiser, CPA
Board Secretary