

**The Board of Education of Moorestown Township
Moorestown, New Jersey
MINUTES
William Allen Middle School
April 26, 2022 – 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

Absent	Dr. Sandra Alberti
Present	Mrs. Melissa Arcaro Burns
Absent	Mrs. Jill Fallows Macaluso
Present	Mrs. Cheryl Makopoulos
Present	Mrs. Claudine Morano
Present	Ms. Lauren Romano
Present	Mr. Mark Villanueva
Present	Dr. Mark Snyder, Vice President
Present	Mr. Maurice Weeks, President
Present	Mr. John Comegno, Esq., Solicitor
Present	Mr. Michael Volpe, Superintendent
Present	Mr. James M. Heiser, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Present	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

V. Executive Session – 5:45 p.m.

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:

- Confidential Personnel
- Confidential Student Matters
- Confidential Legal Matters

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Dr. Snyder Vote: Unanimous

VI. Return to Public – 6:40 p.m.

Moved by: Dr. Snyder Second: Ms. Romano Vote: Unanimous

VII. Routine Matters

A. Minutes

Approval of minutes for the following meetings attached as Exhibit #22-260:

March 8, 2022 Special Meeting
March 22, 2022 Executive Session
March 22, 2022 Regular Meeting

April 5, 2022 Executive Session
April 5, 2022 Special Meeting

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mrs. Arcaro Burns Vote: 6 – 0, Abstain – 1
Abstention: Mrs. Morano

B. Communications

C. President's Remarks

- Mr. Weeks welcomed the public and made several remarks.

D. Educational Highlights –Superintendent's Monthly Report

- General Updates – Mr. Volpe gave the Board and community updates on activities within the school buildings, health standards developed by NJDOE, and lead testing results.
- Retirement Recognition – Ms. Butler recognized Cheryl Diviney on her recent retirement from the district.

E. Student Board Representatives

- Bhavika Verma, Sophomore Class Liaison, updated the Board and community on a student council bowling event, MLK assembly, spirit week and an upcoming Quaker Games event.
- Advait Wattal, Freshman Class Liaison, updated the Board and community on spring sports and the importance of them in the school day.

F. Board Committee Reports – Questions and Comments

- a. Policy** – Dr. Snyder updated the Board on the recent Board Policy committee meeting. Topics included the school handbooks, student dress code, substance abuse policy review, concussion protocols, high school graduation requirements, and COVID related policies. Dr. Snyder reviewed the policies listed for first reading and second reading. Ms. Makopoulos asked if Policy 1648.11 had an expiration on it.
- b. Finance & Operations** – Mr. Villanueva updated the Board on the recent Finance and Operations committee meeting. Topics included a presentation by ESF Camps, discussions regarding janitorial services bid, lead testing, transportation issues and contract non-renewals, food service issues, county review of the 2022-2023 budget, grant discussions, claim experience related to health insurance, vision services renewal, and a MAA Codicil related to use of vacation time.
- c. Curriculum** – Ms. Romano updated the Board on the recent Curriculum committee meeting. Topics included a review of curriculum adoption methods and NJDOE health and physical education standards. Ms. Makopoulos thanked Mr. Volpe and Dr. Benton for their time and efforts with the committee.

- d. Communications** – In Dr. Alberti’s absence, Mr. Weeks provided an update on the recent Communications committee meeting. Topics included the community survey, the Google form posted online for community outreach, the upcoming Town Hall meeting, hybrid board meetings, how to best communicate as a Board, and the Board vacancy.

G. Public Comment

1. Open Public Comment

MOTION:

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

Moved by: Dr. Snyder Second: Ms. Romano Vote: Unanimous

2. Public Comment on Agenda Items

- a. Ms. Luz Ortega read a prepared statement in Spanish.
- b. A SEIU 32BJ Union Member read a prepared statement related to a recent settlement between SEIU 32BJ and the current contractor.
- c. Donald Smith, no address given, stated that he moved here for the schools. Mr. Smith expressed his concerns around the health standards and his opinion that the Board should address concerns at Board meetings.
- d. Sarah Rivera, no address given, asked if opening comments will be posted online. Ms. Rivera expressed concerns over the curriculum files posted online and her belief that they need some upkeep.
- e. Susan Powell of 446 Shady Lane, expressed her concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- f. Elizabeth Pollard of 64 Brooks Road read a statement about the public health curriculum and her opinions on accepting others.
- g. Steven Phillips, Teacher, expressed his concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- h. Greg Harr, Teacher, expressed his concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- i. Beth Phillips of 139 W. Maple Avenue expressed her concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- j. Glenn Furman, Teacher, expressed his concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- k. Greg Wilkinson, Teacher, expressed his concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- l. Amy Miele, Teacher, expressed her concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.

3. Close Public Comment

MOTION:

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

Moved by: Dr. Snyder Second: Ms. Romano Vote: Unanimous

VIII. Public Hearing on the 2022-2023 Budget

A. Open Public Hearing on the 2022-2023 Proposed Budget

MOTION:

I recommend that the Public Hearing on the 2022-23 Proposed Budget be opened.

Moved by: Dr. Snyder Second: Ms. Romano Vote: Unanimous

B. Public Comment on the Budget

- a. Jessica Trasatti, Teacher, expressed her concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- b. Mark Ambrosino of 512 Middlesex Drive, Teacher, expressed his concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- c. Tim Hurley, Teacher, expressed his concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- d. Norma Townes-Gonzalez, Paraprofessional, expressed her concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- e. Kelly Gartland, Teacher, expressed her concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- f. Dr. Tracee Panetti, Teacher, expressed her concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.
- g. Lorenzo Eagles of 88 Westbrook Drive, Teacher, expressed her concerns around teaching during COVID and current negotiations.

C. Close Public Hearing on the 2022-2023 Budget

MOTION:

I recommend that the Public Hearing on the 2022-2023 Proposed Budget be closed.

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Dr. Snyder Vote: Unanimous

IX. Adoption of Final Budget – 2022-2023

MOTION:

BE IT RESOLVED that the final budget be approved for the 2022-2023 School Year using the 2022-2023 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following final budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools:

	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUES	DEBT SERVICE	TOTAL
2022-23 Total Expenditures	80,714,552	1,815,969	4,927,513	87,458,034
Less: Anticipated Revenues	11,941,875	1,815,969	415,847	14,173,691
Taxes to be Raised	68,772,677	0	4,511,666	73,284,343

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Moorestown Township Board of Education includes in the budget the use of banked cap in the amount of \$194,796. The purpose of the banked cap is to continue to provide resources to our schools as they meet the

needs of our pupils in the areas of programming, safety, and security. The use of this banked cap cannot be deferred or incrementally completed over time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the proposed base budget exceeds the State's Adequacy Budget.

Moved by: Dr. Snyder

Second: Ms. Romano

Roll Call Vote: 6 - 0, Abstain - 1
Abstention: Mrs. Morano

X. Reports to the Board

A. Business Administrator/Board Secretary

- 1. Financial Reports of the Board Secy.** – February, 2022 – Exhibit #22-261
- 2. Treasurer's Report** – February, 2022 – Exhibit #22-262
- 3. Cafeteria Report** – March, 2022 – Exhibit #22-263

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.

4. Approval of Budget Transfers

I recommend approval of the budget transfers for the months of February, 2022 attached as Exhibit #22-264.

5. Approval of Bills

I recommend approval of the bills, in the amount of \$5,906,163.85 attached as Exhibit #22-265.

Approval of Items 1 – 5:

Moved by: Mrs. Arcaro Burns

Second: Ms. Romano

Vote: 6 – 0, Abstain – 1
Abstention: Mrs. Morano

XI. Recommendations of the Superintendent

A. Policies and Procedures

1. First Reading

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

- Policy 3233 Political Activities – Teaching Staff
- Policy 4233 Political Activities – Support Staff
- Policy 9181 Volunteer Athletic Coaches

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board enter on first reading the Policies and Regulations listed above as Exhibit #22-266.

2. Second Reading

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

- Policy 5541 Anti-Hazing
- Policy 8465 Bias Crimes and Bias Related Acts
- Regulation 8465 Bias Crimes and Bias Related Acts
- Policy 9180 School Volunteers

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board enter and adopt on second reading the Policies and listed above as Exhibit #22-267.

Approval of Items 1 – 2:

Moved by: Dr. Snyder

Second: Ms. Romano

Vote: 6 – 0, Abstain – 1

Abstention: Mrs. Morano

B. Educational Program

1. Burlington County Alternative School Placement for 2021-2022

The student listed is 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 student on Exhibit #22-268 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. 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 placements listed on Exhibit #22-269 for the 2021-22 school year at the location indicated at the approved tuition rates with transportation provided.

3. Special Education In-District Placements 2021-2022

The following student with special needs has been recommended for placement in a Moorestown Township Special Education Program. The sending district will bear the cost for tuition, 1:1 aide and provide transportation.

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the student with special needs listed on Exhibit #22-270 for placement in a Moorestown Township Special Education Program for the 2021-2022 school year at the appropriate rate of tuition with transportation provided by the sending districts. The sending district will bear the cost for a 1:1 aide.

Approval of Items 1 – 3:

Moved by: Mrs. Arcaro Burns Second: Ms. Romano Vote: 6 – 0, Abstain – 1
Abstention: Mrs. Morano

C. 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 #22-271.

2. Donations

MOTION:

I recommend the Board accept the following donation:

- \$500 from Drs. Kartik and Veda Giri to be used by the Girls Golf Program
- \$250 from The Hogg Family to be used by the MHS Girls Golf Team
- \$340 from Mary Beth Morrone to be used by the MHS Boys Volleyball
- \$1,000 from Paul Canton to be used by the MHS Boys Lacrosse Program
- \$300 from Dr. Sung Hun Kim and Mrs. Heejeong Sung to be used by the MHS Girls Golf Program

3. Cancellation of Outstanding Checks

MOTION:

I recommend the Board approve the cancellation of outstanding checks as listed in Exhibit #22-272.

4. Joint Transportation Agreement

Approval of the following Joint Transportation Agreement will allow Moorestown to participate in transportation services coordinated with Cinnaminson Township Board of Education for one (1) student with special needs.

MOTION:

I recommend the Board approve a Joint Transportation Agreement with Cinnaminson Township Board of Education for 3/28/22 to 6/17/22 in the amount of \$60.00 per diem for 52 days, totaling \$3,120.00.

5. Vision Care Plan

MOTION:

A resolution is requested approving renewal of the VSP vision care plan for a 48-month period effective July 1, 2022 as per attached Exhibit #22-273.

6. 2021 Coronavirus Response and Supplemental Appropriations Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund Amendment #1 Application

The Moorestown Township Public Schools' Coronavirus Response and Supplemental Appropriations Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund Amendment #1 Application for 2021 requires Board of Education approval. This amendment will be done to utilize the funds in the Learning Acceleration subgrant in conjunction with the ESSER III Summer Enrichment funding to run a more dynamic STEAM program during the summer of 2022. This amendment transfers money between accounts; the total amount of the grant does not change.

<u>Title of Grant</u>	<u>Grant Amount</u>
CRRSA	\$378,003
CR Learning Acceleration	\$25,000
CR Mental Health	<u>\$45,000</u>
Total	\$448,003

MOTION:

I recommend the Board approve the submission of the 2021 Coronavirus Response and Supplemental Appropriations Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund Amendment #1 Application and accept the grant award of these funds upon the subsequent approval.

7. 2022 American Rescue Plan (ARP) Homeless Children and Youth (HCY) II Grant Application

The Moorestown Township Public Schools' FY 2022 American Rescue Plan Homeless Children and Youth II Grant Application requires Board of Education approval. This grant amount of \$11,745 will be used for transportation.

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board hereby authorize the submission of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Homeless Children and Youth (HCY) II application for the Fiscal Year 2022, and accept the grant award of these funds upon the subsequent approval of the FY 2022 ARP-HCY II Application.

8. Sidebar Agreement

MOTION:

I recommend the Board approve the terms of the Sidebar Agreement with the Moorestown Administrators Association, as per the attached Exhibit #22-284.

Approval of Items 1 and 3 – 8:

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mrs. Arcaro Burns Vote: 6 – 0, Abstain – 1
Abstention: Mrs. Morano

Approval of Item 2:

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mrs. Arcaro Burns Vote: 5 – 0, Abstain – 2
Abstention: Mrs. Morano,
Mr. Villanueva

D. Employee Relations

1. **Appointments** - Exhibit #22-274
2. **Resignation** - Exhibit #22-275
3. **Change in Position, Hours and Start Date** - Exhibit #22-276
4. **Leaves of Absence** - Exhibit #22-277
5. **Extension of Contract** - Exhibit #22-278
6. **Substitutes** - Exhibit #22-279
7. **Athletics/CoCurricular/Clubs** - Exhibit #22-280
8. **Certificated Non-Tenure Staff – Reappointments** - Exhibit #22-281
9. **Certificated Tenured Staff – Reappointments** - Exhibit #22-282

Approval of Items 1 – 9, as amended in executive session:

Moved by: Dr. Snyder Second: Ms. Romano Roll Call Vote: 6 - 0, Abstain - 1
Abstention: Mrs. Morano

XII. Suspensions

A. Suspensions – Exhibit #22-283

B. Superintendent's HIB Report

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board approve the following HIB cases as discussed in executive session.

- Substantiated
 - UES - #11

Moved by: Dr. Snyder Second: Ms. Romano Roll Call Vote: 6 - 0, Abstain - 1
Abstention: Mrs. Morano

XIII. Informational Only

A. Enrollment Information – April 1, 2022

School	2020-2021	2021-2022
High School	1284	1284
Middle School	626	610
Upper Elementary School	851	867
Elementary School	<u>1051</u>	<u>1093</u>
Total	3812	3854

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. Snyder Second: Mrs. Arcaro Burns Vote: Unanimous

2. Public Comment

3. Close Public Comment

MOTION:

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

Moved by: Dr. Snyder Second: Mrs. Arcaro Burns Vote: Unanimous

XIV. Adjournment

Moved by: Mr. Villanueva Second: Dr. Snyder Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Heiser, CPA
Board Secretary