

The Board of Education of Moorestown Township
Moorestown, New Jersey
MINUTES
Video Conference
May 19, 2020 – 5:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order – 6:03 p.m.

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 10, 2019
- B. Notice filed with the Burlington County Times on July 10, 2019

II. Moment of Silence

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Roll Call

Present	Mr. Jack Fairchild
Present	Mrs. Dria Law
Present	Mrs. Katherine Mullin
Present	Ms. Lauren Romano
Present	Dr. Mark Snyder
Present	Mr. Mark Villanueva
Present	Mr. David A. Weinstein

Present	Mrs. Caryn Shaw, Vice President
Present	Dr. Sandra Alberti, President

Present	Mr. John Comegno, Esq., Solicitor
Present	Dr. Scott McCartney, Superintendent
Present	Mr. James M. Heiser, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Present	Ms. Carole Butler, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Present	Dr. David Tate, Director of Special Education
Present	Mrs. Debora Belfield, Director of Personnel
Present	Mr. Jeffrey Arey, Director of Instructional Technology

V. Executive Session

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A.10:4-6 ET.SEQ. (“The Open Public Meetings Act”), authorizes Board of Education to meet in executive session under certain circumstances, and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act requires that the Board adopt a resolution at a public meeting to go into private session, now, therefore,

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:

1. Matters concerning negotiations, and specifically,
 - a. Negotiations

2. Matters involving anticipated or pending litigation, including matters of attorney-client privilege, and specifically,
 - a. Legal Matters
3. Matters involving personnel issues, including but not limited to, the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion or discipline of any public officer or employee, and specifically,
 - a. Personnel

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public as soon as feasible. The minutes of the executive session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education will return to open session to conduct business at the conclusion of the executive session.

Moved by: Mr. Weinstein Second: Mr. Fairchild Vote: Unanimous

VI. Return to Public

Moved by: Mr. Weinstein Second: Mr. Fairchild Vote: Unanimous

VII. Adjournment

Moved by: Mr. Weinstein Second: Mr. Fairchild Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Heiser, CPA
Board Secretary

**The Board of Education of Moorestown Township
Moorestown, New Jersey
MINUTES
Video Conference
May 19, 2020 – 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:

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Present Mrs. Caryn Shaw, Vice President
Present Dr. Sandra Alberti, President

Present Mr. John Comegno, Esq., Solicitor
Present Dr. Scott McCartney, Superintendent
Present Mr. James M. Heiser, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Present Ms. Carole Butler, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
Present Dr. David Tate, Director of Special Education
Present Mrs. Debora Belfield, Director of Personnel
Present Mr. Jeffrey Arey, Director of Instructional Technology

V. Routine Matters

A. Minutes

Approval of minutes for the following meetings attached as Exhibit #20-263:

April 28, 2020 Executive Session

April 28, 2020 Regular Meeting

Moved by: Ms. Romano

Second: Mrs. Shaw

Vote: Unanimous

B. Communications

- a. Ms. Romano provided an update regarding a meeting that occurred with Senator Troy Singleton and Assemblywoman Carol Murphy.

- b. Mr. Weinstein requested Bill Mulvihill to speak about a post that he wrote related to the COVID-19 situation. Mr. Mulvihill requested seniors to write about their thoughts and feelings related to the closure. He requested honesty from the seniors and didn't expect the outcome that he saw. Mr. Mulvihill read a post from Facebook regarding the essay. Mr. Weinstein thanked Mr. Mulvihill and stated that our children and students have a great way of focusing differently on the current situation.

C. Educational Highlights –Superintendent’s Monthly Report

- General Updates
 - COVID-19 Closure Update

Dr. McCartney wished the community health and wellness and thanked the community for reaching out while also showing patience. Dr. McCartney updated the community and the Board regarding modifications to the Emergency Preparedness Plan that the Board will be requested to vote on under Old Business. Dr. McCartney thanked Carole Butler for her recent distribution to the community. Dr. McCartney referred to the letter sent to the community on Friday which includes information for the remainder of the school year and closeout of the school year. Dr. McCartney updated the community regarding graduation being on a virtual platform due to a State mandate. Dr. McCartney stated that we may be able to include something more personal due to the State changing mandates. Dr. McCartney reminded the community that this weekend is a four day weekend and that we will reopen on Wednesday.

D. Student Board Representatives

- John Comegno thanked the staff for its support during Spirit week, football games, plays, championship games, and rallying around one another. He always enjoyed honoring veterans on Veterans Day and stated that MHS is a place to find a way to give to those in need. He also thanked Mrs. Trapani for her support.
- Dov McGuire Berk stated his most notable memory is the Coaches Cup that the soccer team won in the fall. He felt it was really special watching the school rally around sports that don't always have success. The community seems to always stick together and support one another at MHS, and he is incredibly grateful for the opportunities provided to students. He reported that student council is donating \$1,000 to the Christopher Reeves Foundation.
- Cara Petrycki reported that MHS fundraised during Spirit week and will donate to MoorKids to help low income and families in need. MoorKids expressed gratitude and will put money into a general scholarship fund for Moorestown kids. AP tests have been going on for the past two weeks and Ms. Petrycki updated the Board on changes to the test. She noted that stress isn't from not knowing the information, but worrying about the technology.
- Claire Hurren reported that MHS masked singer has started. It has been fun to watch and participate in, and results will come out later this week.
- Colin DiPasquale reported that remote learning has progressed. With finals being canceled, the focus is on curriculum and completing course work. He noted he has become more acclimated to remote learning.

E. Board Committee Reports – Questions and Comments

- a. **Policy** – Mrs. Mullin updated the Board regarding the last Policy committee meeting. Discussion points included an administrative change to comply with open reading ballots, medication administration mandates from the State, and

graduation requirement changes related to career readiness for the Class of 2023.

- Mrs. Law asked how freed up credits would be used. Ms. Butler stated how the career readiness program will be incorporated into other classes and frees up students to take other electives.
- b. **Curriculum** – Ms. Romano provided an update on discussions at the meeting. Discussion points included proposals for math and Spanish text, LA pilot textbooks are on hold, summer curriculum writing will be postponed related to LA, reviewed graduation requirement changes, SEL needs and improvements made, May 15th SEL PD day, QSAC update, and end of year closeout.
- c. **Communications** – Mrs. Law reported discussion points that included virtual BOE meetings, school re-opening, changing guidelines, importance of clear communication plan and surveys, and how to best support the district and community.
- d. **Finance and Operations** – Mr. Weinstein reported discussion points that included building updates and cleanings, summer work for facilities, set points to conserve energy, re-opening concerns, pay to participate fees and procedures, COVID-19 update concerning revenue and expenditures through June 30th, revenue reductions in the amount of \$400,000, reduction in expenditures to offset revenue losses within budget, CARES allocation, 2020-21 COVID-19 update and its impact on revenue, possible tax deferment of local levy, delaying purchasing as far out into 2020-21 school year as possible, grounds bid will be opened in June, lease purchase is going out in June, RFP for professionals, dependent care plan modifications to allow grace period, and reviewed technology usage and how many students are using personal devices.
 - Dr. McCartney stated Pay to Participate letter was held up due to close out procedures coming out and not wanting to confuse the community.

F. Public Comment on Agenda Items

- a. J.J. Mumma, student, was having trouble unmuting the microphone while attempting to comment.
- b. Lisa Trapani, MEA President, stated that J.J. Mumma is a student reporting on a donation to the High School. Mrs. Trapani thanked the Board for the video and looks forward to working together. At the last board meeting, the number of paraprofessionals being impacted in the budget that was communicated caused concern. She appreciates the work that paraprofessionals are doing during this time.
- c. J.J. Mumma, Junior at MHS, spoke about Malawi, Africa school partnership and reported that \$1,000 was raised to donate to the school to help their educational needs.

VI. Reports to the Board

A. Business Administrator/Board Secretary

1. **Financial Reports of the Board Secy.** – March, 2020 – Exhibit #20-264
2. **Treasurer's Report** – December, 2019 – Exhibit #20-265
3. **Cafeteria Report** – March and April, 2020 - Exhibit #20-266

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 month of March, 2020 attached as Exhibit #20-267.

5. Approval of Bills

I recommend approval of the bills, in the amount of \$4,503,805.89 attached as Exhibit #20-268.

Approval of Items 1 – 5:

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mrs. Mullin Vote: Unanimous

Approval of Items 1 – 5:

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mrs. Mullin Vote: 8 – 0, Abstain – 1
Abstention: Mr. Weinstein

VII. 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 Regulation be entered on first reading:

- Policy 0152 Board Officers
- Policy 5330 Administration of Medication
- Regulation 5330 Administration of Medication
- Policy 5460 HS Graduation

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board enter on first reading the Policies and Regulation listed above as Exhibit #20-269.

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 0161 Call, Adjournment and Cancellation
- Policy 5512 HIB
- Policy 7243 Supervision of Construction
- Policy 8462 Reporting Potential Missing and Abused Children

MOTION:

I recommend that the Board enter and adopt on second reading the Policies listed above as Exhibit #20-270.

Moved by: Mrs. Law Second: Mr. Weinstein Vote: Unanimous

B. Finance and Business

1. 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 #20-271.

2. Tax Schedule

MOTION:

It is recommended that the Tax Schedule for the 2020-21 fiscal year, attached as Exhibit #20-272 be approved and forwarded to the Moorestown Township governing body for concurrent adoption.

3. Tuition Rates

MOTION:

It is recommended that the board approve the following tuition rates for the 2020-21 school year:

2020-2021 TUITION RATES		
	STATE/BUDGET FORMULA 2020-21	ESY RATES 16 days 2020
Kindergarten	\$13,371	
Elementary (1-3)	\$14,943	
Upper Elementary (4-6)	\$14,943	
Middle (7-8)	\$15,601	
High School (9-12)	\$16,578	
Multiply Disabled	\$31,572	\$2,800.00 \$175.00 per diem
Autism	\$26,679	\$2,800.00 \$175.00 per diem
Preschool Disabled – FT (AU Smile)	\$27,051	\$2,800.00 \$175.00 per diem
Preschool Program	\$3,500	
Extended Day Kindergarten Program	\$4,000	

4. Auditor Appointment

MOTION:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Moorestown Township Board of Education hereby approves the change in auditor from Holman Frenia Allison, P.C. to Holt McNally & Associates, Inc. at the same rate originally approved (fee not to exceed \$37,000).

5. Donations

MOTION:

I recommend the Board accept the following donation:

- \$50.00 from James & Teresa Lawlor to be used by HS Madrigals

6. Athletic Schedules – Fall 2020

MOTION:

I recommend the board approve the High School and Middle School athletic schedules for Fall 2020 per the attached Exhibit #20-273.

Approval of Items 1 – 6:

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mr. Fairchild Vote: Unanimous

C. Employee Relations

Subject to background checks as required by P.L. 1986 c116 and P.L. 1971, c.437 (C.9:6-8.8 et seq.), for the 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 school year.

1. Leave of Absence and Extensions

Administrative Staff

No actions recommended at this time.

Professional Staff

- a. Melanie Aksamit, a 3rd Grade Teacher at the Mary Roberts Elementary School, a paid Medical Leave of Absence September 1, 2020 through September 25, 2020; unpaid Family Medical Leave of Absence September 26, 2020 through January 5, 2021.
- b. Devon Rau, a 3rd Grade Teacher at the South Valley Elementary School, a paid Medical Leave of Absence October 5, 2020 through November 25, 2020; unpaid Family Medical Leave of Absence November 26, 2020 through March 4, 2021.
- c. Heather Gaskill, a Special Education Teacher at the Upper Elementary School, an unpaid Family Medical Leave of Absence September 1, 2020 through December 2, 2020.
- d. Katherine Kaubin a Special Education Teacher at the Middle School, a paid Medical Leave of Absence September 1, 2020 through September 24, 2020; unpaid Family Medical Leave of Absence September 25, 2020 through January 3, 2021.
- e. Lauren Tomaszewski, a Special Education Teacher at the Middle School, an unpaid Family Medical Leave of Absence September 1, 2020 through December 2, 2020.

Support Staff

- a. Ernest Bernard, a Bus Driver for the Transportation Department, an unpaid Medical Leave of Absence May 1, 2020 through May 15, 2020.

2. Retirement

Administrative Staff

No actions recommended at this time.

Professional Staff

- a. Marie Doman, a Learning Disabled Teacher-Consultant at the High School, after 16 years of service to the District, effective June 30, 2020.

Support Staff

No actions recommended at this time.

3. Change in Salary

Administrative Staff

No actions recommended at this time.

Professional Staff

No actions recommended at this time.

Support Staff

- a. Franco Cannistra, as a HVAC and General Maintenance for the District. Mr. Cannistra has been placed on Column E, Step 2 of the Building and Grounds Salary Guide at an annual salary of \$40,275.00 prorated, effective on or about July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

- 4. Administrative Leave - Exhibit #20-274**
- 5. Continuation of Employment-MAA - Exhibit #20-275**
- 6. Continuation of Employment-Certificated Non-Tenured Staff-Exhibit #20-276**
- 7. Continuation of Employment-Extended Day Care Staff - Exhibit #20-277**
- 8. Continuation of Employment-Non-Affiliated Staff - Exhibit #20-278**
- 9. Continuation of Employment-Bus Drivers - Exhibit #20-279**
- 10. Creative Minds Program - Exhibit #20-280**
- 11. Bus Driver Referral Bonus - Exhibit #20-281**
- 12. Practicum Student - Exhibit #20-282**

13. CST Summer Evaluation Staff - Exhibit #20-283

14. Delanco Shared Services Incentives - Exhibit #20-284

Approval of Items 1 – 6 and 8 – 14:

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mrs. Mullin Roll Call Vote: 9 - 0

Approval of Item 7:

Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mrs. Mullin Roll Call Vote: 8 – 0, Abstain – 1
Abstention: Mrs. Shaw

VIII. Informational Only

A. Enrollment Information – May 1, 2020

	2018-2019	2019-2020
High School	1279	1266
Middle School	639	659
Upper Elementary School	921	917
Elementary School	<u>1137</u>	<u>1136</u>
Total	3976	3978

B. Old Business

1. Updated School Closure Plan

MOTION:

I recommend the approval of the public health related school closure plan.

Moved by: Mr. Fairchild Second: Mrs. Law Vote: Unanimous

C. New Business

D. Public Comments

- a. Bridget Potts of 290 Crescent Avenue, provided a class size update.
- b. Dimitri Schneiberg stated that the budget including reductions in staff will worsen the class size problem. Student contribution to Board meetings always shows that we have great students. It is important for the Board and Administration to consider lessons learned. Communications are a challenge and needs to be better to parents. The note from Dr. McCartney was a bit of a miss due to various dates. The approach to instruction needs to include more live learning and a synchronous structured day. An in-person graduation that is mindful of distancing should be heavily considered.
- c. Kameron Rabenou thanked the Board and Administration for all the hard work. Children are at risk of not getting the education they need to be prepared for their futures. It is very important to make sure the execution of a model with complete education for next year is well thought out.
- d. Lisa Trapani, MEA President, stated that as a 30-year educator, one year has never been the same as the previous year. Teachers have embraced this change since day one. The District made changes immediately. New Jersey has the best education in the country. We are teaching reading, math, writing,

listening/speaking, geography, etc. Thank you to all those that support the district technology implementation plan because it has kept the District ahead of the curve.

- e. Dimitri Schneiberg stated he believes teachers have done an absolute amazing job deploying online learning.

IX. Executive Session

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Moved by: Ms. Romano Second: Mr. Weinstein Vote: Unanimous

X. Return to Public

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

XI. Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Heiser, CPA
Board Secretary