

To: Parents/Guardians
From: Mark Solimo
Date: February 10, 2011
Re: Board Meeting of February 8, 2011

F.Y.I.

Superintendent's Report

On Friday, February 4, 2011, twelve students from the Robert L. Craig School in Moonachie participated in the annual National Geographic Geography Bee. Participants included four representatives from grades six through eight. Contestants were selected from preliminary contests held in their Social Studies classes. Participants included Christina Giammona, Arber Hasangjekaj, Sandra Kaldas, Brittney Loesner, Jason Mohr, Francesca Morra, Frank Miller, Sarah Reyes, Marino Roa, Zachary Sellers, Michael Spadavecchia, and Matthew Veltri.

Students had to answer questions relating to U.S., world, and cultural geography, and were eliminated after getting three wrong questions. The last two remaining contestants competed in a final round, where they both received the same questions. The runner-up in the school wide competition was sixth grader Arber Hasangjekaj. The 2011 Robert L. Craig School National Geographic Geography Bee Champion was eighth grader Matthew Veltri. Congratulations, Matt! A special thanks goes out to Mr. Greg P. Keelen for coordinating the Bee.

The students in Mrs. Duff's class have been working very hard. They have almost completed learning their times tables to 12. They are almost finished a science unit on animals. An All About... book was written in December and they are writing nonfiction stories now. Many of the students have moved three or four levels in the reading program since September. One student in particular stands out in writing. Dialog has become an important element in this student's story writing. Along with dialog, this student writes with good voice and narration. The reading can feel the character's moods and understand what the character is experiencing. Mrs. Duff reports it is a pleasure to read this student's writing pieces.

All of Ms. Morales' classes have been making great gains, with her seventh grade resource room has excelled. The girls will be going into a higher level book and will continue to progress. They will be completing several projects and look forward to a very productive year. Ms. Morales is very happy with the effort and hard work the girls have put into their work. Ms. Morales is very proud of all her students and encourage them to continue to do their best work.

Finance

1. Approved to authorize submission of the 2010-2011 application for Special Education Extraordinary Aid. The total amount over \$40,000 qualified EXAID costs is \$63,204 and over \$55,000 qualified EXAID costs is \$60,148.
2. Discussed 2011-2012 Budget.

Personnel

1. Authorized the Superintendent to hire personnel on an emergent basis for the following position: Substitute Teachers

2. Approved the following workshops:

Workshop	Date	Attendee	Cost
2011 Conference for NJ Pre-K Teachers	2/24 & 25/2011	Jessica Salamone	\$349

3. Approved Kerry McLoughlin in the Special Education Maternity Leave Position on or about February 25, 2011 – June 30, 2011.
4. Approved Hamsa Baki as a substitute teacher.

Curriculum

1. Approved the following field trip:

Destination	Date	Grade
Paper Mill Playhouse 22 Brookside Dr. Millburn, NJ 07041 Bernstein Bears	June 3, 2011	Kindergarten

2. Approved implementation of the 2011 Summer Extended Year Program calendar:
 Program Calendar (22 days)
 July 6, 2011 – August 4, 2011
 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

 Staff Schedule
 July 5, 2011 – August 4, 2011
 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Facilities

1. Discussed 100th Anniversary activities.

New Business

1. Discussed school calendar regarding snow days.