

Mountainside Board of Education

Meeting Highlights

April 27, 2021



This newsletter provides a monthly summary of discussions and actions taken at the Mountainside Board of Education meetings.

These are not the official minutes. Please check our website for the official minutes and additional information.

Our meetings are recorded and can be viewed on our website.

Mountainside School District Board of Education

James W. Ruban, Jr. (President), Dana Guidici Pietro (Vice President)
 Bill Dillon, Jordan Hyman, Vivian Pupo
 Candice Schiano, Carmine Venes

Administrative Team

Janet Walling, Superintendent of Schools
 Raymond Slamb, Business Administrator
 Kimberly Richards, Principal - Deerfield School
 Suzanne Jenks, Principal – Beechwood School
 Sheri Rouleau, Supervisor of Special Services

Action Items	Action Taken
Approval of Minutes	<i>BOE approved minutes for:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> March 16, 2021 Regular, 1st and 2nd Executive Sessions
Superintendent's Report	Mrs. Walling provided district updates, including data that we will have over 95% of students in person as of the next transition. She outlined ideas for a new remote instruction format that will begin in May, which will be more synchronous and will help prepare students and staff for September. Mrs. Walling is exploring opportunities for summer learning for students. She noted the end-of-the-year activities that Mrs. Richards and 8th Gr. parents have been planning, including outdoor graduation plans. Mrs. Richards is also working on a digital archive of 8th grade photos going back over 80 years. Together with BNL's donation to digitize, and help from the community to gather photos, this is sure to be a Deerfield treasure. Mr. Rosenblum and Ms. Barkin are working hard on the school play, movie under the stars event. The traditional PTO bike rodeo will take place within our protocols and the PTO Science Fair will be done virtually. Mrs. Jenks and PTO are in the planning stages. Finally, Mrs. Walling is pleased to introduce the new BW principal, Jessica Vierschilling, who was in attendance. Mrs. Vierschilling said she is honored and excited to begin.
Business Administrator's Report	Mr. Slamb provided an update on the completion of the Touchless Upgrade Project. He then presented the Preliminary Budget for the 2021-2022 School Year. Mr. Dillon asked about LED/HVAC upgrades and subscription busing costs, to which Mr. Slamb responded.
BH Liaison Report	Mr. Hyman reported that Dr. Varley gave updates on their diversity initiatives. Ms. Fellazolla presented the 21/22 Budget. They discussed technology changes that will be a part of the 22/23 budget. There were spring sports updates and BH will be having a virtual school play. GL hockey team won the Kelly Cup Championship (only 2nd time in school history). GL had a list of college acceptances, and there was a presentation of full day kindergarten that included redistricting implications.
Administration	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> Superintendent's recommendations on HIB incident dated 3/8/21; 2021-2022 Lead Testing Program SOA; BW & DF March safety and security drill reports.
Budget and Finance	<i>BOE approved.</i> <i>As certified by the Board Secretary:</i> Budget transfers for March; Payment of the Bill List; Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for March 2021; Reports of the Board Secretary for March 2021. <i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> Final budget for 21-22 SY; Dr. Ronald Frank to provide School Physician Services for 21/22 SY for \$2,250; Mountainside BOE and NJSBA to participate in the ACES NJSBA Cooperative Pricing System; Mountainside School District Purchasing Manual; JAG Consulting proposal for 21/22 SY for tech services at \$35/hr. rate; Closing Student Council Fund bank acct. at Valley Bank with remaining funds transferred to DF General Student Activities Acct; \$475 annual fee for subscription busing for 21/22 SY; Renewal of FSMC base year contract with Maschio's Food

Services for 21/22 SY; Annual renewal of Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ as health benefits provider for the district in 21/22 SY; Building request from Actor's Camp for DF from July 5-30; Acceptance of \$6,000 grant from Watt's Foundation for DF library books; Coordinated Transportation Services between UCESC and Mountainside BOE for Spec. Ed. Transportation during 21/22 SY; Updated costs for District-Wide Touchless Upgrade Project; Special Education placements; School District Travel.

Personnel *As recommended by the Superintendent, BOE approved:*
 Appointment and contract of Jessica Vierschilling as BW Principal for 21/22 SY; Appointment of Laurie Naftulin, Gr. 1 Leave Replacement May 5-June 18; Certificated tenured personnel list for 21/22 SY; Certificated non-tenured personnel list for 21/22 SY; Secretaries and Custodians list for 21/22 SY; Maternity Disability Leave for Lisa Dent, Gr. 3 from June 14-18 and FMLA leave from Sept 1-Nov 24, 2021; Medical Leave of absence; Notification to take classes from Ellie Barkin for 3 credits at TCNJ 2021 Summer Session; Notification to take classes from Zachary Worswick for 6 credits at Univ. of Missouri - Mizzou for 2021 Spring Session; Additional hours for Dana Peterson; Sue Goracy to mentor Isaiah James; Stipend Positions.

Curriculum *As recommended by the Superintendent, BOE approved:*

Event	Location	Date
Deerfield Middle School Play	Deerfield Softball Field	5/14/2021, 5/15/2021
8th Grade Party	The Forest Lodge	6/15/2021
8th Grade Pool Party	Mountainside Community Pool	6/18/2021

Policy *BOE had the first reading of the following policies:*

P 2415	Every Student Succeeds Act	Revised/Mandated
P 2415.02	Title I - Fiscal Responsibilities	Revised/Mandated
P 2415.05	Student Surveys, Analysis, and/or Evaluations	Revised/Mandated
P 2415.20 R 2415.20	Every Student Succeeds Act Complaints	Revised/Mandated New/Mandated

BOE had the second reading and adoption of the following policies:

R 1642	Earned Sick Leave Law	Revised/Mandated
P1643	Family Leave	New/Mandated
P 7425	Lead Testing of Water in Schools	Revised/Mandated
R 7425	Lead Testing of Water in Schools	New/Mandated

BOE abolished the following policies/regulations: P3431.13, P4431.1

New Business Dr. Guidici Pietro recognized Nicholas Schiano and Ryder Bernholz for 4th place NJ Youth Wrestling State Championship in their age/weight class; Mr. Dillon thanked the staff involved in the BW Principal search process and said that baseball has had a good start to the season. Library Liaison. Mrs. Pupo reported that the library is now open, and the website is up and running. The Friends of the Library book sale will be 4/29-30, and the Hetfield House plant sale is 4/29-5/2 from 9-4. The 8th Gr. Scholarship essay contest info will be coming soon. PTO Liaison. Dr. Guidici Pietro reported that there will be a modified Spring Fling fundraiser 5/26, with details to follow. The PTO and Meghan Crilly Scholarships will have information soon.

Committee Reports *Budget and Finance:* The committee reviewed the Actor's Camp building request, touchless upgrades, budget and tuition for 21/22, and personnel contracts. Grants/Alternate Funding. Mr. Hyman thanked Mr. Slamb for the historical information on grants and looks forward to exploring future grant opportunities.

Public Comments A member of the community asked about programming and budget for the Gifted & Talented Program, to which Mrs. Walling responded. Mr. Rosenblum, DF Music Teacher, thanked the administration for their support of the upcoming school performance and is excited to have this creative opportunity for the students. He provided information on ticket sales, concessions and the mapping for spectators. A member of the community asked about self-contained plans and spec. ed. staffing, to which Mrs. Walling responded.

Our website: www.mountainsideschools.org

Please contact the office of the Mountainside BOE for additional information or questions: 908-232-3232.