

Mountainside Board of Education

Meeting Highlights

December 20, 2022



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
 Steven Robinson, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary
 Suzanne Jenks, Principal – Deerfield School
 Jessica Vierschilling, 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"> November 15, 2022 Regular Session November 15, 2022 Executive Session
Correspondence	none
Public Participation	none
President's Report	none
Superintendent's Report	Mrs. Walling recognized Mr. Wayne DeVico's retirement after 31 years as Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds, Mr. James Ruban, Jr.'s stepping down as Board President after 12 years, and our Teachers, Ed. Services Professionals, and Support Staff of the Year winners. She provided district updates, including the installation of the DF digital sign. Each Board member commended all of the evening's honorees. Mr. Ruban followed with an eloquent speech addressing his time on the Board of Education and each of the Board members' and Administrators' strengths going forward.
Business Administrator's Report	none
BH Liaison Report	Mr. Hyman reported from the 11/17 meeting that the marching band won numerous awards; GL Robotics did a demo after their fall competition; Feedback on Thinking Classroom was discussed; Hilltop Players' fall performance was great. From the 12/15 meeting, Mr. Hyman reported on the successful Highlander Honors Night; Hilltop Players Spring play was announced; there were updates on various winter sports, winter concert, culture week and a new a cappella group. Survey results on the 23/24 school calendar were shared; College JumpStart Program is going well; it was the Board President's last meeting after 1 year; NJGPA presentation; BH purchased a new bus. Upcoming Reorganization meeting will be on Jan. 5th, and the regular meeting on Jan. 12th.
Administration	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> Recognition of Mr. Ruban's years of service on the Board of Education; HIB reports affirmed; Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Plan; November BW/DF safety and security drill reports.
Budget and Finance	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> Budget Transfers for October and November; Payment of the Bill Lists; Board Secretary Report for October and November; Agreement with GL for Resource Room Tuition for 22/23; Addendum to Independent Contractors/Physicians/Services List; Agreement with Xtel Communications for a 60-mo. lease for a new district-wide phone system; School District Travel/Professional Development.

Personnel	<p><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved: for the 22/23 SY</i></p> <p>Teachers, Ed. Services Professionals, and Support Staff of the Year winners; Retirement of Nancy Kinney, effective July 1, 2023; Maternity/Disability and FMLA Leave for Victoria Tiscia effective April 11, 2023 - October 3, 2023; Maternity/Disability and FMLA Leave for Amanda Roy effective March 8, 2023-Dec. 6, 2023; Extended unpaid leave for Rebecca Tafaro from Jan. 20, 2023-June 30, 2023; Michelle Cruz for 11.5 hours of supplemental instruction; Extended appointment of Nicole Tyburski, paraprofessional from Dec. 18, 2023-June 30, 2023; Additional hours for Barbi Higinbotham for curriculum writing; Stipend positions; Irene Rigos added to substitute teacher list; Paula Conte to assist with office duties as needed.</p>																												
Curriculum	<p><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Studies Curriculum for Grades K-8 • Class trips as follows: <table border="1" data-bbox="344 415 1534 940"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>Destination</i></th> <th><i>Grade</i></th> <th><i>Teacher</i></th> <th><i>Estimated Cost</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mayo Performing Arts Center</td> <td>4</td> <td>Laurendi</td> <td>Tickets- \$704 - pd by PTO Bus - \$1100 - pd by PTO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governor Livingston High School</td> <td>8</td> <td>Pinho</td> <td>Bus - \$880 - pd by BOE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Theater at RVCC</td> <td>6</td> <td>Donato/Ridley</td> <td>Tickets- \$704 - pd by PTO Bus- \$880- pd by PTO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Trailside Science Center</td> <td>5</td> <td>Kinney</td> <td>Tickets-\$640- pd by PTO Bus-\$1100- pd by PTO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Union County Teen Arts</td> <td>6-8</td> <td>Tiscia</td> <td>Bus- \$600 pd by BOE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Somerset Patriots</td> <td>5</td> <td>Kinney</td> <td>Paid by D.A.R.E.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Destination</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Teacher</i>	<i>Estimated Cost</i>	Mayo Performing Arts Center	4	Laurendi	Tickets- \$704 - pd by PTO Bus - \$1100 - pd by PTO	Governor Livingston High School	8	Pinho	Bus - \$880 - pd by BOE	Theater at RVCC	6	Donato/Ridley	Tickets- \$704 - pd by PTO Bus- \$880- pd by PTO	Trailside Science Center	5	Kinney	Tickets-\$640- pd by PTO Bus-\$1100- pd by PTO	Union County Teen Arts	6-8	Tiscia	Bus- \$600 pd by BOE	Somerset Patriots	5	Kinney	Paid by D.A.R.E.
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Policy	<p><i>BOE had the second reading and adoption of the following policies:</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="344 1018 1513 1201"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bylaw 0132</td> <td>Executive Authority</td> <td>Revised</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P 3216</td> <td>Dress and Grooming</td> <td>Revised</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P 4216</td> <td>Dress and Grooming</td> <td>New</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Bylaw 0132	Executive Authority	Revised	P 3216	Dress and Grooming	Revised	P 4216	Dress and Grooming	New																			
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Old Business	none																												
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Committee Reports	none																												
Public Comments	A member of the community congratulated and thanked Mr. Ruban and Mr. DeVico for the amazing commitment to the Mountainside School Community over their years.																												

Our website: www.mountainsideschools.org

Please contact the office of the Mountainside BOE for additional information or questions: [908-232-3232](tel:908-232-3232).