

Mountainside Board of Education

Meeting Highlights

December 15, 2020



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 or on Channel 35.

Mountainside School District Board of Education

James W. Ruban, Jr. (President), Dana Guidiciopietro (Vice President)
Bill Dillon, Dante Gioia, Jordan Hyman,
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"> November 17, 2020 Regular and Executive Session
President's Report	Mr. Ruban recognized Mr. Gioia and thanked him for his many years of service on the Board of Education. Other board members thanked him for his guidance, honesty and all he's done for the community. Mr. Gioia thanked Mr. Ruban and everyone for their support. He discussed accomplishments of the board and praised Mrs. Walling, and the staff for all their hard work.
Superintendent's Report	Mrs. Walling thanked Mr. Gioia for his years of dedication on the BOE. She recognized 8th graders for their virtual mural and Mr. Rosenblum and his chorus for their contribution to the CD <i>Simple Prayers for Challenging Times</i> . She provided an academic update and evaluation of programming and assessment tools being used this year. She discussed school health updates, the decision for January 4th-8th to be a fully remote week of instruction for all students, and thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication to keeping schools healthy and safe.
Business Administrator's Report	Mr. Slamb thanked Mr. Gioia for his hard work and dedication to the BOE. He congratulated Dr. Guidiciopietro on her reelection and Ms. Pupo who was newly elected and will be joining the BOE in January. He discussed a project to upgrade to touchless faucets and flushometers and also the upgrade from Chromebooks to laptops for staff.
BH Liaison Report	Mr. Gioia reported the retirement of Board members Bill Cassano and Gerard Crisonino, wished them luck in the future, and welcomed newly elected board members.
Administration	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolution honoring Mr. Dante Gioia, Mountainside BOE member; Various curriculum documents; BW & DF November safety and security drill reports.
Budget and Finance	<i>BOE approved:</i> <i>As certified by the Board Secretary:</i> Budget transfers for November; Payment of the Bill List; Reports of the Board Secretary for November 2020. <i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of CARES Act grant funds to provide a \$2,000 stipend to each of our school nurses, Lisa Bruno and Sonia Branco for contact tracing work; District Wide Touchless Upgrade Project in the amount of \$31,533.76; School District Travel.

Personnel	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, BOE approved:</i>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointment of Isaiah James, Music Teacher (Leave Replacement) from 2/3/21-3/26/21; Appointment of Teresa Banks, 6th Gr. (Leave Replacement) from 12/2/20-1/14/21, and 2nd Gr. (Leave Replacement) from 3/3/21-6/18/21; Elizabeth Shimwell to mentor Teresa Banks from 12/2/20-3/26/21; Unpaid extended Family Leave for Rebecca Tafaro from 1/26/21-6/30/21; Dana Peterson for 3 additional student sessions/wk. from 12/1/20-6/18/21; Medical leave of absence for Employee #91011247 from 11/30/20-1/12/21; Addition of Nicole Tyburski to the 20-21 Substitute List, pending paperwork; 20-21 Stipend positions as follows: 		
	Activity	Staff	Rate
	Assistant Play Director	Ellie Barkin-Baron	\$2,399
	Basketball Developmental Club	Nicole Cruts	\$3,096 (1-2 yr rate)
Basketball Developmental Club	Dan Kessler	\$3,538 (3+ yr. rate)	

Policy	<i>BOE had the first reading of the following policies:</i>		
	P 2431.3	Heat Participation Policy for Student-Athlete Safety	Revised/Mandated
	P/R 5330.04	Administering an Opioid Antidote	Revised/Mandated
	P/R 5610	Suspension	Revised/Mandated
	P 5620	Expulsion	Revised/Mandated
	P 8420	Emergency and Crisis Situations	Revised/Mandated
	P 2431.3	Heat Participation Policy for Student-Athlete Safety	Revised/Mandated
	<i>BOE had the second reading and adoption of the following policies:</i>		
	0164.6	Remote Public Board Meetings During a Declared Emergency	New/Mandated
	R5200	Attendance	Revised/Mandated
	R5533	Student Smoking	Mandated
	R5600	Student Discipline/Code of Conduct	Revised
	P/R 5610	Suspension/Suspension Procedures	Revised/Mandated
	P/R 8320	Personnel Records	Revised/Mandated

Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> none
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New Business	Mr. Ruban mentioned there will be a BA report included on future agendas; Mrs. Schiano discussed the idea of a change in meeting start times to begin at 6:30 pm; Mr. Dillon commented on the nurses' stipends; Dr. Guidici Pietro congratulated Mr. Rosenblum and his students for their part in a CD recording.
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Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> none
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Public Participation	Several community members thanked Mrs. Walling and staff for their hard work to keep schools open. Someone asked about alignment of curriculum and iReady and data information for parents to support students. Someone else asked if activities/sports will be pushed back beyond Jan. 11th, and another asked about Chromebooks. Mrs. Walling responded to all.
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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).