

Mountainside Board of Education

Meeting Highlights

February 1, 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
 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"> December 21, 2021 Regular Session December 21, 2021 Executive Session January 4, 2022 Reorganization
Superintendent's Report	Mrs. Walling thanked the Board members for their dedication to the Mountainside School District for School Board Recognition Month. She then presented a Start Strong Data report with results from September's testing. Finally, she reported on the School Self-Assessment for Determining Anti-Bullying Grades. Mrs. Walling congratulated the Boys' Basketball team for an undefeated season.
BH Liaison Report	Mr. Hyman reported from the January meeting that the 22/23 school calendar was approved. Dr. Varley shared a Start Strong data presentation. There were also updates to winter sports, that wrestling, hockey and basketball teams are all doing well. The next meeting will be on February 8th.
Administration	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> School Board Recognition Month; HIB summary dated 12/19/21; SOA regarding use of Paraprofessional Staff for 21/22 SY; NJDOE Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act for BW & DF for 20/21 SY; BW & DF December safety and security drill reports; Steven Robinson as Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary from 2/8/22-6/30/22 at \$750 per diem rate pending paperwork.
Budget and Finance	<i>BOE approved.</i> <i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved: (for the 21-22 SY)</i> Payment of the Bill List; Steven Robinson as Custodian of Records and QPA establishing a \$44,000 bid threshold, and School Alliance Insurance Fund Commissioner; List of bank depositories and signatories for public funds; PEAK tuition rate for 22/23 at \$4,500 for 5 half day sessions; Acceptance of Watts Foundation grant of \$9,000 for the DF Spring Musical; School District Travel.
Personnel	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, BOE approved:</i> Termination of the agreement with School Business Office, LLC and employee #77427607 effective 1/20/22; Appointment of Teresa Banks to 4th Gr. Leave Replacement teacher at \$185 per diem rate effective 3/8/22-6/21/22; Appointment of Sophia Puleo to 1st Gr. Leave Replacement at \$150 per diem for first 20 days, then \$185 for the balance from 1/12/22-6/21/22; Increased hours for paraprofessionals, M. Saltalamachia, K. Williams, and L. Shehu for 7 hours/week additional hours effective 2/14/22-6/21/22; Revised appointment of Brittney Baldwin, DF School Counselor to begin 1/19/22; Addition of Michael Lamera and Gavin Jakositz to the substitute teacher list for 21/22; Appointment of Monika Zmuda as part-time lunch aide at \$14/hour for the 21/22 SY, pending paperwork; Teachers, J. Lima, J. Lauterbach, and K. Herscheit,

	for virtual instruction as needed at rate of \$43.29/hour; Fall '21 tuition reimbursement for Ellie Barkin-Baron for \$2,154; Notification to take class from Ellie Barkin-Baron for Spring '22 for \$2,154; Notification to take class from Julie Lima for Winter '22 for \$150; Stipend for contact tracing for S. Branco and L. Bruno from ARP funds for \$3,000 each; Mentorship of S. Puleo by J. Lauterbach from 2/1/22-6/21/22	
Policy	<i>BOE had the first reading of the following policies:</i>	
	P 3134	Assignment of Extra Duties
	P 3142	Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member
	P 4146	Nonrenewal of Nontenured Support Staff Member
	<i>BOE had the second reading and adoption of the following policies:</i>	
P 0131	Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations	
P 5751	Sexual Harassment of Students	
Old Business	Mrs. Pupo and Mr. Hyman thanked our nurses for their efforts in contact tracing.	
New Business	Mrs. Pupo reported that the library is open full time. Mr. Hyman complimented students and staff for the winter concert, and other board members concurred. Dr. Guidici Pietro mentioned the PTO will hold a meeting on Monday.	
Committee Reports	Mr. Venes noted the Negotiations Committee held their initial meeting to set dates. Mr. Dillon noted the Budget and Finance Committee met twice, discussing PEAK tuition rates, bus costs, early budgeting plans, and they are eager to meet the new Business Administrator.	
Public Comments	None	

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).