

Mountainside Board of Education

Meeting Highlights

February 15, 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	<p><i>BOE approved minutes for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> February 1, 2022 Regular Session February 1, 2022 Executive Session
Superintendent's Report	<p>Mrs. Walling congratulated the Boys' Basketball team for an undefeated season and winning the CJAA Championship. She presented players, coaches and managers with certificates of achievement. She went on to mention that Governor Murphy has announced that masking will be optional as of 3/7/22, and a letter went out to parents that Mountainside will be optional as well. Based on federal guidelines, masks will still be required on buses. We are awaiting DOH updates for going forward regarding quarantine timelines, etc. Our local DOH agrees to optional masking given our lower number of positive cases, our distancing, and other parameters. Mrs. Walling noted that mid-year benchmarks data reports from IReady and LinkIt will be available soon for teachers and parents to review.</p>
Business Administrator's Report	<p>Mr. Robinson mentioned that the Governor is delaying his address on the budget until 3/8/22. The tentative budget will be prepared in the next 2 weeks for the Budget and Finance Committee to review. The state has 48 hours after the address to release state aid figures, but Mr. Robinson is not expecting any issues. Mrs. Walling mentioned that the March board meeting may be pushed back a week due to these delays from the state. She also welcomed Mr. Steven Robinson as our new Interim Business Administrator, and looks forward to working with him.</p>
BH Liaison Report	<p>Mr. Hyman reported that the 2/8/22 meeting was for school boards training, and not a full meeting. Dr. Varley announced her plans to make masking optional as of 3/7/22. Governor Livingston High School's Wrestling Team made it to the state sectionals for the first time since 1981. They lost but performed well. The Fencing Team made the state finals coming up on 3/5/22. The next meeting will be on 3/4/22.</p>
Administration	<p><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i></p> <p>SSDS Report from 9/1/21-12/31/21; SEMI waiver application; 22/23 SY calendar; ELL Program Plan 21-24; ESY 2022 Program dates and times; BW & DF January safety and security drill reports.</p>
Budget and Finance	<p><i>BOE approved:</i></p> <p><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i></p> <p>Budget transfers for Dec. 2021 and Jan. 2022; Payment of the Bill List; Board Secretary Reports for Dec. 2021 and Jan. 2022; Addition of Tri-County Behavioral Health to list of Independent Contractors/Physicians/Agencies for 21/22 SY; Agreement with UCESC for coordinated transportation services for 22/23 SY.</p>

Personnel	<p><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, BOE approved:</i> Appointment of Steven Robinson as Custodian of Records, Official for Investments and Wires, Designates Tax Shelter Annuity Companies, Approves Chart of Accts, Authorizes the Use of State Contracts, Approves Use of Facilities Fees per Policy 7510, P.A.C.O.; Stipend List; Resignation of Dennis Hassel, Jr., custodian effective 3/1/22; Maternity Disability Leave for Elizabeth Shimwell, 4th Gr. teacher from 5/23/22-11/25/22; Appointment of Christine Kiesewetter to temporary paraprofessional position from 3/8/22-6/21/22; Tuition reimbursement for Julie Lima Winter session course at FDU for \$150; ARP Beyond the School Day list of before/after school day instructors.</p>																				
Policy	<p><i>BOE had the first reading of the following policies:</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="381 409 1485 598"> <tr> <td>P 5541</td> <td>Anti-Hazing</td> <td>New/Mandated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P 7540</td> <td>Joint Use of Facilities</td> <td>Revised</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P 8465</td> <td>Bias Crimes and Bias-Related Acts</td> <td>Revised/ Mandated</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>BOE had the second reading and adoption of the following policies:</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="381 661 1485 850"> <tr> <td>P 3134</td> <td>Assignment of Extra Duties</td> <td>Revised</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P 3142</td> <td>Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member</td> <td>Revised</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P 4146</td> <td>Nonrenewal of Nontenured Support Staff Member</td> <td>Revised</td> </tr> </table>			P 5541	Anti-Hazing	New/Mandated	P 7540	Joint Use of Facilities	Revised	P 8465	Bias Crimes and Bias-Related Acts	Revised/ Mandated	P 3134	Assignment of Extra Duties	Revised	P 3142	Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member	Revised	P 4146	Nonrenewal of Nontenured Support Staff Member	Revised
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Old Business	None																				
New Business	None																				
Committee Reports	None																				
Public Comments	None																				

Our website: www.mountainsideschools.org

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