

Mountainside Board of Education

Meeting Highlights

July 19, 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"> June 28, 2022 Regular Session June 28, 2022 1st and 2nd Executive Sessions
Superintendent's Report	Mrs. Walling provided an update to our ESY and Summer Learning Academy programs. She pointed out the revised school calendar on the agenda. She noted we are interviewing for open positions, and how difficult it is for all districts to find a robust pool of candidates. We are always looking for substitute teachers, and are expanding where we advertise. As a follow up to a parent's concern last month, the Curriculum Committee met about Honor Roll. We are planning to move to a trimester system for middle school. The Committee discussed celebrating Honor Roll students with a certificate after each trimester, and recognition for those students who receive this honor for all trimesters at an end of year Board meeting. Handbooks and Genesis will be updated to reflect this change. The board asked questions and Mrs. Walling responded.
Business Administrator's Report	None
BH Liaison Report	Mr. Hyman's last meeting on July 11th, was an emergency meeting to approve the transportation contract. They approved 9 of 11 routes, with a 62% increase. The next meeting will be Aug 11th.
Administration	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> Superintendent's Merit goals for 21/22 SY; Revised school calendar for 22/23 SY ; BW & DF June safety and security drill reports.
Budget and Finance	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> Budget transfers for June 2022; Payment of the Bill List; Acceptance of Watts Foundation donation of \$6,930.23 for DF Thinking Classroom; Transportation bids, awarding Durham School Services for \$342,584.90; Property and Liability insurance brokers/companies for 22/23 SY; Agreement with Tri-County Behavioral Care for therapeutic services for 22/23 SY; School District Travel; Special Education placements and services.
Personnel	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> Appointment of Erin Cassata, Custodian, Step 3 Maintenance; Resignation of Jason Whitaker, Technology Coordinator effective July 29, 2022; Dayna Carroll salary partially paid through ESEA Title I funds; Tuition reimbursement for Ellie Barkin-Baron for 2022 Spring Session for \$2,154; Part-time lunch/media aides list for 22/23 SY;

Policy	<i>BOE had the first reading of the following policies:</i>		
	P 0142.1	Nepotism	Revised
Policy	<i>BOE had the second reading and adoption of the following policies:</i>		
	P 9320 R 9320	Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies	Revised/Mandated New/Mandated
Old Business	Mr. Venes attended a county board meeting. They discussed school start times, where older high school students start later, and younger students start earlier. The trend is picking up and some local districts are making adjustments.		
New Business	None		
Committee Reports	Mrs. Pupo mentioned the new library director will be starting July 27th. Mrs. Richards is still involved in the ongoing project with the library. Mr. Hyman asked about the digital sign. Mrs. Walling responded that Mr. DeVico is on top of it, but there are delays with the company. Mrs. Schiano commented that the Curriculum Committee met as discussed earlier, and it was very productive. The Strategic Planning Committee convened, and reviewed goals, most of which are in progress or have been met. They will continue to evaluate these goals.		
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).