

Mountainside Board of Education

Meeting Highlights

October 17, 2023



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

Vivian Pupo (President), Dana Guidici Pietro (Vice President)
 Bill Dillon, Michael Goodwin, Jordan Hyman,
 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"> September 19, 2023 Regular Session September 19, 2023 Executive Session
Correspondence	none
Public Participation	none
President's Report	Mrs. Pupo thanked the PTO for an outstanding Fall Festival.
Superintendent's Report	Mrs. Walling thanked the PTO for the Fall Festival event. She also thanked the MEF for the Glow Ride event. Week of Respect just finished, and Week of Violence Awareness is coming up. Students were reminded of our HIB policies, treating everyone equally and respectfully. DF students and families were part of an informative Cyber Safety event. BW had a safety assembly geared towards the younger age group. Mrs. Walling noted she and Mrs. Castro attended a QSAC meeting in preparation for our QSAC audit this year. Mrs. Walling shared state test results, starting with NJSLA. She went through Math, ELA, and Science results. She also reported on ACCESS and DLM data results. The Board commented how well Mountainside did overall as a district. Board members asked some questions, to which Mrs. Walling responded.
Business Administrator's Report	none
BH Liaison Report	Mr. Hyman reported from the last meeting on 10/12, and noted upcoming meetings on 11/2 and 11/16. He gave sports updates from GL. A College and Career Fair took place in October. There were HIB and District Goals presentations. There will be a transportation and school safety study. The play will take place in November. BH approved a new STEAM director.
Administration	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved for the 23/24 SY</i> District Goals; Nursing Services Plan; Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist for BW and DF; Comprehensive Maintenance Plan; BW/DF Sept. drills and bus evacuation drills.
Budget and Finance	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> Budget transfers for August 2023; Payment of the Bill Lists; Board Secretary Report for August; Shared Services Agreement with Mtsd. Boro for Class II Officers for the 23-24 SY; MEF donation of \$1,500 and PTO donation of \$1,455 to be used for Cyber Safety event; Contract with Annie Taranto for PD; School District Travel/PD.
Personnel	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved for the 23/24 SY:</i> Appointment of Jeyanthi Ponnusamy, 7th Gr. Math LTS; Nicole Tyburski as AIM LTS; Stipend Positions; Allison Hansen as part-time lunch aide; New substitutes; Mentorships.
Curriculum	Field trips as detailed to the Board of Education.

Policy	<i>BOE had the first reading of the following policies/regulations:</i>		
	Suspend Bylaw 0131 and adopt new Policy 1642.01 and new Regulation 1642.01 and revised Policy 2419 and new Regulation 2419 with one reading.		
	P & R 1642.01	Sick Leave	New/Recommended
	R 2419	School Threat Assessment Teams	New/Mandated
	<i>BOE had the first reading of the following policies/regulations</i>		
	P 1230	Superintendent's Duties	Revised/Mandated
	P 2425	Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program	Revised/Mandated
	P 8441	Care of Injured or Ill Persons	Revised/Mandated
	P 8500	Food Services	Revised/Mandated
	<i>BOE had the second reading and adoption of the following policies/regulations:</i>		
0164.6	Remote Public Board Meetings During a Declared Emergency	Revised/Mandated	
P 2419	School Threat Assessment Teams	New/Mandated	
P 2425	Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program	Revised/Mandated	
P 5240	Tardiness	Revised/Mandated	
<i>BOE abolished the following policies/regulations:</i>			
P & R 3432	Sick Leave	Abolish	
P & R 4432	Sick Leave	Abolish	
Old Business	none		
New Business	Mr. Dillon thanked the district for the informative Cyber Safety events. Mrs. Walling thanked Mrs. Jenks for researching and recommending the program.		
Committee Reports	The Board discussed some details in the new Sick Leave policy.		
Public Comments	A member of the community asked Mrs. Walling about test results percentages and to provide more context with the number of students tested. He asked if data for students out-of-district are reported. Mrs. Walling responded. He asked the Board to consider updating the school website. Some Board members responded..		

Our website: www.mountainsideschools.org

Please contact the office of the Mountainside BOE for additional information or questions: **908-232-8828**