

Your Vote Matters to the Mountainside School District



NOVEMBER 5TH
~ PUBLIC QUESTION ~



The Mountainside Board of Education has approved a separate proposal to raise \$396,000 for General Funds, which will be on the upcoming ballot as a "Public Question".

Voting for the "Public Question" will support the children of Mountainside by reinstating teaching positions and programs that were cut due to budget shortfalls, and by adding impactful positions that will enhance the educational experience in Mountainside Schools as follows:

- Reinstatement of full-time STEAM teacher for Grades 3-8 at Deerfield School
- Reinstatement of full-time Reading Specialist to support student/teacher instruction in Grades PreK-8
- Reinstatement of before/after school academic support for students in all grades
- Increase mental health support for students in Grades K-8
- Add full-time Gifted & Talented/Basic Skills teacher
- Add part-time Curriculum Coordinator to enhance program development and implementation of curriculum for all grades



MOUNTAINSIDE
SCHOOL DISTRICT

a proud history... a promising future...



HOW DID WE GET HERE?

Due to a 2% budget restriction on tax levy increases, the loss of Federal Funding through ARP and ESEA grants, and significant increases in fixed costs that go well beyond 2% annually, Mountainside Schools faced a budgetary shortfall requiring reductions to existing programs. The only way to reinstate these programs for the 2024-2025 school year and beyond, is to appeal to the Mountainside community for their support.



WHY ARE WE ASKING FOR YOUR VOTE?

The ballot question is required by New Jersey law when school districts want to raise school taxes beyond the 2% property tax cap. This proposal is necessary to reinstate and expand programs and staff to support our mission of 21st Century academic excellence for the students of Mountainside.



WHAT ARE OUR GOALS?

With your support, we can implement these changes for the 24/25 school year and beyond to meet our long range goals to provide an exceptional school system that Mountainside is known for, which is crucial to the economic development and vitality of the community overall.



WHAT IS YOUR IMPACT?

Approval of this question will result in an anticipated additional tax impact of \$130 per year, or \$10.83 per month, for the average Mountainside homeowner.

Please visit our website to view our full [budget presentation](http://www.mountainsideschools.org) at www.mountainsideschools.org.
Thank you for your consideration in voting to support our schools.