

## Minutes of the Regular Meeting

August 24, 2021

# MOUNTAINSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BEECHWOOD SCHOOL - 1497 WOODACRES DRIVE, MOUNTAINSIDE, NJ 07092

DEERFIELD SCHOOL - 302 CENTRAL AVENUE, MOUNTAINSIDE, NJ 07092

For agenda attachments available to the public, please contact the Mountainside Board of Education Office at (908) 232-3232 or peruse same at the respective meeting.

Also, Mountainside Board of Education policies may be accessed via the district website.

### I. Call to Order

A Regular Meeting of the Mountainside Board of Education of the Borough of Mountainside in the County of Union, New Jersey was called to order by Mr. James Ruban, Jr., at 6:32 p.m.

### II. Roll Call

At roll call, the following members were present:

Dr. Dana Guidici Pietro - arrived at 7:23 p.m.

Mr. Jordan Hyman

Mrs. Vivian Pupo

Mr. James Ruban, Jr.

Mrs. Candice Schiano

Mr. Carmine Venes

Also present were Janet Walling, Superintendent of Schools, Raymond Slamb, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and Isabel Machado, Board Attorney.

Mr. Bill Dillon was absent.

### III. Executive Session - Resolution (Attachment #1)

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Mrs. Pupo

RC:	Dillon - absent	Guidici Pietro - absent	Hyman - yes	Pupo - yes
	Ruban - yes	Schiano - yes	Venes - yes	

**WHEREAS**, Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 (R.S. 10:4-13), permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting or portion of a meeting of this public body in circumstances; and **WHEREAS**, the Board must consider matter(s) involving the following:

#### 1. Legal/Personnel

The disclosure of which could constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy; now

**WHEREAS**, the discussion of individual items to be considered by the Board in closed session may be made public once the need for confidentiality no longer exists, but the Board cannot state at the present time then that will be.

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**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board adjourn to executive session at 6:33 p.m. to discuss the above mentioned matter to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed may or may not be made public this evening. If an action results, it will be taken following reentry into regular session.

### IV. Close Executive Session and Reconvene Public Session

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Mrs. Schiano  
RC: Dillon - absent Guidici Pietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes  
Ruban -yes Schiano -yes Venes -yes

The public meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

### V. Flag Salute

### VI. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Mr. Venus Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro  
RC: Dillon - absent Guidici Pietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes  
Ruban -yes Schiano - abstain Venes -yes

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### VII. Public Participation - none

### VIII. President's Report - none

**IX. Superintendent's Report** - Mrs. Walling presented HIB Grades and The Road Forward Plan. The reopening plan has been updated since June, and will continue to update as guidance changes. Mrs. Walling highlighted the rules on screening, masking and distancing. She discussed plans for lunch periods, and overall school safety in classrooms, on buses, and during activities. The board asked several questions about the reopening plans, to which Mrs. Walling responded.

**X. Business Administrator's Report** - Mr. Slamb provided an update on various projects, noting the Beechwood sidewalk and Deerfield paving repairs have been completed. STEM furniture is delayed. Mr. Slamb reviewed the costs and savings of the Refunding Ordinance. He noted that the 20-21 audit will begin in mid-October, and preliminary documentation requests are underway. Finally, the signed contract from Durham was received and will be finalized at the county this week.

**XI. Berkeley Heights Liaison Report** - Mr. Hyman reported from the meeting on 8/12, the next meeting will be on 9/9. Details on Berkeley Heights' reopening plan are on their website. Dr. Varley's contract was removed from the agenda, and will be on for September. They discussed the district's goals, an audit/revision of board policies and job descriptions, full day kindergarten, and gap analysis. BH is continuing with Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiatives. They are implementing a collaborative consultation model for Special Education in grades 6-12. A presentation on this will be shown at the October meeting.

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### **XII. Administration**

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Administration #1-6**

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Mrs. Schiano

RC: Dillon - absent Guidici Pietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes  
Ruban -yes Schiano - yes Venes -yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Professional Development Plan Statement of Assurance. (Attachment #2)
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Mentoring Plan Statement of Assurance. (Attachment #3)
3. Motion to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following staff members to serve on the district ScIP (School Improvement Panel)/Professional Development Committee for the 2021-2022 school year: Suzanne Jenks, Jessica Vierschilling, Michelle Cruz, Natalie Crisafulli, Kathy Goldbeck, Sue Goracy, Corrin Lavery.
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the use of the Charlotte Danielson Rating System for teacher and other certificated staff evaluations for the 2021-2022 school year.
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Student Handbooks for the 2021-2022 school year for Beechwood, Deerfield Grades 3-5 and Deerfield Grades 6-8. (Attachments 3A, 3B, 3C)
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Beechwood and Deerfield Schools July 2021 safety and security drill reports. (Attachment #4)

### **XIII. Budget and Finance**

*Mr. Venes discussed the Buildings and Grounds and Finance Committee, noting they decided not to increase student activity fees. He also discussed the bond refunding.*

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Budget and Finance #1-12**

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro

RC: Dillon - absent Guidici Pietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes  
Ruban -yes Schiano - yes Venes -yes

1. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the list of budget transfers for the month of July 2021. (Attachment #5)
2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill list dated July 29, 2021, through August 24, 2021. (Attachment #6)

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3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of July 2021 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the month of July 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board Secretary, Raymond Slamb, certifies that subject to the approval of budget transfers appended to these minutes, payment of the claims set forth in the accompanying bill list will not result in the over expenditure of any budget line item appropriation, as modified to date set forth in the level of detail contained in the Reports of the Board Secretary for July 2021:

the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of July 2021 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for July 2021 as submitted and certified (Attachment #7).

4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Berkeley Heights Governor Livingston High School General Education Tuition Agreement Contract for the 2021-2022 school year in the amount of \$4,668,792.00 plus a credit of \$61,446.00 for prior tuition adjustments for a total of \$4,607,346.00 (Attachment #8).
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following cafeteria price list for 2021-2022:

Student lunch	\$3.10		Fresh or chilled fruit	\$1.00
Reduced lunch	\$.40		Vegetable side	\$1.00
Student entree' only	\$2.50		Yogurt	\$1.00
Extra entree' with lunch	\$2.00		Small side salad	\$2.50
Adult lunch	\$3.50		Fruit snacks	\$.75
Pizza slice	\$2.00		Baked chips	\$1.00
Milk	\$.55		Rice Krispie treat	\$1.00
100% juice (4oz.)	\$.75		Pop-Tart	\$1.00
Bottled water 16oz./8oz.	\$1.25/.75		Soft Pretzel	\$1.00
Sparkling fruit juice	\$1.50		Baked cookie (sm/lg)	\$.50/1.00
Capri Sun 100% juice	\$1.00		Ice cream (sm/lg)	\$1.00/1.25
			Yogurt Parfait	\$2.50

6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2021-2022 fee amounts for student activities in accordance with Board Policy 2436, Activity Participation Fee Program:

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<b>Activity</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Athletics	\$195 per student*
Clubs/Student Activities	\$40 per student/per activity

\*If a child plays two or more sports, the cost is \$300 for the year.

\*If two or more children in a family play a sport, the cost is \$150 per sport.

\*If two or more children in a family play two or more sports, the cost is \$250 for each child for the year.

7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT FOR CERTAIN LEGAL (BOND COUNSEL) SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, there exists a need for specialized legal services in connection with the capital program and the authorization and issuance of obligations of The Board of Education of the Borough of Mountainside in the County of Union (the “Board”), a body corporate of the State of New Jersey, including the preparation and review of procedures in connection with such obligations and the rendering of approving legal opinions acceptable to the financial community in connection therewith; and

**WHEREAS**, such special legal services can be provided only by a recognized law firm, and the law firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey is so recognized by the financial community; and

**WHEREAS**, funds are or will be available for this purpose.

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:**

- a. The law firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey is hereby retained to provide specialized bond counsel legal services necessary in connection with the capital program and the authorization and the issuance of obligations by the Board.
- b. The Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute a Bond Services Contract (the “Contract”).
- c. The Contract is awarded without competitive bidding and as a “Professional Service” in accordance with the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a)(1), because it is for services performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession.

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- d. A copy of this resolution as well as the Contract shall be placed on file with the Secretary of the Board. The publication required pursuant to Section 5(a)(1) of the School Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:-1 et seq. is hereby authorized. (Attachment #9)
8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the list of Independent Contractors/Physicians/Agencies for the 21-22 school year, if needed. (Attachment #10)
9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, acceptance of Nonpublic School Transportation Aid in the amount of \$24,070.00.
10. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the acceptance of FY21 Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$228,643.00.
11. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the shared services agreement for Class II Officer between the Mountainside Board of Education and the Borough of Mountainside for the 2021-2022 school year. (Attachment #11)
12. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, special education placements and services as per (Attachment #12).

### XIV. Refunding Ordinance

The following motion was approved by roll call vote: **Refunding Ordinance #1**

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro

RC: Dillon - absent      Guidici Pietro - yes      Hyman - yes      Pupo - yes  
Ruban - yes      Schiano - yes      Venes - yes

1. **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY APPROVING, ON FIRST READING, A REFUNDING SCHOOL BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REFUNDING OF ALL OR A PORTION OF ITS OUTSTANDING SCHOOL BONDS DATED JULY 17, 2014**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNTAINSIDE IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, NEW JERSEY** as follows:

**Section 1.** The Refunding Bond Ordinance attached hereto as Exhibit A is hereby approved. Bond Counsel is hereby authorized and directed to publish the required notice of public hearing for the Refunding Bond Ordinance in the form and at the time required by N.J.S.A. 18A:24-61.4.

**Section 2.** This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The foregoing resolution was adopted August 24, 2021 by the roll call vote. (Attachment #13 -14)

### XV. Personnel

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Personnel #1-10**

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Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro  
RC: Dillon - absent Guidici Pietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes  
Ruban -yes Schiano - yes Venes -yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Kirsten Post** to the position of Special Education Teacher (Leave Replacement), at the rate of \$185 per diem, effective September 1, 2021 through November 2, 2021.
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Danielle Therrien** to the position of Elementary Education Teacher (Leave Replacement), at the rate of \$150 for the first 20 days, then \$190 per diem for the balance of the assignment, effective September 1, 2021 through November 30, 2021. She will also be added to the substitute list for the 21-22 school year. (Attachment #15)
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of **Kaitlin Elliott**, part-time Basic Skills teacher, effective immediately, and thank her for her service to the Mountainside School District. (Attachment #16)
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the adjusted salary for additional hours for **Dayna Carroll**, effective September 1, 2021 as \$42,778.80 (60% of \$71,298), Step 11 MA, for the 2021-2022 school year.
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the adjusted salary for additional hours for **Margaret Barsa**, effective September 1, 2021 as \$40,336.24 (68% of \$59,318), Step 4 MA, for the 2021-2022 school year.
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, notification to take classes from **Ellie Barkin-Baron**, STEM Teacher, for class taken at TCNJ for the 2021 Fall Session for three (3) graduate credits in the amount of \$2,272.50. (Attachment #17)
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2021-2022 Substitute Teacher/Support Staff List (Attachment #18).
8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following teachers for virtual instruction due to quarantine as needed throughout the 2021-2022 school year, at the rate of \$43.29/hour.

Rosemarie Sardina	Paige Primmer
Elizabeth Shimwell	Jayne Hartnett
Laura Chiappetta	Paige Primmer
Deborah Conley	April Starling
Barbi Higinbotham	Corrin Lavery
Kristin Eckert	Jen Smith

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Holly Ambrose	Judy Wargaski
Taylor Donato	Laurie Naftulin

9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2021-2022 School Year Stipend Positions, contingent upon student enrollment for those student activities subsidized in accordance with Board Policy 2436, Activity Participation Fee Program. (Attachment #19)
10. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to appoint **Solomon Charley**, to the position of Girls' Head Soccer Coach, for the 2021-2022 season, at the stipend rate of \$3,189 pending paperwork. (Attachment #20)

### XVI. Policy

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Policy #1-3**

Moved: Dr. Guidici Pietro Seconded: Mrs. Schiano  
RC: Dillon - absent Guidici Pietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes  
Ruban - yes Schiano - yes Venes - yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following policies/regulations for the first reading:

P 1648.11	The Road Forward COVID-19 – Health and Safety	New/Mandated
P/R 3221	Evaluation of Teachers	Revised/Mandated
P/R 3222	Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding Teachers and Administrators	Revised/Mandated
P/R 3223	Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals, Vice-Principals, and Assistant Principals	Revised/Mandated
P/R 3224	Evaluation of Principals, Vice-Principals, and Assistant Principals	Revised/Mandated

2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following policies/regulations for the second reading and adoption:

P/R 6471	School District Travel	Revised/Mandated
P 7243	Supervision of Construction	Revised/Mandated
P 7510	Use of School Facilities	Revised/Mandated

3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to abolish the following policies/regulations:

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P 1648	Restart and Recovery Plan
P 1648.02	Remote Learning Options for Families
P 1648.03	Restart and Recovery Plan - Full-Time Remote Instruction

**XVII. Old Business** - none

**XVIII. New Business** - none

**XIX. Committee Reports - *Budget & Finance Committee*:** The committee discussed facility use fees and joint field use.

**XX. Public Participation** - none

**XXI. Executive Session**

Moved: Mr. Venes Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro  
RC: Dillon - absent Guidici Pietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes  
Ruban -yes Schiano - yes Venes -yes

**WHEREAS**, Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 (R.S. 10:4-13), permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting or portion of a meeting of this public body in circumstances; and **WHEREAS**, the Board must consider matter(s) involving the following:

1. Superintendent Merit Goals for 21/22

The disclosure of which could constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy; now

**WHEREAS**, the discussion of individual items to be considered by the Board in closed session may be made public once the need for confidentiality no longer exists, but the Board cannot state at the present time then that will be.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board adjourn to executive session at 9:25 p.m. to discuss the above mentioned matter to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed may or may not be made public this evening. No further action will be taken.

**XXII. Close Executive Session and Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mrs. Pupo at 10:10 p.m., seconded by Dr. Guidici Pietro to close the executive session and adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote, 6 ayes - 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Raymond Slamb  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary