

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
August 25, 2020

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 7:03 p.m. virtually via Zoom meeting application.

II. Roll Call

At roll call, the following members were present:

Mr. Bill Dillon - via Zoom
Mr. Dante Gioia - via Zoom
Dr. Dana Guidici Pietro - via Zoom
Mr. Jordan Hyman - via Zoom
Mr. James Ruban, Jr. - via Zoom
Mrs. Candice Schiano - via Zoom
Mr. Carmine Venes - via Zoom

Also present were Janet Walling, Superintendent of Schools, Raymond Slamb, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary (via Zoom).

III. Executive Session - Resolution (Attachment #1)

Moved: Mr. Gioia Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro

RC: Dillon -yes Gioia -yes Guidici Pietro -yes Hyman -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 7:03 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: Mrs. Schiano Seconded: Mr. Gioia

RC: Dillon -yes Gioia -yes Guidicipietro -yes Hyman -yes
Ruban -yes Schiano -yes Venes -yes

The public meeting reconvened at 8:05 p.m

V. Flag Salute

VI. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Mr. Gioia Seconded: Dr. Guidicipietro

RC: Dillon -yes Gioia -yes Guidicipietro -yes Hyman -yes
Ruban -yes Schiano -yes Venes -yes

- ❖ Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 28, 2020
- ❖ Minutes of the Executive Session of July 28, 2020
- ❖ Minutes of the Special Meeting of August 10, 2020

VII. Correspondence - Letter from MEA

VIII. Public Participation - none

IX. President's Report - Mr. Ruban thanked the board members, administration, teachers and parents for their time and effort put forth for creating the reopening plan. He recognized there may be concerns, but stated that the collaboration with the MEA and all stakeholders will continue and the plan will be adjusted if needed. He reiterated the importance of input from parents, staff, administration and the board and welcomes feedback.

X. Superintendent's Report - Mrs. Walling reviewed and discussed the district's updated Reopening Plan, noting that it was reviewed and approved by the state and the Westfield Health Department. She noted the parent programming survey resulted in 84% wanting in-person return, and 16% opted for remote learning. She noted that information regarding transportation, arrival/departure procedures, health screenings and orientations will be sent to parents in the coming days. Unfortunately, there will be no fall sports this year due to a lack of teams from other districts as well as health and safety considerations.

XI. Berkeley Heights Liaison Report - Mr. Gioia reported that Governor Livingston High School recently decided to start the school year fully remote, due to staffing issues.

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XII. Administration

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Administration #1-4**

Moved: Mr. Gioia Seconded: Dr. Guidiciopietro

RC: Dillon -yes Gioia -yes Guidiciopietro -yes Hyman -yes
 Ruban -yes Schiano -yes Venes -yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Professional Development Statement of Assurance. (Attachment #2)
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Mentoring Statement of Assurance.
3. Motion to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Restart and Recovery Plan, for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment #3)
4. 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 2020-2021 school year: Kimberly Richards, Suzanne Jenks, Michelle Cruz, Natalie Crisafulli, Kathy Goldbeck, Sue Goracy, Corrin Lavery.

XIII. Budget and Finance

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Budget and Finance #1-16**

Moved: Mr. Gioia Seconded: Dr. Guidiciopietro

RC: Dillon -yes Gioia -yes Guidiciopietro -yes Hyman -yes
 Ruban -yes Schiano -yes Venes -yes

1. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the list of budget transfers for the month of July 2020 (Attachment #4).
2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill list dated July 30, 2020, through August 6, 2020 (Attachment #5).
3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of July 2020 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the month of July 2020; 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 2020:

RESOLVED THAT, the Board accepts the Treasurer Report for the month of July 2020 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for July 2020 as submitted and certified (Attachment #6).

4. **WHEREAS**, the Mountainside Board of Education, hereafter referred to as "Educational Facility" is a member of the School Alliance Insurance Fund, hereinafter referred to as "Fund"; and

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WHEREAS, said renewal membership terminates as of July 1, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. standard time, unless earlier renewed by agreement between the Educational Facility and the Fund; and **WHEREAS**, the Educational Facility is afforded the following types of coverages:

- Workers' Compensation
- Supplemental Indemnity - Workers' Compensation
- Package - Property, Boiler & Machinery, General and Auto Liability,
- Environmental Impairment Liability
- Excess Liability (AL/GL)
- School Leaders Professional Liability
- Excess Liability (SLPL)
- Foreign Travel Liability
- Student Accident

WHEREAS, the Educational Facility desires to renew said membership;
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

a. The Educational Facility agrees to renew its membership in the Fund for a period of three years beginning July 1, 2020, and ending July 1, 2023 at 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time, and to be subject to the coverages, operating procedures, bylaws, and other organizational and operational documents of the Fund presently existing or as from time to time amended by the Fund and/or the Department of Banking and Insurance.

b. The Educational Facility's Business Official, Raymond Slamb, is hereby appointed as the Educational Facility's Fund Commissioner and is authorized to execute the renewal Indemnity and Trust Agreement thereby evidencing annexed hereto and made a part hereof and to deliver same to the Fund the Educational Facility's renewal of its membership. (Attachment #7)

5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Berkeley Heights Governor Livingston High School General Education Tuition Agreement Contract for the 2020-2021 school year in the tentative amount of \$4,609,604.00 plus an adjustment of \$112,077.00 for prior tuition adjustments for a total of \$4,721,681.00 (Attachment #8).
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Berkeley Heights Governor Livingston High School Special Education Resource Room Tuition Agreement Contract for the 2020- 2021 school year in the amount of \$97,577 (Attachment #9).
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, lease agreement number 1712869 with Lenovo Financial Services for 85 tablets at a cost of \$1,947.44 per year for 5 years. (Attachment #10)
8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, lease agreement number 1712865 with Lenovo Financial Services for 155 Chromebooks at a cost of \$7,947.94 per year for 5 years. (Attachment #11)
9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Bayada Home Health Care Contract, from August 31, 2020 through June 30, 2021, to provide school nursing services as needed, at a rate of \$60/hour (Attachment #12).

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10. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the contract between the Mountainside Board of Education and the Westfield Area Y, from September 7, 2020 through June 23, 2021, to provide after school care at Deerfield and Beechwood School. (Attachment #13)
11. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the acceptance of FY20 Extraordinary Aide in the amount of \$136,103.
12. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following cafeteria price list for 2020-2021:

Student lunch	\$3.00
Reduced lunch	\$0
Extra entree with lunch or pizza slice	\$1.60
Adult lunch	\$3.50
Milk	\$.50
100% Juice 4oz.	\$.55
Bottled water 8oz./16 oz.	\$.55/1.25
Capri Sun 100% juice	\$1.00
Switch	\$1.50
Fresh or chilled fruit	\$1.00
Vegetable side	\$.80
Yogurt	\$.85/1.00
Small side salad	\$2.35
Fruit Snacks	\$.50
Baked chips	\$.85
Breakfast/Cereal Bar	\$1.50
Pop-Tart	\$1.00
Soft Pretzel	\$.50
Fresh baked cookie	\$.50
Ice cream	\$1.00-2.00
Rice Krispie treat	\$1.00
Parfait	\$1.25/2.90

13. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the grant from the CARES Act - Coronavirus Relief Funds School District Subaward Agreement, in the amount of \$31,464.18, to be used between July 1, 2020 through December 18, 2020 for specific purposes as outlined in the agreement. (Attachment #14)
14. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Agreement for Fixed Asset reporting services provided by Duff & Phelps, LLC, in the amount of \$1,600, for the 2020-2021 school year (Attachment #15).

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15. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the shared services agreement between the Mountainside Board of Education and the Borough of Mountainside for the 2020-2021 school year. (Attachment #16).
16. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, special education placements and services as per (Attachment #17).

XIV. **Personnel**

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Personnel #1-17**

Moved: Mr. Gioia Seconded: Mrs. Schiano

RC: Dillon -yes Gioia -yes Guidicipietro -yes Hyman -yes
Ruban -yes Schiano -yes Venes -yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the substitute list for the 2020-2021 school year (Attachment #18)
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of Donna Antonucci, paraprofessional, effective August 13, 2020 (Attachment #19).
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of Marin Baltuch, paraprofessional, effective August 22, 2020 (Attachment #19A).
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Erin Kraven, to the position of 4th Grade (Leave Replacement), at the per diem rate of \$150 for the first 20 days of the assignment, and \$185 per diem for the balance of the assignment, effective approximately September 16, 2020, until February 16, 2021, upon successful criminal background check (Attachment #19B).
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Judy Wargaski, to the position of 1st Grade Teacher, at a revised salary of \$53,916, Step 1 BA, effective September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following staff members as building aides for the 2020-2021 school year:

Name	School	Rate
DiPaola, JoAnne	Deerfield	\$13/hour
Kiesewetter, Christine	Deerfield	\$13/hour

7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the re-appointment of Carolee Lavey, part-time Media Assistant, at the rate of \$14/hour, from September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.
8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a return from medical leave of absence for Employee #90194044, as of June 28, 2020.

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9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the notification to take classes from Zachary Worswick, Physical Education Teacher, for class taken at University of Missouri – Columbia, for the 2020 Fall Session for three (3) graduate credits in the amount of \$1,390.35 (Attachment #20).
10. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Paid Leave for Christine Delaney, Special Education Teacher, effective September 1, 2020, until September 15, 2020, utilizing 10 accumulated days as permitted under FFCRA. It is also recommended that Ms. Delaney be granted Emergency Family Leave under FFCRA, from September 16, 2020, until November 25, 2020 in accordance with E-FMLA. Ms. Delaney anticipates returning to work on November 30, 2020.
11. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Paid Leave for Kristen Haas, 6th Grade Teacher, effective September 1, 2020, until September 15, 2020, utilizing 10 accumulated days as permitted under FFCRA. It is also recommended that Ms. Haas be granted Emergency Family Leave under FFCRA, from September 16, 2020, until November 25, 2020 in accordance with E-FMLA. Ms. Haas anticipates returning to work on November 30, 2020.
12. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of Miriam Grubin-Cappel, School Social Worker (Leave Replacement), effective immediately. (Attachment #21)
13. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of Gabrielle Sabony, 4th Grade (Leave Replacement), effective immediately. (Attachment #22)
14. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Paid Leave for Jessica Botkin 4th Grade Teacher, effective September 1, 2020, until September 15, 2020, utilizing 10 accumulated days as permitted under FFCRA. It is also recommended that Ms. Botkin be granted Emergency Family Leave under FFCRA, from September 16, 2020, until November 25, 2020 in accordance with E-FMLA. Ms. Botkin anticipates returning to work on November 30, 2020.
15. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Paid Leave for Susan Burke, 4th Grade Teacher, effective September 8, 2020, until September 21, 2020, utilizing 10 accumulated days as permitted under FFCRA. It is also recommended that Ms. Burke be granted Emergency Family Leave under FFCRA, from September 22, 2020, until December 1, 2020 in accordance with E-FMLA. Ms. Burke anticipates returning to work on December 2, 2020.
16. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Kirsten Post, to the position of 6th Grade (Leave Replacement), at the per diem rate of \$150 for the first 20 days of the assignment, and \$185 per diem for the balance of the assignment, effective September 1, 2020, until December 1, 2021. (Attachment #23).
17. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Teresa Banks, to the position of 4th Grade (Leave Replacement), at the per diem rate of \$150 for the first 20 days of the assignment, and \$185 per diem for the balance of the assignment, effective September 1, 2020, until December 1, 2020. Ms. Banks will return to her paraprofessional position at the end of this assignment. (Attachment #24).

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XV. Policy

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Policy #1-2**

Moved: Mr. Venes Seconded: Mr. Gioia

RC: Dillon -yes Gioia -yes Guidici Pietro -yes Hyman -yes
 Ruban -yes Schiano -yes Venes -yes

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

1648.03	Restart and Recovery Plan -Full-Time Remote Instruction	New/Mandated
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2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following policies for the second reading and adoption:

1642	Earned Sick Leave Law	New/Mandated
1648	Restart and Recovery Plan	New/Mandated
1648.02	Restart and Recovery Plan - Fully Remote Learning Option	New/Mandated
1649	Federal Families First Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response Act	New/Mandated

XVI. Old Business - none

XVII. New Business - Mr. Hyman mentioned that the library has a new director, Kathryn Brown starting Sept. 8th. Mr. Gioia congratulated the 10U baseball team for winning the championship.

XVIII. Committee Reports - Budget & Finance Committee: Mr. Slamb reported that Governor Murphy announced the proposed state budget and there will be no additional state aid cuts at this time.

XIX. Public Participation - Several community members asked questions about the reopening plans to which Mrs. Walling responded. Topics discussed were: plans if we have to go fully remote, COVID testing, temperature checks, staff self-screening, HVAC evaluation, teacher feedback on plan, SEL lessons, screening students for core subjects, continuation of traditional events, calendar updates and outside learning plans. One community member thanked the superintendent, BOE, teachers and staff for doing an outstanding job sharing out information throughout the summer.

XX. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Gioia at 9:06 p.m., seconded by Mr. Hyman o to adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote, 7 ayes - 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Raymond Slamb
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary