

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

July 27, 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 6:40 p.m.

II. Roll Call

At roll call, the following members were present:

Mr. Bill Dillon
Mr. Jordan Hyman
Dr. Dana Guidiciopietro
Mrs. Vivian Pupo
Mr. James Ruban, Jr.
Mr. Carmine Venes

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

Mrs. Candice Schiano was absent.

III. Executive Session - Resolution (Attachment #1)

Moved: Dr. Guidiciopietro Seconded: Mrs. Pupo

RC: Dillon - yes Guidiciopietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
Ruban -yes Schiano - absent 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 6:42 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: Dr. Guidici Pietro Seconded: Mrs. Pupo
RC: Dillon - yes Guidici Pietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
Ruban - yes Schiano - absent Venes - yes

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

V. Flag Salute

VI. Approval of Minutes

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

- ❖ Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 22, 2021
- ❖ Minutes of the 1st Executive Session of June 22, 2021
- ❖ Minutes of the 2nd Executive Session of June 22, 2021

VII. Public Participation - none

VIII. President's Report - none

IX. Superintendent's Report - Mrs. Walling welcomed Mrs. Vierschilling who's begun her work at Beechwood and noted Mrs. Jenks has transitioned to Deerfield. Both principals are hard at work with scheduling and planning for the 21-22 school year. Mrs. Walling submitted our Reopening Plan to the state, and she will work on updates as guidance continues to change. She met with Maschio's Food Service on lunchtime logistics, and the Westfield Health Department and Dr. Frank for medical guidance. The Health Department will be offering a vaccination clinic at Mountainside Pool Club, this is open to anyone ages 12 and older. She stated that she has been informed that there is currently a low vaccination rate (below 40%) for 12-17 year olds in Mountainside. Mrs. Walling met with Administrators, MEA Co-Presidents & Reopening Committee for ideas and plans for September. Mrs. Walling was happy to report very positive feedback from the Summer Learning Academy, and anticipates being able to offer it again next summer with remaining federal funding. She noted the district is looking to fill several positions (leave replacements, soccer coaches, lunch aides, and part-time custodians), which will be advertised further in the community.

X. Business Administrator's Report - Mr. Slamb provided an update on the transportation bid with Durham. He also provided an update on various projects. The board asked questions about the LED Direct Install Program, the BW sidewalk and new outside tables, to which he responded.

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- XI. Berkeley Heights Liaison Report** - Mr. Hyman attended the first in-person meeting on 7/22, the next meeting will be on 8/12, where action on Dr. Varley's contract may be taken. A special meeting was held to interview board candidates to replace the late Helen Kirsch. Ramya Kasthuri was selected. Berkeley Heights approved a new Business Administrator, Julie Kot.

XII. Administration

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

Moved: Mr. Venes Seconded: Mr. Hyman

RC: Dillon - yes Guidiciopietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
 Ruban -yes Schiano - absent Venes -yes

1. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mountainside Board of Education has determined that 4 (2 Quantitative and 2 Qualitative Merit Goals) of the four goals established in the employment contract for Janet Walling, Superintendent, have been satisfied and were achieved during the 2020-21 school year, as confirmed by the Union County Interim Superintendent of Schools;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the applicable Merit Bonus provisions of the Superintendent's contract shall be paid as per contractual agreement. (Attachment #2)

2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Beechwood and Deerfield Schools June 2021 safety and security drill reports. (Attachment #3)

XIII. Budget and Finance

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Budget and Finance #1-24**

Item #15 was tabled. Mr. Hyman asked if items #12 & 13 are new or replacements, to which Mr. Slamb responded. Mr. Hyman asked about the use of PTO donation in item #16, to which Mrs. Walling responded. Mr. Dillon asked about the bid process to find transportation in #20 and if any increase for subscription busing is anticipated, to which Mr. Slamb responded.

Moved: Mr. Venes Seconded: Dr. Guidiciopietro

RC: Dillon - yes Guidiciopietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
 Ruban -yes Schiano - absent Venes -yes

1. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the list of budget transfers for the month of June 2021. (Attachment #4)
2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill list dated July 1, 2021, through July 28, 2021. (Attachment #5)
3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of June 2021 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the month of June 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

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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 June 2021:

the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of June 2021 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for June 2021 as submitted and certified (Attachment #6).

4. 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 \$1,350, for the 2021-2022 school year (Attachment #7).
5. BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mountainside Board of Education adopts the revised 403(b) Plan Document effective July 28, 2021. (Attachment #8)
6. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board concurs with the award of a purchase order for tree removal work at Beechwood School to Rich Tree Service in the amount of \$4,706.23 under State Contract # 18-DPP-0645. (Attachment #9)
7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board concurs with the award of a purchase order for outside cafeteria tables at Beechwood School to Barco Products in the amount of \$3,853.98. Multiple quotes were received with Barco Products being the lowest priced. (Attachment #10)
8. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board concurs with the award of a purchase order for outside cafeteria tables at Deerfield School to Barco Products in the amount of \$3,853.98. Multiple quotes were received with Barco Products being the lowest priced. (Attachment #11)
9. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board concurs with the award of a purchase order for cafeteria lunch tables at Deerfield School to Nickerson NJ, Inc. in the amount of \$15,834.00 under ESCNJ Cooperative Contract #20/21-01. (Attachment #12)
10. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board concurs with the award of a purchase order for the STEM Lab Phase 1 project at Deerfield School to Nickerson NJ, Inc. in the amount of \$15,685.47 under ESCNJ Cooperative Contract #20/21-01. To be funded as follows with \$8,500 in Title IV funds and \$7,185.47 in general operating funds. (Attachment #13)
11. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board concurs with the award of a purchase order for a concrete sidewalk at Beechwood School to JWH & Sons Contractors Inc. in the amount of \$10,750.00. Additional quotes were received from JZA Enterprises, LLC. in the amount of \$31,000.00 and Pharos Enterprises LLC in the amount of \$28,750.00. (Attachment #14)
12. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board concurs with the award of a purchase order for foodservice equipment for Deerfield School to Singer M. Tucker in the amount of \$10,169.43. Additional quotes were received from E&A Restaurant Supply in the amount of \$10,315.11 and BFA Foodservice Equipment in the amount of \$10,410.00. (Attachment #15)
13. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board concurs with the award of a purchase order for foodservice equipment for Deerfield School to Singer M. Tucker in the amount of

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\$3,759.62. Additional quotes were received from E&A Restaurant Supply. in the amount of \$3,865.87 and BFA Foodservice Equipment in the amount of \$3,775.00. (Attachment #16)

14. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board concurs with the award of a purchase order for STEM furniture for Deerfield School to Nickerson NJ, Inc. in the amount of \$14,065.00 under ESCNJ Cooperative Contract #20/21-01. (Attachment #17)
15. 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 #18) **This motion was tabled.**
16. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the PTO donation in the amount of \$8,900 to be used as follows: \$5,000 for Long Range Technology and \$3,900 for Capital contributions. (Attachment #19)
17. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a contract with the YMCA of Westfield, New Jersey, to provide Before/After Care Program Services for the Mountainside School District, in the amount of \$14,640, effective September 8, 2021, to June 21, 2022. Said contract shall provide a revenue stream to the Mountainside School District in rental fees for fiscal year 2021-2022 (Attachment #20).
18. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, an agreement with Learning to Thrive, LLC, to provide professional development services to the Mountainside School District, for the 2021-22 school year to be funded with Title IV funds. Said agreements include a 2-hour in-person workshop on 9/1/21 in the amount of \$2,400, and two 1-hour online webinars during the school year at dates TBD, in the amount of \$1,500. (Attachment #21)
19. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the approval of the registration for the MUJC Spring Music Festival for the 2021-22 school year, in the amount of \$1,645.00. (Attachment #22)
21. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the approval of an agreement with Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences University Behavioral Healthcare to provide therapeutic services to students and families referred by school district personnel for the 2021-22 school year, in the amount of \$24,900. Services to be funded with Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CARES ACT) Mental Health Support and Services funds. (Attachment #24)
22. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, acceptance of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II) grant in the amount of \$247,027 for general ESSER II, \$25,000 for Learning Acceleration, and \$45,000 for Mental Health Support and Services to be used between March 13, 2020, through September 30, 2023.
23. Move to approve in accordance with MBOE policy 6471, School District Travel, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the travel, professional development requests, and related expenses itemized in (Attachment #25). This travel is deemed educationally necessary and fiscally

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prudent, and all travel expenditures shall be directly related to and within the scope of the staff member's current responsibilities and the district's Professional Development Plan. All reimbursements shall be made in accordance with state guidelines 18A:11-12.

24. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, special education placements and services as per (Attachment #26).

XIV. Personnel

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Personnel #1-9**

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro

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

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Ashley Roberts**, to the position of Special Education LLD Teacher at Beechwood School, at a salary of \$62,820, MA Step 7, for the 2021-2022 school year, pending successful criminal history. (Attachment #27)
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of **Kelly Bakker**, 2nd Grade Teacher, effective immediately, and to thank her for her service to the Mountainside School District. (Attachment #28)
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to revise the resolution personnel item #9 from June 22, 2021, to reflect the updated salary and step of **Desiree Ganz** to be \$63,356 at Step 5 MA + 30 for the 21-22 school year.
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Sue Tarulli**, for summer nursing services at a rate of \$43.29/hr., for up to 4 hours per week, from July 19, 2021 - August 31, 2021.
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, 2021-2022 ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) Title I Personnel:

Name	Salary	ESEA Title I	Approximate % of Salary	Approximate Benefits
K. Elliot	\$27,267.00	\$21,616.00	79%	\$9,727.00
D. Carroll	\$28,510.00	\$21,616.00	76%	\$9,727.00

6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of the following part time Lunch Aides and Media Assistant for the 2021-2022 school year:

JoAnn DiPaola	Lunch Aide	\$14.00/hr.
Christine Kiesewetter	Lunch Aide	\$14.00/hr.

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Lauren Klein	Lunch Aide	\$14.00/hr.
Carolee Lavey	Library Assistant	\$14.00/hr.

7. 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.

Stipend Position	Staff Member	Salary
Boys' Head Soccer Coach	Cory Berger	\$3,189
Boys' Asst. Soccer Coach	Nicole Cruts	\$2,276

8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to rescind personnel item #8 from June 22, 2021, and to appoint **Laurie Naftulin**, to the position of 2nd Grade Teacher at Beechwood School, at a salary of \$58,718, MA Step 3, for the 2021-2022 school year.
9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of **Raymond Slamb**, Business Administrator, effective September 24, 2021, and thank him for his service to the Mountainside School District. (Attachment #29)

XV. Policy

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

Mr. Hyman asked about P7510, to which Mrs. Walling responded.

Moved: Mr. Venes Seconded: Mr. Hyman
 RC: Dillon - yes Guidiciopietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
 Ruban -yes Schiano - absent Venes -yes

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

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

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

P 8561	Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs	Revised/Mandated
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XVI. Old Business - none

XVII. New Business - The Board discussed an adjustment to the format of future Board meetings. The determination was made that moving forward, BOE meetings will be in person with live-streaming, rather than a Zoom or call-in option. All meetings will continue to be posted to the District website as well. ***Library Liaison:*** Mr. Hyman reported that summer hours will continue in Aug. and the masking policy will be addressed monthly. The library is exploring in-person children's programs and the kiosk picture archive project will hopefully be complete in the fall. Mrs. Richards will reach out to Library representatives with kiosk updates.

XVIII. Committee Reports - *Budget & Finance Committee:* The committee met on 6/28 with updates on food service purchases, STEM Project Phase I, Beechwood walkway project, and Risk Insurance changes were discussed.

XIX. Public Participation - none

XX. Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Guidici Pietro at 8:17 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Pupo to adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote, 6 ayes - 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Raymond Slamb
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary