

Mountainside Board of Education



Meeting Highlights

October 20, 2020

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 or on Channel 35.

Mountainside School District Board of Education
 James W. Ruban, Jr. (President), Dana Guidici Pietro (Vice President)
 Bill Dillon, Dante Gioia, Jordan Hyman,
 Candice Schiano, Carmine Venes

Administrative Team
 Janet Walling, Superintendent of Schools
 Raymond Slamb, Business Administrator
 Kimberly Richards, Principal - Deerfield School
 Suzanne Jenks, Principal – Beechwood School
 Sheri Rouleau, Supervisor of Special Services

Action Items	Action Taken
Approval of Minutes	<p><i>BOE approved minutes for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 22, 2020 Regular and 1st and 2nd Executive Sessions
Superintendent's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Walling provided an update on Week of Respect activities led by our school counselors and teachers. Detective Bendik visited classrooms for Violence and Vandalism Awareness week as well. Red Ribbon Week information with PTO sponsored activities will be in weekly S'mores and ELFF. The PTO will also support upcoming Halloween activities. The first transition for remote students returning to in-person instruction will be on November 2nd, with about 30 students opting to return so far. Parents can opt anytime for remote instruction. Mrs. Walling addressed holiday travel and the need to quarantine if visiting states on NJ's advisory list. Parents should contact building principals to have students added to temporary remote learning schedules. Mrs. Walling stated that information on beginning of the year student benchmarks (LinkIt For middle school and iReady grades 1-5) will be shared with parents within the next week or so. She thanked everyone for their continued hard work.
BH Liaison Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Gioia reported that GL is expanding instructional time to 12:30 in November. He reported that fall sports have been in full swing, with a number of articles highlighting the soccer and football teams. They have used wristbands to control the number of attendees at games. He wished good luck to seniors during the college selection process.
Administration	<p><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nursing Services Plan for 20-21 school year; Comprehensive Equity Plan Statement of Assurance for 20-21 SY; BW & DF safety and security drill reports; revised district calendar for 20-21.

Budget and Finance	<p><i>BOE approved:</i> <i>As certified by the Board Secretary:</i> Budget transfers for September; Payment of the Bill List; Reports of the Board Secretary for September 2020.</p> <p><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive Maintenance Plan; Acceptance of Watts Foundation donations of \$5,991 for STEM equipment and \$16,000 for equipment and services related to school and student needs; Acceptance of CARES Act 2020 grant in the amount of \$60,263; Special Education placements and services; Agreement with Invo Healthcare for social worker services at a rate of \$65/hr. for the 20-21 SY; Acceptance of the amended CARES Act Subaward agreement in the updated amount of \$37,300.
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Personnel	<p><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, BOE approved:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maternity Disability leave and FMLA for Kelly Bakker effective 3/8/21-6/18/21; Maternity Disability leave and FMLA for Victoria Tiscia effective 2/9/21-6/18/21; Resignation of Donna Ruberto, leave replacement Social Worker effective immediately; Addition of JoAnne DiPaola to the substitute list for 20-21; Appointment of Ann Cooke, The Learning Consultant LLC, for LDT-C services from 9/1/20-9/30/20 at a rate of \$50/hr.; Elizabeth Shimwell to mentor Teresa Banks from 9/1/20-12/1/20; Field-Based Administrative Internship hours for Gary Chan; Stipend positions for 20-21 as follows: <table border="1" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Activity</th> <th>Staff</th> <th>Rate</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Art Club Advisor Gr. 3-4</td> <td>Victoria Tiscia</td> <td>\$34.07/session NTE 30 sessions</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Club Advisor Gr. 5-6</td> <td>Victoria Tiscia</td> <td>\$34.07/session NTE 30 sessions</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Club Advisor Gr. 7-8</td> <td>Victoria Tiscia</td> <td>\$34.07/session NTE 30 sessions</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Activity	Staff	Rate	Art Club Advisor Gr. 3-4	Victoria Tiscia	\$34.07/session NTE 30 sessions	Art Club Advisor Gr. 5-6	Victoria Tiscia	\$34.07/session NTE 30 sessions	Art Club Advisor Gr. 7-8	Victoria Tiscia	\$34.07/session NTE 30 sessions
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Policy	<p><i>BOE had the first reading of the following policies:</i></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>P/R 1581</td> <td>Domestic Violence</td> <td>P- Revised/Mandated R- New</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P2422</td> <td>Health and Physical Education</td> <td>Revised/Mandated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P2464</td> <td>Gifted and Talented Students</td> <td>Revised/Mandated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P2622</td> <td>Student Assessment</td> <td>Revised/Mandated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P8561</td> <td>Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs</td> <td>Revised/Mandated</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>BOE had the second reading and adoption of the following policies:</i></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>5111</td> <td>Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students</td> <td>Revised/Mandated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5200</td> <td>Attendance</td> <td>Revised/Mandated</td> </tr> </table>	P/R 1581	Domestic Violence	P- Revised/Mandated R- New	P2422	Health and Physical Education	Revised/Mandated	P2464	Gifted and Talented Students	Revised/Mandated	P2622	Student Assessment	Revised/Mandated	P8561	Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs	Revised/Mandated	5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students	Revised/Mandated	5200	Attendance	Revised/Mandated
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Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> none
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Guidici Pietro, Borough Council Liaison, along with Mrs. Walling, will attend the 125th Mountainside anniversary ceremony on 10/22 at Constitution Plaza which will be televised on local Ch. 35. They will open a time capsule from 1995. Local organizations can contact council members Rachel Pater and Deanna Andre to donate items for the new time capsule that will be closed on Dec. 1st.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Hyman, Library Liaison, reported beginning Nov. 7th, the library will also be open on Saturdays 10-1 pm, in addition to current hours M/W/F 10-5 & Tu/Th 1-8. Computers are available for an hour at a time. • Mrs. Walling highlighted changes to the updated calendar that revised upcoming early dismissal days and conference dates to some “remote for all” days to best balance the needs of students, working parents, and contractual obligations of teachers.
Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings & Grounds Committee: Mr. Gioia reported that there are ongoing discussions regarding facility use. He noted the district will be upgrading air filtration by installing Merv 11 filters. He gave an update on the Long-Range Facilities Plan. The committee discussed the Coronavirus Relief Fund Grant & Securing our Children’s Future Bond Act Grant application. • Curriculum Committee: Mrs. Schiano reported that Mrs. Walling and a committee of teachers are continuing to work on a variety of curricular updates in different content areas. She commended teachers for their work on this project thus far.
Public Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none

Our website: www.mountainsideschools.org

Please contact the office of the Mountainside Board of Education for additional information or if you have any questions: **908-232-3232**.