

Mountainside Board of Education

Meeting Highlights

October 15, 2024



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.

Mountainside School District Board of Education
 Vivian Pupo (President), Dana Guidici Pietro (Vice President)
 Bill Dillon, Michael Goodwin, Jordan Hyman,
 Candice Schiano, Carmine Venes

Administrative Team
 Janet Walling, Superintendent of Schools
 Dana Sullivan, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary
 Suzanne Jenks, Principal – Deerfield School
 Jessica Vierschilling, Principal – Beechwood School
 Sheri Rouleau, Supervisor of Special Services

Action Items	Action Taken
Approval of Minutes	<i>BOE approved minutes for:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 24, 2024 Minutes of the Executive Session of September 24, 2024 Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 30, 2024 Minutes of the 1st Executive Session of September 30, 2024 Minutes of the 2nd Executive Session of September 30, 2024
Correspondence	none
Public Participation	none
President's Report	Mrs. Pupo thanked the PTO for a fantastic Fall Festival.
Superintendent's Report	Mrs. Walling thanked PTO for the Fall Festival, and board members for their help at the table regarding the Public Question. She noted the community forums that have taken place and are upcoming. Schools had events for Week of Respect, Fire Prevention Week, PTO theme days for anti-bullying and other topics. School counselors met with students regarding respect. The author of The Simple Seed conducted student assemblies and staff training regarding kindness. Mrs. Walling presented state testing results.
Business Administrator's Report	Mrs. Sullivan noted the mandatory reports that are on the agenda, noting the M-1 is the basis for the budget for facilities maintenance, which we are just starting to put together now.
BH Liaison Report	Mr. Hyman reported on last month's meetings. Mr. Nixon updated District Goals, DEI plan, etc. The Board extended Mr. Nixon as acting superintendent through December, hoping to announce a new superintendent by January. They extended Jackie Bartlett as acting principal. A new athletic director was hired. They reported on senior activities, fall sport updates, security measures, and possibly buying 2 electric buses. There will be a Special Education presentation on Thursday and state testing reporting.
Administration	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved for 24/25:</i> Nursing Services Plan; Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklists; Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and M-1; Sept. Drill reports.
Budget and Finance	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> Budget transfers for Sept 2024; Payment of the Bill Lists; Board Secretary Report for Sept.; Transportation Agreements with MUJC; Agreement with BH for wrestling program; Acceptance of Watts Foundation donation of \$600; Blackbaud Giving Fund donations of \$1,147.50 for Beechwood School and \$1,015.00 for Deerfield School; School District Travel; Spec. Ed. placements and services.

Personnel	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> Appointment of new hire for 24/25; Addition to Stipend List; Additions to Substitute List; Increased para hours for Joanne DiPaola; Appointment of Ferdinando Melo as PE/Health long term substitute and permanent position upon completed graduation/certification.		
Policy	<i>BOE had the first reading of the following policies/regulations:</i>		
	Bylaw 0141.1	Board Member Number and Term – Sending District	Revised/Recommended
	R 5200	Attendance	Revised/Mandated
	<i>BOE had the second reading and adoption of the following policies/regulations:</i>		
	P 5350	Student Suicide Prevention	Revised/Mandated
P 8420	Emergency and Crisis Situations	Revised/Mandated	
Old Business	none		
New Business	Dr. Guidici Pietro reminded everyone that the PTO's Trunk or Treat will be on October 25th.		
Committee Reports	none.		
Public Comments	none		

Our website: www.mountainsideschools.org

Please contact the office of the Mountainside BOE for additional information or questions: 908-232-8828