

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
September 22 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 7:01 p.m.

II. Roll Call

At roll call, the following members were present:

Mr. Bill Dillon
Mr. Dante Gioia
Dr. Dana Guidici Pietro
Mr. Jordan Hyman
Mr. James Ruban, Jr.
Mrs. Candice Schiano
Mr. Carmine Venes - joined via Zoom at 7:03 p.m.

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

III. Executive Session - Resolution (Attachment #1)

Moved: Dr. Guidici Pietro Seconded: Mr. Gioia

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

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.

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

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
September 22 2020**

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: Dr. Guidici Pietro

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

The public meeting reconvened at 8:04 p.m

V. Flag Salute

VI. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro

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

- ❖ Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 25, 2020
- ❖ Minutes of the Executive Session of August 25, 2020

VII. Correspondence - none

VIII. Public Participation - none

IX. President's Report - none

- X. Superintendent's Report -** Mrs. Walling provided an update on the school's reopening. She thanked everyone for their hard work and team effort to make it a success. She thanked families for completing the daily screenings and providing feedback as we make adjustments. Mrs. Walling thanked the Watts Foundation who just approved grants for outdoor seating, "Front Row" FM sound systems, and virtual field trips and assemblies. She reminded everyone that virtual Back-to-School nights will be taking place Wednesday and Thursday.

- XI. Berkeley Heights Liaison Report -** Mr. Gioia reported that GL began its A/B schedule on Monday 9/21 and that open campus for seniors was approved. There will be a virtual BOE meeting Thursday 9/24. They are still hoping to proceed with fall sports.

XII. Administration

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

Moved: Dr. Guidici Pietro Seconded: Mr. Hyman

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

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountainside Board of Education has approved one Quantitative and two Qualitative Merit Goals established in the employment contract for Janet Walling, Superintendent, for the 2020-2021 school year; and

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
September 22 2020**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Union County Superintendent of Schools in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1 (e)(10)(iv) (Attachment #2).

2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Statement of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff for the 2020-2021 School Year. (Attachment #3)

XIII. Budget and Finance

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Budget and Finance #1-9**

Moved: Mr. Gioia Seconded: Mr. Hyman

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

1. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the list of budget transfers for the month of August 2020 (Attachment #4).
2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill list dated August 27, 2020, through September 23, 2020 (Attachment #5).
3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of August 2020 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the month of August 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 August 2020:

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

4. **AWARDING CONTRACT FOR EMERGENCY PURCHASES – REMOVAL OF FALLEN TREES DUE TO SEVERE STORM ON AUGUST 4, 2020**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the emergency contract provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7, the School Business Administrator/Purchasing Agent (hereinafter “School Business Administrator”) is authorized to award contracts without public bidding when an emergency affects the health and safety of the school, even though the cost of the work will exceed the District’s bid threshold;

WHEREAS, the School Business Administrator is satisfied that an emergency exists;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Mountainside Board of Education in Union County does hereby ratify and approve the

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
September 22 2020**

emergency contract award by its Purchasing Agent, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7 and N.J.A.C. 5:34-6.1, to Caffrey Tree and Landscape in the amount of \$12,795.00, for removal of hazardous fallen trees on the days of August 5, 2020, and August 13, 2020;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes and directs its School Business Administrator to execute any documents necessary to effectuate this resolution.

5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the donation of \$204.67, from Panera LLC, to support Mountainside Student Activities. (Attachment #7)
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Delta T for LDTC services at a rate of \$65 per hour, not to exceed 30 hours per week. (Attachment #8)
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, student #2156925589 for bedside instruction, provided by LearnWell, at a rate of \$50 per hour of instruction, not to exceed 10 hours a week.
8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, special education placements and services as per (Attachment #9).
9. Move to approve in accordance with MBOE policy 6471, School District Travel, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the travel and related expenses itemized in (Attachment #10). This travel is deemed educationally necessary and fiscally 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.

XIV. Personnel

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

Moved: Mr. Gioia Seconded: Dr. Guidicipietro

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 adjusted salary for additional hours for Margaret Barsa, effective September 1, 2020 as \$31,308.12 (54% of \$57,978), Step 3 MA, for the 2020-2021 school year.
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Donna Ruberto to the position of School Social Worker (Leave Replacement), at the per diem rate of \$150 for the first 20 days of the assignment, and \$190 per diem for the balance of the assignment, effective immediately through January 20, 2021, upon successful criminal background check. (Attachment #11)
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Ellie Barkin to complete her second administrative internship hours with Kimberly Richards, as required by The College of New Jersey course EDAD691-01: The Principalship I. (Attachment #12)

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
September 22 2020**

4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Natalie Crisafulli to complete her 150 internship hours as required by Ramapo College course EDLD 610-96 Field-Based Administrative Internship I. (Attachment #13)
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the addition of Kelcie Sweetwood to the 2020-2021 Substitute Teacher List. (Attachment #14)
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the addition of Nicholas Lurie to the 2020-2021 Substitute Teacher List, pending paperwork. (Attachment #15)
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the revised Maternity Disability Leave for Eileen D'Antonio, School Social Worker, effective September 1, 2020, until October 16, 2020. She will be permitted to utilize any accumulated sick days. It is also recommended that Ms. D'Antonio be granted unpaid Family Leave from October 19, 2020, until January 15, 2021 in accordance with FMLA and NJFLA. Ms. D'Antonio anticipates returning to work on January 18, 2021. (Attachment #16).
8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2020-2021 fee amounts of \$40 per student per activity for Performing Arts and Clubs in accordance with Board Policy 2436, Activity Participation Fee Program.
9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following 2020-2021 School Year Stipend Positions, contingent upon student enrollment for those student activities subsidized in accordance with Board Policy 2436, Activity Participation Fee Program (Attachment #24). **Note these clubs will be held virtually unless otherwise notified and approved.*

Activity	Staff	Rate
FM Math Clubs	Axl Hirsch and April Starling	\$33.12/session NTE 45 sessions
Coding Club	Ellie Barkin-Baron	\$33.12/session NTE 30 sessions
A/V Club	Ellie Barkin-Baron	\$33.12/session NTE 30 sessions
Literary Magazine (Folio)	Sarah Onore	\$1,967 (3+ yrs rate)
Yearbook	Corrin Lavery and Jessica Goldstein	\$3,686 / each at 3+ yrs rate (2 positions)
Student Council	Caitlin McGarrity and Gary Chan	\$3,686 *1 position/split (\$1,843/each)

XV. Policy

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

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
September 22 2020**

Moved: Dr. Guidici Pietro 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:

5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students	Revised/Mandated
5200	Attendance	Revised/Mandated

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

1648.03	Restart and Recovery Plan -Full-Time Remote Instruction	New/Mandated
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XVI. Old Business - none

XVII. New Business -

- PTO Liaison, Dr. Guidici Pietro, reported the PTO held their 1st meeting of the year and invited all families to join and volunteer. They will hold a breakfast zoom meeting on Friday 9/25 at 9:30. They thanked Mrs. Walling and teachers for opening school and creating a sense of normalcy for the students of Mountainside.
- Library Liaison, Mr. Hyman, reported he met with the new director and that they will be opening in limited capacity starting Oct. 5th. See website for hours. He also thanked Mrs. Walling, her team and staff for implementing the reopening plan successfully.

XVIII. Committee Reports - none

- XIX. Public Participation -** A member of the community thanked the board, administration and teachers of Mountainside.

XX. Executive Session

Moved: Mr. Hyman 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. Personnel - Merit Goals

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

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
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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 8:27 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.

XXI. Close Executive Session and Reconvene Public Session

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Dr. Guidicipietro

RC: Dillon -yes Gioia -yes Guidicipietro -yes Hyman -yes
Ruban -yes Schiano -yes Venes -absent as of 8:57

The public meeting reconvened at 9:32 p.m

XXII. Administration

Moved: Dr. Guidicipietro Seconded: Mr. Gioia

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

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountainside Board of Education has approved one Quantitative Merit Goal established in the employment contract for Janet Walling, Superintendent, for the 2020-2021 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Union County Superintendent of Schools in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1 (e)(10)(iv) (Attachment #2).

XXIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Guidicipietro at 9:35 p.m., seconded by Mr. Gioia to adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote, 6 ayes - 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Raymond Slamb
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary