

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

November 17 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.

II. Roll Call

At roll call, the following members were present:

Mr. Bill Dillon

Mr. Dante Gioia - via Zoom

Dr. Dana Guidici Pietro

Mr. Jordan Hyman

Mr. James Ruban, Jr.

Mrs. Candice Schiano

Mr. Carmine Venes - joined via Zoom at 7:05 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

November 17 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: Dr. Guidici Pietro Seconded: Mr. Hyman

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: Dr. Guidici Pietro Seconded: Mr. Hyman

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

- ❖ Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2020
- ❖ Minutes of the Executive Session of October 20, 2020

VII. Correspondence - none

VIII. Public Participation - none

IX. President's Report - none

- X. Superintendent's Report - Mrs. Walling recognized Patriot's Pen Essay winners and Red Ribbon Week Poster Contest winner and thanked everyone who participated in the virtual assembly for Veterans Day; She provided an update on School Health and Programming, noting that the district is in contact with the Westfield Health Dept. for contact tracing, but there are no new cases of COVID to report. Mrs. Walling thanked families for their open communication and urged everyone to remain vigilant. She reminded families to respond to the tech survey recently sent out. She reported that there will be no middle school team competition at this time, but the district is exploring developmental opportunities within cohorts. She thanked staff for their work on updating curriculum, and for everyone's hard work and dedication to remain open.

- XI. Business Administrator's Report - Mr. Slamb provided an update on his schedule of various meetings with stakeholders to discuss and plan for the 2021-2022 budget. He outlined data and the timeline he plans to follow in the months ahead.

- XII. Berkeley Heights Liaison Report - Mr. Gioia reported that GL extended remote learning until Dec. 7th. There's been an impact on sports because of quarantines and difficulty fielding teams. He also reported on AP test results, noting an increase in students taking tests. The results found a slight decrease in the number of 4 or 5 scores, but 93% earned a 3 or higher in at least one test. Overall GL maintained an 85% passing rate.

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 17 2020**

XIII. Administration

Mrs. Walling thanked the curriculum committee and teachers who spent time updating and reviewing the new curricula in item #7 to promote continued meaningful instruction for our students.

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

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 School Safety and Security Plan Annual Review Statement of Assurance (Attachment #2).
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2020-2021 Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist for Beechwood and Deerfield Schools (Attachment #3).
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2019-2020 New Jersey Department of Education School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act for Beechwood and Deerfield Schools. (Attachment #4)
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Memorandum Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials.
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the use of the Danielson Observation Rubric, for teacher evaluations for the 20-21 school year.
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the submission of the District Performance Review (DPR) for NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) Statement of Assurance – School Year 2020-2021 (Attachment #5).
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following curricular documents for Mountainside Schools:

Subject Area	Grade Levels
Reading	Grades K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Writing/Phonics	Grades K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
Math	Grades K, 1, 4
Science	Grades K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Social Studies	Grades K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 17 2020**

Art	Grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8
Spanish	Grades 4, 7
STEAM	Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Media Center	Grades K, 1, 2
Health	Grades K, 1, 2, 3

9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Beechwood and Deerfield Schools October 2020 safety and security drill reports. (Attachment #6)

XIV. Budget and Finance

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Budget and Finance #1-6**

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Mr. Gioia

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

Mr. Dillon asked about the need for an additional bus route. Mr. Hyman asked whether this is an additional bus or the same bus. Mr. Slamb responded.

1. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the list of budget transfers for the month of October 2020 (Attachment #7).
2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill list dated October 22, 2020, through November 18, 2020 (Attachment #8).
3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of October 2020 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the month of October 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 October 2020:

RESOLVED THAT, the Board accepts the Treasurer Report for the month of September 2020 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for October 2020 as submitted and certified (Attachment #9).

4. **WHEREAS**, a need for an additional afternoon bus route arose due to changes in the Governor Livingston High School schedule,

WHEREAS, Raymond Slamb, Business Administrator, requested quotes from three vendors for the additional afternoon route and received the following responses:

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 17 2020**

Durham School Services	Morris-Union Jointure Commission	Union County Education Services Commission
\$80 Per Day	Unable to Quote	\$200 Per Day

WHEREAS, it is unclear the number of days this route will be required due to an environment that is continually changing in response to the pandemic,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Education award a transportation contract to Durham School Services in an amount not to exceed \$11,440.

5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, acceptance of the Coronavirus Relief Fund Grant allocation in the amount of \$28,201.
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, special education placements and services as per (Attachment #10).

XV. Personnel

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

Moved: Mr. Gioia Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro

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, Maternity Disability Leave for **Laryssa DelGuercio**, Special Education Teacher, effective March 1, 2021, until April 2, 2021. She will be permitted to utilize any accumulated sick days. It is also recommended that Ms. DelGuercio be granted unpaid Family Leave from April 5, 2021, until June 18, 2021 in accordance with FMLA and NJFLA. Ms. DelGuercio anticipates returning to work in September 2021. (Attachment #11).
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Teresa Banks and Kirsten Post for 2 additional days to be paid at their Leave Replacement rate for Parent/Teacher Conferences on Thursday, December 9, 2020 and Friday, December 11, 2020.
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, 2020-2021 ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) Title I Personnel:

Name	Salary	ESEA Title I	Approximate % of Salary	Approximate Benefits
D. Carroll	\$27,171.00	\$17,327.00	64%	\$6,930.00
M. Cruz	\$73,008.00	\$36,504.00	50%	\$14,602.00

4. 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. **Note these clubs will be held virtually unless otherwise notified and approved.*

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 17 2020**

Activity	Staff	Rate
Play Director	Jared Rosenblum	\$4,277

XVI. Buildings Use Requests

The following motion was approved by roll call vote: **Buildings Use Requests #1**

Moved: Dr. Guidici Pietro Seconded: Mrs. Schiano

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

Mrs. Walling provided an overview of the facilities use guidelines. Mr. Hyman asked about any conflict between school activities and outside organization usage, as well as the responsibility of outside organizations to follow our guidelines, to which Mrs. Walling responded.

Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following requests for building use pending receipt of organization health and safety plans. The District retains the right to amend or rescind these approvals based upon health, safety, and gathering conditions that exist prior to or during all activity timeframes:

Organization	Event	Date / Time	Location	Approx. # Attending
Mountainside PAL	Travel Basketball practices	1/8/21-3/7/21 Fri: 5:45-10:15 Sun: 9:45-6:15	DF Gym	25
Mountainside Recreation	Basketball practices/clinics	1/4/21-3/20/21 M-F: 5:45-9:15 Sat: 8:45-3:15	BW Gym	25
Mountainside Recreation	Basketball practices/games	1/4/21-3/20/21 M-F 5:45-9:45 Sat: 8:30-3:15	DF Gym	25
PAL Cheerleading	Cheer practices	1/4/21-2/23/21 Tues: 3:30-5:00	DF Gym or Cafe	20-25
MSBL	Opening Day Baseball/Softball	4/10/21 7:45-4:00	DF gym/ outside	TBD

XVII. Policy

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

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Mr. Dillon

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

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 17 2020**

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

0164.6	Remote Public Board Meetings During a Declared Emergency	New/Mandated
R5200	Attendance	Revised/Mandated
R5533	Student Smoking	Mandated
R5600	Student Discipline/Code of Conduct	Revised
P/R5610	Suspension/Suspension Procedures	Revised/Mandated
P/R8320	Personnel Records	Revised/Mandated

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

P/R1581	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

XVIII. Old Business - none

XIX. New Business -

- Dr. Guidici Pietro congratulated the 8U/3rd Grade Mountainside Girls Softball for a great 7-1 season, as well as the 8U/1st & 2nd Grade team who won the Division Championship. She also congratulated the 5th & 6th Grade Boys Baseball Summer League who won the State Championship, but due to Covid cancellations, could not go onto the Regionals or Nationals. Finally, she congratulated the 11U/4th & 5th Grade Travel Soccer team for an undefeated winning season.

XX. Committee Reports -

- Buildings & Grounds Committee: Mr. Gioia reported that the Committee met to discuss building use, determining that the school will adhere to the same standards as the state. The District would like to add other activities to provide as much of a well-balanced educational experience as possible during these times.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

November 17 2020

XXI. Public Participation -

Members of the community commented or asked questions as follows: One community member thanked Mrs. Walling and the board for keeping schools open and keeping students engaged. Another asked if any consideration was being given to closing after Thanksgiving. Someone else thanked everyone for the hard work to keep school open and wondered if sports could do anything in cohorts. And lastly, someone asked if there is a threshold or number of COVID cases that would require a shutdown. Mrs. Walling responded to each of the comments and questions.

XXII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Hyman at 8:56 p.m., seconded by Dr. Guidici Pietro to adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote, 7 ayes - 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Raymond Slamb
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary