

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

June 22, 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 Dr. Dana Guidici Pietro, at 6:34 p.m.

II. Roll Call

At roll call, the following members were present:

- Mr. Bill Dillon
- Mr. Jordan Hyman
- Dr. Dana Guidici Pietro
- Mrs. Vivian Pupo
- Mr. James Ruban, Jr.- arrived at 7:00 p.m.
- Mrs. Candice Schiano
- Mr. Carmine Venes

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

III. Executive Session - Resolution (Attachment #1)

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Mrs. Schiano

RC: Dillon - yes Guidici Pietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
 Ruban -absent 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. Legal/Personnel
2. HIB incident

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 6:34 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: Mr. Dillon Seconded: Mr. Hyman

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

The public meeting reconvened at 7:34 p.m.

V. Flag Salute

VI. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Dr. Guidiciopietro Seconded: Mrs. Schiano

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

- ❖ Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 25, 2021
- ❖ Minutes of the 1st Executive Session of May 25, 2021
- ❖ Minutes of the 2nd Executive Session of May 25, 2021
- ❖ Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 8, 2021
- ❖ Minutes of the Special Meeting Executive Session of June 8, 2021

VII. Public Participation - none

VIII. President's Report - none

IX. Superintendent's Report - Mrs. Walling congratulated everyone on a successful year. She mentioned how exciting all of the end of the year activities at Beechwood and Deerfield were for students, noting the virtual art shows and the annual literary magazine, The Folio, both available to see on our website, as well as clap-outs. The 8th graders had their dance at Forest Lodge, pool party, and graduation. ESY and Summer Learning Academy began and will continue through July 15th. She and the Board also recognized the retirement of Kim Richards, Deerfield Principal, and thanked her for her 11 years with the district and her 30 years in education. Mrs. Walling then presented her goals to the board and answered any questions.

X. Business Administrator's Report - Mr. Slamb provided an update on the transportation bid advertised and opening on 7/7/21; He also updated the status of the ongoing issue with the Brown Paper Ticket company; Mr. Slamb provided project updates regarding security film, direct install and BW sidewalk quotes.

XI. Berkeley Heights Liaison Report - Mr. Hyman noted the last meeting was on 6/10, the next will be on 6/24. GL Graduation was held on 6/16. There was a moment of silence at the 6/10 meeting for Helen Kirsch, a former board member of 38 years. Berkeley Heights is conducting a traffic

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study. Presentations were made for student achievement awards, including a few perfect ACT and SAT scores at GL. The JV and Varsity baseball teams both won tournaments. GL students will be supporting local tutoring needs this summer. More information is available on the GL website or by emailing Principal Rob Nixon.

XII. Administration

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Administration #1-7**

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

1. Move to accept the Superintendent’s recommendations on the HIB incident dated June 10, 2021.
2. **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; and

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon receipt of confirmation of satisfaction of the above goals from the Union County Interim Superintendent of Schools, the applicable Merit Bonus provisions of the Superintendent’s contract shall be paid.

3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Security Drill Statement of Assurance (Attachment #2).
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Comprehensive Equity Plan Statement of Assurance (Attachment #3).
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the submission of a waiver to the Union County Executive Superintendent of Schools for preschool and kindergarten toilet rooms for the 2021-2022 school year (Attachment #4).
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Beechwood and Deerfield Schools May 2021 safety and security drill reports. (Attachment #5)
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following curricular documents for Mountainside Schools:

Subject Area	Grade Levels
Health	Grade 4 & 5

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XIII. Budget and Finance

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Budget and Finance #1-19**

Moved: Dr. Guidiciopietro

Seconded: Mr. Venes

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

1. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the list of budget transfers for the month of May 2021. (Attachment #6)
2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill list dated May 27, 2021, through June 23, 2021 (Attachment #7).
3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of May 2021 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the month of May 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 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 May 2021:

the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of May 2021 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for May 2021 as submitted and certified (Attachment #8).

4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the tax payment schedule for the 2021-2022 school year from the Borough of Mountainside to the Mountainside Board of Education as follows and to authorize the School Business Administrator to submit said schedule to the Borough of Mountainside:

2021-2022	General Fund	Debt Service	Total
July	\$1,438,470.75	\$227,489.50	\$1,665,960.25
August	\$1,438,470.75	\$734,830.50	\$2,232,224.13
September	\$1,438,470.75	\$	\$1,438,470.75
October	\$1,438,470.75	\$	\$1,438,470.75
November	\$1,438,470.75	\$	\$1,438,470.75
December	\$1,438,470.75	\$	\$1,438,470.75

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January	\$1,438,470.75	\$63,278.88	\$1,442,826.75
February	\$1,438,470.75	\$167,329.38	\$1,605,800.13
March	\$1,438,470.75	\$	\$1,438,470.75
April	\$1,438,470.75	\$	\$1,438,470.75
May	\$1,438,470.75	\$	\$1,438,470.75
June	\$1,438,470.75	\$	\$1,438,470.75
Total:	\$17,261,649.00	\$1,192,928.26	\$18,454,577.26

Note: Payments will be approved by Council on the third Tuesday of the month payable on or about the 20th of each month.

5. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mountainside Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator to pay supplementary bill lists and payroll which shall become due on or before June 30, 2021 including all year-end payables and to proceed with all necessary adjustments and transfers to close the books for the 2020-2021 fiscal year, including the cancellation of any stale dated checks; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Superintendent and Business Administrator be authorized to complete any and all entries and actions for the opening of the 2021-2022 fiscal year, including but not limited to the issuance of purchase orders in compliance with the Public Contracts Law, complete line item adjustments and transfers, and other such actions as may be required by statute, code and Board Policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, all of these actions shall be presented to the Board at its next meeting for final approval.

6. **WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:21-2, N.J.S.A.18A:7G-31 and N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-41 permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year-end; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permits a board of education to transfer unanticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Mountainside Board of Education wishes to transfer unanticipated excess current year revenue or unexpended appropriations from the general fund into its Capital, Maintenance, Emergency, and Tuition Reserve accounts at year-end; and

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WHEREAS, the Mountainside Board of Education has determined that any excess surplus above the combination of the allowable 2% of adjusted expenditures at the conclusion of the 2020-21 fiscal year and all funds awarded by the New Jersey Department of Education for the 2020-21 Extraordinary Aid and/or Non-Public Transportation Aid is available for such Transfer;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board authorize the Business Administrator to make this transfer of all funds in excess of the allowable 2% of adjusted expenditures at the conclusion of the 2020-21 fiscal year and any and all funds awarded by the New Jersey Department of Education for 2020-21 Extraordinary Aid and/or Non-Public Transportation Aid consistent with all applicable laws and regulations in the amount not to exceed \$1,200,000 as follows; Tuition Reserve not to exceed \$500,000, Capital Reserve not to exceed \$250,000, Maintenance Reserve not to exceed \$250,000, and Emergency Reserve not to exceed \$200,000 be made as of June 30, 2020, nunc pro tunc.

7. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mountainside Board of Education grants approval for the Superintendent to make application for and accept subsequent receipt of the IDEA Consolidated Grants for fiscal year 2022 as follows:

IDEA Preschool	\$7,871
IDEA Basic	\$148,886

8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the acceptance of and subsequent submission of the ESSA grant application for the fiscal year 2022 as follows:

Title I	\$62,686
Title IIA	\$17,993
Title III	\$400
Title IV	\$10,000

9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the re-appointment of Paula Hatch, as Treasurer of Mountainside School District, for the 2021-2022 school year, for an annual fee of \$3,231.
10. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Tuition Agreement contract between Union County Vocational-Technical Schools and the Mountainside School District for the 2021-2022 school year. (Attachment #9)
11. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to contract with R&L DataCenters, Inc., Inc. for payroll and related services from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. (Attachment # 10)

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12. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to contract with Linkit for student data analysis and assessment software from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. (Attachment # 11)
13. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, school psychologist services with Invo Healthcare from June 21, 2021 - August 31, 2021, as needed. (Attachment #12)
14. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, acceptance of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund II (ESSER II), Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CARES ACT) grant funds, to include \$247,027 in CRRSA-ESSER II funds, \$25,000 in Learning Acceleration funds, and \$45,000 in Mental Health funds, to be used between March 13, 2020, through September 30, 2023.
15. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board concurs with the award of a purchase order for asphalt replacement work at Deerfield School to JWH & Sons Contractors Inc. in the amount of \$7,100.00. Additional quotes were requested for the required asphalt replacement work, however, JWH & Sons Contractors Inc. was the only vendor to respond with a quote. (Attachment # 13)
16. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a parent transportation contract, in the amount of \$5,698.24, pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A: 39.1 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 6A: 27-9.9, between the Mountainside Board of Education and the parent/legal guardians of **Student #9155768730** for 2021-2022 ESY and Regular School Year.
17. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, special education placements and services as per (Attachment #14).
18. 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 #15). 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.
19. Motion to approve upon recommendation of the Superintendent, the purchase of two classrooms of furniture from Nickerson New Jersey, Inc. at a cost NTE \$13,000.

XIV. Personnel

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Personnel #1-18**

Moved: Mrs. Schiano Seconded: Mrs. Pupo

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

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Raymond Slamb** as School Business Administrator and Board Secretary, for the 2021-2022 school year at a salary of \$113,296 effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, with approval from the County Superintendent. (Attachment #16)

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2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Raymond Slamb** as the School Safety Specialist for the 2021-2022 school year at a stipend amount of \$6,000.
3. Move to approve the salary for **Janet Walling**, Superintendent, for the 2021-2022 school year as \$145,656.
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the re-hiring of the **non-affiliated personnel**, effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 as per the attached list. (Attachment #17)
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the **paraprofessionals** list for the 2021-2022 school year (Attachment #18)
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, an unpaid extended Family Leave in accordance with FMLA and NJFLA for **Laryssa DelGuercio**, Grade 4 Special Education Teacher, from September 1, 2021 through October 31, 2021. She plans to return on November 1, 2021. (Attachment #19)
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following staff for ESY 2021 as follows:

Name	Grade Level	Position	Salary
Laurie Naftulin	PEAK	Special Education Teacher	\$43.29/hr.

8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the re-appointment of **Laurie Naftulin** to the position of 1st Grade Teacher (Leave Replacement), at the rate of \$190 per diem, effective September 1, 2021 through November 30, 2021.
9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Desiree Ganz**, to the position of Special Education Teacher at Deerfield School, at a salary of \$62,820, MA Step 7, for the 2021-2022 school year, pending successful criminal history and certification review. (Attachment #20)
10. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the extended appointment of Melanie Medina, **MEM** Education Services, LLC, for LDT-C Services for the Child Study Team, from July 1, 2021 through August 31, 2021, at rates per attached. (Attachment #21)
11. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Gary Chan** to complete his 150 internship hours as required by Ramapo College course EDLD 610-96 Field-Based Administrative Internship I. (Attachment #22)
12. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following staff member for summer employment:

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Staff Member	Assignment	Hours	Rate	Total
Kristen DalCortivo	Summer related duties	Not to exceed 70 hours	\$43.29/hr	\$3,030.30

13. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Deb Posner** for the stipend position of Athletic Coordinator, for the 2021-2022 school year, at a rate of \$2,276.
14. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the request for tuition reimbursement from **Zachary Worswick**, Physical Education Teacher, for class taken at University of Missouri – Mizzou, for the 2021 Spring Session for six (6) graduate credits in the amount of \$2,369 (Attachment #23)
15. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Dana Peterson**, Orton Gillingham instructor, to work with the following students:

Student	Dates	Sessions	Rate
#9074404763	6/21/21-8/31/21	3x/weekly 50 minute sessions NTE 3 sessions/wk	\$100/session
#4034358073	7/19/21-8/31/21	3x/weekly 50 minute sessions NTE 3 sessions/wk	\$100/session

16. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Nicole Ellis**, Paraprofessional, to work during ESY, from June 28-July 15, 2021, Mondays through Thursdays from 9:00-12:00, at a rate of \$26.11.
17. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Colleen Laurendi**, to the position of Elementary Teacher, at a salary of \$62,820, MA Step 7, for the 2021-2022 school year, upon successful criminal background check. (Attachment #24)
18. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Teresa Banks**, to the position of 3rd Grade (Leave Replacement), at the rate of \$185 per diem for the balance of the assignment, effective September 1, 2021, until December 1, 2021. Ms. Banks will return to her paraprofessional position at the end of this assignment.

XV. Policy

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

Moved: Mr. Venes Seconded: Mrs. Schiano

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

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

P 8561	Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs	Revised/Mandated
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2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following policies/regulations for the second reading and adoption:

P/R 5330.01	Administration of Medical Cannabis	Revised/Mandated
P 6360	Political Contributions	Revised/Mandated
P 8330	Student Records	Revised/Mandated
P 9713	Recruitment by Special Interest Groups	Revised/Mandated

The following motion was approved by roll call vote: **Policy #3**

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Mrs. Schiano

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

3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to abolish the following policies/regulations:

P 1521	Educational Improvement Plans
P 1649	Federal Families First Coronavirus (COVID -19) Response Act

XVI. Old Business - none

XVII. New Business - Dr. Guidici Pietro offered congratulations to 9U and 8U travel baseball USABL champions. *Library Liaison*, Mr. Hyman said the trustees met and reported record traffic at the library post pandemic for summer reading programs. Friends of the Library thanked local boy & girl scouts who volunteered at the book sale that raised over \$1,000. He reported there is a crayon recycling drop-off in the lobby and lots of excitement over the photo archive kiosk. The library is running a summer reading program. To sign up please visit the library website.

XVIII. Committee Reports - *Budget & Finance Committee*: There was an update on the Brown Paper Ticket issue as well as on the renewal of our send/receive agreement with Berkeley Heights.

XIX. Public Participation - none

XX. Executive Session - Resolution (Attachment #1)

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Moved: Dr. Guidici Pietro Seconded: Mrs. Pupo
RC: Dillon - yes Guidici Pietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - 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

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 9:03 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.

XXI. Close Executive Session and Adjournment

A motion was made by Mrs. Pupo at 9:30 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Schiano to close Executive Session and adjourn. The Public Session was not reconvened as no further action was taken. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote, 7 ayes - 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Raymond Slamb
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary