

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
February 15, 2022**

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 6:31 p.m.

II. Roll Call

At roll call, the following members were present:

Mr. Bill Dillon
Dr. Dana Guidiciopietro
Mr. Jordan Hyman
Mrs. Vivian Pupo
Mr. James Ruban, Jr.
Mrs. Candice Schiano
Mr. Carmine Venes

Also present were Janet Walling, Superintendent of Schools, and Steven Robinson, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

III. Executive Session - Resolution (Attachment #1)

Moved:	<u>Mr. Dillon</u>	Seconded:	<u>Dr. Guidiciopietro</u>
RC:	Dillon - yes	Guidiciopietro - 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. Legal/Personnel matters

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 6:32 p.m. to discuss the above mentioned matter to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed may or may

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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:	<u>Mr. Hyman</u>	Seconded:	<u>Dr. Guidicipietro</u>		
RC:	Dillon - yes	Guidicipietro - yes	Hyman - yes	Pupo - yes	
	Ruban -yes	Schiano - yes	Venes -yes		

The public meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

V. Flag Salute

VI. Approval of Minutes

Moved:	<u>Mrs. Pupo</u>	Seconded:	<u>Dr. Guidicipietro</u>		
RC:	Dillon -yes	Guidicipietro - yes	Hyman - yes	Pupo - yes	
	Ruban -yes	Schiano - yes	Venes -yes		

- ❖ Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 1, 2022
- ❖ Minutes of the Executive Session of February 1, 2022

VII. Correspondence - Letter from Kindergarten parents

VIII. Public Participation - none

IX. President's Report - none

X. Superintendent's Report - Mrs. Walling congratulated the Boys' Basketball team for an undefeated season and winning the CJAA Championship. She presented players, coaches and managers with certificates of achievement. She went on to mention that Governor Murphy has announced that masking will be optional as of 3/7/22, and a letter went out to parents that Mountainside will be optional as well. Based on federal guidelines, masks will still be required on buses. We are awaiting DOH updates for going forward regarding quarantine timelines, etc. Our local DOH agrees to optional masking given our lower number of positive cases, our distancing, and other parameters. Mrs. Walling noted that mid-year benchmarks data reports from IReady and LinkIt will be available soon for teachers and parents to review.

XI. Business Administrator's Report - Mr. Robinson mentioned that the Governor is delaying his address on the budget until 3/8/22. The tentative budget will be prepared in the next 2 weeks for the Budget and Finance Committee to review. The state has 48 hours after the address to release state aid figures, but Mr. Robinson is not expecting any issues. Mrs. Walling mentioned that the March board meeting may be pushed back a week due to these delays from the state. She also welcomed Mr. Steven Robinson as our new Interim Business Administrator, and looks forward to working with him.

XII. Berkeley Heights Liaison Report - Mr. Hyman reported that the 2/8 meeting was for school boards training, and not a full meeting. Dr. Varley announced her plans to make masking optional

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as of 3/7. Governor Livingston High School's Wrestling Team made it to the state sectionals for the first time since 1981. They lost but performed well. The Fencing Team made the state finals coming up on 3/5. The next meeting will be on 3/4/22.

XIII. Administration

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Administration #1-6**

Moved: Mr. Venes Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro
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 Student Safety Data System (SSDS) Report, from September 1, 2021-December 31, 2021, as reported to the NJ Department of Education. (Attachment #2)
2. **WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicare Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2022-2023 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Mountainside Board of Education, desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that the state projects having four Medicaid eligible classified students and is therefore not required to participate in SEMI.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountainside Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent to apply for the waiver with the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Union following submission of an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2022-2023 school year.

3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2022-2023 School Year Calendar (Attachment #3).
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the English Language Service Three-Year Program Plan School Years 2021-2024. (Attachment #4)
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following dates and times for the Extended School Year (ESY) Program for Summer of 2022:
 Dates: (Mon-Thurs) - July 5th - August 4th
 Times: 9:00 - 12:30
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Beechwood and Deerfield Schools January 2022 safety and security drill reports. (Attachment #5)

XIV. Budget and Finance

Mrs. Walling briefly explained the 2 addendum items, motions #6 and #7 to the board.

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Budget and Finance #1-7**

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Mrs. Schiano

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

1. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the list of budget transfers for the months of December 2021 & January 2022. (Attachments #6 & #7)
2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill list dated February 3, 2022, through February 16, 2022. (Attachment #8)
3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the months of December 2021 & January 2022 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the months of December 2021 & January 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary, Steven Robinson, 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 December 2021 & January 2022:

the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the months of December 2021 & January 2022 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for December 2021 & January 2022 as submitted and certified (Attachments #9 & #10).

4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the addition of the following to the list of Independent Contractors/Physicians/Agencies for the 21-22 school year.

Contact Information	Services	Budgeted Account Code
Tri-County Behavioral Care 191 Woodport Road, Suite 206 Sparta, NJ 07871 teresakeith@tcblc.org 973-691-3030	School Clearance Assessment (SCA) and/or Substance Evaluation & Treatment (SET)	11-000-219-320-000-002 \$100.00 per SCA \$50.00 per SET

5. Move to approve an agreement for participation in Coordinated Transportation Services between Union County Educational Services Commission and the Mountainside Board of Education for Transportation for the 2022-2023 school year. (Attachment #11)
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, for student #9268929571 to remain in-district for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year at a tuition rate of \$4,812, from March 10, 2022 through June 21, 2022.
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the building use request with the Actor's Camp for building use at Deerfield School from July 4th - July 29th based on Policy 7510, priority 5, and a payment schedule totaling \$7,600, excluding additional overtime costs that may be incurred.

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XV. Personnel

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

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

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to appoint Steven Robinson as the following:
 - o Custodian of Records
 - o Official for Investments and Wires
 - o Designates Tax Shelter Annuity Companies
 - o Approves Chart of Accounts
 - o Authorizes the Use of State Contracts
 - o Approves Use of Facilities Fees per Policy 7510
 - o Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.)

2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following staff for 2021-2022 School Year Stipend Positions, contingent upon student enrollment for those student activities subsidized in accordance with Board Policy 2436, Activity Participation Fee Program.

Staff Member	Position	Rate
Gary Chan	Head Softball Coach *previously approved as Assistant Softball Coach	\$3,644
Zachary Worswick	Head Baseball Coach	\$3,644
Ramona Dunning	Assistant Softball Coach	\$2,276

3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of **Dennis Hassel, Jr.**, custodian, effective March 3, 2022, and thank him for his service to the Mountainside School District. (Attachment #12)

4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Maternity Disability Leave for **Elizabeth Shimwell**, 4th Grade Teacher, effective on or about May 23, 2022, until June 21, 2022. She will be permitted to utilize any accumulated sick days. It is also recommended that Ms. Shimwell be granted unpaid Family Leave from September 1, 2022, until November 25, 2022 in accordance with FMLA and NJFLA. Ms. Shimwell anticipates returning to work November 28, 2022. (Attachment #13)

5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to appoint **Christine Kiesewetter** to the temporary position of paraprofessional, at the rate of \$23.92/hour, effective March 8, 2022 through June 21, 2022.

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6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, request for tuition reimbursement from **Julie Lima**, Special Education Teacher, for courses taken at Fairleigh Dickinson for the 2022 Winter Session for ten (10) program credits in the amount of \$150. (Attachment #14)
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following list of teachers to provide before/after school instruction for students through the use of ARP Comprehensive Beyond the School Day Activities Grant funds, at the rate of \$43.29/hour.

Cory Berger	Dayna Carroll	Axl Hirsch
Nancy Kinney	Adrienne Ridley	Sharon Scanlan

XVII. Policy

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

Moved: Mr. Hyman 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 following policies/regulations for the first reading:

P 5541	Anti-Hazing	New/Mandated
P 7540	Joint Use of Facilities	Revised
P 8465	Bias Crimes and Bias-Related Acts	Revised / Mandated

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

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

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

P 3134	Assignment of Extra Duties	Revised
P 3142	Nonrenewal of Non-Tenured Teaching Staff Member	Revised
P 4146	Nonrenewal of Non-Tenured Support Staff Member	Revised

XVIII. Old Business - none

XIX. New Business - none

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XX. Committee Reports - none

XXI. Public Participation - none

XXII. Executive Session

Moved:	<u>Mr. Hyman</u>	Seconded:	<u>Dr. Guidicipietro</u>
RC:	Dillon - yes	Guidicipietro - 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. Superintendent's Contract

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 7:59 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. No further action will be taken.

XXIII. Close Executive Session and Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Hyman at 8:31 p.m., seconded by Mr. Venes to adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote, 7 ayes - 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Robinson
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary