

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 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 6:32 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

Mrs. Janet Walling, Superintendent, and Mr. Steven Robinson, Interim Business Administrator were also present.

III. Executive Session - Resolution (Attachment #1)

Moved:	<u>Dr. Guidiciopietro</u>	Seconded:	<u>Mr. Hyman</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 issues
2. HIB

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 6:33 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: Mr. Venes Seconded: Dr. Guidiciopietro
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. Pupo
RC: Dillon - yes Guidiciopietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
 Ruban -yes Schiano - yes Venes -yes

- ❖ Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 18, 2022
- ❖ Minutes of the Executive Session of October 18, 2022

VII. Correspondence - none

VIII. Public Participation - none

IX. President's Report - none

X. Superintendent's Report - Mrs. Walling recognized the Boys' and Girls' Soccer teams for winning the CJAA championships. She also recognized the Patriot's Pen Essay winners, Red Ribbon Poster Contest winner and thanked everyone for another wonderful Veteran's Day celebration. She congratulated the Board members on the recent election results. She then presented the 2021 NJSLA test results, followed by the District Goals presentation for the 2022-2023 school year, and answered some questions from the Board.

XI. Business Administrator's Report - Mr. Robinson presented the budget calendar for the 2023-2024 school year. He answered a few questions from the Board.

XII. Berkeley Heights Liaison Report -Mr. Hyman's last meeting was on 10/20, next meeting on 11/17. There were updates on Fall athletics, and upcoming seasons. GL hosted PSAT and PACT tests, as well as Sr. Breakfast. There were presentations on NJSLA results and HIB. There was a Robotics competition, ideas shared about having homecoming in 2023, and AP exam results. There were 3 recently elected Board members, one returning and 2 new.

XIII. Administration

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Administration #1-5**

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Moved: Dr. Guidiciopietro Seconded: Mrs. Pupo
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, the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Investigative Report(s) for the period of September 21, 2022 through November 9, 2022, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:37-1 et seq. 2.
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Mountainside School District Goals for the 2022-2023 school year.
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the School Safety and Security Plan Annual Review Statement of Assurance (Attachment #2).
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2022-2023 Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist Statement of Assurance for Beechwood and Deerfield Schools. (Attachment #3).
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Beechwood and Deerfield Schools October 2022 safety and security drill reports. (Attachment #4)

XIV. Budget and Finance

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Budget and Finance #1-8**

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Mrs. Schiano
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 months of September 2022. (Attachment #5)
2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill list dated October 20, 2022, through November 16, 2022. (Attachment #6)
3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the months of September 2022 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the months of September 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Interim 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 September 2022:

RESOLVED THAT, the Board accepts the Treasurer Report for the month of September 2022 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for September as submitted and certified. (Attachment #7)

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4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, an agreement with Golden Arrow Transportation to provide transportation for the basketball season, at a rate of \$550.00 per bus.
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the agreement with MUJC to provide transportation for the Regular School Year 2022-2023. (Attachment #8)
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the cooperative agreement between the Mountainside Board of Education and Berkeley Heights for a middle school wrestling program. (Attachment #9)
7. Move to approve in accordance with MBOE policy 6471, School District Travel, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the travel, professional development requests, 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. All reimbursements shall be made in accordance with state guidelines 18A:11-12.
8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, special education placements and services as per (Attachment #11).

XV. Personnel

Mrs. Schiano was sorry to see Mrs. Sluberski resigned, but she and other board members thanked her and wished her well. Mrs. Walling concurred.

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

Moved: Dr. Guidiciopietro Seconded: Mrs. Pupo
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 **Christine O'Grady**, to the position of 3rd Grade Teacher, at an annual salary of \$73,481, Step 12 MA, prorated, for the 2022-2023 school year, effective 11/14/22. (Attachment #12)
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of **Caitlin Sluberski**, Elementary Teacher, effective immediately, and thank her for her service to the Mountainside School District. (Attachment #13)
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the addition of the following to the 2022-2023 Substitute Teacher List, pending paperwork and successful criminal background check. (Attachment #14)

Christopher Jordan	Sub cert pending w/ degree	\$115/day
Tara Dilkes	Sub cert pending w/ education degree	\$125/day
Kimberly DiStaso	Teaching Cert.	\$125/day

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4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2022-2023 School Year Stipend Positions, contingent upon student enrollment for those student activities subsidized in accordance with Board Policy 2436, Activity Participation Fee Program.

Position	Name	Salary
Administrative Detention Advisor	Bryan Young	\$24/session
Assistant Play Director	Judy Wargaski	\$2,471.00

5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to amend Personnel item #12 from the June 28, 2022 agenda, for summer curriculum writing, to reflect a total of 30 hours for **Nicole Cruets**, at a rate of \$44/hour. *(previously approved for 20 hours)*
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to extend the medical leave of absence for **Employee #90184532**, from December 1, 2022 through approximately December 23, 2022, pending updated doctor's note.
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Barbi Higinbotham** to provide home instruction for Mountainside students as deemed medically necessary, at a rate of \$44/hour, not to exceed 10 hours per week.
8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following list of parent volunteers to assist Mr. Rosenblum and Mrs. Wargaski with the middle school play.

Genevieve Cooper	Kristin Steinmetz	Reisa Glenn
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9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Michael Mezzo** to complete observation hours on November 21st with Mr. Wise. These hours will apply towards musical field experience requirements for Ithaca College.

XVI. Curriculum

The following motion was approved by roll call vote: **Curriculum #1**

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

Destination	Grade	Teacher in Charge	Estimated Cost
Music in the Parks Dorney Park	8	Rosenblum / Wise	Tickets: \$5770 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • paid by secured grants and/or students
Liberty Science Center	3	Phillips	Tickets & buses: \$1830+\$1100 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1704 pd by PTO • \$1226.50 pd by students

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XVII. Policy

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

Moved: Mr. Venes

Seconded: Dr. Guidiciopietro

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, the following for the first reading:

Bylaw 0132	Executive Authority	Revised
P 3216	Dress and Grooming	Revised
P 4216	Dress and Grooming	New

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

P 0163	Quorum	Revised
P 3270	Professional Responsibilities	Revised
P 5512	Harassment, Intimidation, or and Bullying	Revised/Mandated

XVIII. Old Business - Mr. Hyman asked about the Deerfield digital sign, which is getting closer to installation.

XIX. New Business - Dr. Guidiciopietro mentioned the PTO Spring Fundraiser coming on March 23rd at the Hilton. Mr. Dillon and Mr. Venes mentioned going to the School Boards Convention and what they learned.

XX. Committee Reports - Mrs. Schiano reported that the Strategic Plan Committee met and went over the District Goals.

XXI. Public Participation - A community member commented on Mrs. Sluberski's resignation and asked about her replacement plans. Mrs. Walling responded.

XXII. Adjournment - Resolution (Attachment #1)

A motion was made by Mr. Hyman at 9:17 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Pupo to adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote, 7 ayes - 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Steven Robinson

Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary