

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
February 28, 2017**

# Mountainside School District

Beechwood School, 1497 Woodacres Drive, Mountainside, NJ 07092  
Deerfield School, 302 Central Avenue, Mountainside, NJ 07092

**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 6:35 p.m. in the Deerfield School Media Center, 302 Central Avenue, Mountainside, New Jersey.

**II. Roll Call**

At roll call, the following members were present:

Mr. Dante Gioia  
Mrs. Cathy Jakositz  
Mrs. Kate Motz  
Mrs. Jeane Parker  
Mr. James Ruban, Jr.  
Mr. Carmine Venes

Also present were Dr. Nancy Lubarsky, Chief School Administrator, and Mr. Eric Larson, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

Mr. Christopher Minks arrived after roll call.

**III. Executive Session** – The following resolution was approved by roll call vote:

Moved: Gioia	Seconded: Jakositz		
RC) Gioia – Yes	Jakositz – Yes	Minks – Absent	
Motz – Yes	Parker – Yes	Ruban – 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

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 when that will be.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board adjourn to executive session at 6:40 p.m. to discuss the above mentioned matter to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
February 28, 2017**

may or may not be made public this evening. If an action results, it will be taken following reentry into regular session.

The public meeting was reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

**IV. Flag Salute**

**V. Approval of Minutes**

Moved: Jakositz	Seconded: Gioia		
RC) Gioia – Yes	Jakositz – Yes	Minks – abstain	
Motz – Yes	Parker – Yes	Ruban – Yes	Venes – Yes

- ❖ Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 24, 2017
- ❖ Minutes of the Executive Session of January 24, 2017

**VI. Correspondence - None**

**VII. Public Participation - None**

**VIII. President’s Report - None**

**IX. Chief School Administrator’s Report**

- Dr. Lubarsky gave a follow up presentation on PARCC Math.
- Dr. Lubarsky and Mr. Larson gave a presentation on the budget process.
- Dr. Lubarsky announced the 2016-2017 Teachers/Education Service Professionals and Support Staff Members of the Year.
- Dr. Lubarsky stated that the boys and girls basketball teams made it to the playoffs.
- Dr. Lubarsky mentioned that 6<sup>th</sup> grader, Chauncey Chen, will be competing in the state spelling bee.

A parent asked a question about “opportunity period”.

**X. Berkeley Heights Liaison Report**

Mrs. Parker reported:

- Berkeley Heights plans to spend \$1.2 million on upgrading security.
- AP Program Capstone is available.
- The Fashion Show, the senior fundraiser, is being held on Friday.
- Berkeley Heights had many great sport achievements.
- GL Musical is the week after the Deerfield musical.

**XI. Administration**

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

Moved: Gioia	Seconded: Jakositz		
RC) Gioia – Yes	Jakositz – Yes	Minks – Yes	
Motz – Yes	Parker – Yes	Ruban – Yes	Venes – Yes

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
February 28, 2017**

1. **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 2017-2018 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mountainside Board of Education, desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having two 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 Chief School Administrator to accept the waiver approval issued by 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 2017-2018 school year.

2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Beechwood and Deerfield Schools January 2017 safety and security drill reports (Attachment #2).

**XII. Budget and Finance**

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

Moved: Jakositz	Seconded: Gioia		
RC) Gioia – Yes	Jakositz – Yes	Minks – Yes	
Motz – Yes	Parker – Yes	Ruban – Yes	Venes – Yes

1. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the list of budget transfers for the month of January 2017 (Attachment #3).
2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill list dated February 1, 2017, through February 28, 2017 (Attachment #4).
3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of January 2017 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the month of January 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board Secretary, Eric Larson, 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 January 2017:

**RESOLVED THAT**, the Board accepts the Treasurer Report for the month of January 2017 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for January 2017 as submitted and certified (Attachment #5).

4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, to accept the following donations:

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
February 28, 2017**

MEF	\$3,000.00	Deerfield School Musical
Watts	\$2,000.00	Costumes for Deerfield School Musical
Watts	\$1,431.00	Kindergarten trip to see The Little Mermaid
Watts	\$539.46	New and Slow Spanish for Honors Class

5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the attached list of Independent Contractors/Agencies for regular and classified students if needed during the 2016-2017 school year (Attachment #6).
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, special education placements and services as per (Attachment #7).
7. Move to approve in accordance with MBOE policy 6471, School District Travel, and upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the travel and related expenses itemized in (Attachment #8). 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.

**XIII. Personnel**

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Personnel: #1-11**

Moved: Minks	Seconded: Jakositz		
RC) Gioia – Yes	Jakositz – Yes	Minks – Absent	
Motz – Yes	Parker – Yes	Ruban – Yes	Venes – Yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the retirement of Barbara Hemmings effective July 1, 2017 and to thank her for her 25 years of service to the Mountainside School District (Attachment #9).
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the appointment of Hollie Hartford, to the position of 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher (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 February 6, 2017, for approximately 8-12 weeks (Attachment #10).
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the appointment of Emily Lelah, to the position of 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher (Leave Replacement), at the per diem rate of \$150 for the first 20 days of the assignment, and \$185 per diem for the balance of the assignment, effective on or about March 1, 2017, until June 20, 2017 (Attachment #11).
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the appointment of Dennis Hassel Jr., to the position of Custodian, at a salary of \$36,478 per year, pro-rated, pending criminal history review approval letter (Attachment #12).
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, to revise the leave date for Dayna Carroll's Maternity Leave of Absence from April 14, 2017 to March 3, 2017 (Attachment #13).

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
February 28, 2017**

6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the following staff member to serve as a mentor for the 2016-2017 school year.

Staff Member	Assignment	Amount (To be paid by mentee)
Adrienne Ridley	Kristie Crilley Social Studies 9/1/16 – 6/20/17	\$550.00

7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administration, an unpaid medical disability leave for employee #30112031 for approximately 8-12 weeks in accordance with FMLA effective March 8, 2017 Attachment #14).
8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the notification to take classes from Adrienne Ridley, at Liberty University, for the Winter 2017 session for three graduate credits in the amount of \$1,950 (Attachment #15).
9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the appointment of Amanda Somers-Guerrasio, to the position of School Psychologist, at a salary of \$60,539 per year, Step 4, MA + 30, pro-rated, effective on or about May 1, 2017, until June 20, 2017 (Attachment #15A).
10. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the appointment of Anavi Sharma, to the position of Kindergarten Teacher (Leave Replacement), at the per diem rate of \$150 for the first 20 days of the assignment, and \$185 per diem for the balance of the assignment, effective April 3, 2017, until June 20, 2017 (Attachment #15B).
11. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the appointment of Rebecca Walsh, to the position of Special Education Teacher (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 March 22, 2017, until June 20, 2017 (Attachment #15C).

**XIV. Curriculum**

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

Moved: Jakositz	Seconded: Gioia		
RC) Gioia – Yes	Jakositz – Yes	Minks – Yes	
Motz – Yes	Parker – Yes	Ruban – Yes	Venes – Yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the following field trips for the 2016-2017 school year:

Date	Destination	Grade	Teacher in Charge	Estimated Cost
2/17/2017	South Orange Performing Arts Center	Kindergarten	Ms. Ianniello	Admission: \$957.00 Paid by: Watts Foundation Buses: \$474.00

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
February 28, 2017**

				Paid by: Watts Foundation
4/19/2017	Ripley Grier Studios	8th	Rosenblum	Cost of Trip: \$9,620 paid by Students \$1,690 paid by MEF
05/18/2017 Rain Date: 5/23/2017	Turtleback Zoo	1st	Ms Trentham	Admission: \$877.00 Paid by: PTA Admission: \$144.00 Paid by: Chaperones Buses: \$710.92 Paid by: PTA
5/18/2017	Deerfield-Third Grade Orientation	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mrs. Bakker	Buses: \$237.00 Paid by: BOE
5/24/2017	Jenkinson's Aquarium	Kindergarten	Ms. Ianniello	Admission: \$478.00 Paid by: PTA Admission: \$160.00 Paid by: Chaperones Buses: \$ 710.92 Paid by PTA

**XV. Policy**

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

**Motion #3 was tabled**

Moved: Gioia

Seconded: Jakositz

RC) Gioia – Yes

Jakositz – Yes

Minks – Yes

Motz – Yes

Parker – Yes

Ruban – Yes

Venes – Yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the following policies for second reading and adoption:

1510	Americans with Disabilities Act	Revised Mandated
2415.30	Title I-Educational Stability for Children Foster Care	New Mandated
2418	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973-Students	New Mandated

2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the following policies for first reading:

5116	Education of Homeless Children	Revised Recommended
5330.04	Administering an Opioid Antidote	New Suggested
8330	Student Records	Revised Mandated

3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the following policy for first reading:

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
February 28, 2017**

2431	Athletic Competition	Mandated
------	----------------------	----------

**Note: The above motion #3 was tabled.**

**XVI. Old Business - None**

**XVII. New Business**

**The following motion was approved by roll call vote:**

Moved: Minks	Seconded: Gioia		
RC) Gioia – Yes	Jakositz – Yes	Minks – Yes	
Motz – Yes	Parker – Yes	Ruban – Yes	Venes – Yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the closing of school on the following days due to 4 unused snow days:
  - Monday, April 17, 2017
  - Friday, May 26, 2017
  - Tuesday, May 30, 2017
  - The 4<sup>th</sup> day will be determined at a later date.

**XVIII. Committee Reports**

Building and Grounds – Mr. Gioia reported that the Deerfield Mechanical Project is the last large project to be completed. Final items such as site work are currently being addressed.

**XIX. Public Participation**

Mrs. Rittman asked a question about the unused snow days.

**XX. Executive Session – The following resolution was approved by roll call vote:**

Moved: Minks	Seconded: Gioia		
RC) Gioia – Yes	Jakositz – Yes	Minks – Yes	
Motz – Yes	Parker – Yes	Ruban – 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:

2. 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 when that will be.

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
February 28, 2017**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board adjourn to executive session at 10:12 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.

The public meeting was reconvened at 10:56 p.m.

**XXI. Policy**

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Policy: #3**

Moved: Gioia	Seconded: Minks		
RC) Gioia – Yes	Jakositz – Yes	Minks – Yes	
Motz – Yes	Parker – Yes	Ruban – Yes	Venes – Yes

3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the following policy for first reading:

2431	Athletic Competition	Mandated
------	----------------------	----------

**XXII. Executive Session** – The following resolution was approved by roll call vote:

Moved: Gioia	Seconded: Minks		
RC) Gioia – Yes	Jakositz – Yes	Minks – Yes	
Motz – Yes	Parker – Yes	Ruban – 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

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 when that will be.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board adjourn to executive session at 10:58 p.m. to discuss the above mentioned matter to the exclusion of all others. No action will be taken.

The Board did not return to public session.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Eric D. Larson  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary