



Mountain Lakes School District
96 Powerville Road, Suite 1
Mountain Lakes, New Jersey 07046
Phone: 973-334-8280 Fax: 973-334-2316
www.mlschools.org

NOTICE

The Regular Meeting of the Mountain Lakes Board of Education will be held on
Monday, November 20, 2023 at 6:30pm Mountain Lakes High School,
96 Powerville Road, Mountain Lakes, New Jersey

Alex Ferreira,
School Business Administrator / Board Secretary

AGENDA

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Mountain Lakes Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Mountain Lakes Municipal Building and sent to the following newspapers: *The Daily Record, The Citizen, and the District Website.*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board President, Mrs. Barkauskas will lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Board Member	Present	Absent
Dr. Don		
Dr. Driscoll		
Mrs. Forman		
Mrs. Hermey		
Dr. Hirschfeld		
Ms. Leiningner		
Dr. McIntyre		
Mrs. Parker (<i>Vice President</i>)		
Mrs. Tucker		
Mrs. Barkauskas (<i>President</i>)		

Also present: Mr. Michael Fetherman, Mr. Alex Ferreira, Mrs. Ivonne Ciresi

EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education enter into Executive Session was made by _____ and seconded by _____, that the Board of Education adopt the following resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mountain Lakes Board of Education on this 20th day of November, 2023 at _____pm as follows:

1. The Board shall recess to closed session in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b (1), (2), (6), (7) and (8). The general nature of the discussion: Matters of personal confidentiality rights, including but not limited to staff and/or student discipline matters, and specifically:

2. These matters will be disclosed to the public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer applies. Although the Board cannot guarantee it, the length of the Executive Session is estimated to be _____ minutes after which the public meeting of the Board shall reconvene and proceed with business. Action may take place.

3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

MOTION, to leave executive session at _____ was made by _____ and seconded by _____.

The motion was approved _____ and the Board returned to public session at _____.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT

MOUNTAIN LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT COMMENT

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE MLEA CO-PRESIDENTS

PRESENTATIONS

- Information Technology Update

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT / ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following meeting minutes, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Date	Minutes
October 16, 2023	Regular and Executive Session Minutes
November 6, 2023	Regular and Executive Session Minutes

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS

Public comment is set aside for the Board to hear feedback and questions from members of the public. The Board will take all comments and suggestions from the public into consideration. If you have more than one question, we request that all questions are asked within the time provided, as Public Comment is not intended for back and forth dialogue. If the Board is unable to answer your question(s) at this time, we will explain when and in what format the answer(s) will be communicated.

We request that you limit your questions or comments to 3 minutes and present all questions within those 3 minutes. Please state your name and address for the record. The Board appreciates and thanks you for your attendance and participation in our meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

BOONTON TOWNSHIP REPORT

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2023 COMMITTEES

<p><u>Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment</u> James Hirschfeld (Chair) Aruni Don Lauren Silva McIntyre</p>	<p><u>Facilities</u> Erinn Tucker (Chair) Meghan Leininger Jennifer Parker Lauren Silva McIntyre</p>	<p><u>Finance</u> Kevin Driscoll (Chair) Aruni Don Sara Forman Lauren Silva McIntyre</p>
<p><u>Personnel</u> Aruni Don (Chair) James Hirschfeld Jennifer Parker Erinn Tucker</p>	<p><u>Policy</u> Jennifer Parker (Chair) Aruni Don Sara Forman Meghan Leininger</p>	<p><u>Special Education</u> Meghan Leininger (Chair) Lauren McIntyre Sara Forman</p>
<p><u>Negotiations (Special Committee)</u> Kevin Driscoll (Chair) Jennifer Parker Erinn Tucker</p>	<p><u>Long Range Planning (Special Committee)</u> Lauren Silva McIntyre (Chair) Joanne Barkauskas Leigh Hermey Meghan Leininger</p>	

2023 LIAISON AND CONFERENCE REPORTS

<p><u>Home and School</u> Meghan Leininger</p>	<p><u>Recreation Commission</u> Lauren Silva McIntyre</p>
<p><u>ML Education Foundation (MLEF)</u> Erinn Tucker</p>	<p><u>Traffic & Safety (Borough)</u> Jennifer Parker</p>
<p><u>ML Friends of the Arts (FOTA)</u> Meghan Leininger</p>	<p><u>Sound Start Babies Foundation</u> Meghan Leininger</p>
<p><u>Safety and Security</u> Aruni Don</p>	<p><u>Representative to the County SBA</u> Vacant</p>
<p><u>ML Alumni Association (MLAA)</u> Vacant</p>	<p><u>NJ School Boards Delegate</u> Vacant</p>

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR / BOARD SECRETARY

A. FINANCE

1. Presentation of Bills

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following bills list and check journals as of October 17, 2023 to November 17, 2023, as recommended by the Superintendent:*

Fund	Amount
General Fund (10)	\$160,332.26
Special Revenue Fund (20)	\$7,695.25
Capital Project Fund (30)	N/A
Debt Service Fund (40)	N/A
Cafeteria Account Fund (60)	\$192,263.17
Payroll	N/A
Total	\$320,244.68

2. Travel / Conferences Expenditures A

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following staff members to attend training and conferences in accordance with Policy 6471, as recommended by the Superintendent.

Name / ID	Location	Date	Event Name	Cost
DISTRICT				
Adams, Sarah	MLHS	6/7/2024	2024 NAEA National Convention	\$130
DeFillippo, Michael	DW	10/19-10/21/23	Autism NJ 41st Annual Conference	\$0
Mazzucco, Corey	DW	2/22/2024	Baseball and Softball Skin Surface Selection and Management	\$175
Niewood, Elizabeth	MLHS	12/14/23	The Zones of Regulation Comprehensive Full-Day Training	\$220
Novachevska, Diana	MLHS	6/7/2024	2024 NAEA National Convention	\$130
Stolarczuk, Kayla	MLHS	12/12/2023	AP Statistics Roundtable	\$0
Suarez, Jennifer	MLHS	2/26-2/27/24	NJASPERD Health Conference	\$99
Suarez, Jennifer	MLHS	12/4-12/5/23	2023 Virtual Health Convention	\$99
IVY H/WW/BC				
Shortt, Sharon	BC	11/9/2023	NJEA 2023 Convention (Virtually)	\$0

3. Donations / Grants

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following donations / grants, as recommended by the Superintendent:

To	From	Reason	Amount
DISTRICT			
Lake Drive School: Grades 2-5	Young Audiences/Dance New Jersey (The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation)	Dance to Learn Residency Grant	\$4,000-\$6,640

4. Fundraising

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following District Fundraisers for the 2023-2024 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent:

School	Fundraising Activity	Beneficiary/Purpose
DISTRICT		
MLHS	Bake Sale – EMS	Boonton First Aid Squad

5. Bus Evacuation Drill Reports

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the fall School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drills, for the 2023-2024 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent:*

Schools
Lake Drive School

B. MISCELLANEOUS

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. PERSONNEL

6. Appointments / Amendments/ Resignations / Rescission / Retirements / RIF's Δ

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following appointments, amendments, resignations, rescissions, retirements and RIFs, for all regular employees with base pay, be approved, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Name	Action	UPC	Position	Location	FTE	Degree/ Step	Rate of Pay	Start Date	Term Date
DISTRICT									
Kovar, Debra	Retirement	SEC-HS-PRIN-02	12-Month Administrative Assistant	MLHS	1.0	Step 13	\$74,320	2/22/99	2/29/24
IVY H/WW/BC									
Minitzer, Kelly	Resignation	SPS-CST-AID-U29-15	Paraprofessional (P/T)	WW	0.97	Step 9	\$25,804.90	11/1/17	11/15/23

7. Athletics / Extra Services (Schedule B Appointments) Δ

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following additional compensation, for all extra earnings under the contract, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Name	Action	Position	Location	Degree/Step	Rate of Pay	Start Date	Term Date
DISTRICT							
Bronico, Jeffrey (OD)	Appointment	Winter Weight Room Coach	MLHS		\$3,096	11/21/23	3/1/24
Doniloski, Jason	Appointment	Assistant Coach – Boys' Basketball	MLHS	Step 4	\$7,631	11/15/23	3/1/24
Sebesto, Alyssa	Appointment	Head Coach – Girls' Lacrosse	MLHS	Step 3	\$8,521	11/15/23	3/1/24

IVY H/WW/BC							
Dunn, Melissa	Appointment	5 th Grade Show Co-Advisor	WW	Step 3	\$1,190	8/30/23	6/30/24
Hussein, Amal	Revise	5 th Grade Team Co-Leader	WW		\$500	8/30/23	6/30/24
Hussein, Amal	Appointment	Math Olympiad	WW	Step 2	\$1,530	8/30/23	6/30/24
McNeill, Nicole	Rescind	5 th Grade Team Co-Leader	WW		\$250	8/30/23	6/30/24
Olearchik, Nicole	Revise	5 th Grade Show Co-Advisor	WW	Step 3	\$1,190	8/30/23	6/30/24
Paolazzi, Christopher	Revise	5 th Grade Team Co-Leader	WW		\$500	8/30/23	6/30/24
Perez, Ryan	Appointment	5 th Grade Show Co-Advisor	WW	Step 2	\$1,054	8/30/23	6/30/24
Pruser, Danielle	Rescind	5 th Grade Team Co-Leader	WW		\$250	2/23/24	6/30/24
Selinger, Emma	Appointment	Strings	WW	Step 1	\$1,201	8/30/23	6/30/24

8. Additional Compensation 4

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following additional compensation, for extra earnings not listed in contract, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Name	Action	UPC	Position	Location	Degree/Step	Rate of Pay	Start Date	Term Date
DISTRICT								
Buzzelli, Vincent	Appointment		Chaperone–Band/Choir Trip	MLHS/BC		\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/8/24	3/12/24
Chara, Susan	Appointment		Time to Soar	WW		\$25/hr (Not to exceed 25 hrs./wk.)	11/21/23	6/30/24
Durkin, Dawn	Appointment		Chaperone–Band/Choir Trip	MLHS		\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/8/24	3/12/24
Goncalves, Joao	Appointment		Chaperone–Band/Choir Trip	WW		\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/8/24	3/12/24
Henry, Paul	Appointment		Chaperone–Band/Choir Trip	DW		\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/8/24	3/12/24
Hill (Kemp), Theresa	Appointment		Chaperone–Band/Choir Trip	WW/BC/MLHS		\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/8/24	3/12/24
Lindsay, Maria	Appointment		Junior College Kick-Off	MLHS		\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs.)	1/3/24	1/3/24
Novachevska, Diana	Appointment		Chaperone–Band/Choir Trip	MLHS		\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/8/24	3/12/24
Pelchat, Cara	Appointment		Junior College Kick-Off	MLHS		\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs.)	1/3/24	1/3/24
Price, Ryan	Appointment		Chaperone–Band/Choir Trip	MLHS		\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/8/24	3/12/24
Seibert, Tania	Appointment		Chaperone–Band/Choir Trip	MLHS		\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/8/24	3/12/24
Suarez, Jenny	Appointment		Chaperone–Band/Choir Trip	MLHS		\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/8/24	3/12/24
Sullivan, Betsy	Appointment		Junior College Kick-Off	MLHS		\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs.)	1/3/24	1/3/24
Vallies, Austin	Appointment		Chaperone–Band/Choir Trip	MLHS		\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/8/24	3/12/24
Weinroth, Gail	Appointment		Junior College Kick-Off	MLHS		\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs.)	1/3/24	1/3/24

IVY H/WW/BC								
DeStefano, Amanda	Appointment		Time to Soar Substitute	LD		\$25/hr. (Not to exceed 25 hrs./wk.)	11/21/23	6/30/24

9. Substitutes, Volunteers and Intern Appointments Δ

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following appointments, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Name	Action	Position	Location	Rate of Pay	Start Date	Term Date
DISTRICT						
Bush, Michele	Appointment	Volunteer	DW	N/A	8/30/23	6/30/24
Buzby, Cheryl	Appointment	Substitute	DW	Board Approved Rates	11/14/23	6/30/24
Cannon, Catherine	Appointment	Volunteer	DW	N/A	8/30/23	6/30/24
Zyzyck, Stacey	Appointment	Volunteer	DW	N/A	8/30/23	6/30/24
IVY H/WW/BC						
Fidacaro, Danielle	Appointment	Substitute (LTS 5298)	WW	\$190/day	10/19/23	12/22/23
Hughes, Melissa	Appointment	Substitute (LTS 5303)	BC	\$190/day	1/2/24	2/29/23

10. Field Trips

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following field trips for the 2022-2023 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent:

School	Destination	Reason	Date
DISTRICT			
MLHS	Summit, NJ	Debate Tournament	12/9/23

11. Tuition Reimbursement Δ

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following course(s) for tuition reimbursement when the course has been completed and the transcripts received by the Superintendent’s office, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Name	Location	College/University	Course Title / #	Credits
DISTRICT				
Mores-Silva, Maria	LD	Univ. of Alabama	Neuroscience in Clinical Practice/SW703	3
Mores-Silva, Maria	LD	Univ. of Alabama	Research for Clinical and Community Practice II/SW702	3
Rodriguez, Begona	MLHS	UC – San Diego	Educating The Whole Student: Mindfulness & Social-Emotional Learning (Grades K-12)/ EDUC40154	5

Rodriguez, Begona	MLHS	UC – San Diego	Educational Technology 101 (Grades K-12)/ EDUC41493	5
Rodriguez, Begona	MLHS	UC – San Diego	Embracing Diversity & Equity Through Culturally Responsive Teaching (Grades K-12)/ EDUC40247	5
Rodriguez, Begona	MLHS	UC – San Diego	Instilling A Growth Mindset In Students (Grades K-12)/ EDUC40265	5
Rodriguez, Begona	MLHS	UC – San Diego	Best Practices For A Successful High School Classroom (Grades 9-12)/ EDUC41580	5
Rodriguez, Begona	MLHS	UC – San Diego	Embracing Technology To Empower Students With Special Needs (Grades K-12)/ EDUC42374	5
IVY H/WW/BC				
Pruser, Danielle^	WW	Walden University	The Effective STEM Scholar-Practitioner/ EDUC 6713	3
Pruser, Danielle^	WW	Walden University	Integrating Technology Across the Content Areas/ EDUC 6713	3
Valvano, Sarah	Ivy H	Rider University	Introduction to Research/ EDUC 500	3

^Course documented for guide movement only, not reimbursement.

B. CURRICULUM / SPECIAL SERVICES

C. MISCELLANEOUS

12. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Incident A

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education affirm and adopt the Superintendent’s decision and findings for the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying incident #001-2324-WW reported to the Board of Education on October 16, 2023, and discussed in Executive Session, as recommended by the Superintendent.

13. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Incident A

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education affirm and adopt the Superintendent’s decision and findings for the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying incident #001-2324-BC reported to the Board of Education on October 16, 2023, and discussed in Executive Session, as recommended by the Superintendent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

PENDING LEGISLATION

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION to enter into Executive Session was made by _____ and seconded by _____, that the Board of Education adopt the following resolution.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mountain Lakes Board of Education on this 20th of November 2023 at _____pm as follows:

1. The Board shall recess to closed session in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b (1), (2), (6), (7) and (8). The general nature of the discussion:

Matters of personal confidentiality rights, including but not limited to staff and/or student discipline matters, and specifically:

2. These matters will be disclosed to the public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer applies. Although the Board cannot guarantee it, the length of the Executive Session is estimated to be _____ minutes after which the public meeting of the Board shall reconvene and proceed with business. Action may take place.

3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

MOTION, to leave executive session at _____ was made by _____ and seconded by _____
The motion was approved _____ and the Board returned to public session at _____.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at _____ was made by _____ and seconded by _____.

Δ Indicates matters not relating to MLHS, the Boonton Township district Representative of the Board of Education will refrain from voting on such matters, pursuant to Board Policy 0141.2.

** Indicates a motion/resolution will have supporting documentation*

2023-2024 District Goals

Goal Area	Goal Statement
Ensuring the Success of All Students	Diversify academic programming that reaches all learners, emphasizing literacy instruction and programming in K-5.
Ensuring the Success of All Staff	<p>Revise the teacher evaluation system by exploring alternative models and engaging with all stakeholders.</p> <p>Building a culture of communication, collaboration, and problem-solving by using resources like Jimmy Casas coaching and peer discussion.</p>
Supporting the Whole Child	Develop a Social Emotional Learning framework for effective behavioral interventions for all students, emphasizing the entrenchment of the Wingman Program across the district.
Finance/Infrastructure/Technology	Update and prioritize the district’s Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP), conduct a demographic study, develop a safety and security plan, as well as design, migrate, build, and launch a new district website.
Strong Family/School/Community Partnerships	Collaborate with community groups for opportunities to support and show appreciation for teachers, staff, coaches, advisors, and others who engage our students throughout the year, emphasizing a process of awarding NJ Governor Educator of the Year recognition.

2023-2024 Board Goals

Board Goal	Committee Support
Development of a sustainable comprehensive budget that supports the district’s goals/priorities, short and long-term facility needs, strengthens the district’s financial position and works to increase revenue and manage costs.	Finance, Facilities
To support and provide for the implementation of the districtwide five-year strategic plan.	Will assign to align with Strategic Plan action steps
To enhance the support, celebration, and recognition of the contributions and accomplishments of district staff and students.	Curriculum, Personnel, Special Services
To enhance the accountability and transparency of the accomplishment of Board goals through the development/monitoring of action plans and a quarterly reporting of progress.	Full Board

