



Mountain Lakes School District
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MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

September 5, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Mrs. Barkauskas

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 (www.mlschools.org)*.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

Board Member	Present	Absent
Mr. Chiang, Jr.	X	
Dr. Don	X	
Mrs. Forman	X (arrived at 6:37pm)	
Mrs. Hermey		X
Dr. Hirschfeld	X (arrived at 6:37pm)	
Ms. Leininger	X	
Dr. McIntyre	X	
Mrs. Parker (<i>Vice President</i>)	X	
Mrs. Tucker	X	
Mrs. Barkauskas (<i>President</i>)	X	

Also present: Dr. Brad Siegel, 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 Mrs. Tucker and seconded by Mr. Chiang, Jr., that the Board of Education adopt the following resolution.

District Roll Call 7-0-0

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mountain Lakes Board of Education on this 5th day of September 2024 at 6:31pm 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 including matters of personal confidentiality rights, including but not limited to staff and/or student discipline matters, and specifically: potential liability, personnel, privacy.

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 60 minutes after which the public meeting of the Board shall reconvene and proceed with business. Action may take place.

6:37pm – Mrs. Parker left; Dr. Hirschfeld and Mrs. Forman entered

7:15pm – Mrs. Forman left

3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

MOTION, to leave executive session at 7:17pm was made by Dr. Don and seconded by Mrs. Tucker.

The motion was approved 7-0-0 and the Board returned to public session at 7:17pm.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT - None

MOUNTAIN LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT COMMENT - None

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE MLEA CO-PRESIDENTS

- Mr. Alves reviewed:
 - New school year and opportunity to work together supported by efficient communication

PRESENTATIONS

- Student Safety Data System Report (SSDS)
 - Dr. Siegel introduced Ms. Cortese
 - Mrs. Cortese reviewed the SSDS data for the second part of the school year
 - Reporting of incidents
 - District programming
 - Board discussion

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

- Mrs. Barkauskas reviewed:
 - Start of school year

SUPERINTENDENT / ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

- Dr. Siegel reviewed
 - MLEA approach on new beginnings and interest to work together
 - Update on Wilcox Drive path

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

COMMUNICATIONS - None

BOONTON TOWNSHIP REPORT - None

COMMITTEE & LIASION REPORTS - None

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR / BOARD SECRETARY

A. FINANCE

- Mr. Ferreira reviewed:
 - o Finance agenda resolutions
 - o Board discussion on fundraising
 - o Administratively adjust resolution #4 for Baseball and Skiing fundraisers

Motion by Dr. Hirschfeld and seconded by Mr. Chiang, Jr. #1 – #4

1. Non Public Allocation

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the receipt of the 2024/25 Nonpublic Aid allocations, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Program	Allocation
Nonpublic Technology Aid	\$3,626
Nonpublic Security Aid	\$15,170
Nonpublic Textbook Aid	\$3,784
Nonpublic Nursing Service Aid	\$9,620

District Roll Call 7-0-0

2. Nonresident Tuition

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

Action	Student ID	School-Program	Start Date	End Date	Tuition	Extra Services
New	INW-1	Lake Drive Itinerant	8/28/24	6/30/25	\$216	
New	IHam-4	Lake Drive Itinerant	8/28/24	6/30/25	\$13,680	
New	Temp-2	Lake Drive Regular	8/28/24	6/30/25	\$83,000	\$36,780
New	2360	Lake Drive Regular	8/28/24	6/30/25	\$83,000	\$36,780
Change	Ialex-1	Lake Drive Itinerant	8/28/24	6/30/25	\$3,600	
Change	IJ-1	Lake Drive Itinerant	8/28/24	6/30/25	\$720	

District Roll Call 7-0-0

3. 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				
DeTrolio, Alyssa	MLHS/Denville, NJ	9/25/24	Prevention Summit for Morris County School Districts	\$0
IVY H/WW/BC				
Aporta, Emily	WW/Virtual	8/31-10/26/24 (weekly)	IMSE Intervention and Support for Struggling Readers	\$200
Daly, Ceri	WW	10/1 – 11/30/24 (9 hour course)	IMSE Intervention and Support for Struggling Readers	\$200
Gonzalez, Elizabeth	WW/East Windsor, NJ	10/24-10/25/24	New Jersey Association of Learning Consultants - Conference	\$225

District Roll Call 7-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll Call 7-0-0

4. Fundraising

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

School	Fundraising Activity	Beneficiary/Purpose
DISTRICT		
MLHS	Big State Sports sponsorship program	Basketball (Boys’): banquet/awards ceremony, statistician gifts, team awards & t-shirts.
MLHS	T-shirt sale, Team Clothing Store	Basketball (Girls’): banquets, gifts, dinners, team building activities & awards.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store, Sponsorship T-Shirt, Calendar (Sponsor a Day Fundraiser)	Cheer: poms, banquet, senior gifts, pink bows/socks, misc.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store	Cross Country: pizza party, banquet and senior gifts.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store	Field Hockey: team t-shirts, awards, dinners, banquet program booklet, senior activities, gifts & banquet.
MLHS	Leading Edge Fundraising	Football: team t-shirts, game socks, helmet stickers, dinners, extra helmets & equipment, Victory Road Training.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store	Golf: off-set price of clothing items and other items.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store, Poster Ads, & Youth "Learn to Play Hockey" Clinic (weather permitting)	Ice Hockey: senior banquet.
MLHS	Magazine drive	Lacrosse (Boys’): banquet, season expenses, Hudl, & filming.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store	Lacrosse (Girls’): banquet, team shirts, senior night, dinners, other season expenses & film.
MLHS	Leading Edge Fundraising	Soccer (Boys’): banquet, dinners, senior night, trophies & awards.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store, SnapRaise & Dinner Drives	Soccer (Girls’): banquet, t-shirts, senior night, & misc. Equipment.
MLHS	Clinic & Snack Stand	Softball: banquet, senior gifts, team building, equipment not in budget & team dinner.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store	Swim: banquet, senior gifts, coaches gear, & other items not in budget.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store	Tennis (Boys’): banquet, team awards, dinners, captain & senior gifts.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store	Tennis (Girls’): banquet, team awards, dinners, captain & senior gifts.

MLHS	Team Clothing Store	Track & Field: banquet, senior gifts, pizza party, & participation in extra meets.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store, Snack Stand, Restaurant Drive & Pickleball Tournament	Volleyball: team gear, MLHS gear, trophies, awards, senior night/gifts, dinners, team building activities, tournaments & banquet.
MLHS	Team Clothing Store	Winter Track: pizza party, banquet and senior gifts.
MLHS	Opening weekend tournament, Team Clothing Store	Wrestling: team gear, awards for banquet, senior gifts, stats gifts & coaches' gear.

District Roll Call 6-0-0 (A: T. Chiang – Spring/Winter; A. Don – Soccer/Football)

B. MISCELLANEOUS

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. PERSONNEL

- Dr. Siegel reviewed:
 - o Personnel agenda resolutions
 - o Board discussion

Motion by Mrs. Tucker and seconded by Mrs. Leininger #5, #5(HC) - #9

5. 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									
Fiorina, Teresa	Revise Appointment	TCH-HS-21CS-02	Teacher	MLHS	1.0	MA+30/Step 12	\$93,243	8/26/24	6/30/25
Lawrey, Michelle	Transfer	TCH-LR-TCH-01	Teacher	BC to LD	1.0	MA/Step 6	\$78,470	8/26/24	6/30/25

District Roll Call 7-0-0

5. (HC) Additional Compensation Δ

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	Position	Location	Rate of Pay	Start Date	Term Date
IVY H/WW/BC						
Castan, Carly (OOD)	Appointment	Time to Soar – Program Assistant	WW	\$23.50/hr.	9/6/24	6/30/25

IVY H/WW/BC Roll Call 7-0-0

6. 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
IVY H/WW/BC							
McCarthy, Megan	Appointment	TREPS	WW	Step 1	\$2,040	8/30/23	6/30/24
McCarthy, Megan	Appointment	TREPS	WW	Step 2	\$2,346	8/28/24	6/30/25

IVY H/WW/BC Roll Call 7-0-0

7. Additional Compensation Δ

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	Position	Location	FTE	Degree/Step	Rate of Pay	Start Date	Term Date
DISTRICT								
Gonzalez, Maria	Appointment	Mentor (5636)	DW	N/A	N/A	\$1,000 prorated (3 weeks)	9/2/24	9/27/24
Schutz, Michael	Appointment	Bus Duty Sub (PM)	MLHS	N/A	N/A	\$25/day	8/28/24	6/30/25
Vandooijeweert, Dawn	Appointment	Additional Hours	LD	N/A	N/A	Hourly Rate (not to exceed 15 hrs.)	8/26/24	8/29/24
IVY H/WW/BC								
Hodic, Catherine	Appointment	Program Assistant: Time to Soar	WW	N/A	N/A	\$23.50/hr.	8/28/24	6/30/25
Schmidt, Tammy	Appointment	Program Assistant: Time to Soar	WW	N/A	N/A	\$25.85/hr.	8/28/24	6/30/25
Valvano, Sarah	Appointment	Program Assistant: Time to Soar	WW	N/A	N/A	\$25.85/hr.	8/28/24	6/30/25

District Roll Call 7-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll Call 7-0-0

8. Substitutes, Volunteers and Intern Appointments

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						
Byrne, Margaret	Appointment	Substitute	DW	Board Approved Rate	9/6/24	6/30/25
Delgado, Kandy	Appointment	Substitute	DW	Board Approved Rate	9/6/24	6/30/25
Doniloski, Jason	Appointment	Building Coverage	MLHS	N/A	9/6/24	6/30/25
Eis, Lindsay	Appointment	Building Coverage	LD	N/A	9/6/24	6/30/25
Kenyon, Jason	Appointment	Substitute	DW	Board Approved Rate	9/6/24	6/30/25
Krause, Effie	Appointment	Building Coverage	MLHS	N/A	9/6/24	6/30/25
Masters, Sheena	Appointment	Substitute	DW	Board Approved Rate	9/6/24	6/30/25
IVY H/WW/BC						

Paolazzi, Christopher	Appointment	Building Coverage	WW	N/A	9/6/24	6/30/25
Santana, Rebecca	Appointment	Building Coverage	WW	N/A	9/6/24	6/30/25

District Roll Call 7-0-0
 IVY H/WW/BC Roll Call 7-0-0

9. 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				
Niewood, Elizabeth	LD	New Jersey City University	Nature of Reading/LTED 637	3.0
IVY H/WW/BC				
Alves, Michael	BC	University of California, San Diego	Educating the Whole Student: Mindfulness & Social-Emotional Learning/EDUC 40154	3.3
Alves, Michael	BC	University of California, San Diego	Instilling a Growth Mindset in Students/EDUC40265	3.3
O’Melia, Katherine	WW	University of St. Elizabeth	Intro to Assistive Technology/ED620	3.0
O’Melia, Katherine	WW	University of St. Elizabeth	Ethical Issues/ MC 626	3.0

District Roll Call 7-0-0
 IVY H/WW/BC Roll Call 7-0-0

B. CURRICULUM / SPECIAL SERVICES

C. MISCELLANEOUS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

PENDING LEGISLATION - None

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- L. Maciborski
 - Comment on WW physical education schedule

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm was made by Dr. Hirschfeld and seconded by Mr. Chiang, Jr.

Roll call vote 7-0-0

The motion was approved 7-0-0 and the Board adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alex Ferreira

School Business Administrator / Board Secretary

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*

2024-2025 District Goals

Goal Area	Goal Statement
Ensuring the Success of All Staff	1. Establish a system of support for administrators and certified staff members that promotes high quality feedback, instruction, and student learning using the Stronge Effectiveness Performance Evaluation System
Finance/Infrastructure/Technology Supporting the Whole Child	2. Assess and develop a plan to upgrade district security systems and practices with a focus on infrastructure, training, resources, and guidance to ensure safety and wellbeing for our students, staff members, and community.
Strong Family/School/Community Partnerships	3. Develop a meaningful collaboration with Rockaway Valley School (Boonton Township) in an effort to align educational programming and other school systems that promote coherence for students, staff members, and families in the region.
Ensuring the Success of All Students	4. Explore opportunities to strengthen and expand students' learning with rigorous, relevant, and engaging STEM education, across PreK-12th grade.
Ensuring the Success of All Staff	5. Enhance communication and create channels for meaningful input between/among the district leadership, staff, and community partners to build trust, cohesion, and support for decision-making across the district.

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