



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

MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

October 29, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm 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	
Mrs. Hermey		X
Dr. Hirschfeld		X
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

EXECUTIVE SESSION I - None

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT - None

MOUNTAIN LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT COMMENT - None

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE MLEA CO-PRESIDENTS - None

PRESENTATIONS - None

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT - None

SUPERINTENDENT / ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE - None

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 REPORTS - None

LIAISON REPORTS - None

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR / BOARD SECRETARY

-None

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. PERSONNEL

- Dr. Siegel reviewed:
 - Personnel agenda resolution and hand carry

Motion by Mr. Chiang and seconded by Mrs. Parker

1. Administrator Contract

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the administrator contract of James Riley, School Business Administrator / Board Secretary at an annual prorated salary of One Hundred Seventy Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$177,500), effective January 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District Roll Call 6-0-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

PENDING LEGISLATION - None

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

EXECUTIVE SESSION II

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

District Roll Call 6-0-0

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mountain Lakes Board of Education on this 29th day of October 2024 at 3:32pm 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: negotiations.

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.

3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

MOTION, to leave executive session at 3:42pm was made by Mr. Chiang and seconded by Dr. McIntyre.

The motion was approved 6-0-0 and the Board returned to public session at 3:43pm.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 3:43pm was made by Mrs. Forman and seconded by Dr. Don.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alex Ferreira
School Business Administrator / Board Secretary

2024-2025 District Goals

Goal Statement	Goal Area
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.	Ensuring the Success of All Staff
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.	Finance/Infrastructure/Technology Supporting the Whole Child
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.	Strong Family/School/Community Partnerships
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 Students
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.	Ensuring the Success of All Staff

2024-2025 Board Goals

Board Goal	Committee Support
1. Support the development and improvement of district personnel systems to retain high quality staff members and promote fair, consistent, and effective supervision across the district.	Personnel
2. Endeavor to reach a long-term agreement with Boonton Township School District extending the send-receive relationship for Rockaway Valley School students to attend Mountain Lakes High School.	Full Board, Negotiations
3. Develop a positive and collaborative relationship between the Board of Education and new superintendent to ensure a broad vision and governance plan for the district result in clear, appropriate, and effective decisions.	Full Board
4. Enhance communication and relationships between the Board of Education and Mountain Lakes staff by expanding BOE member attendance at key school programs and events and increasing staff and school highlights at regular BOE meetings.	Full Board
5. Secure and successfully transition a full time Business Administrator/Board Secretary with essential skills, dispositions, and knowledge to meet the diverse fiscal and operational needs of the district.	Finance, Facilities
6. Promote a safe and positive learning environment for all students by supporting the administration and staff with resources related to upgrades in school security and various wellness initiatives.	Facilities, Security