



Mountain Lakes School District
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MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

November 18, 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 6:31pm)	
Mrs. Hermey	X	
Dr. Hirschfeld	X (arrived at 6:34pm)	
Ms. Leininger	X	
Dr. McIntyre	X (arrived at 6:34pm) (left at 7:40pm)	
Mrs. Parker (<i>Vice President</i>)	X (arrived at 6:39pm) (left at 8:30pm)	
Mrs. Tucker	X	
Mrs. Barkauskas (<i>President</i>)	X	

Also present: Dr. Brad Siegel, Mr. Alex Ferreira, Mrs. Ivonne Cireasi

EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education enter into Executive Session was made by Dr. Don and seconded by Mrs. Tucker, 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 18th day of November 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: negotiations, privacy.

6:34pm – Dr. Hirschfeld and Dr. McIntyre arrive

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.

6:39pm – Mrs. Parker arrived

7:40pm – Dr. McIntyre left

3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

MOTION, to leave executive session at 7:48 pm was made by Mrs. Forman and seconded by Mr. Chiang.

The motion was approved 9-0-0 and the Board returned to public session at 7:48pm.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT

- John Daniel reviewed update on Briarcliff & MLHS

Briarcliff

- The following students were selected as BC's Students of the Month: Briarcliff will be recognizing students each month for their character. We have identified character traits each month that we want to highlight with students and at the end of each month, each grade will nominate someone who has lived out that trait. This month we highlighted RESPONSIBILITY and our recipients are: Arjun Patel - Grade 6, Jordan Joldzic - Grade 7, & Katelyn Wallace - Grade 8.
- The Upstanders Club hosted the Heavenly Hats Fundraiser at Briarcliff Middle School. The Heavenly Hats Foundation raises money to donate hats to children and adults with cancer. The students and Staff at Briarcliff were asked to wear a hat in support of the fundraiser and to donate a dollar or more to the foundation. Collectively we donated \$425, beating our record from 2022 of \$351.28!!!! This is such a great reminder that small acts of kindness can make a huge difference in the lives of others!
- Mr. Lih had the privilege of taking four outstanding students to the annual TEEEM (The Empathy Equality Entrepreneurship Mission) Leadership Symposium at Rutgers University! It was an inspiring day where students met with Global Site Leaders, including Jackson Kaguri from Nyaka & connected with peers from across NJ. Nyaka is an organization dedicated to meeting the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children in

rural southwestern Uganda. Nyaka provides community-based solutions that change lives, and this fundraising success makes a meaningful impact. Together, they brainstormed new initiatives that we'll continue to research & develop, igniting their passion for global impact. Our students represented ML with excellence, sharing their enthusiasm for helping others & making a difference. We are incredibly proud of their growth as leaders & look forward to seeing their influence flourish within our community & beyond!

- We are thrilled to share that Briarcliff Middle School hosted an inspiring Run-a-Thon that raised an incredible \$10,000 to support Nyaka. Our event brought together 86 Briarcliff and over 200 Wildwood students, all running for this great cause. Special recognition goes to District Athletic Director Kevin Wallace, who ran in the New York City Marathon as part of our fundraising effort! A huge thank you to everyone who participated and supported this event. Your encouragement and generosity mean the world to the students in Uganda!
- Support our 8th graders as they embark on an inspiring journey to help provide education for orphans in Uganda! Our fundraiser is dedicated to sponsoring 30 students at Nyaka, a nonprofit that ensures children have access to school and that their basic needs are met. Thanks to our community's generosity, we raised over \$7,000 last year, and in just four days this year, we've already collected over \$3,000! We recently received heartfelt photos and videos from our students at Nyaka and are excited to be sending our first letters to them soon. Please join us in empowering these students with the chance to learn and thrive—your support truly makes a difference.

MLHS

- Congratulations to the Girls Soccer Team for winning the North I Sectional Championship (3 years straight) and moving on to this afternoon's State Semifinals against the Kittatinny Cougars at 2:00 PM. If the Girls are successful in the semis they will play in the Group I State Championship for the 3rd year in a row on Saturday at Franklin High School - looking to be state champions 3 consecutive years.
- Huge shout out to members of the MLHS Key Club who paid a visit to the Embassy Suites in Parsippany and helped out during their Trick or Suite event for P.G. Chambers School which is a renowned nonprofit school dedicated to educating and supporting children with disabilities.
- The MLHS Academic Team participated in the Livingston history bowl tournament on Saturday. The Varsity A Team with Andrew Matty, Emerson Coda, Gavin Hornyak, and Topher Nielsen placed 5th place and the Varsity B Team with Jacob Lakoff, Joey DiPompeo, Owen Hatton, and Jayden Cao placed 8th. Both teams made it to the playoffs and qualified for nationals. Additionally, Andrew Matty won first place in the history bee.
- The Mountain Lakes Public Library will be hosting an Exhibition Debate which will center on whether single-use plastics should be banned. It will be a great opportunity for our community (all are welcome) to see, firsthand, the talents and skills of the high school students and learn all about debate and the Debate Team. The Exhibition Debate will be held at the Mountain Lakes Public Library this Wednesday at 6:30pm.
 - MLHS will be having their annual 8th Grade Open House for the students and parents of

the Class of 2029 on Monday, December 9th at 6:30 PM

- The MLHS Choir Concert will take place Thursday, December 12th at 7:30 PM in the auxiliary gym. Also, the Holiday Concert which includes the Band & Orchestra will take place on Wednesday, December 18th at 7:30 PM. We are holding out hope that this event will take place in the auditorium, but it will be dependent on the construction end date.
- MLHS will be hosting a Freshmen Dance for the Class of 2028 on Friday, December 12th from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM in the main gym. As always this is a MLHS student only event.

MOUNTAIN LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT COMMENT - None

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE MLEA CO-PRESIDENTS - None

PRESENTATIONS

- NJSLA Presentation
 - Dr. Siegel introduced Mrs. Ciresi
 - Mrs. Ciresi reviewed:
 - NJSLA Spring 2024 scores
 - Students required testing areas and scoring
 - Scoring levels by grade and content area
 - Board discussion

8:30pm – Mrs. Parker left

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

- Mrs. Barkauskas reviewed informal feedback received regarding work on progress of BT send/receive agreement

SUPERINTENDENT / ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

- Dr. Siegel and Mrs. Ciresi reviewed:
 - Coffee Talk dates
 - Developments in AI
 - SLEO/SRO update
 - Site visit from Office of School Preparedness and OEM
 - Teach NJ legislation and task force rept

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

- Mr. Ferreira reviewed:
 - Food Service Wellness Committee
 - MLHS kitchen renovation update
 - MLHS auditorium update
 - Lake Drive vestibule bids
 - FY24 Audit/FY25 Budget

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Chiang and seconded by Mrs. Tucker

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

Date	Minutes
September 5, 2024	Regular and Executive Session Minutes
September 16, 2024	Regular and Executive Session Minutes

District Roll Call 7-0-1 (A: S. Forman 9/5)

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

COMMUNICATIONS - None

BOONTON TOWNSHIP REPORT

- Mrs. Hermev reviewed:
 - Excited with new agreement between parties
 - Parent meeting held by BT and ML Superintendents
 - RVS scarecrow alley
 - Penny wars
 - Veterans Day concert
 - Holiday boutique
 - BTEF fundraiser
 - Spring Musical

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Facilities Committee – Mrs. Forman reviewed
 - Proposal for grant funds for turf
 - Prioritization of long-term planning
 - Kitchen
 - Auditorium
 - Locker room
- Special Education Committee – Mr. Chiang reviewed:
 - Lake Drive facilities
 - Counselor training
 - Co-teaching
- Policy Committee – Dr. Siegel reviewed:
 - Fundraising

LIAISON REPORTS

- Recreation – Mrs. Forman reviewed:
 - Wrestling
 - Volleyball
 - Ski club
 - Gingerbread house competition
 - Tree and Menorah lighting
 - Turkey Trot to be run by YMCA
- FOTA – Mrs. Leininger reviewed:
 - Charlie Brown performance
 - Winter concerts
 - Jazz Fest donation
 - FOTA merchandise
 - FOTA recruitment drive

- MLEF – Mrs. Tucker reviewed:
 - 50/50 holiday fundraiser
 - Board discussion on coordination of Ed Foundations

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR / BOARD SECRETARY

A. FINANCE

- Mr. Ferreira reviewed:
 - Finance agenda resolutions

Motion by Dr. Don and seconded by Mrs. Forman #1 – #11

1. Presentation of Bills

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following bills list and check journals as of September 26, 2024 – November 15, 2024, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

Fund	Amount
General Fund (10)	\$528,336.70
Special Revenue Fund (20)	\$21,050.21
Capital Project Fund (30)	\$316,993.60
Debt Service Fund (40)	N/A
Cafeteria Account Fund (60)	\$255,272.31
Total	\$1,121,652.82

District Roll Call 8-0-0

2. Budget Transfers

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve and authorize the School Business Administrator / Board Secretary’s action of making budgetary transfers pursuant to the attached August Transfer Report, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District Roll Call 8-0-0

3. Treasurer’s Report

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the Treasurer’s Reports for the month ending August, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District Roll Call 8-0-0

4. Board Secretary’s Report

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the Board Secretary’s Report for the month ending August, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District Roll Call 8-0-0

5. Settlement Agreement

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mountain Lakes Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) that the terms, stipulations and conditions as established in the Settlement Agreement and Release (hereinafter referred to as

“Agreement”) between the Board and the Parents of student ID #3754219947 and whose name is on file in the Superintendent’s office, and which Agreement is located in the student’s file, are hereby adopted and approved by the Board. The Board President and Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Settlement Agreement and Release, and any other documents necessary to effectuate the settlement, as recommended by the Superintendent.

District Roll Call 8-0-0

6. Comprehensive Maintenance Plan

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

WHEREAS, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit Three-Year Maintenance Plans documenting “required” maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and

WHEREAS, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the school facilities of the Mountain Lakes School District are consistent with these requirements, and

WHEREAS, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education hereby authorize the School Business Administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for Lake Drive, Wildwood, Briarcliff, Mountain Lakes High School in compliance with the Department of Education requirements and the Form M-1 Annual Maintenance, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District Roll Call 8-0-0

7. Workers Compensation Insurance Company

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the Morris Essex Insurance Group (“MEIG”) of New Jersey as the provider of workers compensation insurance for the 2024-2025 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.

District Roll Call 8-0-0

8. 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	IR-19	Lake Drive Itinerant	10/8/24	6/30/25	\$11,160	
New	IR20	Lake Drive Itinerant	10/15/24	6/30/25	\$5,400	
New	IAlex-2	Lake Drive Itinerant	10/14/24	6/30/25	\$1,620	
New	IFR-18	Lake Drive Itinerant	10/21/24	6/30/25	\$1,620	
New	IHCRHS-5	Lake Drive Itinerant	10/21/24	6/30/25	\$1,620	
New	4864	Lake Drive Regular	10/10/24	6/30/25	\$71,011.08	\$33,489.64
Change	4796	Lake Drive Regular	10/1/24	6/30/25		\$2,085.60
Change	0039	Lake Drive Regular	10/1/24	8/28/24		\$4,171.20
Terminate	INW-1	Lake Drive Itinerant	8/28/24	9/1/24		-\$216

New	NRT23	BC	11/11/24	6/30/25	\$13,060.50	
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District Roll Call 8-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 7-0-0

9. Travel / Conferences Expenditures Δ

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				
DiGiacinto, Kerry	DW/Newark, NJ	10/25/24	NJDOE/Rutgers- Disproportionality and Equity Learning Series	\$0
DiGiacinto, Kerry	DW/Newark, NJ	1/9 & 3/14/25	NJDOE/Rutgers- Disproportionality and Equity Learning Series	\$64
Moschella, Trina	MLHS/Virtual	12/19/24	Using AI to Increase MATH Learning and Increase Teacher Productivity (Grades 6-12)	\$295
Sidhu, Herpaul	MLHS/New York, NY	11/22/24	Syracuse Dual Enrollment Training	\$110
IVY H/WW/BC				
Daly, Ceri	WW/Virtual	10/1/24	IMSE Intervention and Support for Struggling Readers	\$200
Daly, Ceri	WW/Virtual	10/5/24	IMSE Intervention and Support for Struggling Readers	\$200
Landwehrle, Amanda	WW/Newark, NJ	10/25/24	NJDOE/Rutgers- Disproportionality and Equity Learning Series	\$0
Landwehrle, Amanda	DW/Newark, NJ	1/9 & 3/14/25	NJDOE/Rutgers- Disproportionality and Equity Learning Series	\$78

District Roll Call 8-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 7-0-0

10. 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	Leading Edge Fundraising	Baseball: Florida trip, minor league stadium game, hats, t-shirts, senior gifts, awards, & baseball equipment not in budget.
MLHS	SnapRaise	Ski: banquet/gifts.
MLHS	Junior Class Apparel Sale for Class of 2026 (game-one.com)	Raise money for next year's senior events
Briarcliff / Lake Drive	Chipotle Restaurant (2/5/25 from 4 to 8 p.m.)	Briarcliff /Lake Drive Middle School Math Team

District Roll Call 8-0-0

B. MISCELLANEOUS

11. Board Policies

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve and adopt the below polices for presentation, as recommended by the Superintendent:*

Action	Policy Number	Policy Alert	Title	First Reading	Second Reading
Revised	P 0141.2	233	Board Member Number and Term – Receiving District	10/21/24	11/18/24

District Roll Call 8-0-0

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. PERSONNEL

- Dr. Siegel reviewed:
 - Personnel agenda resolutions

Motion by Mrs. Tucker and seconded by Mr. Chiang #12 – #21

12. Appointments / Amendments/ Resignations / Rescission / Retirements / RIF's ∆

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									
Asch, Madison	Revise Appointment	SPS-LR-AID-U29-20	Paraprofessional P/T	LD	0.97	Step 7	\$25,025.84 (prorated)	10/9/24	6/30/25
Rigby-Krause, Effie	Revise Resignation	TCH-HS-MATH-09	Teacher	MLHS	1.0	MA/Step 15	\$106,920	9/1/07	11/6/24
IVY H/WW/BC									
DeCrocce, Gina	Resignation	TCH-BC-TCH-05	Teacher	BC	1.0	BA/Step 1	\$63,670	8/26/24	1/13/25

District Roll Call 8-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 7-0-0

13. Leaves of Absence ∆

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

ID#	Action	Position	Location	FTE	Start Date	Term Date
DISTRICT						
5016	Revise MLOA (paid w/benefits)	Interpreter	LD@MLHS	1.0	10/15/24	12/6/24
5016	Revise FMLA (unpaid w/benefits)	Interpreter	LD@MLHS	1.0	12/9/24	12/19/24
IVY H/WW/BC						

5695	Unpaid MLOA (no benefits)	Paraprofessional	BC	0.97	11/13/24	11/18/24
5182	Revise CCLOA (unpaid)	Teacher	LD@BC	1.0	11/15/24	4/11/25

District Roll Call 8-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 7-0-0

14. Athletics / Extra Services (Schedule B Appointments) 4

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							
Scannelli, Michael (OOD)	Appointment	Choreographer- Spring Musical	MLHS	Step 1	\$2,040	12/1/24	3/31/25
IVY H/WW/BC							
Hussein, Amal	Appointment	5 th Grade Team Co-Leader	WW	N/A	\$250	8/28/24	6/30/25
McNeill, Nicole	Appointment	5 th Grade Team Co-Leader	WW	N/A	\$250	8/28/24	6/30/25
Paolazzi, Christopher	Revise Appointment	5 th Grade Team Co-Leader	WW	N/A	\$250	8/28/24	6/30/25
Pruser, Danielle	Appointment	5 th Grade Team Co-Leader	WW	N/A	\$250	8/28/24	6/30/25

District Roll Call 8-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 7-0-0

5. 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:

DISTRICT							
Name	Action	Position	Location	Rate of Pay	Start Date	Term Date	
Adams, Sarah	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24	
Adams, Sarah	Appointment	Depth of Knowledge Ambassador	MLHS	\$800	11/19/24	6/30/25	
Anderson-Urriola, Alexis	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24	
Ayhan, Emrah	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24	
Busch, Claire	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24	
Concepcion, Angel	Appointment	Chaperone - Baseball Trip	MLHS	\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/15/25	3/19/25	
DeTrollo, Alyssa	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24	
Doniloski, Jason	Appointment	Chaperone - Baseball Trip	MLHS	\$125/ night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/15/25	3/19/25	
Elfers, Robert	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24	
Fiorina, Teresa	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24	
Garate-Gomez, Pia	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24	
Gleeson, William	Appointment	Chaperone - Baseball Trip	MLHS	\$125/night (not to exceed 4 nights)	3/15/25	3/19/25	
Hill (Kemp), Theresa	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24	

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BOE Approved: February 3, 2025

Lindsay, Maria	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Lindsay, Maria	Appointment	Junior College Kick-Off	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	1/8/25	1/8/25
Macko, Lauren	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Macko, Lauren	Appointment	Junior College Kick-Off	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	1/8/25	1/8/25
Maurizi, Sean	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Novachevska, Diana	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs))	12/9/24	12/9/24
Pelchat, Cara	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Pelchat, Cara	Appointment	Junior College Kick-Off	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	1/8/25	1/8/25
Perry, Deanna	Appointment	Interpreter MLHS Fall Drama	LD/ MLHS	\$600	10/15/24	12/15/24
Price, Ryan	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Restrepo, Carly	Appointment	Interpreter MLHS Fall Drama	LD/MLHS	\$600	10/15/24	12/15/24
Rodriguez, Begoña	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Seibert, Tania	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Sica, David	Appointment	Bus Duty Sub (PM)	MLHS	\$25/day	11/19/24	6/30/25
Sica, David	Appointment	Depth of Knowledge Ambassador	MLHS	\$800	11/19/24	6/30/25
Sidhu, Herpaul	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Stolarczuk, Kayla	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Suarez, Jennifer	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Vallies, Austin	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Weinroth, Gail	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Weinroth, Gail	Appointment	Junior College Kick-Off	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	1/8/25	1/8/25
White, Kenneth	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs)	12/9/24	12/9/24
IVY H/WW/BC						
Doolittle, Christina	Appointment	Depth of Knowledge Ambassador	BC	\$800	11/19/24	6/30/25
Kassel-Petrocco, Janice	Appointment	Depth of Knowledge Ambassador	BC	\$800	11/19/24	6/30/25

District Roll Call 8-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 7-0-0

16. 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						
Busch, Claire	Appointment	LT Substitute	MLHS	\$190/day	12/1/24	1/31/25
Chara, Susan	Appointment	Substitute	MLHS	Board Approved Rate	11/19/24	6/30/25
Fucarino, Andrew	Appointment	Substitute	MLHS	Board Approved Rate	11/4/24	11/8/24
Hawes, John	Appointment	Volunteer - Basketball	MLHS	N/A	11/25/24	3/9/25
Hernandez, Lucia	Appointment	Volunteer	DW	N/A	8/26/24	6/30/25

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BOE Approved: February 3, 2025

Jorgenson, Kyle	Appointment	LT Substitute	LD	\$190/day	12/1/24	1/31/25
Khan, Ambreen	Appointment	Volunteer	DW	N/A	8/26/24	6/30/25
Mynahan, Devika	Appointment	Volunteer	DW	N/A	8/26/24	6/30/25
Mehta, Archana	Appointment	Volunteer	DW	N/A	8/26/24	6/30/25
Schorer, Dana	Appointment	Volunteer	DW	N/A	8/26/24	6/30/25
Watson, Jenna	Appointment	Volunteer	DW	N/A	8/26/24	6/30/25
Weiss, Owen	Appointment	Substitute	DW	Board Approved Rate	11/22/24	6/30/25
Yaralian, Eileen	Appointment	Volunteer	DW	N/A	8/26/24	06/30/25

District Roll Call 8-0-0

17. Field Trips *Δ*

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following field trips for the 2024-20253 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent:

School	Destination	Reason	Date
DISTRICT			
MLHS	Livingston, NJ	Academic Team – History Competition	11/16/24
MLHS	Ridgewood, NJ	Academic Team –Quiz Bowl Tournament	12/14/24
MLHS	Newark, NJ	2025 NJ Science Olympiad @ NJIT	1/8/25
LD	Neptune, NJ	NTID Northeast Regional Math Competition	3/7-3/9/25
IVY H/WW/BC			
BC	Montville, NJ	MathCounts Competition	2/1/25
BC	New York, NY	NYC Field Trip 7th Grade (Broadway & USS Intrepid)	1/23/25
BC	Sparta, NJ	Robotics Competition	12/15/24
WW	Whippany, NJ	"Neighbors in Need Thanksgiving Can Drive"	11/15/24
WW	Morristown, NJ	NJCGTP STEAM Adventures	12/4/24

District Roll Call 8-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 7-0-0

18. 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				
DeGenaars, Gioia	MLHS	The College of NJ	Contextual Issues in the Development of Curriculum for Children & Adolescents/Curr 555	3.0

Perry, Deanna	LD	Univ. of California (San Diego)	Social, Emotional, and Physical Wellness for Students and Teachers/136T02	3.3
Perry, Deanna	LD	Univ. of California (San Diego)	Tackling Challenging Behaviors in Middle and High School/160/T02	3.3
Perry, Deanna	LD	Univ. of California (San Diego)	Character Education for the 21st Century/3T02	3.3
IVY H/WW/BC				
Bogucz, Kelly	BC	Savannah College of Art & Design	ILLU 504/ Drawing Strategies for Illustration	5.0
Ramirez, Justin	BC	American College of Education	Instructional Leadership/EL5023	3.0

District Roll Call 8-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 7-0-0

B. CURRICULUM / SPECIAL SERVICES

19. District Curriculum A

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the revised curriculum for the district, as recommended by the Superintendent:

District		
Department	Subject/Course/Grade	Level
Science	Environmental and Sustainability Science	HS

District Roll Call 8-0-0

C. MISCELLANEOUS

20. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Incident

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 Case #BC-001-24-25 reported the Board of Education on October 21, 2024, and discussed in Executive Session, as recommended by the Superintendent.

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 7-0-0

21. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Incident

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 Case #BC-002-24-25 reported the Board of Education on October 21, 2024, and discussed in Executive Session, as recommended by the Superintendent.

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 7-0-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

PENDING LEGISLATION - None

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 9:14pm was made by Mr. Chiang, and seconded by Ms. Leininger.

The motion was approved 8-0-0 and the Board adjourned at 9:14pm.

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 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