



Mountain Lakes School District
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**MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

December 16, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm 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 (arrived at 6:35pm)	
Ms. Leininger		X
Dr. McIntyre	A (arrived at 6:22pm)	
Mrs. Parker (<i>Vice President</i>)	X (arrived at 6:34pm)	
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 Mr. Chiang and seconded by Mrs. Forman, 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 16th day of December 2024 at 6:02pm 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: privacy, personnel, legal, and negotiations.

6:22pm – Dr. Silva McIntyre entered

6:34pm – Mrs. Parker entered

6:35pm – Dr. Hirschfeld entered

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 7:13pm was made by Mrs. Tucker and seconded by Dr. Don.

The motion was approved 9-0-0 and the Board returned to public session at 7:13pm.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT – by John Daniel

BRIARCLIFF

- On Friday, November 22 our students embraced the cozy spirit of Pajama Day, hosted by our Student Council, while making a meaningful difference! For just \$1 students could wear pajamas to school with all proceeds going toward purchasing presents for Toys for Tots. The turnout was outstanding and even better was seeing our students donate more than \$1. We even had students donating who did not wear pajamas! This initiative supported the Upstanders Club's toy drive for the cause, and thanks to everyone's generosity, we raised an impressive \$187! We are SO proud of our students for thinking of others above themselves. Together, we're helping to spread holiday cheer to children in need.
- Briarcliff's Art with a Heart Enrichment Class continues to do fabulous work sharing their artistic talents to bring happiness to others. The students just completed making Thanksgiving cards, which were mailed to the residents of the Paramus Veterans Memorial Home the week before Thanksgiving.
- Mrs. Karcher's 7th Grade ELA Class celebrated the end of *The Outsiders* novel by dressing up like Socs and Greasers before Thanksgiving for extra credit.
- November Students of the Month were recognized for demonstrating compassion. Please join us in recognizing Lora Coppola, Kian Almeida, Tisha Ajas, Charlie Van Allen, Erin Horan, & Emerson Bonifacio. We are very proud of them for all they do!
- The day before Thanksgiving Break we recognized our recipients of the Governor's Educator of the Year and Governor's Educational Services Professional of the Year. During an assembly that morning, we recognized both Mrs. Fleming (School Counselor) as our Educational Services Professional of the Year and Mrs. Doolittle (6th Gr. Math) as our Educator of the Year. Principal Carlson cannot express how deserving both of these ladies are for

these prestigious awards. In his career, he has not worked with anyone more dedicated and hard working than both Mrs. Fleming and Mrs. Doolittle. It is clear that our staff feels the same way as both ladies received nominations from their peers.

- This year's Toys for Tots Drive was a huge success!! The Upstanders Club wants to thank those who donated to the Toys for Tots Drive. We also want to give a special shout-out to the Student Government who helped to fundraise and bought toys for this wonderful event, as well as the students and staff who donated on pajama day! The toys were donated to the Towaco Fire Department and will be distributed to children and those less fortunate this holiday.
- As we head into the last few weeks before winter break, we want to finish the year out with a fun spirit week for students and staff with different themes for each day for the week of December 16 - 20.
- The Annual Briarcliff Winter Concert will take place in the Briarcliff gymnasium on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 from 7pm-9pm. Free to all!
- Musical auditions for The Little Mermaid Jr. will take place in December. The musical premieres in April 2025.
- 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!

LAKE DRIVE

- Lake Drive School celebrated Thanksgiving with our Annual Thanksgiving Feast on the day before Thanksgiving. All the students and staff enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving Meal
- Students enjoyed shopping for their family members at our Holiday Shop
- In Music classes, the students are getting ready for the Annual Winter Show.
- Students are excited for all the special events next week, including a visit from Signing Santa and Mrs. Claus and PJ and Movie Day on our last day before the holiday break.

MLHS

- Thank you to our incredible Peer Leaders for volunteering their time at last week's Open House and to our dedicated staff members for ensuring the evening was a tremendous success. We were thrilled to welcome approximately 260 future 9th graders and their parents to MLHS! A special shoutout goes to Ron and Li from Pomptonian for their outstanding efforts in organizing the food stations throughout the building—their hard work was truly appreciated and did not go unnoticed!
- Congratulations to the following students who were accepted to the North Jersey Area Band! Symphonic Band: William Berei, Avni Kaushal, Josie Marotta & Arian Nanda, Wind Ensemble: Thomas Berei, Evie Marotta & Isabella Marotta
- A heartfelt congratulations to the MLHS Choir and Bell Choir for their outstanding performances at last week's holiday concert! Special thanks to our talented Mr. Vallies for his dedication to preparing his students, as well as to Mr. Price, Mrs. Kemp, and Mr. Buzzelli for their invaluable support in making the evening such a memorable success.
- The Mountain Lakes Debate Team proudly congratulates Jiya Ramani for her exceptional performance at the University of Michigan tournament. Jiya achieved a perfect 6-0 record in the preliminary rounds, entering the

elimination rounds as the top seed. She ultimately secured first place and earned a prestigious Top Four Speaker award.

- The MLHS SGA will be hosting Spirit Week this week - it kicked off today with Pajama day with tomorrow being where your favorite team jersey - Wednesday -students where all grey - Thursday - dress like your favorite teacher and Friday wear your best holiday festive clothing to cap off the week.
- The Spirit week will conclude on Friday with the highly anticipated annual Volleyball Mania competition among PE classes. One team will emerge as the champion and earn the honor of facing off against the MLHS teacher team in an exciting showdown

WILDWOOD

- Our Holiday Concert took place on 12/11 and was a rousing success. We celebrated the talents of our students, and the wide range of instruments in our band.
- Holiday Shopping Spree was on 12/13 in our gymnasium. Thank you to the HSA for putting on another amazing event for our students. All students were able to shop for their family members throughout the day.
- Latkepalooza falls on 12/17, and we are sure it will be a huge success. Parent volunteers cooked latkes–gluten free ones as well– for our students and will serve them during the lunches on Tuesday.
- On Friday, we will gather as a school community and sing Holiday songs in our gymnasium. Students will be seated with their Linking Laker buddies during the event.

MOUNTAIN LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT COMMENT - None

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE MLEA CO-PRESIDENTS

- Mr. Alves reviewed:
 - Reflection on appreciation for relationship between Briarcliff and RVS
 - Staff magic snapshot of Mr. Lih
 - Thanks to outgoing BOE and staff
 - Restful holiday season to community

PRESENTATIONS

- Student Recognitions
 - Dr. Siegel introduced Mr. Henry:
 - All State Choir
 - Morris Area HS Honor Choir
 - Morris Area Junior Honor Choir
 - NJ Area Band Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble
 - NJ Junior Area Band
 - Prestigious Julliard programs
 - Dr. Siegel introduced Mr. Wallace:
 - Girls Cross Country
 - Girls Soccer
 - Coach Vicki Allison

10 Minute Recess

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

- Mrs. Barkauskas reviewed:

- Accomplishments in 2024
- Thank you for all those involved
- Review of BOE members departing

SUPERINTENDENT / ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

- Dr. Siegel reviewed:
 - Appreciation for all the words shared by the BOE and the hope/support going forward
 - Delayed opening and communications protocols

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

- Mr. Ferreira reviewed:
 - LRFP and Prioritization list
 - Briarcliff
 - Roof Replacement
 - HVAC upgrades
 - Electrical upgrades
 - Lake Drive
 - HVAC upgrades
 - HVAC BMS control upgrades
 - Electrical upgrades
 - MLHS
 - HVAC upgrades
 - HVAC BMS control upgrades
 - Roof replacement
 - Window replacement
 - Electrical upgrades
 - WW
 - HVAC upgrades
 - HVAC BMS control upgrades
 - Roof replacement
 - Window replacement
 - Electrical upgrades

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Chiang, Jr. and seconded by Dr. McIntyre

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

Date	Minutes
July 29, 2024	Special Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2024	Regular and Executive Session Minutes

District Roll Call:

July 29, 2024: 7-0-2 (A: S. Forman, J. Parker)

October 7, 2024: 8-0-1 (A: S. Forman)

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

COMMUNICATIONS - None

BOONTON TOWNSHIP REPORT

- Mrs. Hermey reviewed:
 - Concerts
 - Audit presentation
 - Admin team transfer
 - BOE training
 - Roundtable

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Personnel – Dr. Don reviewed:
 - Non-tenure reviews
- Security – Dr. Don reviewed:
 - District Security Team / Audit by NJDOE
 - SLEO/SRO
- Policy – Mrs. Parker reviewed:
 - Revisions on January agenda
- Facilities – Mrs. Forman reviewed:
 - Sewer issues / mitigation plan
 - Auditorium
 - MLHS kitchen
 - Lead water testing
- Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment – Dr. Hirschfeld reviewed:
 - Super Kids PD
 - NJSLA
 - MLHS Aviation program
 - Music appreciation
- Finance – Dr. Silva McIntyre reviewed:
 - Revenue snapshot and FY26 projected revenue
 - Budget timeline

LIAISON REPORTS

- ML Alumni Association – Mr. Chiang reviewed:
 - NYAKA fundraising
 - LD Academic Bowl
 - MLHS Project Graduation
- MLEF – Mrs. Tucker reviewed:
 - Gala prep

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR / BOARD SECRETARY

A. FINANCE

- Mr. Ferreira reviewed Finance resolutions
- Board discussion on grant application, MLEF grant, fundraisers

Motion by Mrs. Parker and seconded by Mr. Chiang, Jr. for motions #1 - #15

1. Presentation of Bills

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following bills list and check journals as of November 16, 2024 – December 10, 2024, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

Fund	Amount
General Fund (10)	\$172,429.79
Special Revenue Fund (20)	\$36,135.09
Capital Project Fund (30)	\$1,123,132.43
Debt Service Fund (40)	N/A
Cafeteria Account Fund (60)	N/A
Total	\$1,331,697.31

District roll call vote 9-0-0

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 September and October Transfer Report, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District roll call vote 9-0-0

3. Treasurer’s Report

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

District roll call vote 9-0-0

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 September and October, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District roll call vote 9-0-0

5. 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	7338	Lake Drive Regular	11/11/24	6/30/25	\$61,327.75	
Change	3046	Lake Drive Regular	8/28/24	11/20/24		\$10,216.62
Change	2467	Lake Drive Regular	8/28/24	11/18/24		\$9,807.96
Change	IS-7	Lake Drive Itinerant	11/21/24	6/30/25	\$5,832	
Terminate	7338	Lake Drive Regular	8/28/24	11/6/24	\$19,366.66	
Terminate	5047	Lake Drive Regular	8/28/24	11/12/24	\$20,288.88	
Terminate	I-Alex2	Lake Drive Itinerant	10/14/24	11/13/24	\$180	

District roll call vote 9-0-0

6. Professional Services

WHEREAS, the Mountain Lakes Board of Education (“Board”) has decided to secure the professional services to support the instructional programs of the district; and

WHEREAS, the Board is permitted, pursuant to the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., to contract with vendors providing professional services, without advertising bids; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby awards the following contracts with vendors providing professional services, as recommended by the Superintendent:

Contractor	Start Date	End Date	Nature / Service	Rate	Contract / Not to Exceed
St. Clare’s Hospital	11/4/24	11/8/24	Home Instruction SID #: 5814	\$60 per hour	\$200
Learnwell Education	11/11/24	12/12/24	Home Instruction SID #: 5814	\$50 per hour	\$2,000

District roll call vote 9-0-0

7. 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	Location	Date	Event Name	Cost
DISTRICT				
Anderson-Urriola, Alexis	Virtual	12/12/24	AP Seminar & AP Research Required Annual Training	\$0
Anderson-Urriola, Alexis	Virtual	12/12/24	Required AP Score Training for AP Seminar & AP Research	\$0
DeTrollo, Alyssa	Jefferson, NJ	10/25/24	Jefferson High School PIK and NJ4S Presentation	\$0
Pietraszewski, Krzysztof	MLHS/Virtual	12/4/24	EPA 608 Universal Technician Certification	\$600
Polanco, Alana	Ewing, NJ	11/7/24	New Jersey Deaf Education Professionals Workshop Day	\$0
Searles, Raymond	West Long Branch, NJ	11/22/24	An NJACAC Professional Development Event: The Future of AP Tests	\$0
Wojcik, LuAnn	Wanaque, NJ	12/12/24	NJ DOE and University Hospital for Emergency Preparedness and Response – Stop the Bleed Training	\$0
IVY H/WW/BC				
Fleming, Marissa	DW/Newark, NJ	10/25/24	NJDOE/Rutgers- Disproportionality and Equity Learning Series	\$0
Fleming, Marissa	DW/Newark, NJ	1/9 & 3/14/25	NJDOE/Rutgers- Disproportionality and Equity Learning Series	\$40

District roll call vote 9-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC roll call vote 8-0-0

8. Donations / Grants / Gifts *Δ*

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			
MLHS DECA	Anonymous	DECA Club	\$3,750
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
IVY H/WW/BC			
BC 7 th Grade Class	Mountain Lakes Education Foundation	Grant will be used to help purchase tickets to a Broadway show, The Outsiders and the Intrepid.	\$2,500

District roll call vote 9-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC roll call vote 8-0-0

9. Fundraising *Δ*

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/BC	Social Studies Department, Nyaka - 12.12.24	Raise funds to support Nyaka, an organization that helps orphaned children in Uganda.
MLHS	LETS Bake Sale - 12.17.24	Raise money for Mental Health America.
MLHS	Art Club - Handmade Paper Flower Sale - 12.18.24	Depending on sales - Donation to Art Therapy Center, funds for supplies and for workshops.
MLHS	Cookies for Kids Cancer Bake Sale - 12.19.24	Raise money for the Cookies for Cancer organization to fund research to find safer cancer treatments for kids battling cancer.
MLHS	Environmental Club - Bake Sale - 12.19.24	Raise money for the club to use for future activities.
MLHS	Key Club - District Wide Volleyball Tournament - 1.19.25	Raise money for Erika's Lighthouse.
MLHS	DECA - Chick-fil-A fundraiser - 1.29.25	Raise funds to lower student cost of State Conference.
LD	Lake Drive Middle School Math Team apparel sale	Raise funds to offset cost of transportation to regional competition.

District roll call vote 9-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC roll call vote 8-0-0

10. Ice Hockey Shared Services Agreement with Boonton Town

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the 2024/2025 cooperative ice hockey program shared services agreement with Boonton Town, as recommended by the Superintendent.

District roll call vote 9-0-0

11. Ski Shared Services Agreement with Morris Knolls School District

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the shared services agreement with the Morris Knolls School District for the purposes of supporting the ski program, as recommended by the Superintendent.

District roll call vote 9-0-0

12. Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the submission of the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds grant for the purposes of a new artificial turf field, as recommended by the Superintendent.

District roll call vote 9-0-0

13. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the submission of an amendment for the FY25 Every Student Succeeds Act grant, as recommended by the Superintendent.

District roll call vote 9-0-0

14. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the submission of an amendment for the FY25 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act grant, as recommended by the Superintendent.

District roll call vote 9-0-0

15. Budget Development Calendar for the 2025/26 Fiscal Year

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education will adopt the Budget Development Calendar for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District roll call vote 9-0-0

B. MISCELLANEOUS

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. PERSONNEL

- Dr. Siegel reviewed Personnel resolutions and handcarry motions
- Aviation program entry points

Motion by Mrs. Forman and seconded by Mr. Chiang for motions #16-26, #18HC, #19HC

16. Position Creation/Modifications *Δ*

WHEREAS, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approved the 2024-2025 budget on May 6, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the balancing of the 2024-2025 budget required adjustments to personnel positions; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the creation of the following personnel positions as listed below:

SPS-LR-AID-U29-31 - Paraprofessional P/T - 0.97

CUST-DW-CUST-21 - Custodian - 1.0

District roll call vote 9-0-0

17. Addendum to the Collective Negotiations Agreement between Mountain Lakes BOE and Mountain Lakes Administrators Association

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) hereby adopts and approves the Addendum to the Collective Negotiations Agreement by and between the Board and the Mountain Lakes Administrators Association, which is incorporated herein by reference, and agrees to be bound thereby. The Board President and the Board Secretary/Business Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached Addendum and any other documents necessary to effectuate said Agreement, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District roll call vote 9-0-0

18. 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									
Alese, Suzanne	Retirement	TCH-LR-TCH-16	Teacher	LD@MLHS	1.0	MA/Step 15	\$111,239	12/15/03	2/28/25
Busch, Claire	Revise Appointment	TCH-HS-TECH-01	Teacher	MLHS	1.0	BA/ Step 2	\$64,900 (prorated)	12/11/24	6/30/25
Herzog, Jamie	Appointment	SPS-LR-AID-U29-31	Paraprofessional (P/T)	LD	0.97	Step 3	\$22,443 (prorated)	1/27/25 (or sooner, pending paperwork)	6/30/25
Mullings, Garey	Appointment	CUST-DW-CUST-17	Custodian	DW	1.0	Step 1	\$53,925 (prorated)	1/27/25 (or sooner, pending paperwork)	6/30/25
IVY H/WW/BC									
4119	Resignation								10/23/25
Platt, Kaitlyn	Transfer	TCH-BC-TCH-07	Teacher	BC	1.0	MA/Step 11	\$87,565	1/2/25	6/30/25

District roll call vote 9-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC roll call vote 8-0-0

18 (HC). 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
IVY H/WW/BC									
Gaffney, Victoria	Transfer	TCH-BC-TCH-05	Teacher	BC	1.0	MA+60/ Step 13	\$101,846	1/14/25	6/30/25

IVY H/WW/BC roll call vote 8-0-0

19. 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						
5636	Unpaid LOA	Teacher	LD	1.0	1/27/25	1/31/25
4119	LOA (paid w/benefits)				1/1/25	10/22/25

District roll call vote 9-0-0

19 (HC). 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	Revised FMLA (Unpaid w/benefits)	Interpreter	LD@MLHS	1.0	12/9/24	1/31/25

District roll call vote 9-0-0

20. Athletics / Extra Services (Schedule B Appointments)

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							
Weiss, Owen	Appointment	Asst. Musical Director	MLHS	Step 1	\$2,805	12/17/24	3/14/25

District roll call vote 9-0-0

21. 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
DISTRICT						
Alfano, Jessica	Appointment	Home Instruction SID # 8868	MLHS	\$50 per hour, not to exceed 2 hours	11/25/24	12/13/24
Butler, Patrick	Appointment	Home Instruction SID # 8868	MLHS	\$50 per hour, not to exceed 2 hours	11/25/24	12/13/24
Buzzelli, Vincent	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hours)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Crocker, Jennifer	Appointment	Extra-Curricular Interpreter	DW	\$40/hr	12/17/24	6/30/25
Gillespie, Sarah	Appointment	Home Instruction SID # 8868	MLHS	\$50 per hour, not to exceed 2 hours	11/25/24	12/13/24

Merritt, Doug	Appointment	Home Instruction SID # 8868	MLHS	\$50 per hour, not to exceed 2 hours	11/25/24	12/13/24
Rodriguez, Begona	Appointment	Home Instruction SID # 8868	MLHS	\$50 per hour, not to exceed 2 hours	11/25/24	12/13/24
Sica, David	Appointment	8th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hours)	12/9/24	12/9/24
IVY H/WW/BC						
Allison, Vicki	Amend Appointment	Bus Duty AM	WW	\$25/day	8/28/24	11/18/24
Carlson, Erik	Revised Appointment	School Safety Specialist	BC	\$5,000	7/1/24	6/30/25
Carlson, Erik	Appointment	Dev. District Wide School Safety Plan	BC	\$3,000	7/1/24	6/30/25
Coleman, Gretchen	Appointment	Bus Duty AM	WW	\$25/day	11/19/24	6/30/25
Gonzalez, Elizabeth	Appointment	Multi-Sensory Instruction	WW	Hourly rate, not to exceed 108 hours	10/22/24	01/31/25

District roll call vote 9-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC roll call vote 8-0-0

22. 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						
Bariletto, Christina	Appointment	Per Diem Substitute	DW	Board Approved Rate	12/17/24 (pending paperwork)	6/30/25
Duke-Lees, Lisa	Appointment	Per Diem Substitute	DW	Board Approved Rate	12/17/24	6/30/25
Fagan, Trisha	Appointment	Per Diem Substitute	DW	Board Approved Rate	12/17/24	6/30/25
Keymetian Ng, Margaret	Appointment	Volunteer	DW	N/A	8/28/24	6/30/25
Tarquino, Danielle	Appointment	Per Diem Substitute	DW	Board Approved Rate	12/18/24	6/30/25
Waltner, Erin	Appointment	Audiology Intern (Jobi Schwartz)	LD	N/A	1/22/25 (pending paperwork)	5/6/25

District roll call vote 9-0-0

23. Field Trips

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following field trips for the 2024-2025 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent:

School	Destination	Reason	Date
DISTRICT			
MLHS	Summit, NJ	Speech & Debate Tournament	12/14/24
MLHS	Ridgewood, NJ	Garden Cup IV: Northern Regional/Quiz Bowl	12/14/24
LD	Birmingham, AL	Deaf Academic Bowl -Regional Competition	2/27-3/2/25
MLHS	Morristown, NJ	Mock Trial Competition	1/7 & 1/9/25

MLHS	Basking Ridge, NJ	Ridge Invitational Speech/Debate Tournament	1/25/25
MLHS	Hastings-On-Hudson, NY	Academic Team - Valley Cup III	1/4/25
IVY H/WW/BC			
BC	Ridgewood, NJ	NJ Academic Bowl – Regional Competition	2/22/25
BC	Teaneck, NJ	Quiz Bowl - 9th Annual Bergen Winter Classic	1/18/25
BC	Princeton, NJ	Quiz Bowl - Central Jersey History Bowl	3/29/25

District roll call vote 9-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC roll call vote 8-0-0

24. 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				
Cook, Denis	MLHS	Montclair State University	Mathematics Curricula/MATH 816	3.0
Cook, Denis	MLHS	Montclair State University	Independent Study in Mathematics Education/MATH 790	3.0
Eklund, Keriann	MLHS	Fairleigh Dickinson University	Young Adult Literature: Beyond Harry Potter/ CWLT_8207	4.0
Eklund, Keriann	MLHS	Fairleigh Dickinson University	The Art of Adaptation/ CWLT_8224	4.0
Mores-Silva, Maria	LD	University of Alabama	Assessment & Diagnosis in Evidence Based Clinical Practice/SW 722	3.0
Mores-Silva, Maria	LD	University of Alabama	Complementary & Alternative Therapies/SW 723	3.0
IVY H/WW/BC				
Ludlow, Amy	BC	William Paterson University	Counseling Skills for School Nurses/5601-070	3.0

District roll call vote 9-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC roll call vote 8-0-0

B. CURRICULUM / SPECIAL SERVICES

25. District Curriculum Δ

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

Department	Subject/Course/Grade	Level
DISTRICT		
Science	Physics	MLHS
Technology	Aviation & Aerospace	MLHS

IVY H/WW/BC		
Science	Science Grade 7	BC

District roll call vote 9-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC roll call vote 8-0-0

26. New Course Approval

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

School	Course Title/Department	Duration
MLHS	Introduction to Music Appreciation (Fine & Performing Arts)	Full Year – 2024-2025
MLHS	Introduction to Flight & Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Technology)	Full Year – 2025-2026

District roll call vote 9-0-0

C. MISCELLANEOUS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

PENDING LEGISLATION - None

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 9:46pm was made by Mr. Chiang and seconded by Mrs. Parker.

District Roll Call 9-0-0

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

