



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 REGULAR MEETING

February 3, 2025

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	
Dr. Hirschfeld	X	
Mrs. Kulkarni	-	
Mr. Johnson	X	
Dr. Silva McIntyre	X	
Mrs. Parker (<i>Vice President</i>)	X	
Dr. Sheth	X	
Mrs. Barkauskas (<i>President</i>)	X	

Also present: Dr. Brad Siegel, Dr. James Riley, Mrs. Ivonne Ciresi

OATH OF OFFICE

Board Secretary administers Oath to newly elected Board Member:
Arundhati “Aru” Kulkarni

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

The motion was approved 10-0-0

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mountain Lakes Board of Education on this 3rd day of February 2025 at 6:36pm 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, negotiations, personnel.

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 7:39pm was made by Mrs. Forman and seconded by Mr. Chiang.

The motion was approved 10-0-0 and the Board returned to public session at 7:39pm.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT - Eddie Lin reviewed:

I'm excited to share the latest updates from our schools, where students and staff have been actively engaged in academics, arts, athletics, and service.

At Briarcliff, our *Art with a Heart* students created beautiful calendar designs for the Bergen County Horse Rescue, while our *Robotics Teams* excelled in competitions, earning top placements and awards. Seventh graders took their learning beyond the classroom, visiting the *Intrepid Museum* and watching *The Outsiders* on Broadway. Meanwhile, the *Environmental Club* is collecting old fabrics to repurpose into toys for shelter dogs. And a special shoutout to the *Briarcliff Boys Basketball Team*, who made it to the county semifinals. Their perseverance reflects the leadership of Coach Mattoon, who is retiring after an incredible career.

At Lake Drive, students continue focusing on this year's theme, *Making Good Choices*, and have been recognized for their positive actions. They're also looking forward to their upcoming *Dance to Learn* program, a 10-week residency thanks to a special grant.

At MLHS, our athletes have made history—*Rinaldo DiGiacopo* became our first county wrestling finalist since 2011 and our second-ever champion! The *Swim Team* also saw great success at the Morris County Tournament. In academics, *Ethan Wu* made waves at the prestigious Barkley Forum Debate Tournament, advancing to the top 32 in the nation. And *Connor Higgins* was honored as the *Greater Morris County Football Scholar-Athlete*, recognizing his excellence in academics, leadership, and sportsmanship.

I want to give a special shoutout to MLHS DECA CLUB. On January 14th, MLHS DECA had 115 students participate in the DECA regional conference at Ramapo College. The students did fantastic, with 37 students qualifying for the State

Conference in Atlantic City 4-6 March (list is below, although I don't know if you want to say everyone's names). The club will also have 21 students present 10 page business plans. Many thanks to our 12 parent judges, 3 parent chaperones, Ms. Geveke, and Ms Kasper for their invaluable help in making this great student experience possible.

The qualifiers are: Kennedy Ballinger, Charlotte Caggiano, Cate Conklin, Victoria Dages, Esa Ellahi, Noah Gellert, Aaron Gellert, Samantha Hirschfeld, Maxwell Hollick, Becka Horowitz, Jack Ilaria, Elizabeth Johnson, Leo Kaplan, Danika Kinsey, Christabella Leung, Jessie Liu, Daniel Lu, Ettoile Luna, Milana Marino, Maddy Marino, Romi Michaels, Tanay Mishra, Violet Page, Vidhi Patel, Lucas Ramirez, Gabriela Ramirez, Julia Saldutti, Brandon Satran, Sophia Scerbo, Sasha Shishkin, Mia Siddons, Julia Signore, Janvi Singh, Nick Sota, Jack Wallace, Ethan Wu, Alexandra Kuchavik.

At Wildwood, we continue fostering inclusion and kindness. *Winter clubs* are in full swing, *buddy activities* are building connections, and *Kindness Week* has been a meaningful experience for our students. Staff members are also leading by example, participating in *Workout Wednesdays* to promote wellness.

Looking ahead, we have exciting events, including the *District Band Concert*, *Wellness Summit*, and the *Briarcliff Student vs. Faculty Basketball Game*. Fundraisers like the *Chipotle Night* will support our students competing in a national math competition. And, of course, Wildwood families can look forward to *Bingo Night* and the return of the *HSA Talent Show*. Across all schools, our students continue to impress with their talent, dedication, and spirit. Thank you for your time and ongoing support!

MOUNTAIN LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT COMMENT - None

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE MLEA CO-PRESIDENTS - None

PRESENTATIONS

- Dr. Siegel introduced Andrew Pascale
 - Presentation of FY24 Audit by Andrew Pascale, Samuel Klein and Company LLP
 - Summary of audit results
 - Requirement of communications and other matters

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT / ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

- Dr. Siegel reviewed:
 - Reviewed aspects of District goals
 - Mid-year updates: Stronge Eval process; Security; RVS articulation; STEM exploration
 - Updates to Sup Entry Plan
 - Mrs. Ciresi reviewed:
 - Mrs. Ciresi reviewed:
- Mrs. Ciresi reviewed:
 - Highlighted 1/27 PD day
 - MLHS–Presentation of POS survey results
 - Presentation and discussion on new electives

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Chiang, Jr. and seconded by Mrs. Forman

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

Date	Minutes
October 21, 2024	Regular and Executive Session Meeting
October 29, 2024	Special Meeting
November 12, 2024	Special Meeting
November 18, 2024	Regular and Executive Session Meeting
January 7, 2025	Regular Meeting (Reorganization)
January 13, 2025	Regular and Executive Session Meeting
January 27, 2025	Special Meeting

- District Roll Call 7-0-3 - October 21, 2024 (A: C. Johnson, A Kulkarni, P. Sheth)
- District Roll Call 7-0-3 - October 29, 2024 (A: C. Johnson, A Kulkarni, P. Sheth)
- District Roll Call 8-0-2 - November 12, 2024 (A: A. Kulkarni, P. Sheth)
- District Roll Call 7-0-3 - November 18, 2024 (A: C. Johnson, A Kulkarni, P. Sheth)
- District Roll Call 7-0-3 - January 7, 2025 (A: C. Johnson, J. Hirschfeld, A. Kulkarni)
- District Roll Call 6-0-4 - January 13, 2025 (A: T. Chiang, A. Kulkarni, L. McIntyre, J. Parker)
- District Roll Call 7-0-3 - January 27, 2025 (A: C. Johnson, A. Kulkarni, S. Forman)

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

COMMUNICATIONS

BOONTON TOWNSHIP REPORT

- Mrs. Heremy reviewed:
 - Ethics presentation
 - Board is working toward full BOE certification
 - BA moving through preliminary budget preparation
 - Girls Basketball made County championship game

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment
- Long Range Planning
- Facilities
- Finance
- Personnel

LIAISON REPORTS

- Laker Sports Club (LSC)
- Recreation Commission

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR / BOARD SECRETARY

A. FINANCE

- Dr. Riley reviewed:
 - Finance agenda resolutions and hand carry(s)

Motion by Mrs. Parker and seconded by Mr. Chaing for motions #1 - #, #19(HC)

1. Presentation of Bills

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approve the following bills list and check journals as of January 1, 2025 – January 30, 2025, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

Fund	Amount
General Fund (10)	\$422,789.39
Special Revenue Fund (20)	\$54,737.05
Capital Project Fund (30)	\$8,369.71
Debt Service Fund (40)	N/A
Cafeteria Account Fund (60)	N/A
Total	\$485,896.15

District Roll Call 10-0-0

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 December Transfer Report, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District Roll Call 10-0-0

3. Treasurer’s Report

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

District Roll Call 10-0-0

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 December, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District Roll Call 10-0-0

5. Auditor’s Management Report and Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education accepts the Auditor’s Management Report and the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the 2023-2024 fiscal year and directs the School Business Administrator to submit a copy of the audit to the Morris County Executive County Superintendent, as recommended by the Superintendent.

District Roll Call 10-0-0

6. Approve Waiver of Requirements for (SEMI)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approves the Waiver of Requirements for the Special Education Medicare Initiative (SEMI) Program as follows:

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district’s participation in the Special Education Medicare Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2025-2026 school year and,

WHEREAS, the Mountain Lakes Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education hereby authorized the Executive Superintendent of Schools in the County of Morris an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A-23A-5.3 for the 2025-2026 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.

District Roll Call 10-0-0

7. Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education authorization execution of an agreement with the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council to become a member for the period of February 3, 2025, through September 30, 2026;

WHEREAS, the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council (“MCCPC”) was created in 1974 to conduct a voluntary cooperative pricing system with municipalities, boards of educations, and other public bodies located in the County of Morris and adjoining counties; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the MCCPC is to provide substantial savings on various goods and services to its members through the cooperative public bidding process; and

WHEREAS, the Mountain Lakes School District desires to enter into an Agreement with the MCCPC, which is administered by Randolph Township as Lead Agency, to become a member of the MCCPC for the period of February 3, 2025, through September 30, 2026.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mountain Lakes School District, County of Morris, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The Mountain Lakes Board of Education of the Mountain Lakes School District hereby authorizes the execution of an Agreement with the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council by the Township of Randolph as Lead Agency dated February 3, 2025, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5). Said Agreement is to become a member of the MCCPC for a five (5) year period from February 3, 2025, through September 30, 2026.
2. The Mountain Lakes School District Purchasing Agent is hereby directed to submit a copy of this adopted Resolution, along with an executed Agreement, to Randolph Township as Lead Agency of the MCCPC.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon final passage according to law.
4. All appropriate Mountain Lakes School District officials are authorized and directed to perform all required acts to affect the purpose of this Resolution, as recommended by the Superintendent.

District Roll Call 10-0-0

8. MLHS Auditorium Project

WHEREAS, the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approves change order GC-05 of a credit for unused allowance in the amount of \$102,158.30, as recommended by the Superintendent.

District Roll Call 10-0-0

9. Wildwood School Fire Alarm Δ

WHEREAS, the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approves change order #1-CPQ-7211121 in the amount of \$17,587.32 for fire alarm equipment and installation, as recommended by the Superintendent.

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 9-0-0

10. 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
Change	IHBSD-1	Lake Drive Itinerant	12/1/24	6/30/25	\$1,440	

District Roll Call 10-0-0

11. 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
Learnwell Education	1/10/25	2/21/25	Home Instruction SID #: 6340	\$60 per hour	\$3,200
DC Fagan Psychological Services, LLC	2/4/25	4/4/25	Neuropsychological Evaluation SID#: 1507	\$4,000	\$4,000

District Roll Call 10-0-0

12. Travel / Conferences Expenditures *1*

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				
Ciresi, Ivonne	Somerset, NJ	4/7-4/8/25	NJASA: 8th Annual Women's Leadership Conference 2025	\$459
Friedrich, Rebecca	Virtual	9/21/24	Space Deeper Than The Surface	\$0
Friedrich, Rebecca	Virtual	11/16/24	Don't Be Mad If I Don't Look: Interpreting for Hard of Hearing Consumers	\$0
Larkin, Jennifer	Virtual	1/14/25	Padlet's New Winter Features	\$0
Morgan, Damien	Virtual/Rutgers	1/13/25	CFM license – Energy Management Class	\$205
Moschella, Trina	Parsippany, NJ	1/24/25	Northern NJ Math Supervisors Roundtable Meeting	\$0
Posner, Denis	Montclair, NJ	3/11/25	2025 NJECC Annual Educational Technology Conference	\$130
Preston, Alison	Mahwah, NJ	3/17/25	NJCEC (Council for Exceptional Children) 2025	\$175
Price, Ryan	Atlantic City, NJ	2/20-2/22/25	NJMEA (Music Educators) 2025 State Conference	\$210
Riley, James	Randolph, NJ	1/8; 2/5; 3/5; 4/9; & 5/7/25	Morris County Association of School Business Administrators (MCASBO) Monthly Meetings	\$0

Riley, James	Whippany, NJ	2/13/25	NJASBO-Pension Review/Updates	\$145
Riley, James	Whippany, NJ	3/27/25	NJASBO-Purchasing	\$145
Riley, James	Whippany, NJ	4/10/25	NJASBO-Audit Review	\$145
Riley, James	Rockaway, NJ	3/6/25	MEIG Membership Meeting	\$0
Seibert, Tania	Virtual	12/12/25	Eng 10: AP Seminar- TMP Training Day	\$0
Siegel, Brad	Denville, NJ	1/17; 3/21; 4/18; 5/16; & 6/13/25	Morris County Association of School Administrators (MCASA) Monthly Meetings	\$0
Suarez, Jennifer	Princeton, NJ	2/24 – 2/25/25	NJAPHERD (Health & Phys. Ed.) Convention	\$523
Wallace, Kevin	Atlantic City, NJ	3/11-3/13/25	DAANJ Convention	\$1,077
IVY H/WW/BC				
Bogucz, Kelly	Summit, NJ	2/10/25	The Creative / Destruction Myth of the Phoenix	\$161
Calandra, Lauren	Virtual	2/10-2/11/25	Two- Day Train- The Trainer Institute: Current, Best Strategies to Improve Executive Functioning Skills	\$695
Lih, Erik	Old Tappan, NJ	12/9/24	NJ AI Literacy Summit	\$0
Pelliconi, Debra	Virtual	2/10-2/11/25	Two- Day Train- The Trainer Institute: Current, Best Strategies to Improve Executive Functioning Skills	\$695

District Roll Call 10-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 9-0-0

12. (HC) 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
IVY H/WW/BC				
Buzzelli, Vincent	Atlantic City, NJ	2/20-2/22/25	New Jersey Music Educators' Association State Conference	\$327

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 9-0-0

13. 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			
Aviation Grant	Mountain Lakes Education Foundation (MLEF)	Aviation tabletop sim machines	\$15,000
IVY H/WW/BC			
Briarcliff Class of 2025	Mountain Lakes Home & School Association (HSA)	8th Gr. 2025 Overnight Boston Trip	\$2,420.65

District Roll Call 10-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 9-0-0

14. Fundraising A

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	Sophomore Class Bake Sale - 2/11/25	Senior activities
IVY H/WW/BC		
BC	Valentine Grams Sale (2/3-2/7/25)	NYAACA (50%) /American Red Cross Wildfire Relief (50%)

District Roll Call 10-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 9-0-0

B. MISCELLANEOUS

15. 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/Regulation Number	Policy Alert	Title	First Reading	Second Reading
Revised	P 5830	N/A	Student Fundraising	1/13/25	2/3/25
Revised	R 5830	N/A	Student Fundraising	1/13/25	2/3/25
Revised	P 7510	N/A	Use of School Facilities	1/13/25	2/3/25
Revised	R 7510	N/A	Use of School Facilities	1/13/25	2/3/25
Revised	P 7511	N/A	Athletic Field Light Usage	1/13/25	2/3/25
Revised	P 5512	234	Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (M)	2/3/25	
Revised	P 5533	234	Student Smoking (M)	2/3/25	
Revised	R 5533	234	Student Smoking (M)	2/3/25	
Revised	P 7441	234	Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings on School Grounds (M)	2/3/25	
Revised	R 7441	234	Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings on School Grounds (M)	2/3/25	
Revised	P 9320	234	Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (M)	2/3/25	
Revised	R 9320	234	Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (M)	2/3/25	
Revised	P 5460	234	High School Graduation (M)	2/3/25	
Revised	P 5710	234	Student Grievance	2/3/25	
Revised	P 8500	234	Food Services (M)	2/3/25	

District Roll Call 10-0-0

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. PERSONNEL

- Dr. Siegel reviewed:
 - Personnel agenda resolutions and hand carry(s)

Motion by Dr. Sheth and seconded by Dr. McIntyre for motions #16 - # 25, #19(HC)

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:

TCH-BC-TCH -25 - Teacher (.5)

District Roll Call 10-0-0

17. 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 to MA+60/ Step 12	\$100,583	2/1/25	6/30/25
Garate-Gomez, Pia	Retirement	TCH-HS-WL-01	Teacher	MLHS	1.0	MA+60/Step 15	\$110,373	9/1/14	6/30/25
IVY H/WW/BC									
Amin, Soneya	Resignation	SPS-CST-AID-U29-16	Paraprofessional P/T	BC	0.97	Step 9	\$26,872.10	5/7/19	1/31/25
Daly, Ceri	Resignation	TCH-WW-CST-03	Teacher	WW	1.0	MA+30/Step 15	\$104,924	8/31/15	6/30/25
Ebersole, Erica	Appointment	TCH-BC-TCH-06	Additional Coverage (4119)	BC	.2	MA/Step 15	\$3,208	2/17/25	3/28/25
Lih, Erik	Appointment	TCH-BC-TCH-02	Additional Coverage (4119)	BC	.2	BA/Step 10	\$2,301	2/17/25	3/28/25
Mason, Pamela	Retirement	TCH-WW-TCH-22	Teacher	WW	1.0	MA+60/Step 15	\$117,413	9/1/95	6/30/25
Mattoon, Douglas	Retirement	TCH-BC-TCH-12	Teacher	BC	1.0	MA/Step 15	\$107,645	9/1/96	6/30/25
Peterson, Danielle	Appointment	TCH-BC-TCH-17	Additional Coverage (4119)	BC	.2	BA/Step 11	\$2,384	2/17/25	3/28/25
Platt, Kaitlin	Appointment	TCH-BC-CST-01	Additional Prep (4119)	BC	.1	MA/Step 11	\$1,270	2/17/25	3/28/25

Posner, Dennis	Appointment	SPT-BC-LIB-01/SPT-HS-LIB-01	Additional Coverage (4119)	BC	.2	MA/Step 15	\$3,208	2/17/25	3/28/25
----------------	-------------	-----------------------------	----------------------------	----	----	------------	---------	---------	---------

District Roll Call 10-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 9-0-0

18. 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						
4930	FMLA (Unpaid w/benefits)	Grounds/Maintenance	DW	1.0	1/22/25	2/5/25
4417	MLOA (Paid w/out benefits)	Paraprofessional	LD	0.97	1/21/25	2/26/25
5172	LOA (Paid w/benefits)	Teacher	LD	1.0	1/17/25	2/3/25
5172	FMLA/NJFLA (Unpaid w/benefits)	Teacher	LD	1.0	2/4/25	3/4/25
5353	LOA (Paid w/benefits)	Custodian/Facilities	DW	1.0	2/24/25	3/7/25
IVY H/WW/BC						
5220	FMLA/NJFLA (Paid w/ benefits)	Teacher	WW	1.0	5/7/25	6/30/25
5214	MLOA (Paid w/benefits)	Teacher	BC	1.0	4/18/25	6/6/25
5214	FMLA/NJFLA (Unpaid w/benefits)	Teacher	BC	1.0	6/9/25	10/31/25

District Roll Call 10-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 9-0-0

19. 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							
Austin, Norah (OOD)	Appointment	Lacrosse Girls - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$6,404	3/10/25	6/15/25
Banks, Kathleen	Appointment	Softball - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$5,472	3/10/25	6/15/25
Ciasulli, Keri	Appointment	Track - Head Coach Girls	MLHS	Step 4	\$7,806	3/10/25	6/15/25
Concepcion, Angel	Appointment	Baseball - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$5,472	3/10/25	6/15/25
Doniloski, Jason	Appointment	Baseball - Head Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$7,806	3/10/25	6/15/25
Fiorina, Teresa	Appointment	Golf Girls - Head Coach	MLHS	Step 3	\$5,415	3/10/25	6/15/25
Flynn, Timothy (OOD)	Appointment	Lacrosse Boys - Head Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$9,008	3/10/25	6/15/25
Fusco, Darrell	Appointment	Golf Boys - Head Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$6,405	3/10/25	6/15/25
Gleeson, William	Appointment	Baseball - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$5,472	3/10/25	6/15/25

Kashulines, Peter (OOD)	Appointment	Track - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$5,472	3/10/25	6/15/25
Lane, Nick (OOD)	Appointment	Lacrosse Boys - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$6,404	3/10/25	6/15/25
Maurizi, Sean	Appointment	Tennis Boys - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$4,960	3/10/25	6/15/25
McDonough, Clint (OOD)	Appointment	Lacrosse Boys - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$6,404	3/10/25	6/15/25
Kennedy, Rebecca	Appointment	Track - Head Coach Boys	MLHS	Step 4	\$7,806	3/10/25	6/15/25
Preston, Alison	Appointment	Softball - Head Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$7,806	3/10/25	6/15/25
Price, Ryan	Appointment	Tennis Boys - Head Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$7,204	3/10/25	6/15/25
Reid, Jennifer (OOD)	Appointment	Lacrosse Girls - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$6,404	3/10/25	6/15/25
Sebesto, Alyssa (OOD)	Appointment	Lacrosse Girls - Head Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$9,008	3/10/25	6/15/25
Stanzione, Matthew	Appointment	Weight Room-Spring	MLHS	N/A	\$3,096	3/10/25	6/15/25
Stolarczuk, Kayla	Appointment	Track - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$5,472	3/10/25	6/15/25
Todero, Kate (OOD)	Appointment	Lacrosse Girls - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$6,404	3/10/25	6/15/25
Truesdale, Andrew (OOD)	Appointment	Lacrosse Boys - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$6,404	3/10/25	6/15/25
Walters, Mark	Appointment	Lacrosse Boys - Assistant Coach	MLHS	Step 4	\$6,404	3/10/25	6/15/25

District Roll Call 10-0-0

19. (HC) 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							
Drevitch, Todd	Appointment	Assistant Ice Hockey Coach	MLHS	Step 4 (prorated)	\$2,188.80	1/27/25	3/9/25
Preston, Kathleen	Appointment	Assistant Softball Coach	MLHS	Step 2	\$3,912	3/9/25	6/15/25

District Roll Call 10-0-0

District Roll Call 9-0-1 (A: S. Forman – Ice Hockey Coach)

20. 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						
Bogucz, Kelly	Appointment	Instructor – Art Dept. Vertical Alignment & Benchmark Development	MLHS	\$250	1/27/25	1/27/25
Buckley, Coleen	Appointment	Instructor – Survival ASL	MLHS	\$50	1/27/25	1/27/25
Buckley, Coleen	Appointment	Instructor – Don't Mix Up These ASL Signs	MLHS	\$50	1/27/25	1/27/25
Buzzelli, Vincent	Appointment	Pit Orchestra Musician – MLHS Musical	MLHS	\$690 (not to exceed)	1/30/25	3/9/25

MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

February 3, 2025

BOE Approved: March 3, 2025

Cottone, Margo	Appointment	8 th Grade Open House	MLHS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 2 hrs.)	12/9/24	12/9/24
Degenars, Gioia	Appointment	Home Instruction SID # 2837	MLHS	\$50/hr., (not to exceed 9 hrs)	12/12/24	3/7/25
Gonzalez, Elizabeth	Appointment	LDTC SID#: 1250	OOD	\$406	2/4/25	4/30/25
Levy, Ellen	Appointment	Home Instruction SID #2837	MLHS	\$50/hr., (not to exceed 9 hrs.)	12/12/24	3/7/25
Lombardi, Deidre	Appointment	Instructor - Getting to Know Nualang Through Wayside	MLHS	\$50	1/27/25	1/27/25
Macko, Lauren	Appointment	Instructor - Wellness Programs: Infusing SEL into Physical Education & Health	MLHS	\$50	1/27/25	1/27/25
Pastor, Elise	Appointment	Interpreter - Musical	MLHS	\$900	2/4/25	3/8/25
Pelchat, Cara	Appointment	Instructor - Identifying Best Practices and Interventions When Dealing with School Refusal or Avoidance	MLHS	\$50	1/27/25	1/27/25
Perry, Deanna	Appointment	Interpreter - Musical	MLHS	\$900	2/4/25	3/9/25
Price, Ryan	Appointment	Pit Orchestra Musician – MLHS Musical	MLHS	\$690 (not to exceed)	1/30/25	3/9/25
Restrepo, Carly	Appointment	Interpreter - Musical	MLHS	\$900	2/4/25	3/9/25
Spence-Reid, Trish	Appointment	Home Instruction SID # 2837	HS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 18 hrs.)	12/12/24	3/7/25
Vallies, Austin	Appointment	Pit Orchestra Musician – MLHS Musical	MLHS	\$690 (not to exceed)	1/30/25	3/9/25
Weinroth, Gail	Appointment	Instructor - Three P's of 504/I&RS: Parents, Procedures and Paperwork	MLHS	\$50	1/27/25	1/27/25
Yaiser, Ryan	Appointment	Home Instruction SID # 2837	HS	\$50/hr. (not to exceed 9 hrs.)	12/12/24	3/7/25
IVY H/WW/BC						
Goldstein, Debra	Appointment	School Social Worker - Additional Hours - Case Mgmt/Counseling (5224)	WW	Hourly Rate (not to exceed 20 hrs.)	1/30/25	3/7/25
Gonzalez, Elizabeth	Appointment	LDT-C, Additional Hours – Case Mgmt (5224)	WW	Hourly Rate (not to exceed 50 hrs.)	1/30/25	3/7/25
Gonzalez, Elizabeth	Appointment	LDT-C, Additional Hours – Multi-Sensory Education, (SID# 3837)	WW	Hourly Rate (not to exceed 40 hrs.)	2/3/25	3/14/25
Joy, Melba	Appointment	School Psychologist – Additional Hours - Meetings (5224)	WW	Hourly Rate (not to exceed 10 hrs.)	1/30/25	3/7/25
Joy, Melba	Appointment	School Psychologist – Additional Hours – Student Evaluations (5224)	WW	\$406/Eval. (not to exceed 10 evals.)	1/30/25	3/7/25
Joy, Melba	Appointment	School Psychologist – Additional Hours – Testing Reports (5224)	WW	\$150/report (not to exceed \$300)	1/30/25	3/7/25
Lombardi, Deirdre	Appointment	Additional Coverage (5664)	BC	\$594	1/14/25	1/21/25
Perry, Deanna	Appointment	Interpreter - Musical	BC	\$600	2/4/25	4/12/25
Restrepo, Carly	Appointment	Interpreter - Musical	BC	\$600	2/4/25	4/12/25

District Roll Call 10-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 9-0-0

21. 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						
Asch, Madison	Appointment	Per Diem Substitute	DW	Per Board Approved Rate	2/5/25	6/30/25
Cabana, Mike (OOD)	Appointment	Lacrosse Boys - Volunteer	MLHS	N/A	3/10/25	6/15/25
Humphreys, Ryan	Appointment	Lacrosse Boys - Volunteer	MLHS	N/A	3/10/25	6/15/25
Luzzi, Frank (OOD)	Appointment	Baseball - Volunteer	MLHS	N/A	3/10/25	6/15/25
Meany, Sophia	Appointment	Per Diem Substitute	DW	Per Board Approved Rate	2/5/25	6/30/25
Pacifico, John	Appointment	Baseball - Volunteer	MLHS	N/A	3/10/25	6/15/25
Ravin, Jonah	Appointment	Per Diem Substitute	DW	Per Board Approved Rate	2/5/25	6/30/25
Stanzione, Mark (OOD)	Appointment	Golf Boys - Volunteer	MLHS	N/A	3/10/25	6/15/25

District Roll Call 10-0-0

22. Field Trips *Δ*

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	Ridgewood, NJ	NJ History Bowl Bee and Bowl State Championships	1/18/25
MLHS	Morris Plains, NJ	Region Concert Band Festival for MLHS Wind Ensemble	3/19/25
MLHS	East Rutherford, NJ	Jets Business Day 2025	3/20/25
IVY H/WW/BC			
BC	Freehold, NJ	Robotics Competition	1/26/25
BC	Livingston, NJ	Heritage Middle School Academic Tournament	2/22/25
WW/BC	Morristown, NJ	New Jersey Consortium for Gifted and Talented Programs Learning Carnival for Grades 5-6	4/3/25
WW	Morristown, NJ	New Jersey Consortium for Gifted and Talented Programs (NJCGTP) Learning Carnival for Grades 3-4	3/19/25
WW	Morristown, NJ	NJCGTP Spelling Bee (Grades 3-5)	3/13/25
WW	West Orange, NJ	Essex County Turtle Back Zoo	5/15/25
WW	Mahwah, NJ	Ellis Island: Gateway to a Dream	3/14/25

District Roll Call 10-0-0

IVY H/WW/BC Roll call vote 9-0-0

23. Tuition Reimbursement

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				
Boehm, Brianna	MLHS	Colorado State University Pueblo	Using Technology with Classroom Instruction that Works/ED 501	3.0
Boehm, Brianna	MLHS	Colorado State University Pueblo	Understanding Eating Disorders for Schools/ED 501	3.0
Chandra, Mukta	MLHS	Univ. of Calif./San Diego	Tackling Challenging Behaviors in Middle and High School/EDUC 42587	3.3
Chandra, Mukta	MLHS	Univ. of Calif./San Diego	Digital Projects that Inspire and Support Student Learning/EDUC 42586	3.3
Chandra, Mukta	MLHS	Univ. of Calif./San Diego	Focused Interventions to Improve Executive Function Skills/EDUC42260	3.3
Chandra, Mukta	MLHS	Univ. of Calif./San Diego	Leveraging Culturally Responsive Engagement Strategies/EDUC42574	3.3
Feltmann, Steven	MLHS	Walden Univ.	Bridging Learning Theory, Instruction, and Technology/EDUC 6771	3.0
Feltmann, Steven	MLHS	Walden Univ.	Reaching and Engaging All Learners Through Technology/EDUC 6714	3.0
Matyiku, Melissa	LD	St. Joseph’s Univ.	Families, Schools & Community with Field Observation/SPE608	3.0
Matyiku, Melissa	LD	St. Joseph’s Univ.	Inclusive Class Practices with Field Experience/SPE 613	3.0

District Roll Call 10-0-0

B. CURRICULUM / SPECIAL SERVICES

24. 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	Duration/ School Year
DISTRICT		
MLHS	Introduction to Flight & Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)	Full Year - 2025-26
MLHS	Introduction to Music Appreciation	Semester - 2024-25

District Roll Call 10-0-0

C. MISCELLANEOUS

25. Program of Studies

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mountain Lakes Board of Education approves the High School Program of Studies for the 2025-2026 school year as presented by the administration, as recommended by the Superintendent.*

District Roll Call 10-0-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS - None

PENDING LEGISLATION - None

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

EXECUTIVE SESSION- None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 9:20pm was made by Dr. Hirschfeld and seconded by Mr. Chiang.

District Roll Call 10-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. James Riley

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