

# Mountainside Board of Education

## Meeting Highlights

### October 18, 2022



This newsletter provides a monthly summary of discussions and actions taken at the Mountainside Board of Education meetings.

These are not the official minutes. Please check our website for the official minutes and additional information.

Our meetings are recorded and can be viewed on our website.

#### Mountainside School District Board of Education

James W. Ruban, Jr. (President), Dana Guidici Pietro (Vice President)  
 Bill Dillon, Jordan Hyman, Vivian Pupo  
 Candice Schiano, Carmine Venes

#### Administrative Team

Janet Walling, Superintendent of Schools  
 Steven Robinson, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
 Suzanne Jenks, Principal – Deerfield School  
 Jessica Vierschilling, Principal – Beechwood School  
 Sheri Rouleau, Supervisor of Special Services

Action Items	Action Taken
Approval of Minutes	<i>BOE approved minutes for:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September 20, 2022 Regular Session</li> <li>September 20, 2022 Executive Session</li> <li>September 27, 2022 Special Meeting Regular Session</li> <li>September 27, 2022 Special Meeting Executive Session</li> </ul>
Correspondence	none
Public Participation	none
President's Report	none
Superintendent's Report	Mrs. Walling noted the special activities and spirit days for Week of Respect, School Violence Awareness Week, and Fire Prevention month events going on at BW & DF. She thanked the Police and Fire Departments who visited our schools. She thanked the PTO's hard work for the wonderful return of the Fall Festival, noting the Kindness Poster Contest, and teacher tricky tray prizes that were raffled off, showing a great partnership between parents & teachers. Start Strong testing has been completed & NJSLA results will be shared next month. Collaborations continue with Berkeley Heights with K-8 Math and K-5 Word Study programs. She mentioned our pet policy to remind the community that pets should not be on campus during school hours and events.
Business Administrator's Report	none
BH Liaison Report	Mr. Hyman's last meeting was on 9/22, next meeting on 10/20 at GL. They approved James Finley as new Asst. Principal and Dennis Dagounis as new Science/Art/Computers Supervisor. They approved a 4-yr. Memorandum Agreement and \$3/hr. raise for bus drivers. It was the first meeting with new Student Reps, who covered sports updates, transitions to chromebooks, Fall Play, open house for 8th graders, and other events. Principal Nixon highlighted ACT and SAT score updates.
Administration	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> 2022-2023 Nursing Services Plan; Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials; September BW/DF safety, security and bus evacuation drill reports.
Budget and Finance	<i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i> Payment of the Bill Lists; Comprehensive Maintenance Plan; Bayada nursing services agreement; Girls on the Run building use agreement; Acceptance of PTO \$8,000 donation; Addition of Independent Contractors/Physicians/Agencies; Special Education placements and services; Participation in NJ State Health Benefits Plan effective Jan. 1, 2023.

<b>Personnel</b>	<p><b><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved: for the 22/23 SY</i></b>  Appointment of Casey Johnson to Supervisor of Maintenance &amp; Custodial Services effective Nov. 15, 2022 - June 30, 2023; Resignation of Brittney Oliveira, 3rd Gr. teacher effective December 4, 2022; Appointment of Nicole Tyburski, paraprofessional Step 1, effective 10/19-12/17; Increased hours for Lisa Arroyo and Susan Gerakaris by 30 min. per days they work for dismissal duty; Stipend Positions; Jaime Pereira to complete observation hours with Sonia Branco; Additions to the Substitute Teacher List; School District travel/Professional Development requests.</p>																				
<b>Curriculum</b>	<p><b><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved:</i></b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="344 310 1534 814"> <thead> <tr> <th><i>Destination</i></th> <th><i>Grade</i></th> <th><i>Teacher</i></th> <th><i>Estimated Cost</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Music in the Parks Dorney Park</td> <td>8</td> <td>Mr. Rosenblum</td> <td>Buses: \$5,030 to be paid by secured grants and/or students.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Columbia Middle School Robotics Scrimmage</td> <td>6-8</td> <td>Barkin &amp; Hirsch</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clifton High School Regional Robotics Competition</td> <td>6-8</td> <td>Barkin &amp; Hirsch</td> <td>\$100-150 paid by Robotics Club</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Camp Bernie (revised from previous approval on 8/30/22)</td> <td>7</td> <td>Mrs. Chiappetta</td> <td>Trip: \$ 696 pd. by PTO \$1,840 pd. by students Buses: \$1,224 pd. by PTO</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Destination</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Teacher</i>	<i>Estimated Cost</i>	Music in the Parks Dorney Park	8	Mr. Rosenblum	Buses: \$5,030 to be paid by secured grants and/or students.	Columbia Middle School Robotics Scrimmage	6-8	Barkin & Hirsch	0	Clifton High School Regional Robotics Competition	6-8	Barkin & Hirsch	\$100-150 paid by Robotics Club	Camp Bernie (revised from previous approval on 8/30/22)	7	Mrs. Chiappetta	Trip: \$ 696 pd. by PTO \$1,840 pd. by students Buses: \$1,224 pd. by PTO
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<b>Policy</b>	<p><b><i>BOE had the first reading of the following policies:</i></b>  <i>P3216/P4216 Dress &amp; Grooming policies were tabled.</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="344 919 1513 1108"> <tbody> <tr> <td>P 0163</td> <td>Quorum Revised</td> <td>Revised</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P 3270</td> <td>Professional Responsibilities</td> <td>Revised</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P 5512</td> <td>Harassment, Intimidation, or and Bullying</td> <td>Revised/Mandated</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b><i>BOE had the second reading and adoption of the following policies:</i></b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="344 1171 1513 1266"> <tbody> <tr> <td>P 2425 R 2425</td> <td>Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program</td> <td>Revised/Mandated New</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	P 0163	Quorum Revised	Revised	P 3270	Professional Responsibilities	Revised	P 5512	Harassment, Intimidation, or and Bullying	Revised/Mandated	P 2425 R 2425	Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program	Revised/Mandated New								
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<b>Old Business</b>	Mr. Hyman asked about the digital sign, Mrs. Walling said the latest is that delivery and installation should take place in November.																				
<b>New Business</b>	Dr. Guidici Pietro reported from town council, noting 10/22 is Clean Community Day, volunteers can meet at Borough Hall at 9 am.																				
<b>Committee Reports</b>	Dr. Guidici Pietro reported the PTO Fall Festival was a huge hit, it was great to have it after 2 years. PTO Trunk or Treat will be on 10/28, Spring Fling will be back at the Hilton on 3/23 and is a huge fundraiser for our schools. Save the date will be sent out soon.																				
<b>Public Comments</b>	A community member mentioned the Spring 2022 NJSLA testing results, and was impressed at how well the district and 4th grade performed on both Math and ELA, 30-40 points above the state average, despite the pandemic challenges. She thanked the faculty for their hard work and dedication.																				

Our website: [www.mountainsideschools.org](http://www.mountainsideschools.org)

Please contact the office of the Mountainside BOE for additional information or questions: 908-232-3232.