

Mountainside Board of Education

Meeting Highlights

November 16, 2021



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
 Michael Falkowski, Interim Business Administrator
 Suzanne Jenks, Principal – Deerfield School
 Jessica Vierschilling, Principal – Beechwood School
 Sheri Rouleau, Supervisor of Special Services

Action Items	Action Taken
Approval of Minutes	<p>BOE approved minutes for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 19, 2021 Regular Session October 19, 2021 Executive Session
Superintendent's Report	<p>Mrs. Walling presented a slideshow highlighting our Veteran's Day celebration, Patriot's Pen Essay winners, & Red Ribbon Week Poster Contest winner. Some of the winners were present and were given a certificate of congratulations. She also mentioned Educational Support Staff Appreciation Week, thanking the staff in BW & DF. She congratulated Mr. Hyman & Mrs. Schiano on winning re-election to the Board of Education for another term. Mrs. Walling commented on the success of parent/teacher conferences held both in-person and remotely. The upcoming Family Reading Night, hosted by the MEA, will raise funds to support scholarships. She noted she is working on an ARP (American Recovery Plan) Grant, and gave examples of areas where funds can be used. Surveys were sent to staff and the community to access what areas they felt were most/least important to apply this grant money towards. Mr. Hyman asked about Start Strong testing and what we are doing with results. Mrs. Walling responded on how the school is addressing any areas needing improvement.</p>
Business Administrator's Report	<p>Mr. Falkowski gave an update on Bond Refunding. It restarted but was again put on hold again when rates came down. He also provided key dates in the upcoming budget process.</p>
BH Liaison Report	<p>Mr. Hyman reported from the Nov. 11th meeting where they discussed the following: Girls Volleyball Team's success; a Wellness Fair; test scores will be released in Dec. ; BH is restarting zoom access for BOE meetings; there was a lengthy debate about busing; GL is having a school play this weekend; Next meeting will be on 12/9.</p>
Administration	<p>As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved: School Safety & Security Plan Annual Review SOA; 21/22 Health & Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist SOA for BW & DF; Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials; BW & DF October safety and security drill reports.</p>
Budget and Finance	<p>BOE approved: As certified by the Board Secretary: Budget transfers for October; Payment of the Bill List; Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for October 2021; Reports of the Board Secretary for October 2021. As recommended by the Superintendent, the BOE approved: (for the 21-22 SY) Student Activity Account Manual; Agreement with Golden Arrow to provide transportation for the basketball season; Agreement with BH for middle school wrestling program; Agreement with LearnWell for student #3691479251.</p>

Personnel	<p><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, BOE approved:</i> Increased rates for substitutes; Maternity Disability Leave for Caitlin Sluberski from 1/18/22-1/8/23; Appointment of Cory Berger as Asst. Boys' Basketball Coach; Appointment of Carmela (Lina) Bove as lunch aide & Diane Gruzecki as substitute lunch aide for 21/22; Addition of Patrick Wenz to substitute list pending paperwork; List of volunteers to assist with school musical; revised personnel item from 7/27/21 to reflect ESEA Title I personnel D. Carroll; Appointment of Janine Cardone to provide virtual instruction due to quarantine as needed during 21/22 SY.</p>																											
Curriculum	<p><i>As recommended by the Superintendent, BOE approved</i> field trips for 2021-2022, <i>pending any adjustments due to health and safety guidelines:</i> This trip will replace the Broadway trip that was previously approved on October 19, 2021.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="381 436 1380 541"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Destination</th> <th>Grade</th> <th>Teacher in Charge</th> <th>Estimated Cost</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>6/16/22</td> <td>Papermill Playhouse</td> <td>8</td> <td>Rosenblum</td> <td>Paid by Students</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Destination	Grade	Teacher in Charge	Estimated Cost	6/16/22	Papermill Playhouse	8	Rosenblum	Paid by Students																	
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Old Business	None																											
New Business	<p>Mrs. Schiano asked about middle school lockers, Mrs. Walling will follow up with the principal. Dr. Guidici Pietro said PTO will have the Holiday Shoppe for BW. Mrs. Pupo thanked PTO for a successful Trunk or Treat. She mentioned the library book sale is this weekend. Mr. Venes complimented the district on the Veteran's Day event. Mr. Dillon attended the PTO parent night, and felt the Rutgers Behavioral Health presentation was well done and asked if they would provide additional presentations for parents.</p>																											
Committee Reports	None																											
Public Comments	None																											

Our website: www.mountainsideschools.org

Please contact the office of the Mountainside BOE for additional information or questions: [908-232-3232](tel:908-232-3232).