

Mountainside Board of Education

Meeting Highlights

November 28, 2017



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 or on Channel 35.

Mountainside School District Board of Education

James W. Ruban, Jr. (President), Christopher Minks (Vice President)
Dante Gioia, Cathy Jakositz, Kate Motz, Jeane Parker, Carmine Venes

Administrative Team

Nancy Lubarsky, Ed.D., Chief School Administrator

Eric Larson, Business Administrator

Kimberly Richards, Principal - Deerfield School

Christina Orozco, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services and Instruction

Action Items	Action Taken
<u>Approval of Minutes</u>	BOE approved minutes for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 23, 2017 Regular and Executive Sessions
<u>CSA's Report</u>	Chief School Administrator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharon Bradley, Media Specialist, gave an update on the Deerfield Media Center usage; Bob Morrison presented the Auditor's Report; Ed Gunther, Centric Benefits Consulting, gave a presentation on the new Horizon Benefits Plan; Dr. Lubarsky presented the NJASK Science results, gave an update on the Beechwood playground grant, and said that QSAC will not be required for 2017-2018 due to the high level of district performance in all five areas.
<u>Berkeley Heights Liaison Report</u>	Mrs. Parker reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a new track and field at GL.
<u>Administration</u>	As recommended by the CSA, the BOE approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials; New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) Statement of Assurance; Beechwood and Deerfield October 2017 safety and security drill reports.
<u>Budget and Finance</u>	BOE approved: As certified by the Board Secretary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget transfers for the month of October; Payment of the Bill List; Reports of the Board Secretary for October 2017. As recommended by the CSA, the BOE approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Termination of participation in the State Health Benefits Program; Making a catch-up payment to the State Health Benefits Plan; Mountainside Board of Education to join the Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey Health Plan; Designation of Grinspec of NJ, D.B.A. Centric Benefits Consulting of New Providence, NJ as our broker-of-record for implementing, negotiating, and managing our new Medical, Prescription and Dental programs; FY 2016-2017 audit; Adjustment of excess Extraordinary Aid of \$45,072 and Non-Public Transportation Aid of \$17,254 from the 2016-17 fiscal year excess surplus; School district travel.

<u>Personnel</u>	<p><i>As recommended by the CSA, BOE approved:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave of absence for Eric Larson, School Business Administrator; Resignation of Heather Goldstein, Guidance Counselor; Resignation of Christopher Eckert from Boys' Basketball Coach position; Appointment of Nicole Mansfield to position of part time Basic Skills Instructor; Appointment of April Starling to stipend position of Chess Club Advisor; Appointment of Morgan Felt to stipend position of Assistant Play Director; Correct stipend pay amount for Zachary Worswick; Notification to take classes from Adrienne Ridley; Addition of Dara Blass to the Substitute List; Appointment of Bill Tracy to the stipend position of Boys' Basketball Coach; Appointment of Barbi Higinbotham to the position of Grade 4 Leave Replacement Teacher. 																					
<u>Curriculum</u>	<p><i>As recommended by the CSA, BOE approved:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grades 5-8 field trip to Radio City Music Hall; Kindergarten to Deerfield School for Teddy Bear Making; Grades 6-8 Band to NJMEA Band and Orchestra Fest; Grade 5 Band to Beechwood School for Band Assembly; Grade 5 to Somerset Patriots baseball game; 7th Grade to NJ Renaissance Fair. 																					
<u>Policy</u>	<p><i>BOE had second reading and adoption of these policies:</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="451 636 1443 726"> <tr> <td>2700</td> <td>Services to Nonpublic School Students</td> <td>Revised-Mandated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3126</td> <td>District Mentoring Program</td> <td>Revised-Recommended</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>BOE had first reading of these policies:</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="451 827 1443 1136"> <tr> <td>1220</td> <td>Employment of Chief School Administrator</td> <td>Revised-Mandated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1310</td> <td>Employment of School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary</td> <td>Revised-Mandated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3111</td> <td>Creating Positions</td> <td>Revised-Recommended</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3124</td> <td>Employment Contract</td> <td>Revised-Recommended</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3125</td> <td>Employment of Teaching Staff Members</td> <td>Revised-Mandated</td> </tr> </table>	2700	Services to Nonpublic School Students	Revised-Mandated	3126	District Mentoring Program	Revised-Recommended	1220	Employment of Chief School Administrator	Revised-Mandated	1310	Employment of School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary	Revised-Mandated	3111	Creating Positions	Revised-Recommended	3124	Employment Contract	Revised-Recommended	3125	Employment of Teaching Staff Members	Revised-Mandated
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<u>Old Business</u>	None																					
<u>New Business</u>	<p>The Board agreed to hold the Reorganization Meeting on January 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>Mr. Gioia reported on the New Jersey School Boards meeting that dealt with loss of state funding after the start of the 2017-2018 school year. He also reported on the proposed resolution that charter schools erode public education programs. The resolution did not pass.</p>																					
<u>Committee Reports</u>	<p>Building and Grounds Committee – Mr. Gioia said that the puddles at Deerfield will be remedied and also that board members will meet with the town on December 4th to discuss snow plowing for the district.</p>																					
<u>Public Participation</u>	<p>Karen Dillon commented on the discussion at the town council meeting regarding the playground grant and potential future soccer field grants. She also commented on the replacement of the guidance counselor and asked if there would be continuity.</p> <p>Genevieve Cooper commented on the maintenance of the Beechwood field and bleachers at Deerfield.</p> <p>Mike Silva asked about the timeline for the playground installation.</p> <p>Adrienne Matejek asked about participating in the playground committee.</p>																					

Our Website: www.mountainsideschools.org

Please contact the Offices of the Mountainside Board of Education if you need additional information or if you have any questions: 908-232-3232.