

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
October 18, 2022**

MOUNTAINSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

**BEECHWOOD SCHOOL - 1497 WOODACRES DRIVE, MOUNTAINSIDE, NJ 07092
DEERFIELD SCHOOL - 302 CENTRAL AVENUE, MOUNTAINSIDE, NJ 07092**

For agenda attachments available to the public, please contact the Mountainside Board of Education Office at (908) 232-3232 or peruse same at the respective meeting.

Also, Mountainside Board of Education policies may be accessed via the district website.

I. Call to Order

A Regular Meeting of the Mountainside Board of Education of the Borough of Mountainside in the County of Union, New Jersey was called to order by Mr. James Ruban, Jr., at 6:42 p.m.

II. Roll Call

At roll call, the following members were present:

Dr. Dana Guidiciopietro - arrived at 6:46 p.m.

Mr. Jordan Hyman

Mrs. Vivian Pupo

Mr. James Ruban, Jr.

Mr. Carmine Venes

Mrs. Janet Walling, Superintendent, and Mr. Steven Robinson, Interim Business Administrator were also present.

Mr. Bill Dillon and Mrs. Candice Schiano were absent.

III. Executive Session - Resolution (Attachment #1)

Moved: Mr. Hyman

Seconded: Mrs. Pupo

RC: Dillon - absent

Guidiciopietro -absent

Hyman - yes Pupo - yes

Ruban -yes

Schiano - absent

Venes -yes

WHEREAS, Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 (R.S. 10:4-13), permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting or portion of a meeting of this public body in circumstances; and **WHEREAS**, the Board must consider matter(s) involving the following:

1. Legal issues

The disclosure of which could constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy; now

WHEREAS, the discussion of individual items to be considered by the Board in closed session may be made public once the need for confidentiality no longer exists, but the Board cannot state at the present time then that will be.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board adjourn to executive session at 6:43 p.m. to discuss the above mentioned matter to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed may or may

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not be made public this evening. If an action results, it will be taken following reentry into regular session.

IV. Close Executive Session and Reconvene Public Session

Moved: Mrs. Pupo Seconded: Mr. Ruban
RC: Dillon - absent Guidiciopietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
 Ruban -yes Schiano - absent Venes -yes

The public meeting reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

V. Flag Salute

VI. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Dr. Guidiciopietro Seconded: Mrs. Pupo
RC: Dillon - absent Guidiciopietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
 Ruban -yes Schiano - absent Venes -yes

- ❖ Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 20, 2022
- ❖ Minutes of the Executive Session of September 20, 2022
- ❖ Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 27, 2022
- ❖ Minutes of the Special Meeting Executive Session of September 27, 2022

VII. Correspondence - none

VIII. Public Participation - none

IX. President's Report - none

X. Superintendent's Report - Mrs. Walling noted the special activities and spirit days for "Week of Respect", School Violence Awareness and Fire Prevention month events going on at Beechwood & Deerfield. 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 completed, and 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.

XI. Business Administrator's Report - none

XII. Berkeley Heights Liaison Report - Mr. Hyman's last meeting was on 9/22, the next meeting is on 10/20 at GL. They approved James Finley as GL Asst. Principal, and Dennis Dagounis as new GL 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 Nov 17-19, open house for 8th graders, and other events. Principal Nixon highlighted ACT and SAT score updates.

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XIII. Administration

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Administration #1-3**

Moved:	<u>Dr. Guidici Pietro</u>	Seconded:	<u>Mr. Hyman</u>
RC:	Dillon - absent Ruban -yes	Guidici Pietro - yes Schiano - absent	Hyman - yes Pupo - yes Venes -yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2022-2023 Nursing Services Plan. (Attachment #2).
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Memorandum Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials.
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Beechwood and Deerfield Schools September 2022 safety, security drill reports, and bus evacuation drills. (Attachment #3)

XIV. Budget and Finance

Mr. Hyman and Mrs. Walling thanked the PTO for their donation. Mrs. Walling noted Basketball uniforms are due to be replaced with some of these funds. Mr. Hyman was pleased that we are supporting the Girls on the Run organization. Mr. Ruban noted that the Finance committee agreed with the decisions on these 2 items.

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Budget and Finance #1-8**

Moved:	<u>Mr. Hyman</u>	Seconded:	<u>Mrs. Pupo</u>
RC:	Dillon -absent Ruban -yes	Guidici Pietro - yes Schiano -absent	Hyman - yes Pupo - yes Venes -yes

1. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill lists dated September 1, 2022, through September 28, 2022, **and** September 29, 2022, through October 19, 2022. (Attachment #4)
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the annual Comprehensive Maintenance Plan. (Attachment #5)
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Bayada Home Health Care Contract, from September 19, 2022, through August 31, 2023, to provide school nursing services as needed, at a rate of \$65/hour. (Attachment #6)
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, building use application for Girls on the Run. It is recommended to approve use by this non-profit organization as a Priority 4 use, as indicated in board Policy 7510, with all fees being waived. In the event that any custodial or maintenance fees are required, the organization will be charged accordingly.

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5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the acceptance of a PTO donation, in the amount of \$8,000, to be used as follows: \$4,000 for Beechwood School and \$4,000 for Deerfield Athletics.
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, an addition to the Independent Contractors/Physicians/Agencies list as follows:

Contact Information	Services	Budgeted Account Code
Integrated Speech Pathology, LLC 786 Mountain Blvd. Suite 203B Watchung, NJ 07069	Augmentative & Alternative Communication Evaluations/Meetings	11-000-216-320-000-001 \$1,490.00 per Evaluation + meeting
MEM Education Services, LLC 22 Lord Stirling Drive, Parsippany NJ 07054	Educational Evaluations & Meetings	11-000-219-320-000-001 \$400 per Evaluation \$70 per meeting, \$20 additional over 90 min.

7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, special education placements and services as per (Attachment #7).
8. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mountainside School District hereby elects to participate in the Health Program provided by the New Jersey State Health Benefits Act of the State of New Jersey (N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.26 and N.J.S.A. 52:14-17.46.2) and to authorize coverage for employees and their dependents thereunder in accordance with the statute and regulations adopted by the State Health Benefits Commission and/or School Employees' Health Benefits Commission. This plan is effective as of January 1, 2023.

XV. Personnel

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Personnel #1-9**

Moved: Dr. Guidiciopietro Seconded: Mrs. Pupo

RC: Dillon - absent Guidiciopietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
 Ruban -yes Schiano - absent Venes -yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to appoint **Casey Johnson** to the position of Supervisor of Maintenance and Custodial Services, at an annual salary of \$85,000, prorated, effective November 15, 2022 through June 30, 2023, pending successful completion of background check and paperwork. (Attachment #8)
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of **Brittney Oliveira**, 3rd Grade Teacher, effective December 4, 2022, unless the position is filled prior to this date. (Attachment #9)

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3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Nicole Tyburski**, to the position of paraprofessional, Step 1, at a rate of \$26.05/hour, effective October 19, 2022 through December 17, 2022.
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to increase the hours for **Lisa Arroyo**, paraprofessional, by 30 minutes per day, Thursday and Friday to assist with dismissal, for the 2022-2023 school year.
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to increase the hours for **Susan Gerakaris**, paraprofessional, by 30 minutes per day, Monday through Wednesday to assist with dismissal, for the 2022-2023 school year.
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following staff for 2022-2023 School Year Stipend Positions, contingent upon student enrollment for those student activities subsidized in accordance with Board Policy 2436, Activity Participation Fee Program.

Staff Member	Position	Rate
Madison Phillips	Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach	\$2,276 (1-2 yr. rate)
Rachel Richards	*FM Math Club - Gr. 7 <i>*ARP Clubs are not part of the MEA agreement and are contingent on ARP funding</i>	\$36.00/session NTE 30 sessions
Victoria Tiscia	Set Design & Construction	40% of \$2,734=\$1,093.60 (3+ yr. rate)
Taylor Donato	Set Design & Construction	60% of \$2,471=\$1,482.60 (1-2 yr. rate)

7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Jaime Pereira**, to complete externship observation hours for course NUR 509 with Sonia Branco, as part of her masters' degree program. (Attachment #10)
8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the addition of the following to the 2022-2023 Substitute Teacher List, pending paperwork and successful criminal background check. (Attachment #11)

Name	Certification	Rate
Anna Freer	Sub Cert.	\$105/day

9. Move to approve in accordance with MBOE policy 6471, School District Travel, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the travel, professional development requests, and related expenses itemized in (Attachment #12). This travel is deemed educationally necessary and fiscally prudent, and all travel expenditures shall be directly related to and within the scope of the staff member's current responsibilities and the district's Professional Development Plan. All reimbursements shall be made in accordance with state guidelines 18A:11-12.

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XVI. Curriculum

Mr. Hyman asked about the Robotics Club, and Mrs. Walling commented that it's a well-attended club, as are all our clubs. He noted how exciting it is to watch their competition.

The following motion was not approved by roll call vote: **Curriculum #1**

Moved: Dr. Guidiciopietro Seconded: Mr. Hyman
 RC: Dillon - absent Guidiciopietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
 Ruban - yes Schiano - absent Venes -yes

Destination	Grade	Teacher in Charge	Estimated Cost
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 <i>(revised from previous approval on 8/30/22 shown below)</i>	7	Mrs. Chiappetta	Trip: \$ 696 pd. by PTO \$1,840 pd. by students Buses: \$1,224 pd. by PTO

Destination	Grade	Teacher in Charge	Estimated Cost
Camp Bernie	7	Mrs. Chiappetta	Camp: \$ 816 pd. by PTO \$1664 pd. by students Buses: \$1224 pd. by PTO

XVII. Policy

After the board discussed, they moved to table Dress and Grooming policies P 3216 & P 4216 for further review.

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Policy #1-2**

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Mr. Venes
 RC: Dillon - absent Guidiciopietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
 Ruban -yes Schiano - absent Venes -yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following for the first reading:

P 0163	Quorum	Revised
P 3270	Professional Responsibilities	Revised

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P 5512	Harassment, Intimidation, or and Bullying	Revised/Mandated
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2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following policies for the second reading and adoption:

P 2425 R 2425	Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program	Revised/Mandated New
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XVIII. Old Business - Mr. Hyman asked about the digital sign, Mrs. Walling said the latest is that delivery and installation should take place in November.

XIX. New Business - Dr. Guidici Pietro reported from town council, noting 10/22 is Clean Community Day, volunteers can meet at Borough Hall at 9 am.

XX. Committee Reports - 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.

XXI. Public Participation - 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.

XXII. Adjournment - Resolution (Attachment #1)

A motion was made by Mr. Venes at 8:17 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Pupo to adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote, 5 ayes - 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Steven Robinson
Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary