



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

NOTICE

The Special Meeting of the Mountain Lakes Board of Education will be held on
Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 9:30am at Mountain Lakes High School,
96 Powerville Road, Mountain Lakes, New Jersey

James Riley,
School Business Administrator / Board Secretary

AGENDA

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

Also present: Dr. Brad Siegel, Dr. James Riley

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

The motion was approved _____.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mountain Lakes Board of Education on this 24th day of July 2025 at _____ am 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:

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 _____ 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 _____ was made by _____ and seconded by _____.

The motion was approved _____ and the Board returned to public session at _____.

BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT / ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

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

Public comment is set aside for the Board to hear feedback and questions from members of the public. The Board will take all comments and suggestions from the public into consideration. If you have more than one question, we request that all questions are asked within the time provided, as Public Comment is not intended for back and forth dialogue. If the Board is unable to answer your question(s) at this time, we will explain when and in what format the answer(s) will be communicated.

We request that you limit your questions or comments to 3 minutes and present all questions within those 3 minutes. Please state your name and address for the record. The Board appreciates and thanks you for your attendance and participation in our meeting.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. PERSONNEL

1. Appointments / Amendments/ Resignations / Rescission / Retirements / RIF's

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										
1.	Stern, Joseph	Appointment	TCH-HS-MATH-09	Teacher	MLHS	1.0	MA+60/ Step 15	\$112,873	8/25/25 (pending certification)	6/30/26

2. Tuition Reimbursement Δ

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					
1.	VanderLaan, Brooke	LD	Missouri State University	Counseling: Deaf and Hard of Hearing /SPE 766	3
2.	VanderLaan, Brooke	LD	Missouri State University	Reading: Deaf and Hard of Hearing / SPE 765	3
3.	VanderLaan, Brooke	LD	Missouri State University	Language Development: Deaf and Hard of Hearing I /SPE 757	3
IVY H, BC, WW					
4.	Bogucz, Kelly	BC	Savannah College of Art & Design	Drawing for Illustrators/ILLU 714	5
5.	Ramirez, Justin	BC	American College of Education	Law and Policy/EL5753	3

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC

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MOTION, to leave executive session at _____ was made by _____ and seconded by _____
The motion was approved _____ and the Board returned to public session at _____.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at _____ was made by _____ and seconded by _____.

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*

2025-2026 Board Goals

Goal Statement	Goal Area
1. Expand students’ active learning in PreK-12 classrooms through effective use of small group instruction, questioning strategies, and problem-solving activities.	Ensuring success of all students Ensuring success of all staff Supporting the whole child
2. Identify, develop, and implement plans to enrich STEM learning in all four schools by enhancing facilities, resources, curricula, and experiences outside of the classroom aligned to a clearly defined district vision.	Ensuring success of all students Ensuring success of all staff Finance / infrastructure / technology Strong family / school /community partnerships
3. Increase horizontal and vertical articulation practices and outcomes among staff members in the Mountain Lakes School District and between staff members of the district and Rockaway Valley School through structured professional collaboration opportunities.	Ensuring success of all students Ensuring success of all staff Strong family / school /community partnerships
4. Review and analyze programs, models, and research related to “social-emotional learning” for the classroom and make a formal recommendation to the Board of Education for the 2026-27 school year.	Ensuring success of all students Ensuring success of all staff Supporting the whole child Strong family / school /community partnerships

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