

VII. **Correspondence** - Staff letters to the Board

VIII. **Public Participation - Agenda Items Only**

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, Public Participation in Board Meetings, in the event it appears the public comment portion of the meeting may exceed 30 minutes, the presiding officer may limit each statement made by a participant to three (3) minutes' duration.

IX. **President's Report**

X. **Superintendent's Report**

- ❖ Reporting of the ACCESS test results
- ❖ School Opening Details
- ❖ Summer Projects
- ❖ 2025 District Goals
- ❖ 2024-2029 Strategic Plan
- ❖ New Website

XI. **Business Administrator's Report**

XII. **Berkeley Heights Liaison Report**

XIII. **Administration**

Moved: _____ Seconded: _____
RC: Dillon _____ Goodwin _____ Guidiciopietro _____
Hyman _____ Pupo _____ Schiano _____ Venes _____

1. **WHEREAS**, on June 17, 2025 the Board of Education received a report from the superintendent containing the results of investigations conducted by each school regarding alleged incidents of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB); and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:37-15(b)(6)(c) states, the report also includes information on services provided, training established, discipline imposed, or other action taken or recommended by the superintendent; and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the report presented by the superintendent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education affirms that the findings of the investigation and the report comply with the district's HIB policies and procedures for the following HIB incident(s):

Cases: # 242523 and 242524

2. Move to appoint **Christopher Kinney** as the School Safety Specialist for the District.

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3. Move to appoint **Michael Marini** as the following for the District:
 - Chemical Hygiene Officer
 - AHERA Coordinator
 - Asbestos Management Officer
 - IAQ Coordinator
 - Integrated Pest Management Coordinator
 - Right to Know Contact
 - Right to Know Officer

4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Student Safety Data System Report for the 2024 - 2025 school year, which includes HIB incidents, Trainings, and Programs. (Attachment #2)

5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Board Goals for the 2025-2026 school year as follows:
 - **Goal 1:** During the 2025-2026 school year, the Mountainside Board of Education endeavors to support district administration and staff in sustaining a supportive environment that welcomes community involvement to increase collaborative efforts that will enhance the educational journeys for all of the students in the Mountainside School District.

 - **Goal 2:** During the 2025-2026 school year, the Mountainside Board of Education, utilizing the facilities audit and community input, will collaborate with Administration to create a user-friendly long range plan to advance and upgrade the facilities and fields along with reestablishing a transparent facilities usage policy that allows for adequate access to all community stakeholders.

 - **Goal 3:** During the 2025-2026 school year, the Mountainside Board of Education, using a thorough analysis of educational, financial, and operational impacts to safeguard long-term stability, will work collaboratively with its partnering district to develop a manageable, transparent, and sustainable send/receive contract that prioritizes the best interests of the Mountainside community.

6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the District Goals for the 2025-2026 school year. (Attachment #3)

7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Five-Year Curriculum Revision Cycle. (Attachment #4)

8. Motion to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following staff members to serve on the district SCIP (School Improvement Panel)/Professional Development Committee for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - Deerfield School: **Suzanne Jenks, Natalie Crisafulli, Kathy Goldbeck, Corrin Lavery**
 - Beechwood School: **Jessica Vierschilling, Katherine Blanco, Sue Goracy**

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9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the use of the Charlotte Danielson 2013 Rating System for teacher and other certificated staff evaluations for the 2025-2026 school year.
10. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the use of the "New Jersey Principal Evaluation for Professional Learning Observation Instrument" for administrative staff evaluations for the 2025-2026 school year.
11. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Student Handbooks for the 2025-2026 school year for Beechwood, Deerfield Grades 3-5 and Deerfield Grades 6-8. (Attachments 5, 6, 7)
12. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Beechwood and Deerfield Schools June and July 2025 safety and security drill reports.

XIV. Budget and Finance

Moved: _____ Seconded: _____
RC: Dillon _____ Goodwin _____ Guidici Pietro _____
Hyman _____ Pupo _____ Schiano _____ Venes _____

1. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the list of budget transfers for the month of June and July 2025. (Attachment #8)
2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill lists dated July 1, 2025, through August 19, 2025. (Attachment #9)
3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of June and July 2025 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the month of June and July 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary, Dana Sullivan, certifies that subject to the approval of budget transfers appended to these minutes, payment of the claims set forth in the accompanying bill list will not result in the over expenditure of any budget line item appropriation, as modified to date set forth in the level of detail contained in the Reports of the Board Secretary for June and July 2025:

RESOLVED THAT, the Board accepts the Treasurer Report for the month of June and July 2025 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for June and July 2025 as submitted and certified (Attachment #10).

4. **WHEREAS**, Dana Sullivan, Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, possesses a Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) certificate:

WHEREAS, the State Treasurer, in consultation with the Governor and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-7 and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (b), has increased the bid threshold amount for

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school districts with a Qualified Purchasing Agent, from \$44,000 to \$53,000, effective July 1, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mountainside Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a), establishes and sets the bid threshold amount of **\$53,000** for the school district, and further authorizes the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, the Qualified Purchasing Agent, to award contracts, in full accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a), for those purchases that do not exceed in the aggregate of the newly established bid threshold amount.

Furthermore, for contracts in the aggregate that are less than the bid threshold but fifteen (15%) or more of the amount, the Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, shall award contracts after soliciting at least two competitive quotations.

The Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-37(c), is authorized to award contracts that are in the aggregate less than fifteen (15%) percent of the bid threshold without soliciting competitive quotations.

5. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mountainside Board of Education grants approval for the Superintendent to make application for and accept subsequent receipt of the IDEA Consolidated Grants for fiscal year 2026 as follows:

IDEA Preschool	\$7,318
IDEA Basic	\$163,257

6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the acceptance of and subsequent submission of the ESEA grant application for the fiscal year 2026 as follows:

Title I	\$24,923
Title IIA	\$13,227
Title III	\$804

7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Tuition Agreement contract between Union County Vocational-Technical Schools and the Mountainside School District for the 2025-2026 school year. (Attachment #11)

8. 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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9. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, acceptance of FY25 Nonpublic School Transportation Aid in the amount of \$45,075.
 10. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the acceptance of FY25 Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$168,595.
 11. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the agreement with Golden Arrow Transportation to provide transportation for fall sports, at a rate of \$550.00 per bus. (Attachment #12)
 12. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, an agreement with G2 Athletics, LLC for an 8 session after school program for Beechwood students, to be held Sept. 11th - Nov. 20th, 2025, at a cost of \$440 as outlined under Tier 6 usage fees in district Policy 7510. (Attachment #13)
 13. Move to **rescind** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a parent transportation contract, in the amount of \$22,000 (ESY=\$4,000, RSY=\$18,000), pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A: 39.1 et seq. and N.J.A.C.6A: 27-9.9, between the Mountainside Board of Education and the parent/legal guardians of **Student #7828989571** for 25-26 ESY and Regular School Year. ***This was previously approved on 6/17/25.***
 14. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the contract renewal with Progressive Therapy of New Jersey for BCBA services, from July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026, at a rate of \$118/hr., per the following schedule:
 - ESY: not to exceed *14 hours per week from 6/30/25-7/31/25; and the
 - 2025/2026 school year: not to exceed **25 hrs./wk. 9/4/25 - 6/19/26
- *ESY hours were updated to 14 hours rather than 8 as originally approved on 6/17/25*
***RSY hours were updated to 25 hours rather than 22.5 as originally approved on 6/17/25*
15. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a professional service contract to Sarah's Spanish School for virtual spanish hybrid program - asynchronous plus 3 live classes per week at a cost of \$39,000 per semester.
 16. 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 #14). 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.
 17. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, special education placements and services as per (Attachment #15).

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18. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2025-2026 fee amounts for student activities in accordance with Board Policy 2436, Activity Participation Fee Program:

Activity	Fees*
Athletics	\$200 per student ***** \$100 for additional siblings who play during the same season
Clubs/Student Activities	\$50 per student ***** After 3 clubs- 50% off per student

*If a child is approved for Free/Reduced School Meals, the above fees will be waived.

19. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the joint transportation agreement between Garwood Public Schools and the Mountainside Board of Education for an out-of-district transportation route for the 2025-2026 school year, in the amount of \$44,000. (Attachment #15A)

XV. Personnel

Moved: _____ Seconded: _____
 RC: Dillon _____ Goodwin _____ Guidiciopietro _____
 Hyman _____ Pupo _____ Schiano _____ Venes _____

New personnel employment appointments are contingent upon the required state and federal criminal history background checks (in accordance with N.J.S.A. CH 116, P.L. 1986), required certification, and completion of employee paperwork).

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following resignations (Attachment #16):

Name	Position	Final Date of Employment
Zondria Bey	Secretary to the Principal	Effective 8/1/25
Cory Berger	5th Grade Teacher	Effective 9/29/25 <i>unless filled sooner</i>
Colleen Laurendi	4th Grade Teacher	Effective 10/10/25 <i>unless filled sooner</i>

2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of the following new hires for the 2025-2026 school year (Attachment #17):

Name	Loc.	Position	Salary/Step	Start	End
Tiffany Guzman	DF	Secretary to the Principal	\$69,904 Step 14	8/19/25	6/30/26

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			(prorated)		
Juliette Kelliher	BW/ DF	Social Worker/ Case Manager	\$69,186 MA Step 10	9/1/25	6/30/26
Edward Puchalski	DF	5th Grade Teacher	\$63,900 BA Step 9	10/15/25 <i>unless released sooner</i>	6/30/26
Gabrielle Lombardi	DF	4th Grade Teacher	\$57,000 BA Step 1	9/1/25	6/30/26
Jeni Starinsky	BW	Kindergarten Leave Replacement Teacher	\$57,000 BA Step 1-3	9/1/25	6/30/26
Maria Papparatto	BW	Lunch Aide	\$16/hour	9/4/25	6/26/26
Amarilis Alejo	DF	Part-time custodian (leave replacement)	\$19.12/hour	9/1/25	TBD
Moses Lazarre	BW/ DF	Part-time custodian (leave replacement)	\$19.12/hour	9/1/25	TBD

3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following staffing of the 2025-2026 ESY Program from June 30, 2025 through July 31, 2025, from 9:00-12:30, Mon-Thurs (no school Fridays), as detailed below:

Salary based on MEA Contract

Name	Position	Salary/Hour
Aneta Ferriere	Substitute Paraprofessional	\$28.08/hour
<i>*Irene Rigos</i>	<i>*Paraprofessional</i>	<i>*\$28.08/hour</i>

** This is a correction to the salary of \$27.34/hour as previously approved on 6/17/25*

4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2025-2026 **Substitute Teacher/Support Staff List** (Attachment #18)
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2025-2026 School Year **Stipend Positions**, contingent upon student enrollment for those student activities subsidized in accordance with Board Policy 2436, Activity Participation Fee Program. (Attachment #19)
6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Paola Conte** to assist with office duties, as needed, at a rate of \$16.00/hour during the 2025/2026 school year.
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the request for reimbursement for classes from **Jennifer Smith**, PEAK Teacher, for classes taken at TCNJ for

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the 2025 Spring/Summer Sessions for six (6) graduate credits in the amount of \$3,990. (Attachment #20)

XVI. Policy

Moved: _____ Seconded: _____
 RC: Dillon _____ Goodwin _____ Guidici Pietro _____
 Hyman _____ Pupo _____ Schiano _____ Venes _____

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

P 1620	Administrative Employment Contracts	Revised/Mandated
P & R 6111	Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program	Revised/Mandated
P 6220	Budget Preparations	Revised/Mandated

2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following regulations for the first reading and adoption:

R 5200	Attendance	Revised/Mandated
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XVII. Old Business

XVIII. New Business

XIX. Committee Reports

XX. Public Participation

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, Public Participation in Board Meetings, in the event it appears the public comment portion of the meeting may exceed 30 minutes, the presiding officer may limit each statement made by a participant to three (3) minutes' duration.

XXI. Executive Session - Resolution (Attachment #1)

Moved: _____ Seconded: _____
 RC: Dillon _____ Goodwin _____ Guidici Pietro _____
 Hyman _____ Pupo _____ Schiano _____ Venes _____

❖ Legal/Personnel

XXII. Adjournment

Moved: _____ Seconded: _____

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RC: Dillon _____ Goodwin _____ Guidici Pietro _____
Hyman _____ Pupo _____ Schiano _____ Venes _____