

**MINUTES
MOUNT ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 16, 2025**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

PRESENT: Rachel Byrne, President
Al Dcccna
Melissa Eckert
Sheila Studint, Vice President
Karl Svenningsen

ABSENT: Edwin Botero
Erika Puskas

ALSO PRESENT: Jane Mullins Jameson, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Robin C. Tedesco, Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
1 Guest

ABSENT: Joseph Coladarci, Principal
Jennifer Ochoa, Supervisor of Special Services

Board of Education President, Rachel Byrne, called the in-person meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., declared a quorum present, and read the following notices:

The Mount Arlington Board of Education is meeting for action and discussion about business before the Board of Education today.

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the public's right to have advance notice of and to attend meetings of public bodies at which business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with this Act, the Board of Education has sent notice of today's meetings and copies of the agenda to the:

Roxbury Register
Daily Record
Star Ledger
Municipal Clerk
Board of Education Members
Mount Arlington Public Schools
Mount Arlington Public Schools Website:www.mtarlingtonk8.org

Notice of today's meeting and copies of the agenda have been posted on the Mount Arlington Public Schools Website: www.mtarlingtonk8.org

All Board of Education members present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

1. None

MINUTES:

A motion was presented by Mr. Svenningsen and seconded by Mr. Decena, to approve:

1. Regular Meeting – June 11, 2025

Voice Vote:

Yes: 5

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 2

Motion Passed

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. None

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Mrs. Tedesco reviewed the motions before the Board of Education as shown on the agenda.

BUSINESS - ACTION ITEMS BY COMMITTEE - FINANCE:

A motion was presented by Mr. Decena, and seconded by Mr. Svenningsen, to approve Finance Agenda Items 071625-B-1 through 071625-B-37.

071625-B-1 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the Agency Account check register of payments from June 12, 2025 through June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$0.00.

071625-B-2 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the Art Ondish Scholarship Account check register of payments dated June 12, 2025 through June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$0.00.

0716125-B-3 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the Cafeteria Account check register of payments dated June 12, 2025 through June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$31,527.38.

071625-B-4 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the Flex Spending check register of payments dated June 12, 2025 through June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$1,956.00 Employee pulled funds out.

071625-B-5 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the General Account check register of payments dated June 12, 2025 through June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$1,351,840.92.

071625-B-6 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the General Account check register of payments dated July 1, 2025 through July 16, 2025 in the amount of \$142,774.26.

071625-B-7 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the Student Activities Account check register of payments dated June 12, 2025 through June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$3,524.45.

071625-B-8 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the Unemployment Account check register of payments dated June 12, 2025 through June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$0.00.

071625-B-9 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve the list of line item transfers for June 2025.

071625-B-10 RESOLVED, that the report of the Secretary and the related statement of cash balances for the month of June 2025 be approved by the Mount Arlington Board of Education and ordered filed, and further that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the certification of the Board Secretary for the month of June 2025 that no line-item account has encumbrances and expenditures which, in total, exceed the line appropriation of the adopted 2024-2025 budget, as revised, in accordance with N.J.S. A. 18A:17-9 and further certifies that no major account or fund has been expended in violation of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-8 or N.J.S.A. 18A:19.

071625-B-11 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve the following field trips/fundraisers for the 2025-2026 school year.

Grade	Date	Location
6th Grade	October 16, 2025	YMCA Camp Bernie

071625-B-12 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the following route and cost for ESY transportation with Sussex County Regional Cooperative, plus a 4% administrative fee for the 2025-2026 school year.

Route	Route Number	Cost (est)
P.G. Chambers	SQ-044	\$7,500.00 \$300.00
Calais School	SR-25022	\$2,201.10 \$88.05
P.G Chambers	SQ-090	\$11,085.00 \$443.40

071625-B-13 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education, upon recommendation from the School Business Administrator, approves and awards the renewal of the Food Service Management Company (FSMC) base year contract with Maschio's Food Services, Inc. for the 2025-2026 school year in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A: 18A-42. The Mount Arlington Board of Education shall pay Maschio's Food Services, Inc. an annual management fee in the amount of \$12,300. The management fee shall be payable in ten monthly installments of \$1,230.00 commencing on September 1, 2025 and ending on June 30, 2026. The Total Cost of the Contract is \$181,761.63.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Maschio's Food Services, Inc. guarantees a no cost or breakeven food service operation, including the management fee. In the event that program costs exceed total revenue (from all sources), Maschio's Food Services, Inc. shall be responsible for any losses (shortfalls) incurred.

071625-B-14 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the following prices for student lunches for the 2025-2026 school year as allowed by the National School Lunch Program.

Edith M. Decker School: \$4.00

Mount Arlington Public School: \$4.00

071625-B-15 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approves the 2025-2026 Mount Arlington Public School District official price list for the 2025-2026 school year as allowed by the National School Lunch Program.

	Full-Price	Reduced Price
Breakfast	\$2.50	\$0.00
Milk	\$0.80	
Decker Student Lunch	\$4.00	\$0.00
MAPS Student Lunch	\$4.00	\$0.00
Adult Breakfast	\$3.00	
Adult Lunch	\$4.50	

071625-B-16 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve the allocation of salaries to the High Impact Tutoring Grant in the amount of \$11,186.16 as follows:

J. Bacinsky	\$836.76
Danielle Brinkofski	\$968.88
C. Buckley	\$1,541.40
Heleine Gonzalez	\$1,497.36
Stephanie Guida	\$1,012.92
Megan Hahn	\$1,717.56
Cortney Polania	\$616.56
Marlen Tomosieski	\$1,321.20
Diane Van Dongen	\$1,233.12

Elizabeth Wassel	\$440.40
------------------	----------

071625-B-17 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the following substitute teacher daily (full day) rate of pay \$125.00 effective September 1, 2025.

071625-B-18 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the substitute nurse daily (full day) rate of pay of \$200.00, effective September 1, 2025.

071625-B-19 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the substitute custodian hourly rate of \$16.00 effective July 1, 2025.

071625-B-20 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the substitute secretary hourly rate of pay of \$16.00, effective September 1, 2025.

071625-B-21 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the substitute aide hourly rate of pay of \$16.00, effective September 1, 2025.

071625-B-22 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve payment of the 2025-2026 Annual School Board Membership to the New Jersey School Boards Association in the amount of \$6,365.20.

071625-B-23 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves that all district employees who become eligible for medical benefits are to be offered participation in the New Jersey State Health Program, pursuant to 2020 S-2273/A-20, as of the 2025-2026 school year.

071625-B-24 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the transfer of any residual year end balances in the Student Activities Sub-Accounts to the "Mt. Arlington SA Sub-Account." The Mt. Arlington SA Sub-Account will be used to balance unexpected Student Activity shortfalls and to fund trips and activities for students with financial need.

071625-B-25 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approves that all checks, drafts or other orders for payment or withdrawal of money from said account be signed by the person holding the appropriate title as listed below (N.J.S.A. 18A:19-1) for the 2025-2026 school year:

ACCOUNT	SIGNATURE	BANK	Account #
General Operating Account	1 of President & 1 of Vice-President 1 of Board Secretary	Fulton Bank	#####2192
Cafeteria Account	1 of Board Secretary or 1 of Board President	Fulton Bank	#####5872
Unemployment Trust Account	1 of Board Secretary or 1 of Board President	Fulton Bank	#####2265
Payroll Agency Account	1 of Board Secretary or 1 of Board President	Fulton Bank	#####5863
Payroll Account	1 of Board Secretary or 1 of Board President	Fulton Bank	#####0773
Student Activities Account	1 of Board Secretary & 1 Board President or 1 of Vice-President	Fulton Bank	#####5881
Flex Spending Account	1 of Board Secretary or 1 of Board President	Fulton Bank	#####5723
Scholarship Account	1 of Board Secretary or 1 of Board President	Fulton Bank	#####0830

071625-B-26 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the following special education tuition contract for the school year 2024-2025:

Student ID	Attending	Date	# of days	Tuition	Aide Support	Other
11534	Roxbury High School Summit	5/19/25-6/30/25	20	\$3,161.40	N/A	\$220.00

071625-B-27 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve the following associated costs for an evaluation provided by Dr. Lori Hanes & Associates as follows for the school year 2024-2025:

Service	Total Cost
Bilingual Psychological Evaluation	\$545.00

071625-B-28 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve a contract with Hand Over Hand to provide Applied Behavior Analysis services for the 2024-2025 school year as follows:

Student ID	Contract	Date	Number of Hours	Cost per School Year
11531	Hand Over Hand	2/10/25-6/30/25	ABA Therapy: Up to 6 hours monthly BCBA Supervision: Up to 3 hours monthly	Not to exceed \$4,650.00

071625-B-29 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve the following associated costs for evaluations provided by Dr. Lori Hanes & Associates as follows for the school year 2024-2025:

Service	Total Cost
---------	------------

Bilingual Educational Evaluation	\$560.00
Bilingual Speech and Language Evaluation	\$560.00
Bilingual Social History	\$560.00

071625-B-30 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the following special summer education program as follows:

Student ID	Attending	Date	# of days	Tuition	Aide Support	Other
11534	Roxbury High School Summit	6/30/25-7/31/25	20	\$3,328.80	N/A	\$275.00

071625-B-31 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve the following special education tuition contracts for the school year 2025-2026:

Student ID	Attending	Date	# of days	Tuition	Aide Support	Other
11321	Roxbury High School Summit	8/28/25-6/30/26	180	\$29,959.00	N/A	\$1,155.00
99999	The Craig School	9/2/25-6/30/26	172	\$65,000.00	N/A	N/A
11741	The Calais School	7/7/25-6/30/26	210	\$91,572.60	\$52,500.00	N/A

071625-B-32 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve a contract with Hand Over Hand to provide Applied Behavior Analysis services for the 2025-2026 school year as follows:

Student ID	Contract	Date	Number of Hours	Cost per School Year
11531	Hand Over Hand	7/1/25-6/30/26	ABA Therapy: Up to 6 hours monthly BCBA Supervision: Up to 3 hours monthly	Not to exceed \$11,160.00

071625-B-33 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the following 2025-2026 related service providers and their associated costs provided by P.G. Chambers School as follows:

Related Service	PG Chambers Rate	Dates
Occupational Therapy	\$107.00/hour \$610.00 per evaluation	9/5/25-6/24/26
Physical Therapy	\$107.00/hour \$610.00 per evaluation	9/5/25-6/24/26

071625-B-34 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve a proposal of request to the Morris County Office of Education to establish a learning/language disabilities special education program at the Edith M. Decker School.

071625-B-35 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the following special education service from the New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired for the 2025-2026 school year:

Student ID	Service Level	Date	Cost
11609	Education Level 1	9/1/25-6/30/26	\$2,541.00

071625-B-36 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the following special education tuition contract for the school year 2025/2026:

Student ID	Attending	Date	# of days	Tuition	Aide Support	Other
1153	Mary A. Dobbins School	7/7/25-6/30/26	210	\$100,161.60	N/A	N/A

071625-B-37 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the allocation and submission of the IDEA Basic and Preschool grant application for FY26 to the New Jersey Department of Education:

The amount for each grant is as follows:

IDEA Basic:	\$118,472
IDEA Preschool	\$ 4,474

Roll Call:

<i>Mr. Botero</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Mrs. Byrne</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Decena</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Eckert</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Puskas</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Mrs. Studint</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Svenningsen</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion Passes

PERSONNEL:

A motion was presented by Mrs. Eckert, and seconded by Mr. Svenningsen, to approve Curriculum/Policy Agenda Items 071625-S-1 through 071625-S-9.

071625-S-1 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolve to recognize the extraordinary effort put forth by the following personnel during this time of transition:

Patricia Pickens	Barbara Caggiano	Justin Pickens
------------------	------------------	----------------

071625-S-2 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolved to approve the

addition of Brooke Ortiz to our list of substitute aides for the 2025-2026 school year. (Note: State approved background check already on file)

071625-S-3 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolved to approve Jill Bacinsky and Stephanie Guida to provide home instruction for a student requiring such services between July 7, 2025-August 12, 2025 (excluding July 21, 2025-July 25, 2025) up to 10 hours per week at a rate of \$44.04 per hour. Total time not to exceed 44 hours inclusive.

071625-S-4 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolved to approve the following part-time Instructional Aides for the 2025-2026 school year effective September 2, 2025-June 30, 2026 (Note: Appointments are based upon receipt of State approved background checks).

Instructional Aide	25-26 rate of pay
Maria Patinomontoya	\$16.00 per hour
Valerie Gideon	\$16.00 per hour

071625-S-5 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolved to amend motion 061125-S-3 (Instructional Aide appointments) and approve Amelia-Ruth McInerney as a part-time Registered Behavior Technician for the 2025-2026 school year effective September 2, 2025-June 30, 2026 at a rate of \$25.00 per hour. (State approved background check already on file).

071625-S-6 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolved to approve the appointment of Jill Jacobsen, Confidential Main Office/Principal's secretary for the 2025-2026 school year effective on or about August 18, 2025, or sooner, based upon release from her current contractual obligations at an annual salary of \$53,000. All Terms and Conditions of the contract on file in the Board of Education Office. (Note: Approval based upon receipt of State approved background check as required by law)

071625-S-7 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolved to approve a stipend for Justin Pickens at a rate of 3% of his monthly base salary (2025-2026 school year) for additional work to oversee facilities projects, maintenance and custodial schedules commencing July 1, 2025 through August 31, 2025. (or until a permanent replacement is appointed)

071625-S-8 RESOLVED that in accordance with the Interim Superintendent’s recommendation, the individual as listed below be approved as an Anti-Bullying Specialist for the Mount Arlington School District for the 2025-2026 school year.

The School Anti-Bullying Specialist shall:

1. Chair the School Safety Team as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-21;
2. Lead the investigation of incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying in the school; and
3. Act as the primary school official responsible for preventing, identifying, and addressing incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying in the school.

Name	School
Anne Dean	Edith M. Decker School
Anne Dean	Mount Arlington School

071625-S-9 RESOLVED, that in accordance with the Superintendent’s recommendation, the individual as listed below be approved as an Anti-Bullying Coordinator for the Mount Arlington School District for the 2025-2026 school yea

The District Anti-Bullying Coordinator shall:

1. Be responsible for coordinating and strengthening the school district’s policies to prevent identify, and address harassment, intimidation, or bullying of pupils;
2. Collaborate with School Anti-Bullying Specialist(s) in the district, the Board of Education, and the Superintendent to prevent, identify, and respond to harassment, intimidation, or bullying of pupils in the district;
3. Provide data, in collaboration with the Superintendent, to the Department of Education regarding harassment, intimidation, or bullying of pupils;
4. Execute such other duties related to school harassment, intimidation, or bullying as requested by the Superintendent; and
5. Meet at least twice a school year with the school Anti-Bullying Specialist(s) to discuss and strengthen procedures and policies to prevent, identify, and address harassment, intimidation, and bullying in the district.

Name	District
Joe Coladarci	Mount Arlington School District

Roll Call:

<i>Mr. Botero</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Mrs. Byrne</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Decena</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Eckert</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Puskas</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Mrs. Studint</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Svenningsen</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion Passes

CURRICULUM/POLICY

A motion was presented by Mr. Svenningsen, and seconded by Mrs. Studint, to approve Curriculum/Policy Agenda Items 071625-S-10 through 071625-S-11.

071625-S-10 RESOLVED to approve Joe Coladarci, Affirmative Action Officer for the 2025-26 school year to be submitted to the county office (this motion amends motion 021925-S-3 as per county office request).

071625-S-11 RESOLVED to approve the affirmative action team to do a needs assessment and develop the Comprehensive Equity Plan for School Years 2025-2028 to be submitted to the county office. (this motion amends motion 021925-S-3 as per county office request).

- Staff attendance for June, 2025 was 93.2%
- Student attendance for June, 2025 was as follows:
Decker 94.9% MAPS 94.1%

Roll Call:

<i>Mr. Botero</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Mrs. Byrne</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Decena</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Eckert</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Puskas</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Mrs. Studint</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Svenningsen</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion Passes

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Finance:

- No Report

B. Personnel:

- No Report

C. Building and Grounds:

- No Report
- Mr. Decena asked that a B&G committee meeting be set up sometime in August 2025.

D. Curriculum and Policy:

- No Report

E. Negotiations:

- No Report.

F. Town Council:

- Joseph Memorial Scholarship:
 - The Police department awarded the Joseph Wargo Memorial Scholarship to 2 Roxbury High School graduates who were former Mt. Arlington students. Congratulations to Brady Bisson and Anya Delapena.
- Rainwater Grant
 - The Rainwater Grant is being worked on for both the schools and the town. The grant will establish a rainwater garden at both schools and other crucial places around town.
- Summer Concert Series:
 - July 24, 2025, is the next concert at Memorial Beach from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- Mobile NJ MVC:
 - The Mobile NJ MVC unit is coming on August 29, 2025. Appointments are limited. Please contact Ashley Todd at Town Hall to schedule all appointments.

G. Parent Teachers Organization:

- The PTO is looking forward to welcoming the new kindergarteners at orientation at the end of August.

OTHER REPORTS:

Roxbury BOE:

- There was a presentation highlighting the results of the Spring 2025 New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment.
- Roxbury School District will be reapplying for the Pre-K program. The application for submittal is August 21, 2025.
- The Assistant Business Administrator, Kathy Kolbusch, resigned. She will now be the Business Administrator for the High Point School District.
- There was a lengthy debate around a Board Member request to place “Gender Queer” behind the desk in the media center at RHS.

- The next Roxbury Board of Education meeting is tonight, July 16, 2025. It will be the board's retreat.

Delegate to NJ School Board Association:

- No Report

Delegate to Morris County School Board Association:

- No Report

Delegate to Educational Service Commission of Morris County:

- No Report

OLD BUSINESS:

- The school will be offering a Referendum to aid in future school funding. It will be imperative to obtain community support.

NEW BUSINESS:

- President Byrne welcomed Jane Jameson and Robin Tedesco back to the district. Dr. Jameson will be walking around the buildings with Mrs. Tedesco, Mr. Pickens and the district architect, Mr. Gianforcaro, later in the week.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

1. The Town Council representative welcomed Dr. Jameson and Mrs. Tedesco back to the district.

CLOSED SESSION I:

A motion was presented by Mr. Svenningsen, and seconded by Mrs. Studint, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education move to Closed Session at 7:29 P.M., to address Personnel and Legal issues. Action will follow.

Voice Vote:

Yes: 5

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 2

Motion Passes

WHEREAS the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A.10:4-1 et seq.) expressly provide that a public body may move into Closed Session and exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the public body discusses any of the nine areas set forth in N.J.S.A.10:4-12b; and

WHEREAS, the Mount Arlington Board of Education has determined it necessary to move to Closed Session to discuss personnel and legal matters, which are included in the aforesaid exceptions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mount Arlington Board of Education that it does hereby move into Closed Session pursuant to N.J.S.A.10:4-12b to discuss the aforesaid matters with a related action to follow, and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the aforesaid discussions shall be made public either at the Public Meeting following said Closed Session or at such time as any litigated personnel matters are concluded, or upon conclusion of any negotiations or discussions; or as otherwise specified; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect pursuant to law.

A motion was presented by Mrs. Eckert, and seconded by Mr. Svenningsen, that the meeting returned to Open Session at 8:15 P.M.

Voice Vote:

Yes: 5

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 2

Motion Passes

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was presented by Mr. Svenningsen, and seconded by Mrs. Eckert, that the Regular meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously carried at 8:15 P.M.

Voice Vote:

Yes: 5

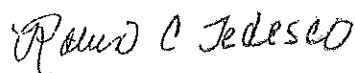
No: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 2

Motion Passed

Respectfully Submitted,



Mrs. Robin C. Tedesco
Interim School Business Administrator/Board of Education Secretary

Approved: