

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**

**March 22, 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 6:10 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

At roll call, the following members were present:

- Mr. Bill Dillon
- Dr. Dana Guidiciopietro
- Mr. Jordan Hyman
- Mrs. Vivian Pupo
- Mr. James Ruban, Jr.
- Mrs. Candice Schiano
- Mr. Carmine Venes

Also present were Janet Walling, Superintendent of Schools, and Steven Robinson, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

**III. Executive Session - Resolution (Attachment #1)**

Moved:	<u>Mrs. Pupo</u>	Seconded:	<u>Mr. Dillon</u>
RC:	Dillon - yes	Guidiciopietro - yes	Hyman - yes Pupo - yes
	Ruban -yes	Schiano - yes	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/Personnel matters

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 6:11 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: Mr. Hyman                      Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro  
RC:            Dillon - yes                      Guidici Pietro - yes    Hyman - yes    Pupo - yes  
                  Ruban -yes                      Schiano - yes            Venes -yes

The public meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

### V. Flag Salute

### VI. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Mr. Venes                      Seconded: Dr. Guidici Pietro  
RC:            Dillon -yes                      Guidici Pietro - yes    Hyman - yes    Pupo - yes  
                  Ruban -yes                      Schiano - yes            Venes -yes

- ❖ Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 15, 2022
- ❖ Minutes of the Executive Session of February 15, 2022
- ❖ Minutes of the 2nd Executive Session of February 15, 2022

### VII. Correspondence - none

### VIII. Public Participation - none

### IX. President's Report - none

X. Superintendent's Report - Mrs. Walling congratulated participants of the SpongeBob school play and board members commented on the performance, and how nice that senior citizens came to see the show and older students assisted. Mrs. Walling congratulated the PTO Science Fair winners, participants, and volunteers. She congratulated Sophia Huang, for placing 3rd at the district level of Patriot's Pen essay contest. Mrs. Walling commented on the successful PD Workshops that teachers attended on 3/21. She noted there has been no increase of COVID cases since implementing optional masking. Next steps will be to update recess and cafeteria protocols, and to plan additional events later in the school year.

XI. Business Administrator's Report - Mr. Robinson introduced the auditor, who presented a positive report to the board. Mr. Robinson and Mrs. Walling shared the budget presentation, answered various board members' questions, and reviewed the timeline on the remaining steps to finalize the budget.

XII. Berkeley Heights Liaison Report - Mr. Hyman noted there were 2 meetings since his last report. Updates from 3/10 included: the traditional Thanksgiving football game moving to Labor Day weekend for a 2 year trial; Math & Robotics Team events; Doctors Without Borders fundraiser for Ukraine; Several winter sports highlights; statistics shared that 1/3 choose to remain masked in BH; information on mid-year review and strategic goals. GL will be moving from Ipads to

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Chromebooks, there was a report of spending of Covid funds, and the Hilltop Players will perform on 3/24. From the 3/17 meeting, they approved the tentative budget, including Wifi upgrade, discussed a new DEI plan, various winter sports accomplishments, a presentation on STEAM and related programs, and the GL Environmental Club reported savings from lighting and solar sustainability projects.

### XIII. Administration

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

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

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Beechwood and Deerfield Schools February 2022 safety and security drill reports. (Attachment #2)

### XIV. Budget and Finance

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Budget and Finance #1-10**

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

1. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the list of budget transfers for the month of February 2022 (Attachment #3).
2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill list dated February 27, 2022, through March 23, 2022 (Attachment #4).
3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of February 2022 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the month of February 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board Secretary, Steven Robinson, 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 February 2022:

the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of February 2022 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for February 2022 as submitted and certified. (Attachment #5)

4. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Mountainside Board of Education, accepts the FY 2020-2021 audit, and approves the submission of the CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) as presented by the firm of Hodulik & Morrison, P.A., a division of PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP.

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5. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the tentative budget be approved for the 2022-2023 school year and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>SPECIAL REVENUES</b>	<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>2022-23 Total Expenditures</b>	\$19,833,280	\$223,013	\$1,590,602	\$21,646,895
<b>Less: Anticipated Revenues</b>	\$2,192,797	\$223,013	\$448,072	\$2,863,882
<b>Taxes to Be Raised</b>	\$17,640,483	\$0	\$1,142,530	\$18,783,013

And to advertise said tentative budget in the Westfield Leader in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that included in this budget, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, the maximum travel expenditure amount shall be set at \$22,000.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a public hearing be held at the Deerfield School Gym, Mountainside, New Jersey, on April 26, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2022-2023 school year.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mountainside Board of Education authorize the approval of withdrawal from tuition reserve in the amount of \$201,317 for the purpose of 2022-2023 tuition expenditures, and the withdrawal of \$60,000 from capital reserves for the purpose of 2022-2023 capital expenditures.

6. Move to approve Dr. L. Hanes and Associates as a contracted service provider to provide supplemental home instruction services for Mountainside students on an as needed basis at a rate of \$75/hour. (Attachment #6)
7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Dr. Ronald M. Frank, MD FAAFP, to provide School Physician Services, in the amount \$2,250 (no increase), for the 2022-2023 school year. (Attachment #7)
8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the agreement with Golden Arrow Bus Company to provide transportation for spring sports, at a rate of \$525.00 per bus for the first 3 hours, with no additional fees for overtime.
9. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Mountainside Board of Education set the annual fee for Subscription Busing for SY 2022-2023 at \$600.
10. Move to approve in accordance with MBOE policy 6471, School District Travel, and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the travel and related expenses itemized in (Attachment #8). This travel is deemed educationally necessary and fiscally prudent, and all travel

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expenditures shall be directly related to and within the scope of the staff member's current responsibilities and the district's Professional Development Plan.

**XV. Personnel**

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Personnel #1-7**

Moved: Dr. Guidici Pietro      Seconded: Mr. Hyman  
 RC:      Dillon - yes      Guidici Pietro - yes      Hyman - yes      Pupo - yes  
             Ruban -yes      Schiano - yes      Venes -yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of **Stanislaw Sieczkowski**, custodian, effective July 1, 2022, and thank him for his hard work and dedication to the Mountainside School District for over 27 years. (Attachment #9)
2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of **Ashley Roberts**, Special Education Teacher, effective March 10, 2022. (Attachment #10)
3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Kirsten Post**, to the position of 4th Grade Leave Replacement, at the per diem rate of \$185, effective May 18, 2022, through June 21 2022.
4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to add **Michelle Cruz** to the list of teachers to provide before/after school instruction for students through the use of ARP Comprehensive Beyond the School Day Activities Grant funds, at the rate of \$43.29/hour.
5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the addition of the following to the Substitute Teacher List for 2021-2022 school year, pending paperwork and successful criminal background check. (Attachment #11)

<b>Thomas Hannan</b>	<b>Renata Kulka</b>	<b>Christine O'Grady</b>
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6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Child Study Team Staffing effective June 22, 2022 to August 31, 2022.

Name	Assignment	Rate <i>*All appropriate changes will be made upon ratification of the agreement between the MEA and the BOE</i>	Not to Exceed
Eileen D'Antonio	School Social Worker (for meetings/evaluations)	* \$43.29/hour	NTE 50 hours
Amanda Somers-Guerrasio	School Psychologist (for meetings/evaluations)	* \$43.29/hour	NTE 50 hours

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Andrea Legiadre	LDT-C (for meetings/evaluations)	* \$43.29/hour	NTE 50 hours
Leila Morrelli	Speech & Language Specialist	* \$43.29/hour	NTE 50 hours
Janelle Lauterbach	General Ed. Teachers (for meetings)	* \$43.29/hour	Per meeting

7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following staffing of the 2022-2023 ESY Program from July 5, 2022 through August 4, 2022, Mondays through Thursdays from 9:00-12:30, as detailed below:

**2022- 2023 ESY July 5th – August 4th, 2022**  
 \*no school July 4th & no school on Fridays\*  
 Salary based on MEA staff contract

*\*All appropriate changes will be made upon ratification of the agreement  
between the MEA and the BOE*

**ESY Nurse:**

Lisa Bruno	School Nurse	* \$43.29/hour
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**ESY Special Education Teachers:**

Name	Position	Salary/Hour
Holly Ambrose	Special Education Teacher	* \$43.29/hour
Dayna Carroll	Special Education Teacher	* \$43.29/hour
Desiree Ganz	Special Education Teacher	* \$43.29/hour
Laurie Naftulin	Special Education Teacher	* \$43.29/hour
Rosemarie Sardina	Special Education Teacher	* \$43.29/hour

**Paraprofessionals:**

Name	Position	Salary/Hour
Elizabeth Carpenter	Paraprofessional	*\$25.03/hour
Carmine Ann Casolaro	Paraprofessional	*\$26.11/hour
Nicole Ellis	Paraprofessional	*\$26.11/hour
Marilyn Nacci	Paraprofessional	*\$26.11/hour

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Michele Saltalamacchia	Paraprofessional	*\$25.03/hour
Lydra Shehu	Paraprofessional	*\$25.03/hour
Sandra Vendas	Paraprofessional	*\$26.11/hour
Maria DeAnna	Substitute Paraprofessional	*\$26.11/hour

**XV. Curriculum**

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Curriculum #1**

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

Date	Destination	Grade	Teacher in Charge	Estimated Cost
5/5/22- 5/6/22	Washington, D.C.	8	B. Young	\$47,525 total: -\$9,000 paid by BOE -\$3,040 paid by PTO -\$28,500 paid by students -\$7,500 Student Activities
5/3/22	Somerset Patriots Stadium	5	N. Kinney	Paid in full by D.A.R.E.
5/20/22	Union County Teen Arts at Trailside Nature & Science Center	6-8	V. Tiscia	\$350.00 total: -Bus paid by BOE
6/3/22	Dorney Park "Music in the Parks"	6-8	J. Rosenblum/ T. Wise	<u>Bus:</u> -\$2,200 bus paid by MEF -\$2,358 paid by students <u>Trip:</u> -\$3,687 paid by students -\$780 paid by/for parents
6/9/22	Trailside Nature & Science Center	5	N. Kinney	\$1,260 - paid by PTO

**XVI. Policy**

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

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



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**XXII. Executive Session**

Moved: Dr. Guidici Pietro                      Seconded: Mrs. Pupo  
RC:                      Dillon - yes                      Guidici Pietro - yes                      Hyman - yes                      Pupo - yes  
   Ruban -yes                      Schiano - yes                      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/Personnel

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 9:15 p.m. to discuss the above mentioned matter to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed may or may not be made public this evening. No further action will be taken.

**XXIII. Close Executive Session and Adjournment**

A motion was made by Dr. Guidici Pietro at 9:15 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Pupo to adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote, 7 ayes - 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Robinson  
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary