# 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 6:30 p.m.

#### II. Roll Call

At roll call, the following members were present:

Mr. Bill Dillon

Dr. Dana Guidicipietro

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 Michael Falkowski, Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

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

Moved: Dr. Guidicipietro Seconded: Mrs. Schiano

RC: Dillon - yes Guidicipietro - 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. Berkeley Heights Tuition Audit
- 2. Student Tuition Request

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 6:32 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. If an action results, it will be taken following reentry into regular session.

#### IV. Close Executive Session and Reconvene Public Session

Moved: Mr. Ruban Seconded: Mrs. Pupo

RC: Dillon - yes Guidicipietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes

Ruban -yes Schiano - yes Venes -yes

The public meeting reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

#### V. Flag Salute

#### VI. Approval of Minutes

Moved: Dr. Guidicipietro Seconded: Mrs. Pupo

RC: Dillon -yes Guidicipietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes

Ruban -yes Schiano - yes Venes -yes

- ❖ Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 19, 2021
- ❖ Minutes of the Executive Session of October 19, 2021
- VII. Correspondence none
- VIII. <u>Public Participation</u> none
  - IX. <u>President's Report</u> none
  - X. <u>Superintendent's Report</u> Mrs. Walling presented a slideshow highlighting our Veteran's Day celebration, Patriot's Pen Essay winners, & Red Ribbon Week Poster Contest winner. Some of the winners were present and were given a certificate of congratulations. She also mentioned Educational Support Staff Appreciation Week, thanking the staff in Beechwood & Deerfield. She congratulated Mr. Hyman & Mrs. Schiano on winning re-election to the Board of Education for another term and thanked them for their service as board members. Mrs. Walling commented on the success of parent/teacher conferences held both in-person and remotely. The upcoming Family Reading Night, hosted by the MEA, will raise funds to support scholarships. She noted she is working on an ARP (American Recovery Plan) Grant, and gave examples of areas where funds can be used. Surveys were sent to staff and the community to access what areas they felt were most/least important to apply this grant money towards. Mr. Hyman asked about Start Strong testing and what we are doing with results. Mrs. Walling responded on how the school is addressing any areas needing improvement.
  - **XI.** <u>Business Administrator's Report</u> Mr. Falkowski gave an update on the Bond Refunding. It restarted but was again put on hold again when rates came down. He also provided key dates in the upcoming budget process.

XII. <u>Berkeley Heights Liaison Report</u> - Mr. Hyman reported from the Nov. 11th meeting where they discussed the following: Girls Volleyball Team's success; a Wellness Fair; test scores will be released in Dec.; Berkeley Heights is restarting zoom access for Board of Education meetings; there was a lengthy debate about busing; Governor Livingston is having it's school play this weekend; the next meeting will be on December 9th.

#### XIII. Administration

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: Administration #1-4

Moved: Mr. Venes Seconded: Dr. Guidicipietro

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 School Safety and Security Plan Annual Review Statement of Assurance (Attachment #2).
- 2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the 2021-2022 Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist Statement of Assurance for Beechwood and Deerfield Schools. (Attachment #3).
- 3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials.
- 4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Beechwood and Deerfield Schools October 2021 safety and security drill reports. (Attachment #4)

#### XIV. Budget and Finance

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Budget and Finance #1-7** 

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Dr. Guidicipietro

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 October 2021. (Attachment #5)
- 2. **RESOLVED THAT**, the Board approve the payment of the bill list dated October 21, 2021, through November 17, 2021. (Attachment #6)
- 3. **WHEREAS**, the Board has received the Financial Reports of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of October 2021 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for the month of October 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Interim Board Secretary, Michael Falkowski, 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 October 2021:

**RESOLVED THAT**, the Board accepts the Treasurer Report for the month of October 2021 and the Financial Reports of the Board Secretary for October 2021 as submitted and certified. (Attachment #7)

- 4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Student Activity Accounts Manual. (Attachment #8)
- 5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, an agreement with Golden Arrow Transportation to provide transportation for the basketball season, at a rate of \$475.00 per bus.
- 6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the cooperative agreement between the Mountainside Board of Education and Berkeley Heights for a middle school wrestling program. (Attachment #9)
- 7. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board shall provide educational programming through LearnWell Education at a rate of \$52 an hour, for student #3691479251, to be provided as per received agreement.

#### XV. Personnel

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Personnel #1-8** 

Moved: Mr. Hyman Seconded: Mrs. Schiano

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 rate increase for substitutes, to be paid at the following rates as follows:
  - \$105/day with only a substitute certification
  - \$115/day with a college degree & substitute certification
  - \$125/day with a teacher certification
- 2. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Maternity Disability Leave for **Caitlin Sluberski**, 1st Grade Teacher, effective January 18, 2022, until March 18, 2022. She will be permitted to utilize any accumulated sick days. It is also recommended that Ms. Sluberski be granted unpaid Family Leave from March 21, 2022, until June 21, 2022 in accordance with FMLA and NJFLA. Ms. Sluberski anticipates returning to work January 9, 2023. (Attachment #10)
- 3. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to appoint **Cory Berger**, to the position of Boys' Assistant Basketball Coach, for the 2021-2022 season, at the stipend rate of \$2,276.
- 4. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Carmela** (**Lina**) **Bove**, as a Lunch Aide, pending paperwork and successful criminal background check, and

**Diane Gruszecki**, as a substitute Lunch Aide for the 2021-2022 school year at a rate of \$14/hour. (Attachment #11)

- 5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the addition of **Patrick Wenz** to the 2021-2022 Substitute Teacher List, pending paperwork and successful criminal background check. (Attachment #12)
- 6. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the attached list of volunteers to assist with the school musical for the 2021-2022 school year.(Attachment #13)
- 7. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to revise the personnel item #5 resolution below from July 27, 2021:
  - 5. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, 2021-2022 ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) Title I Personnel:

Name	Salary	ESEA Title I	Approximate % of Salary	Approximate Benefits
K. Elliot	\$27,267.00	\$21,616.00	79%	\$9,727.00
D. Carroll	\$28,510.00	\$21,616.00	76%	\$9,727.00

And update it to reflect the following:

Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, 2021-2022 ESEA (Elementary and Secondary Education Act) Title I Personnel:

Name	Salary	ESEA Title I	Approximate % of Salary	Approximate Benefits
D. Carroll	\$42,778.00	\$42,778.00	100%	\$19,454.00

8. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, **Janine Cardone** for virtual instruction due to quarantine as needed throughout the 2021-2022 school year, at the rate of \$43.29/hour.

#### XVI. <u>Curriculum</u>

Mr. Hyman expressed his disappointment that the Broadway trip was changed. Mrs. Walling explained the rationale, that due to vaccination requirements in NYC, she wanted all students to be eligible to participate. Mr. Ruban supported the change. Other board members commented on school activities.

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

Moved: Mr. Dillon Seconded: Mrs. Schiano

RC: Dillon - yes Guidicipietro - yes Hyman - no Pupo - yes

Ruban -yes Schiano - yes Venes -yes

1. Move to approve upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following field trip for the 2021-2022 school year, pending any adjustments due to health and safety guidelines. This trip will replace the Broadway trip that was previously approved on October 19, 2021.

Date	Destination	Grade	Teacher in Charge	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
6/16/2022	Papermill Playhouse	8	Rosenblum	Paid by Students

#### XVII. Policy

Mr. Ruban commented that Grades 9-12 should not be in our policies.

The following motions were approved by roll call vote: **Policy #1**Moved: Mr. Venes Seconded: Dr. Guidicipietro

RC: Dillon -yes Guidicipietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes

Ruban -no Schiano - yes Venes -yes

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

P 2422	Comprehensive Health and Physical Education	Revised/Mandated
P 8550	Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Services Bill	Revised/Mandated
P 8600	Student Transportation	Revised/Mandated

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

Moved: <u>Dr. Guidicipietro</u> Seconded: <u>Mr. Hyman</u>

RC: Dillon -yes Guidicipietro - yes Hyman - yes Pupo - yes

Ruban -yes Schiano - yes Venes -yes

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

P 2425	Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program	New/Mandated
P 2467	Surrogate Parents and Resource Family Parents	Revised/Mandated
P 5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students	Revised/Mandated
P 8420	Emergency and Crisis Situations	Revised/Mandated
R 8420.1	Fire and Fire Drills	Revised/Mandated
P 8540	School Nutrition Programs	Revised/Mandated

#### XVIII. Old Business - none

XIX. New Business - Mrs. Schiano asked about middle school lockers, Mrs. Walling will follow up with the principal. Dr. Guidicipietro said PTO will have the Holiday Shoppe for Beechwood. Mrs. Pupo thanked PTO for a successful Trunk or Treat. She also mentioned the library book sale is this weekend. Mr. Venes complimented the district on the Veteran's Day event. Mr. Dillon attended the PTO parent night, and felt the Rutgers Behavioral Health presentation was well done and asked if they would provide additional presentations for parents.

- XX. <u>Committee Reports</u> none
- XXI. <u>Public Participation</u> none

### XXII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Dr. Guidicipietro at 8:55 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Pupo to adjourn. The motion was passed by unanimous voice vote, 7 ayes - 0 nays.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Michael Falkowski Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary