

MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday, March 12, 2007

A Regular Meeting of the Mountain Lakes Borough Board of Education was held on Monday, March 12, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mountain Lakes High School.

Daniel A. Borgo
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Boertzel
 Mrs. Brennan
 Mrs. Dawson
 Mr. Gniewek
 Mrs. McCusker
 Mr. Munday
 Mr. Stokes
 Mrs. Wall
 Ms. Wolfe
 Mrs. Lio, Boonton Township Representative

Also present: Dr. Kazmark, Superintendent, Amal Hussein, MLEA President, and members of the public.

STATEMENT OF NOTICE

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure 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 Citizen of Morris County and the Morris County Daily Record.

PRESENTATION

Dr. Kazmark reviewed the proposed calendar for the 2007-2008 school year for which a motion is being presented this evening. He said this is a “normal” calendar as compared to the special circumstances that have been reflected in the calendar for the past few years.

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Mrs. McCusker expressed the Board's appreciation for the understanding and flexibility on the part of the faculty with respect to the calendar in the past three years.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MLEA PRESIDENT

Amal Hussein thanked the Board for working with the MLEA on the calendar and for listening to their comments and concerns.

Ms. Hussein requested that she be provided with copies of the Executive Minutes that will be approved for release to the public tonight.

Ms. Hussein advised that the negotiating team feels that it has come to a satisfactory resolution of the curriculum writing issue.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Dooley Glander, representing the ice hockey team, asked the Board to consider a proposal that would allow skaters from Boonton to participate in the high school ice hockey program. This type of arrangement exists in other school districts and would not result in any increased costs to Mountain Lakes. This would involve the addition of 5-7 players from Boonton and would improve the team.

Dr. Kazmark and Mrs. McCusker advised that this issue will be discussed by the Athletic/Co-curricular Committee and they will be asked to make a recommendation to the Board by March 26.

Stephanie Deyo, Vice President of the Board of Trustees of the Lake Drive Foundation, discussed the work of the Foundation and invited the Board members to attend the annual fund raising dinner on May 17 at The Villa.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Mr. Ludwig distributed some additional materials on the subject of random drug testing. Discussion took place regarding the philosophy of this issue and the following points were made:

- The data presented regarding Mountain Lakes high school is not a compelling indication that there is a problem.
- Preference was expressed for information to be obtained about what is happening at Mountain Lakes high school through a survey before serious consideration is given to random drug testing.
- American Pediatrics Association has expressed a position in opposition to random drug testing.

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- If the results of a survey indicate that there is a problem then the Board should discuss the best response.

Dr. Kazmark advised that the Administration will conduct the survey in September that will attempt to yield a reasonable amount of data.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 5, 2007 with the following corrections:

Page 6, paragraph 8, insert Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall.

Page 8, paragraph 7, insert Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson.

Motion carried 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Dawson, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of February 5, 2007 with the following correction:

Page 2, delete the word summer.

Motion carried 9-0-1 (Abstain-Mr. Munday).

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 12, 2007 with the following correction:

Page 1, last paragraph, correct spelling of LoBiondo and Semler.

Motion carried 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Stokes, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of February 12, 2007 as presented.

Motion carried 9-0-1 (Abstain-Mr. Munday).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Stokes advised that the committee has been meeting to review the budget.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS continued

Mr. Borgo reviewed the budget brochure and noted the changes to be made prior to mailing next Monday or Tuesday. The Public Hearing on the budget is scheduled on March 26, 2007. Topics discussed included state aid, enrollment comparison, Lake Drive component of the budget, capital projects, and revenues.

Mrs. McCusker thanked Mr. Borgo, Mr. Stokes and Dr. Kazmark for their work on the budget.

Mr. Stokes advised that the committee reviewed the cost per student calculations for 2005-2006. The figure that was reported in the newspaper includes Lake Drive but when the amounts are broken down by school the results is \$11,659 for Wildwood, 12,081 for Briarcliff and \$13,992 for the High School per year. With respect to the 2007/2008 tuition rates to be set for each of the schools, the proposal is to take these numbers and increase them by 10% to reflect two year's accumulated costs increases, and then set the tuition rates at approximately 85% of those numbers. For example, that would result in tuition of \$13,100 at the high school for non-residents versus \$12,730 for Boonton Township.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mrs. Wall advised that the committee met and received a presentation from Messrs. Ludwig and Hanisch regarding changes in the HSPA tests in science for the high school and the impact of those changes on the science courses required at the high school. The committee also discussed the Ethics Conference that is being hosted by the Mountain Lakes school district in June. This is going to be an exciting program that will be open to the public for first day. The second day is intended primarily for educators. Mrs. Wall further advised that the committee also discussed an overview of the course selections at Briarcliff.

Dr. Kazmark discussed the Ethics Symposium. He advised that it will be free to members of the district and most of the speakers will not be receiving compensation.

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the Educational Foundation is interested in providing funding for the Ethics Symposium and is seeking information on how to participate.

PEAK COMMITTEE

Mr. Stokes advised that the committee met and reviewed the Briarcliff and High School gifted and talented activities. The committee also reviewed the Peak program for the 8th grade and below and the identification for the ARC Program at the 4th grade level. Stanford testing will not be done for the third grade this year.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS continued

SPECIAL EDUCATION FORUM

Mrs. Wall advised that a program will be presented tomorrow evening by Nathan Levy on the topic of critical thinking tools. A presentation by Dawn Carfagna, Briarcliff teacher, on the topic of study skills that was cancelled due to weather has been rescheduled for Wednesday, April 18 at 7:30 in the high school library.

HOME AND SCHOOL

Mr. Gniewek advised that there was a meeting with the public regarding the tuition student policy. There were a group of Wildwood parents who were opposed to the policy and they were advised that the policy will only apply to approximately 10-12 students over the 12 grades.

FIT FOR LIFE

Mrs. Brennan advised that the "Walking School Bus" is ready for a trial run for a week in April. The organizers have met with Chief Tovo and an announcement will be put in the Bulletin.

NJ SCHOOL BOARDS

Mrs. McCusker advised that she attended a 12-hour salary guide conference that was very good.

LAKER SPORTS TURF COMMITTEE

Mrs. Boertzel advised that there was a meeting last week between representatives of Laker Sports and the committee to discuss contract terms. A draft was received from the Board of the contract with Laker Sports and they are working on their contract with the field supplier. Laker Sports is hoping to start on the field early in June. There will be a meeting with the coaches about lining the field and which sports the field should be lined for. There will be a fund raising dinner held on March 20 at the high school.

BOONTON TOWNSHIP REPORT

Mrs. Lio advised that the budget has been sent to the County.

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**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/
BOARD SECRETARY**

Please note that Mrs. Lio, Boonton Township representative to the Mountain Lakes Board, only votes on high school and district wide issues.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, that the following tentative 2007-2008 School District Budget and Tax Levy be approved for submission to and review by the Morris County Superintendent of Schools:

General Fund Tax Levy	\$16,787,091
Debt Service Tax Levy	\$1,118,594
General Fund Appropriations	\$30,899,163
Total 2007-2008 Budget	\$33,590,538

305-06
Submission of
Tentative
2007-2008
Budget to County
Superintendent

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve Lake Drive School pre-school students for the 2006-2007 school year: #LD188 – Mt. Olive Public Schools, effective 3/20/07 and #LD189 – Washington Township Public Schools, effective 3/26/07.

306-05
Approval
Lake Drive
Pre-School
Students

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve, at second reading, the following policies:

307-06
Approval
Policies
Adoption

#5111 Admission - Revised

#5118 Non-residents –Replaces #5118 Eligibility of Non-resident Pupils

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve the release of the following Executive Minutes to the Public:

308-06
Approval
Release of
Executive
Session Minutes

July 10, 2006	Released November 21, 2006
August 14, 2006	Released November 21, 2006
September 11, 2006	Released November 21, 2006
September 25, 2006	Released November 21, 2006
October 16, 2006	Released November 21, 2006

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**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/
BOARD SECRETARY**continued

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve the release of the following Executive Minutes to the Public:

309-06
Approval
Release of
Executive
Session
Minutes

November 20, 2006
January 2, 2007
January 22, 2007

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Wall, that the Board Secretary's Report for the month of December 2006, under the GAAP format, be approved, noting that this report is based on Detailed Account Listing for this month, approved by the board, and based on the Board Secretary's signed monthly certification as to budgetary line item status.

310-06
Board
Secretary's
Report

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Wall, that the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of December 2006 be approved.

311-06
Treasurer of
School Monies
Report

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Wall, that the transfers from anticipated surplus funds in designated line items of the 2006-2007 Budget to anticipated over expended line items of the 2006-2007 Budget in the amounts and accounts as indicated be approved. Be it also resolved that the attached 2006-2007 transfer history spreadsheet be approved through 12/31/06.

312-06
Transfers

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Wall, that the Current Check Register (Bills List) for the month of January 2007, be approved for payment in the amount of \$169,539.75.

313-06
Check
Register

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

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**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/
BOARD SECRETARY continued**

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, that the Current Check Register (Bills List) for the month of February 2007, be approved for payment in the amount of \$2,861,284.87.

314-06
Check
Register

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0 (Mr. Munday abstained regarding 06-0029).

Motion by Mrs. Boertzel, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the continued operation of the YMCA Kids Club After School Program at Wildwood School for the 2007-2008 School Year.

315-06
YMCA After
School Program
at Wildwood

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the following course(s) for tuition reimbursement when the course has been completed and the transcript received by the Superintendent's office:

316-06
Tuition
Reimbursement

Jennifer Distell	Marygrove College	Including Students with Sp. Needs	3 credits
Lake Drive		Teaching Students to Get Along	3 credits
Noreen Lazariuk	Montclair State U.	School Finance	3 credits
ML High School			
Trish Spence-Reid	Fairleigh Dickinson U.	School Law	3 credits
Wildwood		Field Base Internship	3 credits
		Final Project School Based Research	3 credits

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve reimbursement to the attached lists of Wildwood School personnel in accordance with Policy #9250 – Travel and Related Expenses.

317-06
Reimbursement
Approval

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0 (Mr. Munday abstained regarding Jennifer Munday).

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve reimbursement to the attached list of Mountain Lakes High School personnel in accordance with Policy #9250 – Travel and Related Expenses.

318-06
Reimbursement
Approval

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the attached list of Teacher Institute participants for credit movement on the guide and extra-pay stipends for Institute instructors.

319-06
Approvals for
Teacher Institute

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to authorize the submission of the attached proposed **Comprehensive Equity Plan** for Academic Years 2007-2008 to 2009-2010.

320-06
Comprehensive
Equity Plan

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the attached proposed school calendar for the 2007-2008 school year.

321-06
2007-2008
School Calendar

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the appointment of **Sandra Svenningsen** and **Kurt Hanisch** as Affirmative Action Officers for the 2006-2007 school year.

322-06
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the extra-pay appointment of **Debbie Merian** as an aide for a student to participate in the Briarcliff School play effective January 10 through April 14, 2007, at the rate of \$21.00 per hour.

323-06
Personnel
Extra-Pay
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0-1 (Abstain-Mrs. Wall).

Motion by Mrs. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve an increase in time for the following Lake Drive School personnel from 100% to 120% effective March 21, 2007 to April 22, 2007, replacing Julie Lazeration while she is on maternity leave:

324-06
Personnel
Increase in Time

Coleen Buckley

Ellen Buechner

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the appointment of **Judy Heimbach**, to substitute teach in the Wildwood School if the necessity arises. Ms. Heimbach taught at Wildwood for over 28 years, is retired and currently does volunteer work for the library and teachers.

325-06
Personnel
Substitute
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the extra-pay appointment of **Danielle Macaluso**, Special Education Teacher and Learning Consultant, to perform educational evaluations as needed, at a rate of \$320 per evaluation. These evaluations are required for college and will not exceed 10 evaluations.

326-06
Extra-Pay
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the appointment of **Valeria Mosca**, School Psychologist, to perform psychological evaluations at the Mountain Lakes High School, at a rate of \$400 per evaluation, effective immediately. These evaluations are required for college and will not exceed 10 evaluations.

327-06
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the appointment of **John Johnson**, as a substitute teacher for the 2006-2007 school year, pending criminal background check. Mr. Johnson was interviewed and recommended by Steve Ryan.

328-06
Personnel
Substitute
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the appointment of **Meredith Deitrick**, as a substitute teacher for the 2006-2007 school year, pending criminal background check. Ms. Deitrick was interviewed and recommended by Sean Dolan.

329-06
Personnel
Substitute
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to accept the resignation of **Lucretia Cocchi**, paraprofessional at Lake Drive effective March 7, 2007 with appreciation for her service.

330-06
Personnel
Resignation

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve an unpaid leave of absence for **Marisa Wilhelm**, French Teacher at Briarcliff School, effective May 7th to June 8, 2007 to participate in the Rotary District 7470 Group Study Exchange. Ms. Wilhelm would be traveling to New Zealand.

331-06
Personnel
Unpaid Leave of
Absence

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the horizontal movement on the salary guide for **Nicole Renna**, school nurse at Briarcliff School, from BA Step 10 to BA30 Step 10 at a salary of \$51,020 effective February 1, 2007.

332-06
Personnel
Horizontal
Movement on
Salary Guide

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the filing of the grant application, *The Governor's Initiative: Enhancing & Expanding In-district Program Options for Students with Disabilities*, in the amount of \$250,000.00, starting on June 1, 2007 and ending on June 30, 2009.

333-06
Grant
Application

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

It was noted that the Program Committee is reviewing the high school band issues that were brought to the Board by member of the public.

Dr. Kazmark advised that there will be a meeting regarding training rules on March 20 and the proposal for the high school sign will be reviewed with other options to be considered.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public who wished to address the Board and the meeting was closed to the public.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to adopt a Resolution to enter into Closed Session for the discussion of legal, negotiations and student confidentiality issues. Resolution was duly read and the Board entered into Executive Session at 10:38 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Mr. Munday left Executive Session at 10:45 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Wall, that meeting be adjourned from Executive Session at 11:05 p.m.

Motion carried 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel A. Borgo
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Regina Giardina, Stenographer

Meetings of the Mountain Lakes Board of Education

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Place</u>
March 26, 2007	Regular Meeting/Public Hearing	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
April 9, 2007	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
April 16, 2007	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
April 17, 2007	School Election	Mountain Lakes High School (7 a.m. – 9 p.m.)
April 30, 2007	Reorganization and Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)