

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

A Regular Meeting of the Mountain Lakes Borough Board of Education was held on Monday, February 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, 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.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Kathy Mitchell, Liz LoBiando, Janice Schindler and Rosemary Semler addressed the Board and express their concerns with regard to the zero period for Band at the high school. They spoke about the difficulties encountered by students who are also involved in sports activities and honors classes and requested that some research be done as to possible alternatives. They encouraged the Board to review the information gathered by Mr. Menard as to what is done at other districts.

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COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC continued

Chris Bernotas, Band Director, arrived at the meeting and advised that he has been looking at this issue and has contacted other school districts and noted that some of them do not have programs that are comparable to the one at Mountain Lakes. He encouraged parents to call him to discuss their concerns about this issue.

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

Dr. Kazmark advised that following the winter break, he, Mr. Ludwig and Mr. Bernotas will be meeting with the Program Committee to review this issue.

Mrs. McCusker advised that the concerns of the parents will be taken into consideration in the discussion of this issue and the Board will advise the parents of the conclusions reached.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MLEA PRESIDENT

Ms. Hussein was not present.

COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Kazmark advised that different interpretations are still being received with respect to the property tax legislation and the proposed budget cap of 4%. There is also confusion with respect to the County Superintendent position.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Stokes advised that the committee met and continued discussion of the budget and worked on a list of potential reductions in the budget. The committee also discussed the cost per student calculation.

Dr. Kazmark advised that he met with the building principals regarding potential options for decreasing the amount of the budget increase.

Mr. Borgo reviewed a preliminary budget worksheet and advised that when the state aid figures are received this will be revised accordingly. The state aid figures will be available in early March and the Public Hearing on the budget is scheduled on March 26.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS continued

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Dawson advised that the committee met and discussed the policies being presented for first reading regarding admission of non-resident tuition students. The policy is based on the policy previously used in the district. The policy has been sent to the Board attorneys for review and the committee is awaiting their input. Mrs. Dawson requested that Board members send any comments or questions to her by email. The second reading of this policy is scheduled for the first meeting in March.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the Foundation is going to help fund a community adult education program.

AD HOC COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Wolfe advised that the on-line questionnaire is ready to go out in the first week of March.

BOONTON TOWNSHIP REPORT

Mrs. Lio advised that the Boonton Township Board of Education has been meeting to discuss their budget.

**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 Mrs. Boertzel, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, that the Current Check Register (Bills List) for the month of January 2007, be approved for payment in the amount of \$2,716,382.32.

294-06
Check
Register

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

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

295-06
Policies
Adoption

#1111 District Publications – Replaces #1111 Board of Education Website

#1220 Ad hoc Advisory Committee – Replaces #1220 Public Advisory Committees

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

#1230 School Connected Organizations – Replaces #1230 Booster Clubs and #1230 Parent Organizations

#1250 Visitors – Replaces #1250 School Visitors

#1250.1 Solicitations by Vendors – Amended and re-numbered from #1250 Solicitations by Vendors

#1250.2 Public Attendance at School Events – Amended and re-numbered from #1250 Public Attendance at School Events

#1312 Community Complaints and Inquiries – Replaces #1312 Public Complaints and Grievances and #1312 Adjudication of Disputes

#1410 Local Units – Replaces #1410 Cooperation with Educational Agencies, #1410 Joint Use of Facilities and #1410 Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mr. Stokes, to approve Lake Drive School pre-school student #LD187 - West Orange Schools – for the 2006-2007 school year, effective 12/6/06.

296-06
Lake Drive
Pre-School
Student

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

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:

297-06
Tuition
Reimbursement

Doug Mattoon Briarcliff	Kean University	Field Study in Adm. & Supervision I	3 credits
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Samantha Lake Lake Drive	Marygrove College	Teaching Reading – Elem. Grades	3 credits
		Teaching Students to Get Along	3 credits

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion 298-06 was tabled for discussion in Executive Session.

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Motion by Mrs. Boertzel, seconded by Mr. Stokes, to approve the extra-pay appointment of **Diane Hewitt**, teacher at MLHS/LD, to provide in-class support for one of our students at MCST at her hourly rate of pay for 3 hours per day for the week of February 20-24, 2007.

299-06
Extra-Pay
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Boertzel, seconded by Mr. Stokes, to approve the appointment of **Giselle Castillo**, as a maternity leave replacement at Mountain Lakes High School, effective February 26, 2007 through June 21, 2007 at 50% MA Step 1, at an annual cost of \$45,850, pro-rated at 1/200th per diem (\$114.63 a day/\$8,941 total). Ms. Castillo will replace Ms. Kisatsky while she is on leave.

300-06
Maternity/Child
Care
Replacement
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Boertzel, seconded by Mr. Stokes, to approve the appointment of **Craig Adams**, as a maternity leave replacement at Mountain Lakes High School, effective February 26, 2007 through June 21, 2007 at 50% MA Step 1, at an annual cost of \$45,850, pro-rated at 1/200th per diem (\$114.63 a day/\$8,941 total). Mr. Adams will replace Ms. Kisatsky while she is on leave.

301-06
Maternity/Child
Care
Replacement
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the appointment of **Bebe Li**, as a substitute nurse for the 2006-2007 school year, pending criminal background check. Ms. Li was interviewed and recommended by Peggy Maiuro and Bob Reid.

302-06
Substitute
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

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

303-06
Substitute
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

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NEW BUSINESS

Board members reviewed a draft letter prepared by Mr. Ludwig on the subject of random drug testing. Mr. Ludwig advised that he, Patty McElduff and Shari Russo have been attending presentations on this issue and accumulating information. He is looking for input from the community as to whether they think this is a good idea or not.

Lengthy discussion took place and the following points were raised:

- Information is needed as to the reliability of the testing procedures.
- A one-page information sheet should be sent out to the community about what other school districts are doing and requesting input.
- Mr. Ludwig will be making a recommendation but the Board will be making the decision on this issue.
- Factual information is needed on what is actually going on in the community and whether there is a need for drug testing.
- Data should be sought from the Morris County Prosecutor's Office and local law enforcement officials.
- Discussion needs to take place on the philosophy of this issue and whether or not random drug testing in a public school is appropriate.
- Parents are talking about this and they need a place to ask questions.
- There is a question of whether this is the role of the school or the role of the parents.

Dr. Kazmark suggested that Mr. Ludwig and Mrs. Russo attend the Board's meeting on March 5 to discuss data that has been accumulated and that the Board further discuss plans for a public meeting on this issue.

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to adopt a Resolution to enter into Closed Session for the discussion of personnel issues. Resolution was duly read and the Board entered into Executive Session at 9:30 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Mr. Munday left the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

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Motion by Mrs. Boertzel, seconded by Mr. Stokes that the Board return to Public Session at 10:08 p.m.

Motion carried 9-0.

Mr. Munday returned to the meeting at 10:08 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve the extra-pay appointments of the attached list of personnel at Mountain Lakes High School for the 2006-2007 school year:

Motion carried 8-0-2. Abstain: Mr. Munday, Ms. Wolfe

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

298-06
Extra Pay
Appointment

Motion carried 10-0.

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 5, 2007	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
March 26, 2007	Regular Meeting/Public Hearing	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)

