

MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, June 4, 2007

The Regular Meeting of the Mountain Lakes Borough Board of Education was held on Monday, June 4, 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  
                  Mrs. Wall  
                  Ms. Wolfe  
                  Mr. Barnes, Boonton Township Representative  
Absent:        Mr. Munday  
                  Mr. Stokes

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.

**PRESENTATIONS**

The Wildwood School saxophone quartet - Gavin Spray, Josh Kirshenbaum, Jeffrey Grippaldi and Peter Haessig, accompanied by Zach Conner and Joe Sutker on percussion performed for the Board under the direction of Joao Goncalves.

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**PRESENTATIONS continued**

The Girls' and Boys' Lacrosse Teams were recognized for their championship seasons.

Isabelle Menard was recognized for her acceptance to the New Jersey All State Chorus.

John Gabry was recognized for his winning essays and for his 2007 Governor's Award in Arts Education.

Mrs. Boertzel and Dr. Kazmark congratulated the students, coaches, faculty members and parents and a short reception was held in their honor.

**COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MLEA PRESIDENT**

Ms. Hussein congratulated the students on their accomplishments and Mr. Goncalves on his well deserved honor as Teacher of the Year. She reminded the Board members of the dinner tomorrow evening honoring Lynn Martin and Susan McCusker and the MLEA Dinner on June 14.

**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.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 21, 2007 with the following corrections:

Page 1, last paragraph, correct spelling of Anushka Nadarajah.

Page 3, add the following bullets to the items discussed:

- Underage drinking and drugs are illegal.
- When student athletes sign training rules they are honor bound to obey them. This is consistent with the district honor code.
- Students should learn that it is possible to have fun without drinking.

Page 3, paragraph 5, add A copy of the Power Point presentation attached to the Official Minutes.

Motion carried by roll call vote 6-0-2 (Abstain-Mrs. Dawson, Ms. Wolfe).

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Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of May 21, 2007 as presented and to approve the release of the minutes.

Motion carried by roll call vote 6-0-2 (Abstain-Mrs. Dawson, Ms. Wolfe).

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Dr. Kazmark advised that he will be bringing to the attention of the Personnel Committee and the Policy Committee information that has been received with regard to changes in State law with regard to volunteers in a school district.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PEAK (GIFTED & TALENTED) COMMITTEE**

Mrs. McCusker advised that the committee met and discussed the progress made by the committee. Also discussed was the ARC Program (Advanced Readiness Cluster) and the partnership with the Liberty Science Center to strengthen the gifted and talented offerings in science. The committee also discussed the plan being developed to follow identified students through high school and Dr. Kazmark informed the committee regarding the change in standardized testing.

**EXTRA/CO-CURRICULAR/ATHLETICS COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Brennan advised that the committee met and discussed the training rules as a follow up to the presentation made to the Board, the issue of bullying, the drug survey and the importance of getting that out to the students and parents in September to encourage a better response than last year. The committee also discussed the student athletic handbook to be handed out at the team meetings, especially to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students coming into the high school. The committee also discussed a proposal that a meeting be held through the Home and School Association with regard to random drug testing with a presentation to the public of the information that was presented by the staff to the Board. The purpose of the meeting will be to provide information to the community and find out what members of the community are thinking about this issue. The committee also discussed the RNHS process and the Briarcliff softball and baseball programs.

**HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**

Mr. Gniewek reported that the end of year luncheon honoring retirees and long term employees was very well attended.

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**BOONTON TOWNSHIP REPORT**

Mr. Barnes reported that the Boonton Township Board had a presentation regarding the progress in technology at Rockaway Valley School. He also reported on the success of the RVS team at the junior solar sprints races.

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

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

Motion by Mrs. McCusker, seconded by Mrs. Wall, that the Current Check Register (Bills List) for the month of May 2007, be approved for payment in the amount of \$197,667.37.

456-06  
Check  
Register

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0 (Mrs. Dawson abstained with respect to No. 0629-62).

Motion by Mrs. McCusker, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve award of bids for Athletic Supplies and Equipment for the 2007-2008 school year.  
(List of awards attached.)

457-06  
Award of Bids  
Athletic  
Supplies and  
Equipment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. McCusker, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the authorization of the appropriation of the following amounts from tuition to be placed in the 2006-2007 Lake Drive School Program Budget.

458-06  
Adjustment  
Lake Drive  
Tuition  
Revenues

	<u>Adjusted Amount</u> <u>1/15/07</u>	<u>Tuition Adjustment</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u> <u>6/4/07</u>
Pre-school	\$954,147.10	\$32,712.70	\$986,859.80
Regular	\$8,277,777.43	(\$69,114.49)	\$8,208,662.94

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

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**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve revisions for the 2007-2008 school year personnel.

459-06  
Personnel  
Revised Schedule

**Brenda Hartman**, MLHS teacher, from 100% to 60%.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

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:

460-06  
Tuition  
Reimbursement

<b>Lori Eggers</b> Lake Drive	University of Chapel Hill - North Carolina	Speech Topics	3 credits
<b>Noreen Lazariuk</b> MLHS	Montclair State University	Systems Analysis	3 credits

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the attached list of Mountain Lakes High School students for Graduation on June 21, 2007, pending completion of all requirements.

461-06  
MLHS Graduates

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the following personnel to make new and revised curriculum.

462-06  
Personnel  
Summer  
Curriculum  
Appointments

<b>Christine Dam</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Study Skills New Quarter Course	\$300.00
<b>Amy Coffey</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Science Revised Full Year Course	\$1,440 *
	*(to be split with Missy Siddron, previously appointed)	

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

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

463-06  
Credit Movement  
and Stipend  
Approval for  
Teacher Institute

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

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**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**  
**continued**

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve a maternity/child care leave of absence for **Cheryl Nakashian**, Special Education Teacher at Wildwood School, effective September 4, 2007. Ms. Nakashian will use her 8 sick days and be paid through September 14<sup>th</sup> and is eligible for health benefits as provided under FMLA through December 31, 2007. Ms. Nakashian plans on returning to work for the 2008-2009 school year.

464-06  
Personnel  
Maternity/Child  
Care Leave of  
Absence

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. McCusker, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve a maternity/child care leave of absence for **Jennifer Lechleiter**, teacher of the Deaf at Lake Drive School, effective September 4, 2007. Ms. Lechleiter will use 40 sick days and be paid through October 30<sup>th</sup> and is eligible for health benefits as provided under FMLA and NJFLA through January 31, 2008. Ms. Lechleiter plans on returning to work on January 2, 2008.

465-06  
Personnel  
Maternity/Child  
Care Leave of  
Absence

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. McCusker, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve a leave of absence for **Dale Tenzer**, a paraprofessional at Lake Drive School, effective immediately to the end of this school year for medical reasons. Ms. Tenzer will be paid through June 8, 2007. Ms. Tenzer plans on returning to work for the 2007-2008 school year.

466-06  
Personnel  
Leave of  
Absence

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. McCusker, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the appointment of **Erica Runyon**, as a Social Studies teacher at Briarcliff School, effective September 1, 2007, MA Step 12 at a salary of \$59,906, pending New Jersey Criminal Background Review. Ms. Runyon will be replacing Dominick Miller.

467-06  
Personnel  
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. McCusker, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the appointment of **Elaine Ballard**, as a Physical Therapist at Lake Drive School, effective September 1, 2007, BA Step 15 at a salary of \$65,065, pending New Jersey Criminal Background Review.

468-06  
Personnel  
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

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**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**  
**continued**

Motion by Mrs. McCusker, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the appointment of **Joanne Catlett**, as a third grade leave replacement teacher at Wildwood School, effective September 4, 2007 through December 21, 2007 at BA Step 1, at an annual cost of \$43,394, pro-rated at 1/200<sup>th</sup> per diem (\$216.97 a day/\$16,056 total). Ms. Catlett will replace Ms. Lederman while she is on maternity leave.

469-07  
Personnel  
Maternity/Child  
Care  
Replacement  
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. McCusker, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the appointment of **Catherine Rohrback**, as a Special Education leave replacement teacher at MLHS, effective September 4, 2007 through December 21, 2007 at BA Step 1, at an annual cost of \$43,394, pro-rated at 1/200<sup>th</sup> per diem (\$216.97 a day/\$16,056 total). Ms. Rohrback will replace Ms. Scorsune while she is on maternity leave.

470-07  
Personnel  
Maternity/Child  
Care  
Replacement  
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the appointment of **Rose-Marie Mazzeo**, as a Special Education leave replacement teacher at Wildwood School, effective for the 2007 - 2008 school year at BA Step 1, at a of \$43,394. Ms. Mazzeo will replace Ms. Davis while she is on maternity leave.

471-07  
Personnel  
Maternity/Child  
Care  
Replacement  
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the appointment of **Mary Comora**, as a Special Education leave replacement teacher at Briarcliff School, effective October 8, 2007 through April 18, 2008 at MA Step 1, at an annual cost of \$47,583, pro-rated at 1/200<sup>th</sup> per diem (\$237.92 a day/\$29,026 total). Ms. Comora will replace Ms. Carfagna while she is on maternity leave.

472-07  
Personnel  
Maternity/Child  
Care  
Replacement  
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the appointment of **Kimberly Furka**, as a Special Education leave replacement teacher at Wildwood School, effective for the 2007 - 2008 school year at BA Step 1, at a of \$43,394, pending New Jersey Criminal Background Review. Ms. Furka will replace Ms. Nakashian while she is on maternity leave.

473-07  
Personnel  
Maternity/Child  
Care  
Replacement  
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

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

474-06  
Lake Drive  
Summer School  
Program

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the attached application for Lake Drive School to operate a summer school program.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the appointment of the attached list of personnel to work Lake Drive summer assignments.

475-06  
Personnel  
Summer  
Appointments

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the appointment of **Lee Ann Kern**, as a part-time occupational therapist for the summer school program, effective July 9 to August 3, 2007. Ms. Kern will work 2.5 hours a day, 4 days a week (total of 40 hours) at a salary of \$70 per hour, \$2800 total.

476-06  
Personnel  
Summer  
Appointments

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the appointment of the following personnel as substitute teachers for the 2007-2008 school year, pending completion of Substitute Certification and New Jersey Criminal Background Review.

477-07  
Personnel  
Summer  
Appointments

**Colleen Sampson** was interviewed and recommended by Sean Dolan.

**Alexandra Kontogiannis** “ “ “ by Sean Dolan.

**Lauren Masters** “ “ “ by Bob Reid.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the extension of a maternity/child care unpaid leave of absence for **Natasha Guardabasco**, Special Education teacher at MLHS for the 2007-2008 school year. Ms. Guardabasco plans to return in September 2008.

478-06  
Personnel  
Extension of  
Maternity/Child  
Care Leave

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the extension of a maternity/child care unpaid leave of absence for **Lainie Lederman**, third grade teacher at Wildwood School for the 2007-2008 school. Ms. Lederman plans to return on January 2, 2008.

479-06  
Personnel  
Extension of  
Maternity/Child  
Care Leave

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 7-0.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. McCusker advised that she will be resigning her position on the Board of Education effective July 1, 2007 since her daughter has been accepted in a program in Hudson County and the family will be moving there. Mrs. McCusker said it has been a joy to be part of the Board of Education and to work with all of the Board members.

Mrs. Boertzel expressed the Board members' regret in accepting Mrs. McCusker's resignation.

Discussion took place regarding the procedure to be followed for replacing a member of the Board. The Board has 65 days to select a replacement or a replacement will be appointed by the County Superintendent of Schools. The replacement member would serve from July 1 until the next election and then the remaining time on that seat will be up for re-election. Discussion took place regarding how the public should be notified of the opening on the Board. Suggestions included mailing a letter to the community, using the parent link system, posting the information on the website, placing a notice on the community bulletin board, placing an advertisement in the local newspapers or issuing a press release. It was decided to proceed with notice through the parent link system, website, bulletin board, the issuance of a press release and an advertisement in the newspapers. If no response is received through those methods a letter will be mailed to the community. Interested citizens will be asked to provide information to the Board office by June 29 and the interviews and selection process will take place at the July 9 Board meeting.

**COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MLEA PRESIDENT**

Ms. Hussein congratulated Mrs. McCusker on her daughter's placement and thanked her on behalf of the MLEA for all the work she has done for the district.

**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. McCusker, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to adopt a Resolution to enter into Closed Session for the discussion of legal and contract negotiation issues. Resolution was duly read and the Board entered into Executive Session at 9:18 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mrs. McCusker, seconded by Mrs. Wall, that meeting be adjourned from Executive Session at 9:31 p.m.

Motion carried 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel A. Borgo  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Regina Giardina, Stenographer

**Meetings of the Mountain Lakes Board of Education**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Type of Meeting</u></b>	<b><u>Place</u></b>
June 18, 2007	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
July 9, 2007	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
August 13, 2007	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)