

MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday, October 20, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Mountain Lakes Borough Board of Education was held on Monday, October 20, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mountain Lakes High School.

Daniel A. Borgo
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Boertzel
 Mrs. Burch
 Mr. Cohen
 Mrs. Dawson
 Mrs. Feigeles
 Mr. Gniewek
 Mr. Stokes
 Mrs. Wall
Absent: Mr. Munday
 Mr. Hayes, Boonton Township Representative

Also present: Dr. Kazmark, Superintendent, Mary Wallace, MLEA, 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 newspaper: the Citizen and the Morris County Daily Record.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

Amanda Solch and Kalman Chapman reported that progress reports have been mailed home, the PSAT was given on Saturday and New Jersey Math League competitions begin tomorrow. They also reported on the progress of the high school sports teams and advised that there will be an assembly this Thursday entitled "Jesse's Journey" by a former drug addict who is a paraplegic on the consequences of drug use. The students further advised that the homecoming game and dance are on Saturday, October 25, the Drama Club has selected The Enchanted Pig for the fall

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production on November 13-15, and the Dutch exchange students will be arriving on the 29th. The SGA has identified several goals for which the Pasta Dinner funds will be used, including updating furniture in the cafeteria, upgrading technology in the schools and sound system for the auditorium.

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the Educational Foundation is providing a grant to the high school for the sound system. Dr. Kazmark advised that the entire system will cost approximately \$10,000 and it will be purchased with a combination of resources from a number of groups.

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Kazmark advised that the Board received a letter from the Physical Education staff asking to come to speak to the Board about positions within the district.

Tim Flynn, lead teacher of Physical Education, advised that the staff has been informed of the intention for a position cut to take place at the end of the school year. In the opinion of the staff this cut would be unsound, unwanted and unwise and the staff has presented the Board with information about the negative impact of this cut.

Mr. Flynn, Dave Leshower, Bob Reid and Connie Sakala addressed the Board with regard to the Physical Education Programs and discussed the impact of a cut in staff with respect to scheduling, the effect on the Project Adventure program, the need for supervision of students who are not in physical education class, safety and unmanageable class size. They also discussed the excellence of the present Physical Education program throughout the schools and asked the Board to carefully consider any decision with respect to the staff.

Discussion took place and questions were raised with regard to class size, state requirements for physical education instruction, additional physical education instruction that will be needed for the pre-school program, disadvantages of having teachers traveling from one school to another, and the strength of the program in all three schools.

Dr. Kazmark stated that the Physical Education teachers in the district are outstanding. However, there are some tough budget decisions that have to be made. Currently there are three full time teachers at Wildwood and 2.2 teachers at Briarcliff. He does not believe there will be any reduction in the number of teachers at the high school but the enrollment numbers in the lower grades require review of the total number of teachers at Wildwood and Briarcliff.

Discussion took place with regard to the budget constraints and other areas where the principals would be willing to cut costs. It was noted that the Board members cannot make an evaluation unless or until a proposal is actually made for the Physical Education program. Mr. Gniewek thanked the staff members and principals for their input and advised that if a proposal is made it

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will be reviewed by the Personnel, Finance and Program committees before it comes to the Board and the Board will take their comments into consideration.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MLEA PRESIDENT

Ms. Wallace thanked the Board for hearing the Physical Education presentation. She expressed concern with regard to what will be asked of the remaining staff if there is a reduction in the number of teachers and discussed the disadvantages of large physical education class numbers. Ms. Wallace further stated that the safety of the children is the most important factor to be considered and asked the Board members to consider what has been presented.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Jeff Aroesty suggested that the Board members read a book entitled “Spark” about the benefits of Physical Education. Dr. Aroesty asked the Board to be very careful about cutting back the Physical Education program and expressed the opinion that it would be a huge mistake.

Maryann Brennan, said she is a graduate of Mountain Lakes high school and she now has four children attending the schools. She said she is inspired to see the principals, educators and coaches all in unison opposing the cut of a staff member and she joins in the opposition. The Physical Education teachers develop a connection with the students, they are tremendous resource and the district should not overlook its greatest asset.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Burch, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 6, 2008 as presented.

Motion carried 8-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Kazmark advised that in connection with the pre-school programs for classified and non-classified students a letter was received from the Head Start Program of Morris County talking about their program and asking about partnering with them. Janet Wright has contacted them is visiting their program today.

Dr. Kazmark also advised that a call was received from a member of the community regarding the donation of equipment from a gym that is closing. Mr. Borgo distributed a list of the equipment and advised that discussion is taking place on how the pieces of equipment will be distributed and stored.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the committee met and reviewed the motions being presented tonight, staff reviews and new department head hires. The committee also discussed the physical education staff, guitar teaching at Briarcliff and the interview and hiring process for the high school principal position.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

Dr. Kazmark advised that the committee will meet again in December but in the interim he has spoken to the Borough Manager and Chief Tovo with regard to the Lake Drive parking problem. The staff has been notified that they should not be using the eight parking spaces in the front that will be reserved for visitors from the many school districts sending students to Lake Drive.

Discussion took place regarding the problem of buses blocking access to the road and Dr. Kazmark said he will look into the bus dismissal procedures.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Dawson advised that the committee has started to look at the Board By-Laws and will also be presenting policies to the Board for first reading. The committee discussed the policy with regard to the student representatives to the Board. The policy states that the student representative should be a working member of the Board and Dr. Kazmark will speak with Dr. Mucci and see how the position can be structured to have an elected student representative who participates in the Board discussion. The committee will also be focusing on the regulations that have not been updated for a long time.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mrs. Wall advised that the committee had its last curriculum review from teachers who worked on curriculum over the summer. The committee also reviewed the music curriculum and discussed the new vocal music position at Wildwood, vertical articulation in the music department and collaboration between the schools. Mrs. Wall said the staff did a great job of getting the curricula into good shape.

Dr. Kazmark advised that he has heard comments from the administrative team about the curriculum being in the best shape that they have ever seen it. He thanked Dr. Mucci for the great deal of time she spent on it.

Dr. Mucci explained the on-line availability of the curriculum. It is currently available to the staff and they will be looking at how to revise the existing website to have a link to this area.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS continued

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Gniewek advised that the committee met and made a recommendation to disband. The consensus of the Board was in agreement that this committee be disbanded.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the Foundation approved two grants including one for additional Smart Boards in combination with the Boonton Township Educational Foundation and the Home & School Association. They are going to contribute \$1,000 toward some component of the sound system. There will not be a golf outing this year but they are discussing two other possible fund raisers, a cookbook and a Texas Hold-Em event.

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Mrs. Feigeles reminded the Board about the meet and greet scheduled tomorrow at 7:30 in the high school library for the introduction of the five new staff members.

BOROUGH FACILITIES

Mr. Stokes advised that the committee intends to make a recommendation to the Borough Council on Monday, November 24. The plans he has seen would meet the needs of the school district.

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

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

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Wall, that the Check Register for the month of September 2008 be approved for payment as follows:

199-08
Check
Register

Computer Checks – Check #64723 through #64841 **Total: \$182,782.40**

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the acceptance of the IDEIA-B Application for the Fiscal Year 2009 in the amount of \$243,582 as follows:

200-08
IDEIA-B
Application

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/ BOARD SECRETARY continued

Basic	\$237,429.00 (including Non-public in the amount of \$48,936.00)
Pre-school	\$6,153.00

The administration of this grant is supervised by Janet Wright.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the disposal of the following list of unusable AVA equipment at Mountain Lakes High School:

201-08
Disposal of
AVA
Equipment

Eiki multimedia projector #260120
Zenith DVD/Video player #250179
3M Overhead projector #250214

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the adjustment of the 2008 Lake Drive School Tuition Revenue as follows:

202-08
Adjustment of
Lake Drive
Tuition
Revenue

<u>Program</u>	<u>Estimated Revenue</u> <u>7/1/08</u>	<u>Tuition Adjustment</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u> <u>10/20/08</u>
Regular	\$8,398,290.00	+ \$18,625.30	\$8,416,915.30
Preschool	\$816,840.00	+ \$360,336.00	\$1,177,176.00
Itinerant	\$602,147.00	- \$6,657.00	\$595,490.00
Summer	\$572,538.00	+ \$8,870.00	\$581,408.00

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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

203-08
Tuition
Reimbursement

Kate McCabe	Marygrove	Learning Differences	3 credits
MLHS		Culturally Diverse	3 credits
		Motivating Today's Learner	3 credits

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Jennifer Larkin MLHS	College of NJ	Teaching & Learning Process...	1 credit
		Using Portfolios For Instructions...	1 credit
		The Kinesthetic Classroom	3 credits

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Burch, to approve reimbursement of actual expenses incurred up to the amount indicated on the attached list of **Wildwood School** personnel in accordance with Policy #9250 – Travel and Related Expenses.

204-08
Personnel
Reimburse-
ment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Burch, to approve reimbursement of actual expenses incurred up to the amount indicated on the attached list of **Mountain Lakes High School** personnel in accordance with Policy #9250 – Travel and Related Expenses.

205-08
Personnel
Reimburse-
ment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Burch, to approve the attached list of field trip(s) for **Wildwood School**.

206-08
Field Trips
Wildwood

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Burch, to approve the attached list of field trip(s) for **Mountain Lakes High School**.

207-08
Field Trips
High School

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve an increase in time for **Michael Carmiche**, teacher at Mountain Lakes High School, from 100% to 120%, effective November 10, 2008 to January 18, 2009 to teach an additional health class for one marking period resulting from an increased freshman class.

208-08
Personnel
Increase in
Time

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve an increase in time for **Matthew Jardim**, music teacher at MLHS/WW, from 100% to 104%, effective October 21, 2008 for guitar instruction at Briarcliff School.

209-08
Personnel
Increase in
Time

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve an extension for **Carol Marosits**, maternity leave teacher at Wildwood School. Ms. Marosits replaced Ms. O'Boyle while she is on maternity leave, returning November 17, 2008. Ms. Marosits will work an additional 5 days overlapping with Ms. O'Boyle to provide transition.

210-08
Personnel
Extension of
Maternity
Leave

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve the horizontal movement on the salary guide for **Kathy Richter**, Secretary at Lake Drive School, from Step 9, 12 month Secretary to Step 9, 12 month Administrative Secretary, effective October 21, 2008. Ms. Richter will be replacing Ms. Buro. (Subject to salary negotiations)

211-08
Personnel
Horizontal
Movement on
Salary Guide

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to rescind the appointment of **Nick Calandrino**, as Head Wrestling Coach at Mountain Lakes High School for the 2008-2009 school year, board meeting 10/6/08, motion #196-08.

212-08
Personnel
Rescission of
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve the appointment of **Charles Miseo**, as Head Wrestling Coach at Mountain Lakes High School for the 2008-2009 school year, at Step 1, Year 2 on the Extra-Curricular Pay Guide. Mr. Miseo will replace Mr. Calandrino. (Subject to salary negotiations)

213-08
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Dr. Mucci explained the circumstances behind the filling of the wrestling coach position.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Burch, to approve the appointment of **Karen Manning**, paraprofessional at Lake Drive School, as an instructor for the After School Sign Language Class for 12 weeks at a stipend of \$800.00. (Subject to salary negotiations)

214-08
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Burch, to approve the appointment of **Linda Russell**, teacher at Lake Drive School, as an instructor for the Evening Sign Language Class for 12 weeks at a stipend of \$800.00. (Subject to salary negotiations)

215-08
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

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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 Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Stokes, to adopt a Resolution to enter into Closed Session for the discussion of negotiations and student confidentiality issues. Resolution was duly read and the Board entered into Executive Session at 9:40 p.m.

Motion carried 8-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mrs. Fiegeles, that meeting be adjourned at 10:04 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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Place</u>
November 3, 2008	Regular	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
November 17, 2008	Regular	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
December 8, 2008	Regular	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)