

MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday, October 1, 2007

The Regular Meeting of the Mountain Lakes Borough Board of Education was held on Monday, October 1, 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
 Mr. Cohen
 Mrs. Dawson
 Mr. Munday
 Mr. Stokes
 Mrs. Wall
 Ms. Wolfe
 Mr. Barnes, Boonton Township Representative
Absent: Mr. Gniewek

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 MLEA PRESIDENT

Ms. Hussein was not present. Mrs. Boertzel advised that Ms. Hussein has requested that a meeting of the Advisory Council be scheduled.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Fred Kanter, 81 Hanover Road, asked why there are no minutes from the prior meeting for approval. Mr. Kanter addressed the Board with regard to an issue that he has previously raised regarding difficulties he has encountered in attempting to obtain copies of meeting tapes from the Board office. He recounted the circumstances involved with his attempts to obtain tapes of the meetings and his belief that a section of a tape was erased before he was able to make a copy of it. Mr. Kanter also asked for information with regard to the new curbs at Wildwood.

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the minutes of the prior meeting were not available since the meeting was only one week ago. Dr. Kazmark, Mrs. Dawson and Mr. Stokes responded to Mr. Kanter's allegations with regard to the meeting tapes. Mr. Borgo advised that the meeting tapes are kept in a fireproof safe in his office and asked Mr. Kanter to see him at the Board office in the future when he wants to listen to the tapes or have a copy provided. With regard to the curbs, Mr. Borgo advised that they were done by Diamond Construction and he invited Mr. Kanter to review the bid documents at the Board office.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Boertzel advised that she received an email from Joe Joyce on behalf of the football parents advising that they are not going to pursue Board approval for conducting a 50/50 raffle at home football games.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ATHLETIC/CO-CORRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Mrs. Brennan advised that the committee will be reviewing a number of policies for the Policy Manual and will also discuss the issues recently raised in connection with the request by the football team parents to conduct a 50/50 raffle at home games.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mrs. Wall reported that the committee received the first of several fall curriculum presentations relating to work done over the summer. The committee also reviewed a presentation by the Briarcliff math teachers on their curriculum, discussed the integration of smart boards into 6th grade math, reviewed the Briarcliff science sequence and had a presentation on the 7th grade Social Studies curriculum. Mrs. Wall also advised that Mrs. Mucci brought to the committee's attention the significant progress made in combining opportunities for teacher in-service training between the district and Kinnelon.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
October 1, 2007

COMMITTEE REPORTS continued

SPECIAL EDUCATION FORUM

Mrs. Wall advised that the first program for the school year will be a joint presentation by the Special Services Department and the Guidance Department on post-high school opportunities and college issues on November 13 in the high school library.

FIT FOR LIFE

Mrs. Brennan advised that Wednesday, October 3 is International Walk to School Day and programs are planned for Briarcliff and Wildwood schools.

MORRIS COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

Mr. Stokes advised that he attended the general meeting and the subject discussed was the School Boards Accountability Act. He will provide information to be distributed to the members of the Board.

**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 Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Stokes, that the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of July 2007 be approved.

188-07
Treasurer of
School Monies
Report

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Stokes, that the Board Secretary's Report for the month of July 2007, 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.

189-07
Board
Secretary's
Report

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Stokes, that the Bills List for the month of August 2007, be approved for payment in the amount of \$154,543.16.

190-07
Bills List

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0 (Mrs. Dawson abstained with respect to invoices from McGraw Hill).

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
October 1, 2007

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

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve an increase in revenue for the Lake Drive Summer School Program:

191-07
Lake Drive
Summer School

<u>Estimated Revenue</u> <u>9/1/07</u>	<u>Tuition Adjustment</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
\$430, 560	+ \$52,130	\$482,690

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the following student for the Lake Drive Preschool Program (1/2 day):

192-07
Approval of
Student Lake
Drive Preschool

LD 213 – Glen Ridge Public Schools, effective 9/24/07.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

193-07
Tuition
Reimbursement

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

Jennifer Larkin MLHS	Regional Training Center	The Cooperative CR:	
	College of NJ	Kagan's Practices Brain-Based Teaching & Learning	3 credits 3 credits

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Discussion took place regarding tuition reimbursement and the recordkeeping with respect to the number of courses being taken and how many teachers are taking advantage of the Teacher's Institute. Dr. Kazmark will compile the information and report to the Board.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the termination of **Joan Meeh**, Paraprofessional at Lake Drive School, effective September 24, 2007. Ms. Meeh will receive a salary for 60 calendar days.

194-07
Personnel
Termination

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
October 1, 2007

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

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

195-07
Personnel
Reimbursement

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, 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.

196-07
Personnel
Reimbursement

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve reimbursement to the attached list of **Briarcliff School** personnel in accordance with Policy #9250 – Travel and Related Expenses.

197-07
Personnel
Reimbursement

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve reimbursement to the attached list of **Special Services'** personnel in accordance with Policy #9250 – Travel and Related Expenses.

198-07
Personnel
Reimbursement

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve reimbursement to **Dr. John Kazmark**, Superintendent of Schools in accordance with Policy #9250 – Travel and Related Expenses.

199-07
Personnel
Reimbursement

Learning & The Brain Conference, Cambridge MA November 15-18, 2007
Meals = \$224.00

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Discussion took place regarding the number of conferences that can be attended by personnel and what has been put into effect to obtain feedback from those attending such conferences. Dr. Kazmark advised that the supervisors or principals try to budget for one conference per staff member and a report is required to be submitted. It was suggested that the policy be reviewed on how information obtained at these conferences can be shared.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
October 1, 2007

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the appointment of **Donna Mitschele**, as Paraprofessional at Lake Drive School, effective October 2, 2007, Step 1 on the Paraprofessional's Guide, at a rate of \$11.52, pro-rated at a total cost of \$9,884, pending New Jersey Criminal Background check. All costs to be paid by sending district.

200-07
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the following list of new substitute teacher(s) for the district for the 2007-2008 school year, pending New Jersey Criminal Background check:

201-07
Personnel
Substitutes

Donato Morgese Interviewed and recommended by Connie Sakala

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve an increase in time for **David Wolfelsperger**, Guidance Counselor at Mountain Lakes High School for the 2007-2008 school year.

202-07
Personnel
Increase in
Time

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Reason</u>
100%	120%	PowerSchool Tech Support to MLHS

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Dr. Kazmark advised that the installation of cameras at the high school project is still in process.

Dr. Kazmark distributed information with regard to the number of Mountain Lakes High School students who have been named commended scholars.

Dr. Kazmark advised that the turf field opening ceremonies on September 29 went very well.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the turf field was used this past week for the boys' and girls' soccer games. The schedule has been posted and the scheduling problems have been resolved.

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October 1, 2007

UNFINISHED BUSINESS continued

Dr. Kazmark reported on the Accreditation for Growth meeting held last week. The committee obtained some valuable input from the students with respect to grading pressures and their concern that in achieving grades everything is done to make sure the students are engaged. This is consistent with the committee's ideas and this topic will be focused on at the next meeting. Mr. Stokes is the Board representative to the committee.

Dr. Kazmark also advised that Dr. Alexander, former principal of Lake Drive School, has been named Director of the Department of Human Services Department for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Pupils.

With regard to the drug survey, Dr. Kazmark advised that responses have been received to the requests for permission. The responses were 545 yes, 67 no and 82 no response. This is considered a statistically significant number so by the end of this month the drug survey will be administered.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Fred Kanter commended the Board on the recent article naming Mountain Lakes as one of the school districts with a good art program. Mr. Kanter responded to the comments made by Mrs. Dawson and Mr. Stokes in response to his comments regarding the blank and missing tapes. Mr. Kanter discussed the litigation he has brought against the Board in the past and suggested that he might bring a new suit against the Board. Mr. Kanter further stated that it is his belief that the new curbs that were put in on school property do not comply with the requirements for curb cuts under the ADA.

Mr. Borgo asked Mr. Kanter to meet with him with regard to the curbs.

Rosemary Cataliotti of the League of Women Voters advised that they are celebrating UN Weekend on October 27 and 28 and sponsoring an art contest for the children of Mountain Lakes and Boonton Township.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, that meeting be adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Motion carried 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel A. Borgo
Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Regina Giardina, Stenographer

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Meetings of the Mountain Lakes Board of Education

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type of Meeting</u>	<u>Place</u>
October 15, 2007	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
October 24-26, 2007	NJSBA Annual Workshop	Atlantic City, NJ