

MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday, October 15, 2007

The Regular Meeting of the Mountain Lakes Borough Board of Education was held on Monday, October 15, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mountain Lakes High School.

Daniel A. Borgo
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Boertzel
 Mr. Cohen
 Mrs. Dawson
 Mr. Gniewek
 Mr. Munday
 Mr. Stokes
 Mrs. Wall
 Ms. Wolfe
 Mr. Barnes, Boonton Township Representative
Absent: Mrs. Brennan

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

Amal Hussein requested that a meeting of the Advisory Council be scheduled.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
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COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Fred Kanter objected to being restricted to five minutes and advised that the Board will be held accountable in court if his right to speak is restricted. Mr. Kanter also noted that there was a violation of the First Amendment right to freedom of speech at the last meeting with regard to comments made by the representative of the League of Women Voters. Mr. Kanter also commented on the turf field and stated that in his opinion the district is run by the sports program and compared the amount of attention given to sports and to the gifted and talented program. Mr. Kanter stated that the crosswalks at Wildwood School are not actually crosswalks but they are speed bumps. He does not know if it is the responsibility of the school district or the Borough but ADA requirements have to be complied with and if they are not the Board or the Borough is negligent in its responsibility to the public. Mr. Kanter further stated that he sent out a mailing in June about unethical practices of the Board and received responses from the community that are available for the Board members to view.

Mrs. Boertzel advised Mr. Kanter that he had exceeded five minutes.

Mrs. Boertzel asked Mr. Borgo if he had any comment with regard to the curbs and crosswalks and Mr. Borgo advised that he has met with Mr. Kanter and did not have anything to add to that discussion.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Stokes, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 24, 2007 with the following correction:

Page 5, paragraph 3, correct spelling of Urankar.

Motion carried by roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 1, 2007 with the following corrections:

Page 2, paragraph 4, correct spelling of Curricular.

Page 7, paragraph 6, change to read, Rosemary Cataliotti advised that the town is celebrating....

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Motion carried by roll call vote 9-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Wall advised that the committee met and discussed plans for upcoming Special Education Forums. In November there will be a joint presentation by Mrs. Wright and Dr. Moore on the subject of transition and planning for high school students with special needs. A program is being planned for January that would provide an opportunity for current students to hear about experiences of former students of the high school. Mrs. Kaufman held a brown bag lunch last week. This is an annual event providing an opportunity for parents to come in and talk informally. The committee also discussed the requirement that the district have a formal Special Education parent Advisory Committee and Mrs. Kaufman will be proposing a procedure for putting that committee together. The committee also reviewed professional development opportunities that are being made available to the staff, the proposed joint presentation of the Special Education Forum and the Home & School Association in March on a topic of general interest to the parent community, and the status of teaching assistants and enrollment at various levels. The committee reviewed the policies referred by the Policy Committee and will be in contact with the Policy Committee on them. Mrs. Wall also advised that she was appointed to the New Jersey School Boards Special Education Committee and has received a request to respond to the report of the NJ School Boards Association on their proposed recommendations for revisions to the Special Education Policy in New Jersey.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Dawson advised that the committee met and referred some policies to the Special Education Committee and some to the Co-Curricular/Athletic Committee and because of those referrals Policy # 3136 regarding fund raising activities should be removed from the list of policies presented this evening for first reading. Mrs. Dawson reviewed the policies being presented and advised that with regard to Policies 6145, 6145.1 and 6145.2 these new policies do not differentiate between athletics and co-curricular activities. The Policy Committee believes that this will bring equity between the co-curricular and athletic activities so they will be treated the same. Some of the policies that are being revoked are leftovers that should have been revoked when the anti-bullying/harassment policy was adopted.

Discussion took place regarding the travel and reimbursement policy. Mrs. Dawson advised that the law has been revised and the policy incorporates the new requirements of the law.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the Foundation met and discussed the installation of additional Smartboards and possible future projects they could fund.

Mrs. Mucci advised that the Adult Technology courses will be run again. The district will provide the courses and the Educational Foundation will assume the costs. Members of the community can attend for free and classes will start in January.

Mrs. Boertzel further advised that the members of the Foundation have requested input from the teachers on their use of the Smartboards.

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Mr. Munday advised that the Traffic Safety Committee would like to receive input from the Board with regard to the proposals presented in their report to the Borough Council. Those proposals include sidewalks, crosswalk markings, four or three-way stop signs, speed bumps and a gravel parking area at the tennis courts. Discussion took place regarding the proposals, the Board members' opinions were polled and Mr. Munday will report back to the Traffic Safety Committee with regard to the Board's input.

**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. Gniewek, seconded by Mr. Stokes, that the Bills List for the month of August 2007, be approved for payment in the amount of \$703,402.04.

203-07
Bills List

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0 (Mrs. Dawson abstained with respect to Nos. 07-0949 and 07-0879. Mr. Munday abstained with respect to Nos. 07-0024 and 07-0447)

204-07
Adjustments
Lake Drive
Tuition
Revenues

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the authorization of the appropriation of the following amounts from tuition to be placed in the 2007-2008 Lake Drive School program budget.

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

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Tuition Adjustment</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
Pre-school	\$627,396	+400,934	\$1,028,330
Regular	\$7,788,032	+1,012,944	\$8,800,976
Itinerant	\$476,846	+170,352	\$647,198

	<u>Tuition Adjustment</u> <u>10/1/07</u>	<u>Tuition Adjustment</u>	<u>Adjusted Amount</u>
Summer	\$482,690	+3,640	\$486,330

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the submission of the 2007-2008 No Child Left Behind Act Consolidated Formula Subgrant Application as follows:

205-07
No Child Left
Behind Subgrant
Application

Title II Part A – Teacher & Principal Training & Recruiting	\$23,841
Title II Part D – Enhancing Education through Technology	\$156
Title IV – Safe and Drug Free Schools	\$3,603
Title V – Innovative Program	\$1,883

The administration of this grant is supervised by Janet Wright, Supervisor of Special Services, Transition Coordinator.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the following changes in students in the Lake Drive Program :

206—07
Changes in
Enrollment
Lake Drive

- LD214 – Kearny Public Schools – effective 10/8/07 - Pre-school full day
- LD215 – West Caldwell – effective 10/1/07 – Regular full day
- LD074 – Morris School District – left effective 9/24/07

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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

207-07
Tuition
Reimbursement

Janet Wright NJ EXCEL Foundation for Educational Administration 12 credits
CST/MLHS Model # 2

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to accept the resignation of **Irene Muka**, as Grant Writer for the district, effective immediately with appreciation for her service.

208-07
Personnel
Resignation

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the resignation of **Suzi Brassard**, Art teacher at Mountain Lakes High School, effective September 1, 2007 with appreciation for her service.

209-07
Personnel
Resignation

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to rescind the extra-pay appointment of **Suzi Brassard**, as Art Director for the 2007-2008 school musical. Ms. Brassard resigned.

210-07
Personnel
Rescission of
Extra-Pay
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the appointment of **Jerry Price**, teacher at Mountain Lakes High School, as Assistant Drama Director for the 2007-2008 school year, at Step 1, Year 3 on the Extra-Pay Guide, at a stipend of \$1,297.

211-07
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Mr. Cohen asked for a recap of the appointments for the high school musical.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the **Home Repair Curriculum** which is a half year course at Mountain Lakes High School and will be offered in January 2008.

212-07
Curricula
Approval

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve a maternity/child care leave of absence for **Claudia Belotti**, Special Ed teacher at Briarcliff School, effective January 16, 2008. Ms. Belotti will use her 40 sick days and be paid through March 19th and is eligible for health benefits as provided under FMLA and NJFLA through June 30, 2008. Ms. Belotti plans on returning to work for the 2008-2009 school year.

213-07
Personnel
Maternity/Child
Care Leave of
Absence

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve a medical leave of absence for **Virginia Dunphy**, English Teacher at Mountain Lakes High School, effective November 27 through December 21, 2007. Ms. Dunphy will use 19 sick days and is eligible for health benefits as provided under FMLA. Ms. Dunphy plans on returning to work on January 2, 2008.

214-07
Personnel
Medical
Leave of
Absence

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve an increase in time for the following Mountain Lakes High School personnel effective November 27 through December 21, 2007 while Ms. Dunphy is on a leave of absence:

215-07
Personnel
Increase in Time

	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Period/Class</u>
Jared Barbin	100%	120%	1 – English 12
Melissa Pecarific	100%	120%	3 – English 12
Melissa Cesaro	100%	120%	4 – English 11 Honors
Jerome Leonardi	100%	120%	6 – English 11 Honors

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

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

216-07
Personnel
Reimbursement

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

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

217-07
Personnel
Reimbursement

Mrs. Mucci discussed the benefits of this proposed trip. She advised that there is grant money available for this and they will find out how much it will be on October 19.

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Discussion took place regarding the merits of the program, concern about the significant expense, possibility of seeking funding from the Mountain Lakes and Boonton Township Educational Foundations and other community organizations. Mrs. Mucci provided the website address for the program so that Board members can review it.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mr. Munday, to table Motion 217-07 pending receipt of information regarding the grant award and further review and discussion regarding the program.

Motion carried 8-1 (No-Mr. Cohen).

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

218-07
Personnel
Reimbursement

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

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

219-07
Personnel
Reimbursement

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

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

220-07
Personnel
Reimbursement

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

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

221-07
Personnel
Reimbursement

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve home instruction for **#07-102**, grade 12, Boonton Township for approximately two weeks. Instructors: Rose-Marie Mazzeo, Kathleen Banks and Dorothy Halloran.

222-07
Home
Instruction

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
October 15, 2007

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve home instruction for #07-103, grade 12, Mountain Lakes, effective 10/10/07 for approximately three weeks. Instructors: Kathleen Banks and Dorothy Halloran.

223-07
Home
Instruction

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to correct the hourly rate of pay for **Donna Mitschele**, Paraprofessional at Lake Drive School, from \$11.52 as stated in the October 1, 2007 Board meeting, motion 200-07, to \$11.87 Step 1 on the Paraprofessional guide.

224-07
Personnel
Salary
Correction

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve a revision to the May 21, 2007 Board meeting, motion 451-06, extra-pay stipends for the following personnel for professional development committee planning and creation of professional development district-wide database at \$50.00 per hour:

225-07
Personnel
Extra-Pay
Stipend
Revision

Gigi Lax	25 hours	\$1,250.00
Amal Hussein	4 hours	\$200.00
Janice Petrocco	5 hours	\$250.00

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, 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:

226-07
Personnel
Appointment
Substitute
Teachers

Colleen Muti	Interviewed and recommended by Bob Reid
Cindy Garrison	“ “ “ “ “ Sean Dolan
William Hewitt	“ “ “ “ “ Connie Sakala

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the superintendent evaluation process is moving along and she is awaiting a few more evaluations.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
October 15, 2007

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion took place regarding the requirement that the Board receive reports from teachers and staff who attend conferences approved by the Board for reimbursement.

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to amend motion 221-07 to include Board members as follows: Mrs. Boertzel, Mrs. Brennan, Mr. Cohen, Mrs. Dawson, and Mr. Stokes to attend the New Jersey School Boards Convention in Atlantic City.

Motion carried 9-0 (Board members abstained with respect to themselves).

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MLEA PRESIDENT

Ms. Hussein asked about the schedule for New Jersey QSAK.

Dr. Kazmark advised that the district is scheduled for this assessment next year.

Ms. Hussein advised that she will provide the updated contract by email or hard copy and asked how many copies are required. She advised that the changes are in color.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Fred Kanter requested that he be allowed more than five minutes to speak. Mr. Kanter expressed the opinion that Mr. Stokes' comments at the last meeting were an ad hominem attack against him. Mr. Kanter stated that framing policy is the number one priority for the Board. With regard to #6145 on extra curricular activities, Mr. Kanter stated that the terms extra curricular and co-curricular are used incorrectly. Mr. Kanter stated that it was extremely clear that this Board does not know the difference between co-curricular and extra-curricular activities as evidenced by the fact that the sports standard applies to all clubs.

Mr. Kanter asked that the record reflect that he was stopped from speaking and that he will be suing the Board.

Mr. Kanter said there is a difference between co-curricular and extra-curricular activities and the policies should be separate and different. He asked that the policy be reviewed and that he be informed when the policy committee is meeting so he may attend. He also stated that if the Board is going to discuss policy, it should be included on the green sheet so that the public will be informed and can give input. Mr. Kanter thanked the Board for the extra time he was permitted to speak.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
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COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC continued

Mr. Munday noted that when a policy is up for adoption it is on the agenda and the public has every opportunity to be heard. Mr. Stokes noted that the agenda clearly indicates that the Policy Committee reports at the second meeting of the month as it did tonight.

Mr. Stokes stated regret that Mr. Kanter was offended by his comments and said that was not what he intended.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to adopt a Resolution to enter into Closed Session for the discussion of legal, personnel, student confidentiality and contractual negotiation issues. Resolution was duly read and the Board entered into Executive Session at 9:59 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mr. Cohen, that meeting be adjourned from Executive Session at 10:18 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>
October 24-26, 2007	NJSBA Annual Workshop	Atlantic City, NJ
November 5, 2007	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
November 19, 2007	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)