

MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday, March 6, 2006

A Regular Meeting of the Mountain Lakes Borough Board of Education was held on Monday, March 6, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mountain Lakes High School.

Robert C. Rader
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Boertzel (8:10)
 Mrs. Brennan
 Mrs. Dawson
 Mr. Gniewek
 Mrs. Lareau
 Mrs. McCusker
 Mr. Munday
 Mr. Stokes
 Mrs. Wall
Absent: Mrs. Pascarella, 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.

PRESENTATIONS

Gifted and Talented Program

Mrs. Lareau advised that the Gifted and Talented Committee has reviewed this presentation regarding the gifted and talented program and the purpose of Ms. Kielley's presentation is to assure that the full Board understands the program.

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PRESENTATIONS continued

Lindsay Kielley gave a power point presentation with respect to the Gifted and Talented program and the initiatives that she would recommend. Topics covered in the presentation included how the New Jersey Department of Education handles gifted and talented, establishment five years ago of the State mandated program, the State definition of gifted and talented students, and the comparison of Mountain Lakes students to the average student population. Ms. Kielley recommended that the name of the program be changed to PEAK (Pursuing Excellence, Achievement and Knowledge). She described how the proposed program would provide a variety of services to the students and discussed the success of the program in the past. Ms. Kielley also reviewed the mentorship program, and the planned improvements in the program for the 2006-2007 school year.

The Board members and Dr. Kazmark thanked Ms. Kielley for her presentation.

Status and Progress of the Referendum Project

Greg Somjen of Parette-Somjen gave a presentation on the progress of the referendum project including the current status in terms of costs and projected dates for some of the work to be completed. He said a tremendous amount of progress has been made and the interior renovations are about to be started.

Mrs. Wall left the meeting (8:30 p.m.).

Mr. Somjen answered questions regarding the status of the technology work and reviewed the plans for the media center.

Scott Ayers of Construction Management introduced Jim Philbin who is taking over responsibility for the day-to-day operations. He advised that the project is going well in terms of the overall timeline and they feel strongly that completion dates will remain in tact. He further stated that the quality of the work so far is excellent and the people they are working with are responsible. He is confident that the project will be completed on schedule.

Dr. Kazmark advised that the student body has been very cooperative throughout the construction.

Dr. Rader reviewed the change order for the general contractor. He advised that any future change orders will be submitted to the Board for approval.

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PRESENTATIONS continued

Budget Presentation

Mr. Stokes reviewed the budget and advised that there had been a miscommunication that resulted in confusion as to the budget being presented to the Board this evening for approval.

Discussion took place regarding the budget and the goal of staying below a 3 ½% increase in the tax levy and whether or not that would require cuts in the program.

Mrs. Wall returned to the meeting (10:00 p.m.).

Discussion continued on the subject of the budget and what action the Board should take and what further information needs to be provided. Concern was expressed about adoption of a budget that the Board knows will have to be changed. It was suggested that the Board schedule a special meeting for further discussion of the budget issues. Discussion took place regarding whether or not to vote for the tentative budget and the proposal to submit the tentative budget to the County and then go through a further process that would provide clarity.

Dr. Kazmark recommended that the Board adopt this tentative budget that can be sent to the County and then later be adjusted following further discussions with the administrators. Dr. Kazmark also addressed the educational implications of the proposed budget.

A Special Meeting of the Board was scheduled for March 16 for discussion of the budget.

Motion by Mr. Stokes, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, that the following tentative 2006/2007 School District Budget be approved for submission to and review by the Morris County Superintendent of Schools:

Total Current Expense	\$29,930,133
Total Capital	\$ 543,739
Total Debt Service	\$ 1,251,573
Total 2006-2007 Budget Appropriations	\$31,725,445

252-05
2006-2007
Budget
Approval for
Submission
To County

Motion carried by roll call vote 7-1-1 (Abstain-Mrs. Wall, No-Mrs. Lareau).

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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.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Lareau, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 6, 2006 with the following corrections:

Page 1, roll call, correct time of Mr. Stokes' return to meeting to read 7:25.

Page 3, paragraph, delete budget increase and insert tax levy.

Motion carried 7-0-2 (Abstain-Mrs. Lareau, Mr. Munday).

Motion by Mrs. Brennan, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of February 6, 2006 as presented.

Motion carried 6-0-3 (Abstain, Mrs. Lareau, Mr. Munday, Mr. Stokes).

COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Rader reported on correspondence from the Acting Commissioner of Education regarding the budget calendar. The final state aid numbers will be received within two days of the Governor's message, probably around March 23. Dr. Rader advised that the district has been instructed to use flat numbers for the purpose of public hearings prior to getting approval from the State. The public hearing statement should include language advising that the numbers could change. The Board is scheduled to adopt the budget on March 27.

Dr. Rader also reported that a memo was received from Governor Corzine inviting Board members to attend a session regarding the budget crisis and to provide input on how to resolve it. Three sessions are scheduled on March 7, 8 and 9.

Mrs. McCusker advised that she received an invitation to participate in the Advisory Council of Stevens Institute of Technology's Engineering our Future New Jersey and she will be attending those sessions.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

SPECIAL EDUCATION FORUM

Mrs. Wall advised that the March program is scheduled on March 14 at 7:30 in the high school library and will be a presentation on the subject of obtaining appropriate services for children moving into adulthood with developmental disabilities.

HIGH SCHOOL FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Mr. Munday advised that the committee met and picked out colors.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

Mr. Gniewek reported that the committee discussed the parking lot proposal and some of the members expressed concern that the closing of Beechway is not part of the plan.

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

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

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, that the Current Check Register (Bills List) for the month of February 2006, be approved for payment in the amount of \$858,356.47.

253-05
Check
Register

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0 (Mrs. Brennan abstained with respect to No. 05-2344).

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the following courses for tuition reimbursement when the course has been completed and the transcripts received by the Superintendent:

254-05
Tuition
Reimbursement

Richard Ziccardi High School	Montclair State Univ.	Reading Seminar in History	2 credits
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Samantha Lake Lake Drive	Marygrove College	Supporting the Struggling Reader How to Get Parents on Your Side	3 credits 3 credits
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Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

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REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve reimbursement to the attached list of WW, CST and LD personnel in accordance with Policy #9250 – Travel and Related Expenses.

255-05
Personnel
Reimbursements
Approval

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to accept the retirement/resignation of Patience Halsey-Sherman, School Nurse at Briarcliff School, effective October 1, 2006, with appreciation for her 10 years of service.

256-05
Personnel
Retirement/
Resignation

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to accept the resignation of Terence Galion, 7th Grade Social Studies teacher at Briarcliff School, effective June 30, 2006, with appreciation for his service.

257-05
Personnel
Resignation

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the re-appointment of Mark Prusina as Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds for calendar year 2006 at a salary of \$133,259.

258-05
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve a maternity/child care leave of absence for Caren Pasquale, teacher at Mountain Lakes High School, effective May 1, 2006. Mrs. Pasquale will be on paid leave through May 19, 2006 and is eligible for health benefits as provided under FMLA and NJFLA. Mrs. Pasquale plans to return to her position for the 2007-2008 school year.

259-05
Personnel
Maternity/Child
Care Leave

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the appointment of Joyce Greco as Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools effective April 24, 2006 at a pro-rated salary of \$54,000.

260-05
Personnel
Appointment

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 Mrs. Brennan, to approve the appointment of Kevin McDonough as a substitute teacher for the district. Kevin was interviewed and recommended by Mr. Reid.

261-05
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the payment of an extra-pay stipend of \$350.00 to Maryellen Schwartz, a Certified CPR instructor, who completed two recertification instruction courses for district staff on January 17 and 23, 2006.

262-05
Personnel
Extra-Pay
Stipend

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the appointment of Jessica Alfano as the Maternity Leave Replacement for Dara Blood at Mountain Lakes High School at a pro-rated salary of \$40,907 BA Step 1, effective retroactive to February 27, 2006.

263-05
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to approve the extra-pay appointment of Christopher D'Anna as Freshman Baseball Coach at a stipend of \$3330 Step 1 Year 1.

264-05
Personnel
Extra Pay
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public who wished to address the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Lareau, that meeting be adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Motion carried 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert C. Rader
Interim 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>
March 27, 2006 (Public Hearing)	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
April 3, 2006	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
April 17, 2006	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
April 18, 2006	School Election	St. Catherine's Parish Center (7:00 a.m – 9:00 p.m.)
May 1, 2006	Reorganization Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)