

MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING/ PUBLIC HEARING  
Monday, March 26, 2007

The Regular Meeting /Public Hearing of the Mountain Lakes Borough Board of Education was held on Monday, March 26, 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  
Mrs. McCusker  
Mr. Munday  
Mr. Stokes  
Mrs. Wall  
Ms. Wolfe  
Mrs. Lio, Boonton Township Representative  
Francois Vandame, George Dawson – SGA Student Representatives

Absent: Mr. Gniewek

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.

**REPORT OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

Francois Vandame reported that Empty Bowls was a great success with over 700 dinners served and \$3,500 raised. There was also a Carnival that same night that raised another \$3,500 to be donated in honor of Laura Stiles to Philadelphia Children's Hospital.

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**REPORT OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES continued**

George Dawson advised that an assembly was held with a speaker who has cerebral palsy and it was very motivating. The high school musical was very successful and well attended. A blood drive was held at the high school and there were 62 pints of blood donated. The spring sports season will start on April 2.

The student representatives also advised that the National French Examination and Mythology Examination were given at the high school. The Lake Drive Academic Bowl team won the regionals and will be going on to the nationals. This week is the end of the marking period and spring break is next week. April 16 is Spirit Week. The Talent Show is scheduled on the 19<sup>th</sup>. The music program will have a Theme Concert with a movie theme. The 9<sup>th</sup> grade will do the Model UN at the end of the month and there will be a Battle of the Bands on May 3.

**BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Mr. Borgo gave a slide presentation of the 2007-2008 Budget and discussed the following topics: the surplus, S 1701, enrollment comparisons, 2007-2008 budget analysis, budget highlights, Superintendent's highlights, 2007-08 proposed capital projects, revenue sources, homeowner tax increase, and tax impact analysis.

Members of the public, including Fred Kanter, Todd Benton, Duke Smith, Herman Dieckamp, Alex Gemici, Roberta Spray and a person who did not give a name, asked questions and made comments with regard to the budget presentation including the following:

- The amount of the surplus results from accumulation of expenditures that are not made.
- How does the Board manage to overspend every year and never underspend?
- State law does not allow overspending and that is why a cushion is provided for in the budget.
- Input is obtained from the staff as to their needs when calculating the amounts delineated for supplies.
- The cost of educating students in Mountain Lakes has consistently been above the CPI.
- Why did the Board sign a 10-year contract with Boonton Township without knowing what the future increases in costs would be?
- The Board should take a look at the increases over the past 10 years in salaries for teachers and administrative personnel.

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**BUDGET PRESENTATION continued**

- Why have jobs been added when student enrollment has decreased?
- The budget should be looked at in terms of how many students are being educated.
- Savings could be realized by reduction in staff.
- The Board should put in place a student enrollment forecasting program.

Mr. Borgo thanked the Board, Dr. Kazmark and the Administrators for their help and support in the budget process. He advised the members of the public that he is available in the Board office and by email if there are any further questions he can answer.

Mr. Smith asked that the Board alert the high school principal and staff that people coming to the school to vote on Election Day need to have parking, particularly handicapped parking, available.

Mr. Kanter noted that Mr. Smith and Mr. Dieckamp were allowed more time than he was for their comments. Mr. Kanter commented with regard to the gifted and talented program and the requirements for student assessment and the wide range of co-curricular opportunities available for students in the district. He asked if there is an amount of money to be allocated for differentiated curricula for the gifted and talented students.

Dr. Kazmark advised that the law does not require testing of each student at every grade level but only requires that students be assessed and those assessments are done. He further stated that there is differentiated curricula throughout the district for gifted and talented students.

The budget hearing was closed.

**COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MLEA PRESIDENT**

Amal Hussein thanked Mr. Borgo for a clear presentation of the budget.

**COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Fred Kanter commented with regard to state mandates that have not been met by the district, the improvement of services to gifted and talented students and the amount of the surplus in the budget. Mr. Kanter urged the Board to look ahead.

There were no other members of the public who wished to address the Board and the meeting was closed to the public.

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**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 12, 2007 with the following corrections:

Page 3, paragraph 5, correct spelling of LoBiondo.

Page 4, paragraph 4, correct spelling of HSPA.

Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of March 12, 2007 as presented.

Motion carried 8-0-1 (Abstain-Mr. Munday).

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

Mr. Munday advised that the committee met and discussed the turf field issue and reviewed information received from Laker Sports Club regarding their contract with the field company. The Board attorney is continuing to review this as well as the contract between Laker Sports Club and the Board.

Discussion took place regarding the protection of the track during the field construction and the need for future work on the track.

Mr. Munday further advised that the committee also discussed the availability of the fields for the spring sports season, finishing the landscaping around the high school as soon as weather permits and the hiring of an outside consultant for supervision of the turf field project.

Dr. Kazmark advised that he has been receiving communications from two groups regarding the installation of a sign outside the high school. There are some members of the public who favor an electronic sign and others who do not and he will be meeting with both to hear the concerns of both sides and to discuss the areas of common ground between the two.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS continued**

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Dawson advised that the committee met and will present policies for first reading at the next meeting. The committee reviewed the policy regarding taping of Board meetings in view of a recent Supreme Court ruling.

**BOONTON TOWNSHIP REPORT**

Mrs. Lio advised that the public hearing on the Boonton Township budget will be held on Thursday. A new Business Administrator has been hired and will start on May 1.

**MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE**

Mrs. Brennan advised that the Alliance met last week and discussed the expansion of the Giraffe Program into Briarcliff. The Alliance is interested in the Board's efforts with regard to the drug survey.

**EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the Foundation would like some input on an appropriate contribution by them to the Ethics Symposium and Dr. Kazmark is to speak to them about it. The Family Picnic is being scheduled on the last day of school and they are working on the Golf and Tennis Outing for the fall.

**TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Mr. Munday reported that the committee met and discussed a complaint about the way drop off and traffic flow is working at the high school and the danger created by people cutting across the lanes. Mr. Ludwig is looking into it. The committee also discussed the issue of walking to school, sidewalks and attempting to get the Borough Council to fund sidewalks on Powerville. Mr. Munday also advised that there have been numerous complaints about the speed hump in front of the high school and Chief Tovo is looking into additional signage on it.

**AD HOC COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Ms. Wolfe advised that the surveys are wrapping up at the end of the month and the committee will be meeting on April 12. Very thorough responses have been received and the committee will be reporting on them to the Board after the April 12 meeting.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS continued**

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

Mrs. Brennan advised that the committee met last week to discuss issues with Messrs. Ludwig and Killingsworth including training rules. They will be preparing a report on the meeting and providing it to the committee.

Dr. Kazmark noted that the coaches will be making a presentation to the Board. The goal is to try to implement any changes for September so they will be in place for the fall season.

Mrs. Brennan advised that the committee also discussed the proposal brought to the Board by a member of the public for a Boonton student to play on the hockey team. Mr. Killingsworth contacted the Boonton principal and he had no knowledge about it. He also discussed the matter with NJSIA and based on their response and the specific rules that allow for this type of thing under certain circumstances it has been decided not to consider it.

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

Please note that Mrs. Lio, 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, BE IT RESOLVED to approve the school district budget for the FY 2007-2008 school year for submission to the voters as follows:

334-06  
Approval to  
Submit Budget to  
Voters

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Total Tax Levy</u>
Total General Fund	\$31,676,891	\$16,787,091
Total Special Revenue Fund	\$583,162	n/a
Total Debt Service Fund	\$1,243,125	\$1,118,594
Totals	\$33,503,178	\$17,905,685

Included in the general fund appropriations is \$112,640 for deposit into the Mountain Lakes Board of Education's approved Current Expense Emergency Reserve account to finance unanticipated general fund current expenses necessary to ensure provision of a thorough and efficient education, with withdrawals from the account during the year subject to approval by the Commissioner.

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

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the release of the following Executive Minutes to the Public:

February 5, 2007  
February 12, 2007

335-06  
Appraisal  
Release of  
Executive  
Session Minutes

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall, that the Board Secretary's Report for the month of January 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.

336-06  
Board Secretary's  
Report

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall, that the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of January 2007 be approved.

337-06  
Treasurer of  
School Monies  
Report

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Dawson, seconded by Mrs. Wall, that the transfers from anticipated surplus funds in designated line items of the 2006-2007 Budget to anticipated over expended line items of the 2006-2007 Budget in the amounts and accounts as indicated be approved. Be it also resolved that the attached 2006-2007 transfer history spreadsheet be approved through 1/31/07.

338-06  
Transfers

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, that the Current Check Register (Bills List) for the month of February 2007, be approved for payment in the amount of \$157,191.93.

339-06  
Check  
Register

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, that the Current Check Register (Bills List) for the month of March 2007, be approved for payment in the amount of \$104,150.99.

340-06  
Check  
Register

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

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0 (Mrs. Dawson abstain with regard to #06-1962 and Mr. Munday abstained with regard to #06-2455).

Motion by Mr, seconded by Mr, to approve the following Lake Drive School tuition rates for the 2007-2008 school year:

341-06  
Lake Drive  
Tuition Rates

Regular	\$52,870
Pre-school	\$32,842
High School Surcharge	\$2,500
Itinerant Teacher Program	\$115 per hour
Summer Program	\$3,640

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the following Non-resident Tuition Rates for the 2007-2008 school year:

342-06  
Non-Resident  
Tuition Rates

Kindergarten	\$5,450
Grades 1 – 5	\$10,900
Grades 6 – 8	\$11,300
High School	\$13,100

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve the following Boonton Township Tuition Rate for the 2007-2008 school year:

343-06  
Boonton  
Township Tuition  
Rates

\$12,730 per student – Expected enrollment 261 students

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to revise enrollment in the Lake Drive School Regular program for #LD066, Livingston Public Schools, from full-time to part-time student, effective March 27, 2007.

344-06  
Revision in  
Enrollment  
Lake Drive

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

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

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve Lake Drive School pre-school students for the 2006-2007 school year: #LD190 – Kinnelon, effective 4/20/07; #LD191 – East Orange, effective 4/9/07; #LD192 – Washington Borough, effective 3/26/07.

345-06  
Approval  
Lake Drive Pre-  
School Students

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

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:

346-06  
Tuition  
Reimbursement

<b>Suzanne Maglio</b> Lake Drive	Walden U.	Strategies Lit Instruction II	3 credits
		Collaborative Action Research	3 credits
		Supporting the Struggling Reader	3 credits
		Instructional Models & Strategies	3 credits
		Planning & Managing a Classroom	3 credits

<b>Claudia Belotti</b> Briarcliff	College of NJ	Skills & Strategies for Inclusion	3 credits
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Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve reimbursement to the attached lists of Wildwood School personnel in accordance with Policy #9250 – Travel and Related Expenses.

347-06  
Personnel  
Reimbursement  
Approval

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve a field trip to **Great Adventures**, in Jackson, NJ, for MLHS 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students for Physics Day. **Date of trip:** May 4, 2007. **Cost per student:** \$50. **Number of students:** 90. **Chaperones:** Mike Polashenski, Doug Merritt, Chris Wallace and Rebecca Suckow.

348-06  
Approval  
Field Trip

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 home instruction for #06-103, grade 12, effective immediately for approximately two weeks. Instructors: Kathleen Banks & Rosa-Marie Mazzeo.

349-06  
Special  
Education Home  
Instruction

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve the extra-pay appointment of **Diane Hewitt**, to provide in-class support for two students at Morris County School of Technology, at her hourly rate of pay, for 3 hours per day on April 2, 3, 4 and 5, 2007.

350-06  
Extra-Pay  
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve an increase in time for **Loretta Weiss-Morris** a paraprofessional at Lake Drive School, from 6 to 6.5 hours per day effective March 26, 2007 to June 21, 2007.

351-06  
Personnel  
Increase in Time

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 8-0.

**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. Boertzel, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to adopt a Resolution to enter into Closed Session for the discussion of personnel issues. Resolution was duly read and the Board entered into Executive Session at 10:20 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to return to Public Session at 10:48 p.m.

Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to approve an agreement between the Mountain Lakes Board of Education and employee 060701.

352-06  
Personnel  
Agreement

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Motion carried 8-0.  
Mrs. Lio did not vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, that meeting be adjourned at 10:50 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**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Type of Meeting</u></b>	<b><u>Place</u></b>
April 9, 2007	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
April 16, 2007	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)
April 17, 2007	School Election	
April 30, 2007	Reorganization and Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)