

MOUNTAIN LAKES BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday, November 21, 2005

A Regular Meeting of the Mountain Lakes Borough Board of Education was held on Monday, November 21, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mountain Lakes High School.

Michael T. Kistner
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Roll Call:

Present: Mrs. Boertzel (7:05 pm)
 Mrs. Brennan (7:03 pm)
 Mrs. Dawson
 Mr. Gniewek
 Mrs. Lareau
 Mrs. McCusker
 Mr. Munday
 Mr. Stokes
 Mrs. Wall
 Mrs. Pascarella, Boonton Township Representative
 Dave Dobrosky, High School Student Representative (7:30 pm)
 Chris Wall, High School Student Representative (7:30 pm)

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mr. Gniewek, to adopt a Resolution to enter into Closed Session for the discussion of matters relating to student confidentiality issues. Resolution was duly read and the Board entered into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 2005

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

At 7:30 pm, the Board returned to public session.

PRESENTATIONS

Anne Mucci presented a progress report on the Long Range Education Plan. She introduced and welcomed some of the members of the committee including Sandy Svenningsen, Rob Downs, Debra Dewing, Celia Flynn, Barbara Palmer, Bill Burkett, Chris Wall and David Dobrosky.

Mrs. Mucci advised that the committee looked at 22 recommendations made by the Long Range Education team and prepared this presentation to give the public and the Board a timeline on the progress on these recommendations. Ms. Mucci reviewed the areas in which the committee is ahead of the projected timeline, where time projections are being met and those areas on which they are behind. The committee is either on time or ahead with respect to 90% of the recommendations. The topics discussed by Mrs. Mucci included curriculum design, community service projects, parent education program, the five year process for curricular review, support of the Educational Foundations of Mountain Lakes and Boonton Township, standing advisory committees, the Mountain Lakes High School alumni survey that is being done by an outside firm free of charge, personnel development, fund raising, and assessment of student learning.

Discussion took place with regard to the report and the progress of the Long Range Education Plan. Mrs. Mucci noted that there is equal representation among veteran as well as new teachers in involvement in this process. Board members commended Mrs. Mucci for an excellent presentation.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE MLEA PRESIDENT

Ms. Hussein was not present.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Barbara Palmer, member of the differentiation of instruction subcommittee, asked Mrs. Mucci to comment on that subject.

Mrs. Mucci gave examples of how the differentiation of instruction concept is being implemented.

Debra Dewing asked about the graduate survey and suggested that a similar survey be done with the high school freshman about how well they were prepared for high school.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 2005

REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Chris Wall reported that the fall sports teams were very successful including the girls' cross country team, field hockey team and the football team. The fall production was very well done and the ice hockey team is looking forward to the start of their season.

Dave Dobrosky reported that the SGA is planning a mural contest for the cafeteria mural and each homeroom will submit a design. There is a talent show scheduled on December 23. The SGA is working on formalization of their proceedings at meetings and they recently set up a committee to amend the constitution including the improvement of the vote counting procedures.

A member of the public noted that on December 2 there would be student fund raising activity for the hurricane victims, Rock for Relief, which will be a battle of the bands.

Mrs. Lareau advised that the representative of Pomptonian met with student representatives to obtain input on the cafeteria, food choices, etc.

Chris Wall further reported that the Pasta Dinner on Election Day was very successful. \$5,900 was raised which will be used to offset the cost of the electronic sign outside the high school.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 7, 2005 with the following correction:

Page 2, paragraph 2, delete concepts in physics.

Motion carried 7-0-3 (Abstain, Mrs. Brennan, Mr. Gniewek, Mrs. Lareau).

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of November 7, 2005 as presented.

Motion carried 7-0-3 (Abstain, Mrs. Brennan, Mr. Gniewek, Mrs. Lareau).

A question was raised with regard to the guidelines related to appropriate use of redaction for executive session minutes and the New Jersey Open Public Records Act. Dr. Kazmark will report to the Board on those guidelines.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 2005

COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Kazmark advised that the Acting Commissioner of Education has announced that the state will be requiring a commercial test for grades 5, 6 and 7 this year. They have not yet determined what test to use and on what dates to administer the tests.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mrs. Wall advised that the committee met and reviewed the last of the summer curriculum work including Music Theory II, Advanced Drawing, Foreign Foods and Contemporary Chemistry. Mrs. Wall commended the teachers involved for the quality of work over the summer and their comprehensive presentation to the committee.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the committee met and interviewed the candidate for the Technology Supervisor position. He was very well received by the committee. The committee also discussed the interim Business Administrator position and the replacement for the Secretary to the Superintendent position.

NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

Mrs. McCusker advised that she, Mr. Gniewek and Dr. Kazmark attended the Advanced Bargaining workshop and found it very interesting.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the committee met and discussed the proposal for a trailer at Lake Drive School. Mark Prusina indicated on the site plan where the trailer would be located and advised that the cost is estimated to be approximately \$40,000 which will be offset by tuition.

Mrs. Boertzel further advised that the committee discussed the proposed fiber optic network. This will be reviewed by the Finance Committee.

Dr. Kazmark explained how the fiber optic network would be set up connecting the three schools. The goal is to have this done by next summer.

Mrs. Boertzel advised that the committee also discussed the timeline for completion of the high school library. Dr. Kazmark advised that he has communicated with Parette Somjen and he will be meeting with them next week to discuss this further.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 2005

COMMITTEE REPORTS continued

Mr. Prusina advised that with regard to the turf field, the company came and took photos and looked at the drainage grids and determined that borings are not necessary. A new survey will be needed at an estimated cost of \$8-10,000. Mr. Prusina is in the process of outlining all other work that needs to be done in terms of the fencing, perimeter, track and shack.

With respect to the high school parking, Dr. Kazmark advised that he expressed the Board's concerns to the traffic committee with regard to Beechway and the Board's suggestion that this be open. He will be meeting with the committee again on the 30th.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Dawson advised that the committee met and looked at seven policies that New Jersey School Boards had recommended for review. The new manual that is basically the old manual with renumbered policies will be presented for first reading at the next meeting. Dr. Kazmark noted that the manual will be submitted for first reading at the next meeting and then second reading at the following meeting. He will provide Board members with a CD version for their review.

LONG RANGE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Lareau advised that the committee met and reviewed the presentation that was given tonight. The committee also had a lengthy discussion regarding working with the Finance Committee.

SPECIAL EDUCATION FORUM

Mrs. Wall advised that the November presentation by Mark Hoberman on the subject of motivating children for success in school was very interesting.

MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE

Ms. Brennan reported that the Giraffe Program was unable to attract enough parent volunteers and has been discontinued for this year. The Alliance is looking at how that program could be revamped.

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Morris County Special Agent Bill Segaris gave an interesting presentation on the subject of crime on the Internet.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 2005

COMMITTEE REPORTS continued

GRANT ACTION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Brennan advised that the committee is working on a grant from Nickelodeon and Kellogg.

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

Mr. Kistner advised that the Board members' biographical information will be posted on the website and asked that Board members email any proposed changes to him.

Mr. Kistner reported that the paperwork has been prepared for the district to receive \$1.4 million from the State as part of the \$1.9 million the district is to receive with respect to the high school referendum project.

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

Motion 156-05 was tabled.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, that the attached transfers from anticipated surplus funds in designated line items of the 2005-2006 Budget to anticipated over expended line items of the 2005-2006 Budget in the amounts and accounts as indicated be approved. Be it also resolved that the attached 2005-2006 transfer history spreadsheet be approved through 8/31/05.

157-05
Transfers

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, that the Board Secretary's Report for the month of August 2005, 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.

158-05
Board
Secretary's
Report

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, that the Current Check Register (Bills List) for the month of September 2005, be approved for payment in the amount of \$3,681,190.30.

159-05
Check
Register

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 2005

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

Motion by Mrs. Wall, seconded by Mrs. Boertzel, that the Report of the Treasurer of School Moneys for the month of August 2005 be approved.

166-05
Treasurer of
School Moneys
Report

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

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:

160-05
Tuition
Reimbursement

Patricia Fillaci Lake Drive	Univ. of North Carolina	Special Topics in Speech and Hearing-A Survey	3 credits
		Basic Speech Acoustics	3 credits
		Audiology Interpretation and Hearing Technologies	3 credits

Dawn Carafgna	Montclair State Univ.	Supervision I	3 credits
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Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approved Linda McLoughlin as a district substitute for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year. Linda is recommended by Mr. Ludwig.

161-05
Personnel
Substitute
Appointments

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the appointment of Mark Huber as Coordinator of Technology effective January 1, 2006, at a pro-rated salary of \$86,800.

162-05
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve the appointment of Robert Rader as Interim Business Administrator effective December 5, 2005, at a salary rate of \$600 per day.

163-05
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 2005

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
continued

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Wall, to approve Kenneth Stokes to serve as a volunteer Fencing Coach for his son, Connor Stokes, during the upcoming fencing season.

164-05
Personnel
Volunteer
Coach

Motion carried 9-0-1 (Abstain-Mr. Stokes).

Motion by Mrs. Brennan, seconded by Mrs. Lareau, to approve the attached list of coaches for the winter athletic season.

165-05
Personnel
Extra-Pay
Appointments

Motion carried 9-0-1 (Abstain-Mr. Munday).

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve home instruction for #05-103, Grade 12, effective November 18, 2005. St. Clare's Hospital will provide home instruction at a rate of \$44.00 per hour.

167-05
Home
Instruction

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 10-0.

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to approve the appointment of Allison Finkelstein as a Speech/Language Pathologist at Lake Drive School effective immediately, at a pro-rated salary of \$45,556 MA Step 2.

168-05
Personnel
Appointment

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote 9-0.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. McCusker reminded the Board members to complete the self-evaluation forms. Discussion took place regarding the meeting schedule in January. The regular Board meetings are scheduled on January 3rd and 16th. A special meeting for personnel review will be scheduled on January 23rd beginning at 7:00 p.m., and a special Meeting for the Board self-evaluation with Joanne Borin of New Jersey School Boards and the continuation of the personnel review will be scheduled on January 30 beginning at 6:30.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM THE MLEA PRESIDENT

Dr. Kazmark was asked if he knew of any reason that Ms. Hussein was not present. Dr. Kazmark advised that he did not know.

COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

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

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 2005

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs. Brennan, to adopt a Resolution to enter into Closed Session for the discussion of matters related to student confidentiality issues and potential litigation. Resolution was duly read and the Board entered into Executive Session at 10:45 p.m.

Motion carried 10-0.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Mr. Munday, seconded by Mrs. Dawson, to affirm the decision of the Superintendent of Schools with regard to the parental appeal as discussed in executive session this evening.

169-05
Parental
Appeal

Motion carried 9-0-1 (Mrs. Pascarella abstained)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Lareau, seconded by Mrs Dawson, that meeting be adjourned 11:23 p.m.

Motion carried 10-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael T. Kistner
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>
December 5, 2005 (Monday)	Joint Dinner Meeting Mountain Lakes/Boonton Township	Columbia Inn 29 U.S. Highway 202 Montville, NJ (7:00 p.m.)
December 12, 2005	Regular Meeting	Mountain Lakes High School (7:30 p.m.)