

**THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
METUCHEN, NEW JERSEY**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022

**MEETING MINUTES
of the Metuchen Board of Education**
Metuchen High School
400 Grove Avenue
Metuchen, NJ 08840

1. Call to Order

2. Flag Salute

3. Notice of Meeting

I hereby make this statement to indicate compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act known as Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of New Jersey, 1975, which became effective 90 days after enactment, January 19, 1976.

Notice of this meeting was given by providing the location, time and date of this meeting, and posting of the same on the front door of the Board of Education offices, by delivering copies to the Borough Hall and the Metuchen Public Library, The Home News and Tribune, The Criterion Sentinel, The Star Ledger, and by filing a copy with the Borough Clerk as prescribed by this law.

4. Roll Call

Mr. Benderly	P	Ms. Killean	P
Ms. Cook	P	Mr. Lifton	P
Mr. Derflinger	P	Dr. Spigner	P
Mr. Glassberg	P	Mr. Suss	P
Dr. Johnson-Marcus	P		

5. Showcase of Success

- ❖ Asian Heritage Club - The Lion Dance

The Lion Dance is a traditional dance performed on festive occasions, such as the Lunar New Year for good luck, as it is believed that the lion is an auspicious animal. Because many different forms of Lion Dance exist throughout various Asian Cultures, we felt that it would be fitting for Metuchen High School's Asian Heritage Club to learn to perform this dance and learn about its connections to the many Asian Cultures. The dance, music and the costume we are presenting to you today is characteristic of the Southern Chinese Lion Dance. The Metuchen High School Asian Heritage Club had an opportunity to attend a workshop by the Lion Dance troupe at University of Pennsylvania last month, which was made possible by the generous grant from Metuchen Education Foundation. The students have been diligently practicing the dance and the percussion sequences since then. This will be the first time they will be performing in front of an audience.

6. Meeting Open to the Public *(for any topic)*

Liam Benderly of 61 Spring Street, came up for comment.

7. Presentations

- ❖ Safe Return/Road Forward Plan Update - Dr. Caputo gave report.
- ❖ Open to Public for Comments on Safe Return Plan/Road Forward - No comments.
- ❖ Discussion of Budget Calendar - Mr. Harvier went over the schedule.

8. Reports

- ❖ President's Report -None
- ❖ Superintendent's Report -None
- ❖ Committee Reports

Mr. Benderly gave a report for the Garden State Coalition of Schools.

Dr. Johnson-Marcus gave a report for the Human Relations Commission.

9. Old Business

-None

10. New Business

-None

11. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Education Meetings

January 04, 2022	Board Meeting
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Mr. Glassberg motioned. Mr. Lifton seconded. Motion carried 8-0-1. Mr. Benderly abstained.

12. Meeting Open to the Public *(for any topic)*

13. Recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools

(at this time the Board will take formal action on the following items – see attachments)

Often times it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases a unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools. If the Superintendent is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate board committee. The members of the board committee work with administration and the Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. When the committee is satisfied with the matter, it is presented to the Board of Education for discussion before any final action is taken. Only then, is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting.

A. PERSONNEL

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Appointment - Facilitators for Mental Health Mentor Program

Move to approve the following teachers to serve as facilitators for the MHS Mental Health Mentor program for the 2021-2022 school year, not to exceed 20 hours at the contractual rate of \$47 per hour. To be paid from the CRRSA ESSER II Learning Acceleration Grant.

Erica Hsu	Kelsee Young	Virginia Wetzel
Lindsay Nalepa	Emily Presuto	Tara Pata

2. Appointment - Trainer for Embedding Coping Skills Pilot

Move to approve Emily Presuto to serve as a turn-key trainer for the Embedding Coping Skills Pilot for the 2021-2022 school year, not to exceed 10 hours at the contractual rate of \$47 per hour. To be paid from the ARP ESSER III Learning Acceleration and Coaching Grant.

3. Appointment - Additional Trainers for Embedding Coping Skills Pilot

Move to approve Emily Mertz and Jennifer Muller to conduct coping skills pilot training for the 2021-2022 school year at the hourly rate of \$47/hour. Total amount of hours not to exceed 15 hours. To be paid with ARP ESSER III Learning Acceleration and Coaching Grant Funds.

4. Medical Leave of Absence

Move to approve the medial leave of absence of Elizabeth Linthurst, Paraprofessional at Campbell School, from approximately January 31, 2022 through approximately March 14, 2022.

Mr. Glassberg motioned. Mr. Suss seconded. Motion carried 9-0-0.

-----end of personnel section-----

B. FINANCE

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Treasurer of School Monies and Board Secretary's Reports

Move to approve the Treasurer of School Monies' Report, and Board Secretary's Report as of November 30, 2021

2. Payment of Bills

a) Board Secretary's Certification

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.10(d), the Board Secretary has certified that as of January 18, 2022 no budgetary line item accounts have obligations and payments which exceed the amount appropriated by the Board of Education.

Michael A. Harvier, Board Secretary

Date

b) Approve the Following Items Submitted by the Board Secretary

Payment of bills and claims, as shown on the attached list(s) that have been certified by the Board of Education and filed in the Business Office.

3. Grant Applications

Move to approve the Superintendent and the Business Administrator to apply for a grant through the New Jersey's Clean Energy Program and the School and Small Business Ventilation and Energy Efficiency Verification and Repair Program.

4. Professional Development

Move to approve the following professional development activities as shown on the following chart:

Start Date	End Date	Activity Title	Name	Building	Requested	Approved	Payment	FFPI Proposal #
1/14/2022	1/14/2022	Developing Socially and Emotionally Healthy Students	Evans, Neyda	Edgar	0	0	No cost	
1/25/2022	2/15/2022	Leading Schoolwide SEL: Preparing for the Journey Ahead	McKenna, Katherine	Moss	\$250	\$250	FFPI	22-060
1/25/2022	2/15/2022	Leading Schoolwide SEL: Preparing for the Journey Ahead	Peluso, Emily	Moss	\$250	\$250	FFPI	22-061
2/3/2022	2/3/2022	Motivation: Keeping it Up	Burnett, Ann	MHS	0	0	No cost	
2/25/2022	2/27/2022	BRIDGING: TECHNIQUE TO INTERVENTION	Sullivan, Casey	Edgar/MHS	\$499	\$499	FFPI	22-058

Mr. Suss motioned. Mr. Derflinger seconded. Motion carried 9-0-0.

-----end of finance section-----

C. POLICY

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. English Language Learner Plan

Move to approve the English Language Learner Three Year Plan for the 2021-2024 school years.

Ms. Cook motioned. Dr. Johnson-Marcus seconded. Motion carried 9-0-0.

-----end of policy section-----

D. CURRICULUM

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Field Trips

Move to approve the following field trips for students in the Metuchen School District as shown:

School	Destination	Class/Group/Purpose	Teachers/Advisors	Date (s)	No. Of Students	Board Cost-Transportation	Board Cost-Subs.
MHS	Brooklyn Museum, NYC	9 th – 12 th Grade - Fashion Exhibit to teach history of fashion to club members	DeMott Parent Co-Advisor, Hausser	2/3/2022	23	Bus Cost to Students \$20	\$0

Mr. Derflinger motioned. Mr. Benderly seconded. Motion carried 9-0-0.

-----end of curriculum section-----

14. Meeting Open to Public *(for any topic)*

15. Announcements

Dr. Spigner made announcements.

16. Motion to Go Into Executive Session *(when applicable)*

Resolution to Close Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the Sunshine Act, N.J.S. 10:4-12 and 13, that the Board of Education will now meet in executive session to discuss _____ and that matters discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as the reason for confidentiality no longer exist.

17. Adjournment

Mr. Glassberg motioned. All in favor. Adjourned at 8:35pm.