

**THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
METUCHEN, NEW JERSEY**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 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	Mr. Solasky	P
Mr. Glassberg	P	Dr. Spigner	P
Dr. Johnson-Marcus	P	Mr. Suss	P

5. Showcase of Success

❖ Introduction of New Hires

Louis Manziano -Supervisor of ELA and SS
Amanda Shorr - MHS English Teacher

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

Mr. Michael Cummings of 112 Maple Ave came up and commented on curriculum and school culture concerns.

Ms. Maureen Cummings of 112 Maple Ave came up and commented on curriculum and school culture concerns.

Ms. Gabriela Terracina of 13 Willow Road commented on curriculum and school culture concerns.

Mr. Mr. Kunhan Lee of 85 Myrtle Ave came up and gave responding comments on school culture and concerns.

Mr. Justin Manley of 33 Concord Ave came up advocating for the Referendum.

Ms. Christine Riggio of 11 Bryant Ave commented on curriculum and school culture concerns.

Mr. David Liss of 202 Dellwood Road made comments on curriculum and school culture.

7. Presentations

- ❖ Referendum - Where and How to Vote - Mr. Glassberg showed a slide.
- ❖ Moss School Leadership Team Survey Findings and Action Plan
- ❖ NJ School Climate Survey Results: Glows and Grows -Mr. Cohen
- ❖ HIB Grading Self-Assessment 2021-2022 SY - Dr. Caputo gave report
- ❖ Safe Return/Road Forward Plan Update - Dr. Caputo gave report
- ❖ Open to Public for Comments on Safe Return Plan/Road Forward - No public comments made

8. Reports

- ❖ President’s Report - None
- ❖ Superintendent's Report - Dr. Caputo gave a short report
- ❖ Committee Reports

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

Mr. Lifton gave a report on the Referendum/Facilities Committee with help from Mr. Glassberg.

Mr. Suss gave a report on the Finance/Tech Committee.

- ❖ Student Board Member Report - Mr. Solasky gave his report

9. Old Business

10. New Business

11. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Education Meetings

September 27, 2022	Special Session Board Self-Evaluation
September 27, 2022	Special Business Meeting (1)
September 27, 2022	Special Business Meeting (2)
September 27, 2022	Board Meeting

Mr. Glassberg motioned. Mr. Suss seconded. Motion carried 8-0-1. Ms. Killean 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. Non-Instructional Stipend - Revision

Move to rescind and approve the following non-instructional stipend for the 2022-2023 school year, as listed, as of 09/06/2022 (Agenda 08/09/2022 Section 13 A12):

Name	Position	Stipend
Rescind: Ariana Heinsdorf	MHS Technology Facilitator non-instructional	\$6,497
Approve: Charmane Montgomery	MHS Technology Facilitator non-instructional	\$6,497

2. Non-Instructional Stipend - Revision

Move to rescind and approve the following non-instructional stipends, for the 2022-2023 school year, as listed, as of 09/06/2022 (Agenda 09/13/2022 Section 13 A19):

Name	Position	Stipend
Rescind: Jeremy Barnes	Campbell lunch/recess non-instructional (.5)	\$3,248.50
Approve: Erin Santasieri	Campbell lunch/recess non-instructional (.5)	\$3,248.50

3. Family Medical Leave of Absence - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the family medical leave of absence of Frank Ruggiero, Math Teacher at Metuchen High School, effective October 3, 2022 through approximately December 23, 2022.

4. Appointment - Bus Driver

Move to approve the appointment of Oscar Colbert, bus driver for Metuchen Public Schools, for the 2022-2023 school year, effective October 12, 2022, pending criminal history clearance, at a rate of \$25.26/hour.

5. Appointment - Leave Replacement

Move to approve the appointment of Chris Stankiewicz, as Leave Replacement for Industrial Technology Teacher at Metuchen High School, effective October 6, 2022, at the rate of \$150/day.

6. Appointment of Substitute Teachers

Move to approve the appointment of the following additional substitute teachers for the 2022-2023 school year, pending completion of substitute training and criminal history clearance (Agenda 8/23/2022 Section 13 A16):

Substitute	Certification	Per Diem Rate
Nicole Kogan	Substitute w/teacher cert	\$110/day
Diana Muliani	Substitute w/college degree	\$105/day
Marisol De Los Santos	Substitute w/college degree	\$105/day
Ryan Corrigan	Substitute w/60+ college credits	\$100/day
Kate Manchisi	Substitute w/college degree	\$105/day
Rene Flynn	Substitute w/college degree	\$105/day
Kevin Miller	Substitute w/college degree	\$105/day
Meriam Essa	Substitute w/60+ college credits	\$100/day
Kate Santus	Substitute w/college degree	\$105/day
Melynda Johnson	Substitute w/college degree	\$105/day
Fred Mandelbaum	Substitute w/college degree	\$105/day
Christine Buck	Substitute w/teacher cert	\$110/day

7. Appointment of Substitute Paraprofessionals

Move to approve the appointment of the following additional substitute paraprofessionals for the 2022-2023 school year, pending completion of substitute training and criminal history clearance (Agenda 8/23/2022 Section 13 A16):

Substitute Paraprofessional	Hourly Rate
Kevin Coleman	\$15/hour
Marcus Farris	\$15/hour

8. Additional Appointments of the Zone Staff

Move to approve the following additional Zone Staff for the 2022-2023 school year, pending criminal history clearance (Agenda 8/23/2022, Section 13 A29):

Mentor Name	Hourly Rate
Annabelle Fedun	\$15/hour
Cedric Lee	\$15/hour

9. Clubs and Co-Curricular Activities

Move to approve the following co-curricular stipends for the co-curricular activities for the 2022-2023 school year as listed (Agenda 08/23/2022, Section 13 A14):

Metuchen High School		
Advisor	Club	2022-2023 Stipend
Laura Connolly	Peer Leadership Club (C)	\$1549
Martin Klee	Robotics	\$5000

10. After School Assistance - Nurses

Move to approve the following school nurses to provide assistance in after school extracurricular clubs, as needed, for the 2022-2023 school year, at an hourly rate of \$48/hour.

Amanda Marciante	Janice Billik
Nga Pham	Susan Fackler

11. Appointment - Leave Replacement

Move to approve the appointment of Anne Marie Healey, ELA Leave Replacement Teacher for Suzy Palmer, Edgar School, effective approximately October 13, 2022 through approximately May 1, 2023, at the rate of \$291.89/day.
Mr. Glassberg motioned. Ms. Cook 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 July 31, 2022 and August 31, 2022.

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 October 11, 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. Professional Development

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

Start Date	End Date	Activity Title	Name	Building	Approved	Payment	FFPI Proposal #
10/7/2022	10/7/2022	NJMAA Meeting	Jaye, Ashley	Central Office	0	No cost	
10/14/2022	10/14/2022	37th Annual Fall Conference - NJ Branch International Dyslexia Association	Angus, Stephanie	Campbell	\$125	FFPI	23-046
10/14/2022	10/14/2022	Rutgers Counselor Day	Grauer, Traci	MHS	0	No cost	
10/18/2022	10/18/2022	Collaboration	Robbins, Evan	MHS	0	No cost	
10/18/2022	10/18/2022	Saul Rubenstein meeting with Collaboration Team Leaders	Gouveia, Michele	Edgar	0	No cost	
10/18/2022	10/18/2022	MEA Union Leadership - Administration Meeting	Schlavis, William	MHS	0	No cost	

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10/18/2022	10/18/2022	New Jersey Science Convention	Sobieniak, Tomasz	MHS	\$204.44	Other	
10/19/2022	10/20/2022	2022 Character.org International Forum	Kirschner, Brooke	Campbell	0	Other	
10/19/2022	10/19/2022	New Jersey Science Convention	Lezama, Ann	MHS	\$240	FFPI	23-041
10/20/2022	10/20/2022	We Got This: Teaching Reading and Writing with Equity, Access and Being Who our Students Need us to Be	Anderson, Sarah	Campbell	\$175	FFPI	23-045
10/20/2022	10/20/2022	Cardiac Emergency Preparedness - The Role of the School Nurse in Leading a Multidisciplinary Team	Pham, Nga	Moss	\$148.5	FFPI	23-043
10/25/2022	10/25/2022	NJ Council for Social Studies	Connolly, Laura	MHS	\$106	FFPI	23-052
10/25/2022	10/25/2022	NJCSS Conference 2022	Stead, Pamela	Edgar	\$90	FFPI	23-040
10/31/2022	10/31/2022	Montgomery Visit with Saul Rubenstein	Gouveia, Michele	Edgar	0	No cost	
10/31/2022	10/31/2022	Rutgers Union-Labor Management Partnership	Schlavis, William	MHS	0	No cost	
11/1/2022	11/1/2022	Rutgers Collaboration	Lopes, Sofia	Campbell	0	No cost	
11/3/2022	11/4/2022	National Blue Ribbon Awards Ceremony	Evans, Neyda	Edgar	\$446.5	Other	
11/3/2022	11/4/2022	National Blue Ribbon Schools Award Ceremony	Azevedo, Suzy	Edgar	\$861.75	Other	
11/5/2022	11/5/2022	Math Magicians - Hilary Statum	Young, Kelsee	Moss	\$22	FFPI	23-049
11/17/2022	11/17/2022	School Behavioral Threat Assessment & Management	Porowski, Edward	MHS	0	No cost	
11/21/2022	11/21/2022	Helping the Whole Child though Increasing Motivation, Mindfulness, and Attention	Albanese, Edward	Edgar	\$279	FFPI	23-047
12/1/2022	12/1/2022	19th Annual Suicide Conference	Theiss, Christina	Edgar/ MHS	\$125	FFPI	23-051
12/1/2022	12/1/2022	PracticalTrauma-Informed Strategies To Reduce Anxiety In Students	Donatelli, Dana	Moss	\$150	FFPI	23-039
12/1/2022	12/1/2022	TLC 19th Annual Suicide Prevention Conference	Kurtin, Ilana	Central Office	\$90	Other	
12/1/2022	12/1/2022	Traumatic Loss Coalition For Youth (TLC) 19th Annual Suicide Prevention Conference	Rubin, Samantha	MHS	\$110	FFPI	23-053
12/1/2022	12/1/2022	Traumatic Loss Coalition for Youth Suicide	Chango, Lisa	Edgar	\$120	FFPI	23-050

		Prevention Conference					
12/3/2022	12/3/2022	Kimberly Jordano - Literacy Center Fun	Young, Kelsee	Moss	\$22	FFPI	23-044
1/21/2023	1/21/2023	Phonological Awareness, Phonemic Awareness and Phonics With Amy Garner	Young, Kelsee	Moss	\$22	FFPI	23-048
4/27/2023	4/27/2023	Fostering a Passion for Mathematics	Kremer, Christine	Edgar	\$290.47	FFPI	23-038

4. Item Disposal

Move to approve the disposal of a 1995 Cub Cadet Farm Tractor Model#7305 Serial#22195.

5. Special Olympics Grant

Move to accept the Special Olympics Grant Award of \$5,000 for MHS and \$1,000 for Moss.

Mr. Suss motioned. Dr. Spigner seconded. Motion carried 8-0-1. Mr. Benderly abstained from any payments to Rutgers.

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

C. POLICY

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Suspensions

The Board hereby acknowledges receipt of the suspension report summary for September 26, 2022 - October 7, 2022.

Ms. Cook motioned. Mr. Derfligner 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	Number of Subs Needed
Edgar	Six Flags	8th Grade-Students will establish and maintain positive relationships by respecting others, practicing social skills and making responsible choices. -Science: Students will be able to define speed and velocity and calculate	King TBD	5/19/ 2023	155	\$1,575 per bus (Total of \$6,300) plus \$400 Fuel Surcharge for Grand Total of \$6,700	2

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		speed and velocity of different rides -Math: Students will be able to determine the distance between rides					
Edgar	Moss	8th Grade-Students in the 8th grade guitar class will perform for the Moss School students. This will give the guitar students a chance to showcase the skills and techniques they have been working on during the semester class. This will also give the kindergarten students a chance to watch a live performance of the instruments we study in music class every Friday.	Gallagher	4/28/2023	44	1 bus - \$50	0
Edgar	Moss	8th Grade-Students in the 8th grade guitar class will perform for the Moss School students. This will give the guitar students a chance to showcase the skills and techniques they have been working on during the semester class. This will also give the kindergarten students a chance to watch a live performance of the instruments we study in music class every Friday.	Gallagher	12/16/2022	45	1 bus - \$50	0
CES	State House & Old Barracks, Trenton NJ	4th Grade-The study of civic and political institutions includes concepts of the law, politics, and government that are essential to understanding the important institutions of society and the principles these institutions are intended to reflect. Rules, laws, and policies are designed to protect the rights of people, help resolve conflicts,	Gonzalez Lopes Yakowenko Smith Fiore Holleran Omark Pasquale Valera	6/7/2023	100	3 buses at \$1,485 per bus. Total cost for bussing \$4,455	6

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		and promote the common good.					
CES	State House & Old Barracks, Trenton NJ	4th Grade-The study of civic and political institutions includes concepts of the law, politics, and government that are essential to understanding the important institutions of society and the principles these institutions are intended to reflect. Rules, laws, and policies are designed to protect the rights of people, help resolve conflicts, and promote the common good.	Gonzalez Lopes Yakowenko Smith Fiore Holleran Omark Pasquale Valera	6/14/ 2023	75	2 buses at \$1,485 per bus. Total cost for bussing \$2970	4
MHS	Moss	Grades 9-12: Students will present music composed and arranged in the Carnival of the Animals Project-students will attend and present at the Concert for Parents and Students	Krombholz	2/10/ 2023	15	1 bus - \$50	1
MHS	Metropolitan Opera Dress Rehearsal	Grades 9-12: Students will experience a live professional rehearsal 1.3C 12 adv Re7b : Demonstrate and justify how the analysis of structures contexts and performance decisions inform the response to music. 13.c.12.adv Re9a: develop and justify evaluations of music programs of music and performances based on criteria personal decisions -making research and understanding of contexts	Krombholz McEwan Keyes	11/18/ 2022	31	1 bus - \$1,750	3

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Edgar	High Note Music Festival: Dorney Park	Students perform in an adjudicated festival where conductors from colleges and universities are their adjudicators and workshop leaders. Students gain live performance experience , feedback and critique from master conductors and use our district's SELf emotional problem solving question set by identifying how they sound and how they feel	Krombholz Keyes McEwan Gallagher	6/9/ 2023	120	3 buses-Total for bussing \$7,672.50	4
Edgar	Metuchen High School	8th Grade-The purpose of this trip is to bring 8th grade orchestra students to MHS to see how orchestra functions at MHS, to meet high school orchestra students, and to play alongside the high school orchestra students in a rehearsal.	Gallagher	3/24/ 2023	22	1 bus - \$50	0
CES	Post Office	Grades 1-4: Community based instruction to the Post Office to generalize social emotional/behavioral goals, engaging socially with peers, awareness in the community, and communication goals. 2.1.P.D.2 Develop an awareness of warning symbols and their meaning (e.g., red light, stop sign, poison symbol, etc.). ELA.EE.SL. 2.1 Participate in conversations with adults and peers.	Pauls Jeney DiSerio Vissichelli Aswani Omarzai Small Bakshi Kobayashi Williams Rouhi	11/18/ 2023	10	\$0-walking trip	0

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EMS & MHS	George Street Playhouse	Grades 7-12:Use technology to enhance productivity, increase collaboration and communicate effectively Work productively in teams while using cultural/global competence;Identify and examine artifacts from a time period and geographic location to better understand performance and design choices in a theatrical work; Identify and imagine social multiple design/technical challenges of a performance space in a theatrical work. Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of character, or provoke a decision;Analyze how complex characters develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.	Jacobi Garfinkel	10/26/2022	30	1 bus - \$100	2
EMS & MHS	The Christmas Tree Shoppe	Grades 6-12: Students will work on shopping skills in a real world setting. Skills include; budgeting, choosing items, standing in line, paying and receiving change.	Valovcin, Dybas	5/5/2023	12	1 bus - \$100	0

Mr. Derflinger motioned. Dr. Johnson-Marcus 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 to adjourn. All in favor. Adjournment at 9:42 pm.