

MINE HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
REORGANIZATION MEETING
January 4, 2023

1. Opening Statement

The Conference/Action Meeting of the Mine Hill Township Board of Education will be called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, by Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Carolina Rodriguez. Adequate notice of the date and time for this meeting was advertised in the Daily Record on December 14, 2022 and the Randolph Reporter on December 22, 2022 in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE
MINE HILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

2. Business Administrator, Carolina Rodriguez, will report the results of the annual school election held on November 8, 2022, as follows:

For Seats on the Board of Education:

Candidates for Three Year Term
Jennifer Antoncich – 3-year term
Srinivasa Rajagopal – 3-year term

3. School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Carolina Rodriguez, will administer the Oath of Allegiance to the newly elected Board Members.

4. Roll Call

Board Member	Term Expires	Roll Call	Board Member	Term Expires	Roll Call
Jennifer Antoncich	12-31-2025	Yes	Diane Morris	12-31-2024	Yes
Katie Bartnick	12-31-2024	Yes	Srinivasa Rajagopal	12-31-2025	Yes
Peter Bruseo	12-31-2023	Absent	Jennifer Waters	12-31-2024	Yes
Brian Homeyer	21-31-2023	Yes			

This meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Carolina Rodriguez, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

5. Flag Salute

6. Election of President

The Board Secretary declares nominations are in order for the position of President.

Nomination: Diane Morris is nominated by Brian Homeyer, seconded by Katie Bartnick.

Vote for President	Jennifer Antoncich	Katie Bartnick	Peter Bruseo	Brian Homeyer	Diane Morris	Srinivasa Rajagopal	Jennifer Waters
Name: Diane Morris	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Election Results:

Diane Morris is elected President of the Mine Hill Township Board of Education.

7. Board President Takes Chair

8. Election of Vice President

The President declares nominations are in order for the position of President.

Nomination: Jennifer Waters is nominated by Diane Morris, seconded by Jennifer Antoncich.

Vote for Vice President	Jennifer Antoncich	Katie Bartnick	Peter Bruseo	Brian Homeyer	Diane Morris	Srinivasa Rajagopal	Jennifer Waters
Name: Jennifer Waters	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Election Results:

Jennifer Waters is elected Vice President of the Mine Hill Township Board of Education.

9. Board Vice President takes Chair

10. Reorganization Action Items

a. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent and approves the **adoption of the New Jersey School Board Member Code of Ethics:**

1. I will uphold and enforce all laws, state board rules and regulations and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes should be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
2. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools which meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.
3. I will confirm my Board action to policymaking, planning and appraisal and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the Board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
4. I will carry out my responsibilities, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow Board members, to see that they run well.
5. I will recognize that authority rests with the Board of Education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action, which may compromise the Board.
6. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan groups or to use the school for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
7. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools, which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals of the school. But in all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow Board members, interpret to the staff the aspiration of the community for its school.
8. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
9. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
10. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on such complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education adopts the requirement that all members of the Board of Education acknowledge in writing that they have received and read the Code of Ethics.

Motion of: Brian Homeyer Seconded by: Jennifer Waters

Roll Call Vote	Jennifer Antoncich	Katie Bartnick	Peter Bruseo	Brian Homeyer	Diane Morris	Srinivasa Rajagopal	Jennifer Waters
6-0	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- b. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Board President and approves adopting the following **schedule of Board of Education meetings**. Meetings are held in the Educational Media Center (EMC) of the Canfield Avenue School and begin at 6:30 p.m. Any changes from this schedule will be advertised:

Month	Meeting Date(s)
January	Wednesday, January 4, 2023 – Reorganization; and Monday, January 23, 2023
February	Tuesday, February 27, 2023
March	Monday, March 13, 2023
April	Monday, April 24, 2023 – Budget Public Hearing & Adoption
May	Monday, May 8, 2023; and Monday, May 22, 2023
June	Monday, June 5, 2023; and Monday, June 26, 2023
July	Monday, July 24, 2023
August	Monday, August 28, 2023
September	Monday, September 25, 2023
October	Monday, October 2, 2023 – Board Retreat Monday, October 30, 2023
November	Monday, November 27, 2023
December	Monday, December 18, 2023

Motion of: Brian Homeyer Seconded by: Jennifer Waters

Roll Call Vote	Jennifer Antoncich	Katie Bartnick	Peter Bruseo	Brian Homeyer	Diane Morris	Srinivasa Rajagopal	Jennifer Waters
6-0	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

AND, ALSO BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education meetings follow parliamentary procedures and Roberts Rule of Order.

- c. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent and approves the appointment of the **Daily Record and the Randolph Reporter as the Board’s legal newspaper** until the next reorganization meeting or until changed by resolution.
- d. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Board President and approves the **official designation of an abstention as a non-vote**.

Motion of: Brian Homeyer Seconded by: Katie Bartnick

Roll Call Vote	Jennifer Antoncich	Katie Bartnick	Peter Bruseo	Brian Homeyer	Diane Morris	Srinivasa Rajagopal	Jennifer Waters
6-0	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- e. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Board President and approves the following **committee and administrative appointments**:

Assignments	Member(s) Assigned
Building & Grounds Committee	Pete Bruseo, Brian Homeyer, Srinivasa Rajagopal
Finance Committee	Committee of a Whole
Instruction & Curriculum Committee	Srinivasa Rajagopal, Jennifer Waters, Jennifer Antoncich
Personnel Committee	Committee of a Whole
Policy, Operations and Public Relations Committee	Committee of a Whole
Delegates to NJSBA and Morris County School Boards Association (2)	Katie Bartnick, Diane Morris
Mine Hill Educational Foundation Liaison (2)	Katie Bartnick, Jennifer Antoncich
Mine Hill – Dover Committee (3)	Diane Morris, Katie Bartnick, Brian Homeyer
Liaison to the Mine Hill Township (2)	Jennifer Waters, Jennifer Antoncich
Educational Services Commission of Morris County (2)	Diane Morris, Katie Bartnick
Negotiations Committee	Brian Homeyer, Diane Morris, Srinivasa Rajagopal

Motion of: Brian Homeyer Seconded by: Srinivasa Rajagopal

Roll Call Vote	Jennifer Antoncich	Katie Bartnick	Peter Bruseo	Brian Homeyer	Diane Morris	Srinivasa Rajagopal	Jennifer Waters
6-0	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- f. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent and approves the authorization of the **Business Administrator to advertise for bids as needed** until the next reorganization meeting or until changed by resolution, as required by the Public School Contracts Law.
- g. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent and approves the **approval of all existing policies, bylaws and administrative regulations in effect this date** until the next reorganization meeting or until changed by resolution.
- h. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent and approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education acknowledges the requirement for the **Business Administrator/Board Secretary to prepare monthly Board Secretary’s Reports** and its accompanying statute N.J.A.C. 6-20-2.13(d) certifying that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the **Business Administrator be authorized to make transfers among budgetary line-item accounts** to be reported to the Board of Education at its next regular meeting.

- i. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent and approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, certain expenditures need to be paid prior to a scheduled board meeting such as, utilities, insurances and other payments as deemed necessary; and be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education **authorizes the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to make advance payments on a monthly basis for designated vendors**, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that such payments shall be approved by the Board of Education and its subsequent Business Meeting; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Business Administrator be authorized, in the event of a meeting postponement and following consultation with the Finance Committee and the Superintendent, to release payments for those billings determined to be most appropriate and emergent per 18A:19-4.1.

- j. The Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3(a), designates Carolina Rodriguez, School Business Administrator, Board Secretary, as the **Purchasing Agent** for the Board of Education and authorizes her to award contracts, in full accordance with the law, for purchases that do not exceed the aggregate in a contract year the total sum of \$44,000 (bid threshold) without public advertising for bids.

FURTHERMORE, Carolina Rodriguez is authorized to solicit competitive quotations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-37(a) and to award contracts pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-37(c).

FURTHERMORE, in the absence of the Purchasing Agent the Superintendent has authority to award contracts under the threshold of \$44,000.00.

- k. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and approves the annual maximum **travel limitation** amount per employee or board member not to exceed \$1,500 for regular business travel only for which prior Board approval is not required as per Policy #6471.
- l. RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent and approves the following resolution regarding **Bank Accounts and Signatories**:

RESOLVED, the Mine Hill Township Board of Education authorizes Carolina Rodriguez, Board Secretary/Business Administrator, to proceed with Lakeland Bank to establish the following accounts until the next reorganization meeting or until changed by resolution:

Lakeland Bank	Signatories
General Fund	Diane Morris, Board President, Carolina Rodriguez, RSBA and Lee Nittel, Superintendent
Payroll Agency	Diane Morris, Board President, Carolina Rodriguez, RSBA and Lee Nittel, Superintendent
Net Payroll	Diane Morris, Board President, Carolina Rodriguez, RSBA and Lee Nittel, Superintendent
Cafeteria (Food Services)	Diane Morris, Board President, Carolina Rodriguez, RSBA and Lee Nittel, Superintendent
SUI Trust Fund	Diane Morris, Board President, Carolina Rodriguez, RSBA and Lee Nittel, Superintendent
Summers Savers	Diane Morris, Board President, Carolina Rodriguez, RSBA and Lee Nittel, Superintendent (Only one required to sign)
Canfield Avenue School (Student Activities) Account	Diane Morris, Board President, Carolina Rodriguez, RSBA and Lee Nittel, Superintendent
New Jersey Cash Management	Diane Morris, Board President, Carolina Rodriguez, RSBA and Lee Nittel, Superintendent
Bond Referendum	Diane Morris, Board President, Carolina Rodriguez, RSBA and Lee Nittel, Superintendent

Motion of: Katie Bartnick

Seconded by: Brian Homeyer

Roll Call Vote	Jennifer Antoncich	Katie Bartnick	Peter Bruseo	Brian Homeyer	Diane Morris	Srinivasa Rajagopal	Jennifer Waters
6-0	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE MINE HILL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

- 11. Correspondence**
- 12. Superintendent's Report**
- 13. Business Administrator's Report**
 - Security Vestibule
- 14. Public Discussion**
- 15. FINANCE**
- 16. INSTRUCTION & CURRICULUM**
- 17. PERSONNEL**
- 18. POLICY / OPERATIONS / PUBLIC RELATIONS**
- 19. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**
- 20. Dover Report**
 - Dover held two meetings that included their reorganization meeting. Items discussed included inclusion coach, CST members, 7 speech therapists, social worker, re-did turf Hamilton field. Security vestibule at High School.
- 21. MHEF Report**
- 22. Old Business**
 - 100th celebration of Mine Hill Day.
- 23. New Business**
 - Finance and Building meeting; January 10th at 6-7 and January 30th 7-8.
- 24. Public Discussion - N/A**
- 25. Executive Session - N/A**
- 26. Return to Public Session - N/A**
- 27. Adjournment**

On the motion of Diane Morris seconded by Katie Bartnick at 8:13 p.m. the Board returns to the regular session meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Rodriguez

**Carolina Rodriguez, SBA
Board Secretary**