

Mountain View School District
“A Community’s Commitment to Excellence”
Board of Education Public Meeting

Monday, January 22, 2024
MINUTES

1.1 Call to Order

The regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education on January 22, 2024 was held in the James W. Zick Board Room and was called to order at 7:11 PM by Mr. Jason Richmond, President.

1.2 Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

1.3 Roll Call – Board Members Present:

Mr. Jason Richmond, President; Mr. Kenneth Decker, First Vice President; Mr. Michael Barhite, Second Vice President; Ms. Louise Cator; Mr. Tracy Flynn; Mr. Michael Molenko; Mr. Michael Talabiska; Mr. Derek O’Dell; Mr. Danny Very (via phone).

Absent: None.

Administration Present:

Dr. Mike Elia, Superintendent; Mr. Thomas Witiak, Business Manager; Mr. Patrick McGarry, Elementary School Principal; Mrs. Erica Loftus, Special Services Director; Attorney Joseph Gaughan, Solicitor.

Absent: Dr. Mark Lemoncelli, High School Principal (absent at roll-call, arrived at 7:38); Mr. Andrew Snyder, Director of Curriculum.

1.4. Pride in Mountain View:

SGA Representative - Penelope Ziegler

- Penelope presented the Liaison Report.

1.5. Approve the Board Minutes

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Barhite, to approve the minutes dated December 4, 2023 and January 3, 2024, as presented.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

1.6. First Hearing of Visitors

You may speak about anything on the agenda. Please identify yourself by name and address all comments to the Board as a whole. You will be allowed two (2) minutes for

your comments; five (5) minutes if prior written notification was made. Comments relative to private student matters or personnel issues should be directed to the appropriate school authority outside of this meeting. The presiding officer reserves the right to interrupt or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

- Ted Brewster asked clarifying questions about the agenda.

2. Finance Committee: Michael Barhite, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Molenko, Derek O'Dell

2.1. Approve January Bill List

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve the list of bills for January 22, 2023 for the General Fund in the amount of \$2,668,134.89.00, as presented.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

2.2. Approve Exonerations for Real Estate, Per Capita and Occupation Taxes

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve exonerations for 2024 real estate, 2024 per capita taxes and 2024 occupation taxes as submitted by the Susquehanna County Courthouse and tax collectors, as presented.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

2.3. Approve Service Agreement with Sweet /Stevens /Katz and Williams

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve a Services Agreement between the Mountain View School District and Sweet /Stevens /Katz and Williams at a cost of \$200.00 per hour attorney fee, \$150.00 per hour legal assistants fee for routine matters and \$220.00 per hour attorney fee and \$150.00 per hour fee for legal assistants for non-routine matters, as presented.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

2.4. Authorize Establishing Care Corner Activity Account

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Talabiska, to authorize establishing the Care Corner Activity Account.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

2.5. Approve Transfer of Funds

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Talabiska, to authorize transfer of funds from General Fund Bank Account to Athletic Bank Account in the amount of \$8,000.00.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

3. Personnel Committee: Michael Molenko, Chairperson

Committee Members: Louise Cator, Derek O'Dell

3.1. Appoint Paraprofessional

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Flynn, to appoint Christina Curtis, Hop Bottom, as a Paraprofessional at a starting rate of \$13.20 per hour and benefits per MVESPA Agreement, with a start date of January 23, 2024.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

3.2. Accept Letter of Resignation

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Flynn, to accept the letter of resignation, from Donna Jacoby from her paraprofessional position effective the last day of the 2023-2024 school year.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

3.3. Accept Letter of Resignation

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Flynn, to accept the letter of resignation, from Larry Guarnotta from his Custodian position effective January 6, 2024, as presented.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

3.4. Approve Substitute

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Flynn, to approve the following substitute:

Kala Mason, Kingsley PA, to the Paraprofessional Substitute list

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

3.5. Approve Supplemental Salaries

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Flynn, to approve the following supplemental salaries:

- A. Mason Stiver, Musical Play Director Assistant
- B. Brandi Miller, 5th and 6th Grade Basketball

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

3.6. Approve Volunteers

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Flynn, to appoint the following Volunteers:

- A. Holly Estabrook, New Milford, Field trip
- B. Nicole DePhillips, Clifford Twp., Field Trips, Kid Writing, Classroom Help
- C. Robert Sedlak, Clifford Twp., Girls JV/V Basketball, Golf

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

3.7. Motion to Approve Scorers/Timers/Ticket Takers/Game Managers

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Flynn, to approve Jeffrey Miller as Scorer, Timer, Ticket Taker, Game Manager.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

3.8. Approve Coaches

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Flynn, to approve the following supplemental salaries:

- A. Cheer Assistant Coach, Hannah Geron, \$1,788.00

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

3.9. Approve 90-day Long Term Substitute

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Flynn, to approve Bethann Masters as a 90-day long term substitute, at a prorated salary of \$51,812.00, Step 1, Bachelors Column of the 2023-2024 schedule, Effective January 17, 2024 (91st day), and benefits according to contract as a result of serving in the same High School Chemistry position for more than 90 consecutive days.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

4. Policy Committee: Michael Talabiska Chairperson

Committee Members: Danny Very, Tracy Flynn

4.1. Second Reading of the Following Policies (Discussion):

Policy 707 and attachments A and B

- Mr. Talabiska led the discussion on Policy 707 and attachments A and B.

5. Education Committee: Michael Talabiska, Chairperson

Committee Members: Tracy Flynn, Louise Cator

5.1. Approve Homebound

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Ms. Cator, to approve Homebound for Student #25108 beginning November 11, 2023 concluding in one month.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

5.2. Approve Conference Requests

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the following conference requests:

- A. Patricia Button, Monday -Wednesday, May 6-8, 2024, TechTalk Live, Lancaster PA (Travel \$249.25, Lodging \$525.00, Registration \$350.00, Meals \$225.00; Total \$1,349.25)
- B. Matthew Georgetti, Monday –Wednesday, February 5-7, 2024, PETE @ C, Hershey PA (Travel \$175.54, Lodging \$357.12, Registration \$299.00; Total \$831.66)
- C. Christine Misiura, Wednesdays January 10, February 14, April 10, May 22, 2024, OGAP, Abington Heights (Substitute Cost \$220.00)
- D. Carla Hendricks, Wednesday, January 31, 2024, Assistive Technology Training Series, NEIU (No cost to the district)
- E. Erica Loftus, Wednesday through Friday, February 28 through March 1, 2024, PDE Annual Conference, Hershey PA (Travel \$175.54, Lodging \$330.78, Registration \$265.00, Meals \$175.00; Total \$946.32)
- F. Lisa Kozloski, Wednesday through Friday, February 14-16, 2024, NASP Virtual Package, Virtual (Registration \$199.00)

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

5.3. Approve Field Trip Requests

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the following conference requests:

- A. Diana Lombardi, Dr. Mark Lemoncelli and 2-3 chaperones, Saturday, April 27, 2024, Art Club NYC Trip, NYC (\$0 cost to the district)
- B. Kathy McHenry, Rebekah Ihlefeldt, Jason McHenry, Matthew Donnelly and the High School FBLA Students, Monday, December 18, 2024,

Lackawanna College (Transportation \$156.18 (MVFBLA), School Vehicle (\$35.89 FBLA Fund), Registration \$300.00 (paid by students), Substitute \$315.00 Total \$807.07)

- C. Kelly Richmond, Kerra Spindler, Dawn Neri, Danielle Scott and 16 students, Community Access Outing, Kingsley and Montrose (Transportation \$78.60)
- D. Mason Stiver and 5 students, Friday 12/1/2023 to Saturday 12/2/2023, Marywood Wind Festival (Transportation \$78.60, Registration \$320.00 Substitute \$110.00; Total \$508.60)
- E. Glen Mackey and 9 students, Friday, March 8, 2024, Lockheed Martin 8th Grade Engineering Day, Owego NY (Transportation \$77.29, Substitute \$110.00; Total \$187.29)
- F. Karen Zaums, up to 40 student council students, Friday, March 15, 2024 (snow date 3/22/2024), PASC Region H Conference, Mountain View High School (No cost to the district)
- G. Kelly Richmond, Kerra Spindler, Danielle Scott, Dawn Neri and 13 students, Tuesday, January 23, 2024, Movies and Lunch Trip, Dickson City Regal Cinema (Transportation \$80.40)
- H. Jamie Bottger and 1 student, Wednesday through Friday, January 24-26, 2024, PMEA District 9 Chorus, Dallas Area HS (Transportation \$52.40, Registration \$177.00, Substitute \$220.00; Total \$449.40)

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

5.4. Approve Comprehensive K-12 School Counseling Program: 339 Plan

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Ms. Cator, to adopt the Mountain View School District's Comprehensive School Counseling Program, as presented:

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

5.5. Approve Homebound

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Ms. Cator, to approve Homebound for Student #26039 beginning December 13, 2023.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

5.6. Approve Homebound Extension

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Ms. Cator, to approve Homebound Extension for Student #30044 from November 28, 2023-February 28, 2024.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

6. Building and Site Committee: Danny Very, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Kenneth Decker

Mr. Taylor's Report

- Mr.. Taylor stated the wood furnace burned 506 tons of wood chips thus far. The wood furnace shaker-floor broke today.
- Dr. Lemoncelli arrived at the meeting.

7. Transportation Committee: Kenny Decker, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Danny Very

8. Labor Relations Committee: Jason Richmond, Chairperson

MVEA Committee Members: Michael Talabiska, Danny Very, Kenneth Decker

MVESPA Committee Members: Derek O'Dell, Michael Talabiska, Danny Very

- Mr. Richmond stated there was a negotiation meeting with the MVESPA on January 10th.

8.1 Approve MOU with MVEA for Duration of 2023-2024 School Year

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Flynn, to approve the MOU with the MVEA for the use of additional emergency leave days (temporary) to the contract, as presented.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes

9. Administration

9.1. Principals' Comments

Elementary Principal - Mr. Patrick McGarry

- Mr. McGarry said the Christmas concert was a great success. After school clubs have started. Report cards go home on Friday.

High School Principal - Dr. Mark Lemoncelli

- Dr. Lemoncelli is PIAA Coaches For Cancer Week – the game is moved to Friday. The winter Keystone exams are complete.

9.2. Director of Special Services - Mrs. Erica Loftus

- Mrs. Loftus is happy to welcome Christina Curtis. She is sorry to see Donna Jacoby leave. The Unified Bocce team season is going well.

9.3. Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Federal Programs - Mr. Andrew Snyder

- Absent.

9.4. Business Manager – Mr. Thomas Witiak

- Mr. Witiak said it is delightful to be back at Mountain View.

9.5. Superintendent - Dr. Michael Elia

- Dr. Elia gave appreciation to school board in recognition of School Board Appreciation Month.

10. Closing

10.1. New Business from Board Members

- None.

10.2. Second Hearing of Visitors

You may address any topic. Please identify yourself by name and address all comments to the Board as a whole. You will be allowed two (2) minutes for your comments; five (5) minutes if prior written notification was made. Comments relative to private student matters or personnel issues should be directed to the appropriate school authority outside of this meeting. The presiding officer reserves the right to interrupt or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

- None.

10.3. Executive Session – Announcement of executive sessions held and/or scheduled.

HELD:

- Monday, January 22, 2024 - 6:15pm – 7:05pm for Personnel and Litigation.

SCHEDULED:

- Monday, February 12, 2024 before the public meeting

11. Adjourn

The motion was made by Mr. Flynn, second by Ms. Cator, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Witiak