

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

**Monday, April 29, 2024**  
**MINUTES**

**1.1 Call to Order**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education on April 29, 2024 was held in the James W. Zick Board Room and was called to order at 7:15 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; Mr. Michael Talabiska; Mr. Derek O’Dell; Mr. Tracy Flynn; Mr. Danny Very; Mr. Michael Molenko; Ms. Louise Cator.

Absent: None.

**Administration Present:**

Dr. Mike Elia, Superintendent; Mr. Thomas Witiak, Business Manager; Mr. Patrick McGarry, Elementary School Principal; Dr. Mark Lemoncelli, High School Principal; Mrs. Erica Loftus, Special Services Director; Mr. Andrew Snyder, Director of Curriculum; Attorney Joseph Gaughan, Solicitor.

Absent: None.

**1.4. Pride in Mountain View:**

Penny Ziegler presented the MVSGA Liaison Report.

**2022-2023 Independent Audit - Brian T. Kelly**

Brian T. Kelly presented the 2022-2023 independent audit.

**2024-2025 Proposed Final Budget - Tom Witiak**

Mr. Witiak presented the 2024-2025 proposed final budget in the amount of \$23,311,756.63.

**1.5. Approve the Board Minutes**

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Barhite, to approve the minutes dated April 15, 2024, as presented.

Motion Carried: 8 Yes (Mr. Barhite, Mr. Decker, Mr. Flynn, Mr. O’Dell, Mr. Molenko, Mr. Talabiska, Mr. Very, Mr. Richmond), 1 Abstain (Ms. Cator)

## 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 April Bill List

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve the list of bills for April 29, 2024 for the General Fund in the amount of \$475,802.69 and the Cafeteria Fund in the amount of \$2,759.70, totaling \$478,562.39, 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 FSMC

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve The Nutrition Group as the FSMC for 2024-2025 with 4 optional 1-year renewals for 2025-2026, 2026-2027, 2027-2028, and 2028-2029.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes.

### 2.4. 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 Fund Bank Account in the amount of \$2,000.00.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes.

## **2.5. Approve Quarterly Reports**

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve the following quarterly reports dated March 31, 2024 as presented and file for audit:

1. High School Activities Account
2. High School Scholarship Account
3. Elementary School Activities Account

Motion Carried: 9 Yes.

## **3. Personnel Committee: Michael Molenko, Chairperson**

Committee Members: Louise Cator, Derek O'Dell

### **3.1. Accept Letter of Resignation, Due to Retirement**

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. O'Dell, to accept the letter of resignation, due to retirement, for Bambi Schack from her paraprofessional position effective June 30, 2024.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes.

### **3.2. Approve Summer School Staff**

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the following Summer School Staff for the High School for Summer 2024.

- A. Anthony Borgia
- B. George Paterno

Motion Carried: 9 Yes.

### **3.3. Accept Coach Resignation**

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Flynn, to accept the letter of resignation from Bill Simons as Head Coach for the Girls Basketball Team, effective immediately, as presented.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes.

### **3.4. Authorize Advertising**

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. O'Dell, to authorize advertising for a Girls Head Basketball Coach.

Motion Carried: 9 Yes.

**3.5. Approve Substitute**

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the following substitutes:

Andrew Graham, Nicholson PA, to the Substitute IT List

Motion Carried: 9 Yes.

**4. Policy Committee: Michael Talabiska Chairperson**  
Committee Members: Danny Very, Tracy Flynn

**4.1. Approve the Following Policy:**

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the following policy, as presented.

Policy 121- Field Trips  
Policy 907- School Visitors  
Policy 916- Volunteers

Motion Carried: 9 Yes.

**4.2. First Reading of the Following Policies:**

Policy 216-Student Records  
Policy 216.1-Supplemental Discipline Records  
Policy 802-School Organization

**5. Education Committee: Michael Talabiska, Chairperson**  
Committee Members: Tracy Flynn, Louise Cator

**5.1. Approve Conference Requests**

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

- A. Ashley Coviello, Brandi Miller, Erika Gething, Kristy Moher (5 chaperones per class + additional adults), 80 students, Wednesday, May 14, 2024, Animal Adventure Park, Harpursville NY (No Cost to District)
- B. Kindergarten Teachers, 36 students, Parent Chaperones, Nurse, Thursday, May 9, 2024, The Discovery Center, Binghamton NY (No Cost to the District)

- C. Allison Paparelli, Katie Holzman, Adrienne Brown, Colleen Hammond, 15 chaperones, Fifth Grade Class, Friday, May 17, 2024, Lackawanna State Park and Lenox Dairy Bar (No Cost to the District)
- D. Sarah Evans, Melissa Berish, Charissa Ofalt, Tammy Miller, Mishelle Tellish, Friday, May 10, 2024, Electric City Aquarium, Scranton (Transportation \$30.82)
- E. Todd Calabro, +1, Whitney Johnson, Friday, April 26, 2024, Elk Mountain (Transportation \$159.50, Substitute \$220.00; Total \$379.50)
- F. Rebekah Ihlefeldt, Jessica Trichilo and 7-12 students, Sunday Through Tuesday, May 19-21, 2024, PJAS, Penn State Main, (Registration \$3,148.00, Substitute \$440.00; Total \$3,588.00)
- G. Whitney Johnson, Todd Calabro and 20 students, Wednesday, May 29, 2024, Jr High Envirothon, Lackawanna State Park, (Transportation \$191.18, Substitute \$220.00; Total \$411.18)
- H. JoAnn Voda, George Paterno, Jamie Esgro, 9 Chaperones, Nurse and 72 students, Friday, May 17, 2024, Ross Park Zoo, Binghamton NY (No Cost to the District)
- I. Susan Gravine, 7 chaperones and 32 students, Monday, May 13, 2024, Empet Farm (No Cost to the District)
- J. Jaimie Mirabelli, Cynthia Stanton, Ashley Kelley, 8 chaperones and 33 students, Tuesday, May 14, 2024, Pavelski Farm (No Cost to the District)

Motion Carried: 9 Yes.

## 5.2. Approve Religious Instruction 2024-2025

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the Religious Instruction Program between the Mountain View School District and the Child Evangelism Fellowship of Susquehanna County for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented.

Motion Carried: 8 Yes (Mr. Barhite, Mr. Decker, Mr. Flynn, Mr. O'Dell, Mr. Molenko, Mr. Talabiska, Ms. Cator, Mr. Richmond), 1 No (Mr. Very)

## 6. **Building and Site Committee: Danny Very, Chairperson** Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Kenneth Decker

Mr. Taylor's Report

- Mr. Taylor stated that the lawn is growing fast. Leatherstocking is surveying for the pipeline.

## 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 announced that the MVESPA Committee met today from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

## **9. Administration**

### **9.1. Principals' Comments**

Elementary Principal - Mr. Patrick McGarry

- Mr. McGarry stated that the 6<sup>th</sup> grade class will visit the HS on Friday. Teacher Appreciation Week is next week.

High School Principal - Dr. Mark Lemoncelli

- Dr. Lemoncelli said that the PSSAs conclude this week. Addison Kilmer was named player of the year. The Prom is May 11. Lily Sedlak was named scholar of the year. MVHS was listed on *US News & World Reports* Best High Schools list.

### **9.2. Director of Special Services - Mrs. Erica Loftus**

- Mrs. Loftus thanked Bambi Schack for her years of service. The PASSA exams are finishing up this week.

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

- Mr. Snyder said that the Keystone Exams begin in May. Title 1, 2, & 4 allocations will be announced in May. He is currently working on the FID application.

### **9.4. Business Manager – Mr. Thomas Witiak**

- No comment.

### **9.5. Superintendent - Dr. Michael Elia**

- Dr. Elia said that he will work on presenting the best budget possible.

## **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, April 29, 2024 - 6:00pm – 7:03 pm for Personnel

**SCHEDULED:**

- Monday, May 20, 2024 before the public meeting

**11. Adjourn**

The motion was made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Very, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

**Enclosures:**

- 1.5-April 15, 2024 Minutes
- 2.1-Bill List
- 2.2-Exonerations for Real Estate, Per Capita and Occupation Taxes
- 3.1-Schack Resignation
- 3.3-Simons Resignation
- 4.1-Policy 121- Field Trips
- Policy 907- School Visitors
- Policy 916- Volunteers
- 4.2-Policy 216-Student Records
  - Policy 216.1-Supplemental Discipline Records
- Policy 802-School Organization
- 5.2-Religious Instruction

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Witiak