

The special public meeting of the Mountain View School District Board of Education was held this date in the board room at the elementary school. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., by vice-president, Dr. Todd Adams.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| A- Mr. James W. Zick, President                   | V- Vacant  |
| P- Dr. Todd L. Adams, 1 <sup>st</sup> V.P.        | P- Mrs. Sondra E. Stine                          |
| P- Mrs. Dava Rinehart-Cowan, 2 <sup>nd</sup> V.P. | P- Mr. Thomas Stoddard                           |
| P- Dr. Christine Plonski-Sezer, Treasurer         | P- Mr. Roy Twining                               |
| P- Mrs. Ellen B. Aherne                           | P- Mrs. Diane Makosky, Secretary<br>(Non-Member) |

**ADMINISTRATION**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| P- Dr. Andrew Chichura, Superintendent                  | P- Mr. Andrew Doster, Jr. /Sr. High School Principal                                      |
| V- Vacant, Business Manager                             | A- Mr. Robert Presley - Elementary School Principal                                       |
| A- Mrs. Laurie Cobb, Assistant Business Manager         | P- Mrs. Karen Voigt, Director of Curriculum &<br>Instruction/Federal Programs – 7:39 P.M. |
| P- Mrs. Susan Pipitone, Director of Special<br>Services |   |

**APPROVE MINUTES:** The motion was made by Dr. Plonski-Sezer, seconded by Mrs. Aherne, to approve the minutes of the February 20-27, 2012, public meeting as presented. Voting: Carried. Refer to Resolution #254 (7 yes, 1 absent, 1 vacant)

**FIRST HEARING OF VISITORS** - None

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Dava Rinehart-Cowan  
Committee Members: Thomas Stoddard, Ellen Aherne

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Sondra Stine  
Committee Members: Todd Adams, Roy Twining

**ACKNOWLEDGE NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO RETIRE:** The motion was made by Mrs. Stine, seconded by Mrs. Rinehart-Cowan, to acknowledge notification from Debbie Earley of their intent to retire as of the last day of school in **June 2012**, as presented. Voting: Carried. Refer to Resolution #255 (7 yes, 1 absent, 1 vacant)

**ACKNOWLEDGE NOTIFICATIONS OF INTENT TO RETIRE:** The motion was made by Mrs. Stine, seconded by Mrs. Rinehart-Cowan, to acknowledge notifications from Robert Fisher, David Schulte and Constance Schulte of their intent to retire before the last day of school in **June 2013**, under contract provisions in effect at date of retirement, as presented. Voting: Not Carried. Refer to Resolution #256 (7 no, 1 absent, 1 vacant)

Mr. Stoddard noted the intent to retire deadline of March 1<sup>st</sup> is to help us in dealing with budgeting. It makes no sense to put a letter in for next year. By submitting their letter now they want to be covered for the retirement incentive under the current contract, which is \$5,600.00 a year for a ten year period. If the current list of intended retire it will cost the district ¾ of a million dollars.

Dr. Chichura said under the current contract if they plan on retiring before the end of next year we need to be notified by March 1, 2012.

**ACCEPT RESIGNATION:** The motion was made by Mrs. Stine, seconded by Mrs. Rinehart-Cowan, to accept the letter of resignation as of the last day of the 2011-2012 school year, due to retirement, submitted by Nancy J. Burdick, as presented. Voting: Carried. Refer to Resolution #257 (7 yes, 1 absent, 1 vacant)

**ACCEPT RESIGNATION:** The motion was made by Mrs. Stine, seconded by Mrs. Rinehart-Cowan, to accept the letter of resignation as of the last day of the 2011-2012 school year, due to retirement, submitted by Sharon Kinney, as presented. Voting: Carried. Refer to Resolution #258 (7 yes, 1 absent, 1 vacant)

**APPROVE VOLUNTEER(S):** The motion was made by Mrs. Stine, seconded by Mrs. Rinehart-Cowan, to approve the following volunteer(s) for the 2011-2012 school year:

- Molly Virbitsky, 3309 State Route 2014, Clifford Township, PA - Athletics/Track

Voting: Carried. Refer to Resolution #259 (7 yes, 1 absent, 1 vacant)

### **POLICY COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Christine Plonski-Sezer  
Committee Members: Ellen Aherne, Roy Twining

### ***SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS***

Dr. Chichura said he provided the Board with information on Senate Bill 1296 dealing with salary and benefits. They should review this information in developing the contract for the new superintendent.

He noted the new business manager is to start Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.

He also went over the three year history of payments to Susquehanna County CTC.

### ***PRINCIPAL'S COMMENTS***

None

### ***FEDERAL PROGRAMS UPDATE***

Mrs. Voigt said PSSA testing starts Monday for grades three through eight and eleventh in reading and math. Later grades five, eight and eleven will take writing and grades four, eight and eleven will take science. Breakfast will be provided. She noted there is also a change in proctoring the tests.

In the recent Odyssey of the Mind competition we placed second in style and fifth overall.

In the recent PJAS competition we had nine students compete. Five placed first and four placed second. One student received \$150.00 for the Lackawanna Medical College fellowship award.

She and Mr. Doster went to Lakeland to observe Project Lead the Way, and toured their labs.

The strategic planning committee met March 6<sup>th</sup>. They have their mission statement and are now working on the vision statement. The next meeting will be March 20<sup>th</sup>. A representative from Cabot Oil and Gas will be there.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Todd Adams

Committee Members: Christine Plonski-Sezer, Sondra Stine

**REVIEW HOME STUDIES STUDENT(S):** The motion was made by Dr. Plonski-Sezer seconded by Mrs. Rinehart-Cowan, to approve the following home studies student(s) for five (5) hours of instruction per week or hours in compliance with their IEP:

<u>Student Number</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Estimated Ending Date</u>
a. #15054	02/13/2012	02/27/12
b. #14073	02/20/2012	TBD

Voting: Carried. Refer to Resolution #260 (6 yes, 1 absent, 1 abstain, 1 vacant)

There was discussion on the start date for student (b). It was decided to leave it as is.

**DISCUSS DISTRICT-WIDE SCHEDULING AND STAFFING:** Dr. Chichura presented a possible proposal for some changes in scheduling and staffing. He proposed possibly going to an eight period day with a common planning period in the morning before school starts for students, going to two lunch periods instead of three, reducing the number of electives, band and chorus as after school activities. He spoke about pros and cons with the changes.

There was talk about possibly reducing the graduation requirements. We need to look at what our needs are. How many students we have and how many sections we need. We don't have the population to provide so many electives. How many periods do the Vo-Tech students need to meet current graduation requirements.

On the professional side, Teri Edwards, Brenda Sinkovich, Melody Haley, Ernie Griffis, Kristin Hogan-Smith, Corrine McNabb, Katie Holzman expressed the following concerns: With a common prep time they couldn't possibly get all their copying done with only one copier; clubs don't meet every day so moving band and chorus to after school would not fall under the current stipend; common prep period after school would interfere with students staying after for sports; It was noted if the course of studies were approved it did not mean all courses would run. The Board should look at how the professionals use their prep time.

Jan Winemiller, Harford, is concerned with the loss of hands on courses like woodshop and Family and Consumer Science. She was surprised at what the students were not able to do.

Jamie Janesky, Hop Bottom, asked how our projected numbers compare with our actual numbers.

Dr. Chichura noted the reduced number of sections for the specialists at the elementary school. Perhaps an area to look at would be assigning them ½ day at the elementary and ½ day at the high school.

Mr. Barbolish said a reduction in time allotment would not give the students time to complete their projects.

Mrs. McNabb suggested sitting down with the specialist to see what they do during those extra times.

We need to be more effective and efficient with our time.

Mr. Stoddard suggested possibly reducing the graduation requirements.

Mrs. Sinkovich could not understand why we would do that. She referred to a comment she overheard about the teachers only coming out when it affects their job. This is not true. She said they are here for the students.

Mr. Twining stated he is not aware of everything. He wants input, but noted most meetings there are only a handful of people that attend the meetings. He urged them to stay involved all year round so the board can make the best decisions.

Mrs. Janesky is not in favor of reducing the requirements for graduation. We would not be preparing them for college, nor would they have a trade.

Mrs. Hogan-Smith noted colleges want a well rounded student.

When asked if changes would be made this year Dr. Chichura said with the potential retirements we should do as much as we can to avoid future furloughs.

Monica Miller asked what the board needed to approve the course of studies.

Mrs. Rinehart-Cowan said she needed the number of teachers, sections needed and number of students.

Mr. Doster said this cannot be done all at once. You need to put a plan in place for our current ninth and tenth grade students and move forward.

Dr. Adams asked if it will help moving to a common planning period before school. Mr. Doster said it would be easier.

Dr. Chichura noted we need to plan for future expenditures over the next few years.

Katie Holzman questioned why the retirement incentive had to be all committed now. We are required to by law.

**BUILDING AND SITE COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Roy Twining  
Committee Members: Kevin Griffiths, Dava Rinehart-Cowan

**TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Kevin Griffiths  
Committee Members: Dava Rinehart-Cowan, Todd Adams

**LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chairperson: Thomas Stoddard

Committee Members: Ellen Aherne, Dava Rinehart-Cowan, Sondra Stine,  
Christine Plonski-Sezer-Alternate

**NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Mrs. Rinehart-Cowan understands the professional staff is allowed to leave early at times for appointments. She would like a year to date list of everyone who has been allowed to leave early.

That request caused quite a reaction from those professionals attending from a lack of trust, to would you rather pay for a substitute for a half day, to check the security cameras to see how much extra time is put in. They didn't understand it was an accountability issue.

**SECOND HEARING OF VISITORS**

Mr. Baker, reporter, questioned why we were re-advertising for a superintendent.

Jay Wescott, Lenox, asked if the advertising was authorized.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Announcement by the Board President of executive sessions held and/or scheduled prior to the next meeting.

**HELD**

Monday, February 27, 2012, 6:30 P.M. to 7:05 P.M. – Personnel

Monday, February 27, 2012, 9:15 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. – Personnel

**SCHEDULED**

Monday, March 12, 2012 – 6:30 P.M. and following public meeting

Monday, March 19, 2012 – 6:30 P.M. and following public meeting

Monday, April 9, 2012 – 6:30 P.M. and following public meeting

Monday, April 16, 2012 – 6:30 P.M. and following public meeting

**ADJOURN:** The motion was made by Mrs. Stine, seconded by Mrs. Rinehart-Cowan, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 P.M.

Diane Makosky  
Secretary

	<u>Adams</u>	<u>Aherne</u>	<u>Griffiths</u>	<u>P-Sezer</u>	<u>R-Cowan</u>	<u>Stine</u>	<u>Stoddard</u>	<u>Twining</u>	<u>Zick</u>
254.	Y	Y	vacant	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	absent
255.	Y	Y	vacant	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	absent
256.	Y	Y	vacant	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	absent
257.	Y	Y	vacant	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	absent
258.	Y	Y	vacant	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	absent
259.	Y	Y	vacant	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	absent
260.	Y	Y	vacant	Y	Y	Y	Y	abstain	absent