

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

**Monday, March 8, 2021**  
**MINUTES**

**1.1 Call to Order**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education on March 8, 2021 was held in the High School Auditorium and was called to order at 7:54 PM by Mr. Jason Richmond, President.

**1.2 Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence for MV losses over the past few weeks.**

**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, Treasurer; Mr. Danny Very (via call-in); Mrs. Sondra Stine; Mr. David Schulte; Mr. Derek O’Dell; Dr. Christine Plonski-Sezer.

Absent: None

**Administration Present:**

Dr. Mike Elia, Superintendent; Mr. Thomas Witiak, Business Manager, Dr. Mark Lemoncelli, High School Principal; Mr. Douglas Womelsdorf, Director of Curriculum (via call-in); Dr. Christopher Lake, Elementary School Principal (via call-in); Mrs. Erica Loftus, Special Services Director; Attorney Joseph Gaughan, Solicitor.

Absent: None

**1.4 PRIDE IN MOUNTAIN VIEW:**

**Presentation:** Program of Studies – Grades 9 through 12- Dr. Lemoncelli

- Dr. Lemoncelli presented the HS Program of Studies.

**1.5 Approval of the Minutes –February 22, 2021**

The motion is made by Mrs. Stine, second by Mr. Schulte, to approve the minutes dated February 22, 2021, as presented.

Motion 204 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.*

- Chase Poploski said that seniors are missing out on typical senior activities. He read a case study.
- Dempsey Hollenback said that virtual learning is stressful for her sister. There is a larger work load with virtual learning.
- Kirsten Smith said kids need a full return. Students have lost days of learning resulting in a learning loss.
- Allison Bluhm said that we need to be sure that we educate safely and open safely. Social distancing will be impossible in a fully open learning model.
- Melody Haley shared MVSD COVID related health data.
- Kim Poploski shared pharmaceutical COVID related health data.
- Kirsten Smith said that 2 million vaccines have been administered.
- Ashley Kilmer asked if survey results will be shared. Dr. Elia explained some of the response results.
- Bridget Evans said that she feels strongly that students should return fully. She thanked Mrs. Tranovich for her virtual lessons.
- Holly Galvin said that she has bad internet at home. HS students would be able to socially distance more easily because of spring weather and the ability to complete some tasks outside.
- Justin Fletcher said that internet is a challenge for his family.

## **2. Finance Committee: Michael Barhite, Chairperson**

Committee Members: Sondra Stine, Derek O'Dell

### **2.1 Approve March Bill List**

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Schulte, to approve the list of bills for the March 8, 2021 General Fund, Cafeteria Fund bill lists in the amount of \$54,229.67.

Motion 205 Carried: 9 Yes

### **2.2 Support 2021 Reform of PA Charter School Payment Resolution**

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Schulte, to support the 2021 Charter School Payment Reform Resolution, as presented.

Motion 206 Carried: 9 Yes

### **2.3 Approve RWAN Service Order and Letter of Agency with the RWAN Consortium**

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Schulte, to approve RWAN Services for the Mountain View School District by LIU 18 and NEIU beginning July 1, 2021 at an estimated cost of \$18,337.20, as presented.

Motion 207 Carried: 9 Yes

## **3. Personnel Committee: David Schulte, Chairperson**

Committee Members: Christine Plonski-Sezer, Derek O'Dell

**3.1 Approve Job Description for Administrative Assistant to the Business Office/Transportation Coordinator**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Dr. Plonski-Sezer, to approve the job description for Administrative Assistant to the Business Office/Transportation Coordinator, as presented.

Motion 208 Carried: 9 Yes

**3.2 Approve Spring Coaches**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Dr. Plonski-Sezer, to approve the following Spring Coaches:

Baseball-Head Coach	Anthony Borgia	Waverly Twp	\$ 3,740.00
Baseball-Ass't Coach	Ryan McAndrew	Archbald	\$ 3,080.00
Baseball-JV Coach	Darin Bain	Kingsley	\$ 3,080.00
Baseball-JH Coach	Ron Jackson	Kingsley	\$ 2,695.00
Baseball-Volunteer	Bill Chichester	Harford	
Softball-Head Coach	Dave Harvey	Hop Bottom	\$ 3,740.00
Softball-Ass't Coach	Joyce Harvey	Hop Bottom	\$ 3,080.00
Softball-JH Coach	Beth Sedlak	Clifford Twp	\$ 2,695.00
Softball-Volunteer	Dwight Carey	Kingsley	
Track-Head Coach	Melody Haley	Clifford Twp	\$ 3,740.00
Track-Ass't Coach	Ray Mitchell	Kingsley	\$ 2,310.00
Track-Ass't Coach	Lauren Soden	Thompson	\$ 2,310.00
Track-Ass't Coach	Alexis Presley	Susquehanna	\$ 2,310.00
Track-Ass't Coach	Anthony Gaynor	Factoryville	\$ 2,310.00
Track-Volunteer	Becky Empet	Kingsley	
Boys Volleyball-Head Coach	Dave Breese	South Gibson	\$ 3,740.00
Boys Volleyball-Ass't Coach	Jordan Kochmer	Clifford Twp	\$ 3,080.00
Boys Volleyball-Volunteer	Mark Hemmerly	Nicholson	

Motion 209 Carried: 8 Yes (Mr. Richmond, Mr. Decker, Mr. Barhite, Mr. O'Dell, Mr. Very, Mrs. Stine, Mr. Talabiska, Dr. Plonski-Sezer), 1 No (Mr. Schulte)

**3.3 Approve Special Unpaid Leave**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Dr. Plonski-Sezer, to approve a special unpaid leave for Susan Jones, Nicholson, PA from March 5, 2021 to April 12, 2021 for medical reasons, as presented.

Motion 210 Carried: 9 Yes

**3.4 Approve Substitute**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Dr. Plonski-Sezer, to approve the following substitute.

- a. Matthew Ord, Kingsley, PA, to the High School and Elementary Substitute lists, PK-4.

Motion 211 Carried: 9 Yes

### **3.5 Approve Sick Leave under FFCRA Policy**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Dr. Plonski-Sezer, for school employees, as presented.

Motion 212 Carried: 9 Yes

### **3.6 Approve Supplemental Salary Requests**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Dr. Plonski-Sezer, to approve supplemental salary requests for 2020-2021, as presented.

Motion 213 Carried: 9 Yes

### **3.7 Accept Letter of Resignation for Retirement**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Dr. Plonski-Sezer, to accept the letter of resignation, for retirement purposes, from Robin Phillips from her Art Teacher position effective the last school day of the 2020-2021 school year.

Motion 214 Carried: 9 Yes

## **4. Policy Committee: Christine Plonski-Sezer Chairperson**

Committee Members: Michael Talabiska, Sondra Stine

### **4.1 First Reading of the Following Policy:**

Policy #309.1- Telework

- Dr. Plonski-Sezer read Policy #309.1 - Telework

## **5. Education Committee: Sondra Stine, Chairperson**

Committee Members: Michael Talabiska, David Schulte

### **5.1 Approve Conference Requests**

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

- A. Steven Farrell and Dr. Christopher Lake, Wednesday and Thursday, March 24-25, 2021, HSSAP/Pre-K Counts Spring Grantee Required Meeting, Remotely (Substitute \$190.00) (Pre-K Grant)

Motion 215 Carried: 9 Yes

### **5.2 Approve Program of Studies – Grades 9 through 12**

The motion is made to approve the program of studies for grades 9 through 12 for the 2021-2022 school year, as presented.

Motion 216 Carried: 9 Yes

### 5.3 Approve Educational Platform for 2020-2021 School Year

The motion is made by Mrs. Stine, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve the plan for the 2020-2021 school year, in which Mountain View students will attend classes in the hybrid model for the fourth marking period.

Motion 217 Carried: 5 Yes (Mr. Decker, Dr. Plonski-Sezer, Mrs. Stine, Mr. Talabiska, Mr. Richmond), 4 No (Mr. Barhite, Mr. O'Dell, Mr. Very, Mr. Schulte)

## 6. **Building and Site Committee: Danny Very, Chairperson**

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Kenneth Decker

Mr. Taylor's report

- Mr. Taylor stated that DEP Water Audit is complete and there were no violations.

## 7. **Transportation Committee: Kenny Decker, Chairperson**

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Danny Very

### 7.1 Approve Parent Driver

The motion is made by Mr. Decker, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve Nicole Rowles as a parent driver.

Motion 218 Carried: 9 Yes

## 8. **Labor Relations Committee: Jason Richmond, Chairperson**

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

MVESPA Committee Members, Christine Plonski-Sezer, David Schulte, Sondra Stine

## 9. **Administration**

### 9.1 Principals' Comments

#### **Elementary Principal – Dr. Christopher Lake**

- Dr. Lake wished Robin Phillips a happy retirement. The ES is having a virtual book fair this week.

#### **High School Principal – Dr. Mark Lemoncelli**

- Dr. Lemoncelli stated that about 50 HS students are presenting Newsies with coming weekend.

### 9.2 Director of Special Services – Mrs. Erica Loftus

- Mrs. Loftus said the PASSA window is open now until May 7. She is currently making ESY determinations.

**9.3 Director of Curriculum & Instruction and Federal Programs –Mr. Douglas Womelsdorf**

- Mr. Womelsdorf congratulated Mrs. Aten. She will be an AP reader.

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

- No comment.

**9.5 Superintendent– Dr. Michael Elia**

- No comment.

**New Business from Board Members**

- Mr. Barhite asked to which newspaper publications we submit student accomplishments. Dr. Elia stated the Scranton Times, Sunday Times, Transcript and Independent.

**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.*

- Trey Hummel said the students need live streaming.
- Dylan Latwinski said his kids are struggling with hybrid.
- Kevin Radford said his kids are struggling with hybrid.
- Heather Barlow said that more can be done by faculty while kids are at home.

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

**HELD:**

- Monday, March 8, 2021 – 6:00 PM - 7:50 PM for Personnel

**SCHEDULED:**

- Monday, March 8, 2021, after the public meeting
- Monday, March 22, 2021 before and after the public meeting

**10. Adjourn**

The motion was made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Talabiska, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:53 PM.

Enclosures:

- 1.5- February 22, 2021 Minutes
- 2.1-March 2021 Bill List
- 2.2-Charter Reform Act
- 2.3-RWAN Agreement
- 3.1- Business Office Assistant Job Description
- 3.3-Jones Letter
- 3.5-FFCRA Sick Leave Policy

3.6-Supplemental Salary List  
4.1- Policy #309.1- Telework  
5.2-Grades 9-12 Program of Studies

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Witiak