

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

**Monday, March 14, 2022**  
**MINUTES**

**1.1 Call to Order**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education on March 14, 2022 was held in the James W. Zick Board Room and was called to order at 7:17 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; Mrs. Sondra Stine, Treasurer; Mr. David Schulte; Mr. Danny Very (via call-in); Mr. Michael Talabiska; Dr. Christine Plonski-Sezer; Mr. Derek O’Dell.

Absent: None.

**Administration Present:**

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

Absent: None.

**1.4 PRIDE IN MOUNTAIN VIEW:**

**1.5 Approval of the Minutes –February 28, 2022**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve the minutes dated February 28, 2022, as presented.

Motion 284 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.
- Corrina Kinney asked what is an MOU.

**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. Talabiska, to approve the list of bills for the March 14, 2022 General Fund, Cafeteria Fund bill lists in the amount of \$442,409.75.

Motion 285 Carried: 9 Yes

**2.2 Approve Agreement between Appletree School Psychologist and The Mountain View School District**

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve an Agreement between Appletree School Psychologist and The Mountain View School District, effective March 4, 2022, as presented.

Motion 286 Carried: 9 Yes

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

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

**3.1 Approve Volunteer**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to appoint the following Volunteer:

Mark Hemmerly, Nicholson PA, Boys Volleyball

Motion 287 Carried: 9 Yes

**3.2 Authorize Advertising**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to authorize advertising for an Assistant Principal with benefits per the Act 93 Agreement, with a start date to be determined.

Motion 288 Carried: 9 Yes

**3.3 Accept Letter of Resignation for Retirement**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to accept the letter of resignation, for retirement purposes, from George Barbolish from his Dean of Students position, effective the last school day of the 2021-2022 school year, as presented.

Motion 289 Carried: 9 Yes

**3.4 Accept Letter of Resignation for Retirement**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to accept the letter of resignation, for retirement purposes, from Diana Evans Slick from her Counselor at-Risk position, effective the last school day of the 2021-2022 school year, as presented.

Motion 290 Carried: 9 Yes

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

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to accept the letter of resignation, for retirement purposes, from Andrea James from her Title I Teacher position, effective the last school day of the 2021-2022 school year, as presented.

Motion 291 Carried: 9 Yes

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

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to accept the letter of resignation, for retirement purposes from John Arnold from his Teaching position, effective the last school day of the 2021-2022 school year, as presented.

Motion 292 Carried: 9 Yes

### **3.7 Approve MOU for District Office Clerical Staff Agreement**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to approve an MOU for the District Office Clerical staff to recoup up to 10 days for Covid absences, as presented.

Motion 293 Carried: 9 Yes

### **3.8 Approve MOU for Act 93 Agreement**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to approve an MOU for Act 93 staff to recoup up to 10 days for Covid absences, as presented.

Motion 294 Carried: 9 Yes

### **3.9 Approve MOU for Sheri Ransom's Act 93 Agreement**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to approve an MOU for Sheri Ransom to recoup up to 10 days for Covid absences, as presented.

Motion 295 Carried: 9 Yes

### **3.10 Approve MOU for Thomas Witiak's Non-Act 93 Agreement**

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to approve an MOU for Thomas Witiak to recoup up to 10 days for Covid absences, as presented.

Motion 296 Carried: 9 Yes

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

The motion is made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to accept the letter of resignation, for retirement purposes, from Dr. Christopher Lake from his Elementary Principal position effective June 30, 2022, as presented.

Motion 297 Carried: 9 Yes

**Policy Committee: Christine Plonski-Sezer Chairperson**

Committee Members: Michael Talabiska, Sondra Stine

**4.1 Second Reading of the Following Policy (discussion):**

Policy 338-Sabbatical Leave  
Policy 338.1-Compensated Professional Leaves  
Policy 339-Uncompensated Leave  
Policy 340-Responsibility for Student Welfare  
Policy 341-Benefits for Part-Time Employees  
Policy 342-Jury Duty  
Policy 343-Paid Holidays  
Policy 347-Worker's Compensation Transitional Return-to-Work Program  
Policy 351-Drug and Substance Abuse

- Dr. Plonski-Sezer led the discussion on the above policies.

**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. Holly Benedict, Lori Cobb and Mary Lynne Twining, Wednesday, June 15, 2022, Sapphire University Online Enrollment and Registration Training, Virtual, (Registration \$300.00)

Motion 298 Carried: 9 Yes

**5.2 Approve Field Trip Requests**

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

- A. Kelly Richmond, Danielle Scott, Dawn Neri and 5 students, Tuesday, March 15, 2022, Life Skills Community Trip, Montrose, PA (Transportation \$17.55)  
B. Mason Stiver, Friday and Saturday, April 29-30, 2022, Music in the Park, Hershey PA (Substitute \$100.00, all fees paid by MVPAA and students)  
C. Kathy McHenry, Jason McHenry and FBLA Students, Friday, March 18, 2022, FBLA Chapter Night Out, Mohegan Sun Arena (Transportation \$308.65 (paid by FBLA), Registration \$400.00 (Paid by students)- total \$708.65-No cost to the district)

- D. Tracy Bazil, parent chaperones and Kindergarten class, Thursday, May 12, 2022, The Discovery Center, Binghamton NY (Transportation \$494.48 (paid by PTO) No Cost to the District)
- E. Jamie Bottger, Molly Birozak and 13 students, Friday, March 18, 2022, PMEA District 9 Chorus Fest, Hazleton PA (Transportation \$219.38, Registration \$624.00, Substitute \$200.00; Total \$1,043.38)
- F. Sheri Ransom and 4-5 students on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, Tunkhannock Creek (Transportation \$19.60)
- G. Sheri Ransom, Brion Stone and 4-5 students, Tuesday, April 26, 2022, Tunkhannock Creek (Transportation \$19.60)

Motion 299 Carried: 9 Yes

### 5.3 Approve School Calendar

The motion is made by Mrs. Stine, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve the 2022-2023 school year calendar, as presented.

Motion 300 Failed: 3 Yes (Mr. Barhite, Dr. Plonski-Sezer, Mrs. Stine), 6 No (Mr. Schulte, Mr. Decker, Mr. O'Dell, Mr. Talabiska, Mr. Very, Mr. Richmond)

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

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Kenneth Decker

Mr. Taylor's report

- Mr. Taylor said, given our fixed rate, we will be sure to top-off our fuel oil tanks before the end of June.

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

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Danny Very

### 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 thanked Mrs. James, Mr. Arnold for their years of service. He also thanked Mr. Richmond and Dr. Elia for handing out Skyrocketing Eagles awards. The science fair is Friday.

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

- Dr. Lemoncelli thanked Dr. Lake for guidance with learning some principal duties. He will miss Mr. Barbolish – he is a great asset.

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

- Mrs. Loftus thanked Mrs. Slick, Mr. Barbolish and Dr. Lake for their years of service. She also said Dr. Lake was a great help with transitioning to her position.

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

- Mr. Womelsdorf congratulated Mrs. James, Mr. Arnold, Mrs. Slick, Mr. Barbolish, and Dr. Lake on their retirements. The SATs are rescheduled to March 26, 2022.

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

- No comment.

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

- Dr. Elia thanked Mrs. James, Mr. Arnold, Mrs. Slick, Mr. Barbolish, and Dr. Lake for their years of service.

### **New Business from Board Members**

- Mr. Decker asked about the Washington DC trip.
- Mr. Schulte congratulated Mr. Barbolish on his well-deserved retirement.

**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.*

- Corrina Kinney discussed the rising fuel prices and would like a stipend based on mileage.
- Gary Sanauskas asked if we can use any relief funds to help the drivers.
- Sheila Petrotchko would like a per mile pay increase.

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

#### **HELD:**

- Monday, March 14, 2022 – 6:00 PM - 7:15 PM for Personnel

#### **SCHEDULED:**

- Monday, March 28, 2022 before and after the public meeting

## **10. Adjourn**

The motion was made by Mr. Schulte, second by Mr. Very, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM.

#### **Enclosures:**

- 1.5- February 28, 2022 Minutes
- 2.1- March2022 Bill List
- 2.2-Appletree Agreement
- 3.3-Barbolish Retirement

- 3.4-Slick Retirement
- 3.5-James Retirement
- 3.6-Arnold Retirement
- 3.7-MOU for District Office Clerical Staff Agreement
- 3.8-MOU for Act 93 Agreement
- 3.9-MOU for Sheri Ransom's Act 93 Agreement
- 3.10-Approve MOU for Thomas Witiak's Non-Act 93 Agreement
- 4.1- Policy 338-Sabbatical Leave
  - Policy 338.1-Compensated Professional Leaves
  - Policy 339-Uncompensated Leave
  - Policy 340-Responsibility for Student Welfare
  - Policy 341-Benefits for Part-Time Employees
  - Policy 342-Jury Duty
  - Policy 343-Paid Holidays
  - Policy 347-Worker's Compensation Transitional Return-to-Work Program
- 5.3-2022-2023 Calendar

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Witiak