

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

Monday, April 15, 2024
MINUTES

1.1 Call to Order

The regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education on April 15, 2024 was held in the James W. Zick Board Room and was called to order at 7:16 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.

Absent: Ms. Louise Cator.

Administration Present:

Dr. Mike Elia, Superintendent; Mr. Thomas Witiak, Business Manager; Mr. Patrick McGarry, Elementary School Principal; Dr. Mark Lemoncelli, High School Principal; Attorney Joseph Gaughan, Solicitor.

Absent: Mrs. Erica Loftus, Special Services Director; Mr. Andrew Snyder, Director of Curriculum.

1.4. Pride in Mountain View:

Elementary Student Council Representative

- Rosalyn Jagger, Emma Richmond, Brody Barhite, Molly Nice, and David Ditchey discussed the ES Student Council.

1.5. Amend the Agenda

The motion is made by Mr. Flynn, second by Mr. Molenko, to amend the agenda to include the bid opening of FSMC bids.

Motion Carried: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

1.6. Bid Opening

The motion is made by Mr. Flynn, second by Mr. Molenko, to open the FSMC bids.

Motion Carried: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

- Nutrition Inc. submitted a bid for a guaranteed loss not to exceed \$24,917.62.

1.7. Budget Presentations

- Special Education – Erica Loftus
Dr. Elia presented the Special Education budget in the amount of \$1,168,850.
- Elementary School – Patrick McGarry
Mr. McGarry presented the ES budget in the amount of \$124,650.
- High School & Athletics – Mark Lemoncelli
Dr. Lemoncelli presented the HS budget in the amount of \$1,213,750. He presented the Athletics budget in the amount of \$150,500.

1.8. Approve the Board Minutes

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the minutes dated March 18, 2024, as presented.

Motion Carried: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

1.9. Treasurer's Report – Michael Talabiska, Treasurer

- Mr. Talabiska presented the Treasurer's Report.

1.10. 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. Very, to approve the list of bills for April 15, 2024 for the General Fund in the amount of \$553,062.94, as presented.

Motion Carried: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

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

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Very, 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: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

3. Personnel Committee: Michael Molenko, Chairperson

Committee Members: Louise Cator, Derek O'Dell

3.1. Accept Letter of Resignation

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. O'Dell, to accept the letter of resignation, from Penny Bills from her custodian position, effective April 1, 2024, as presented.

Motion Carried: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

3.2. Approve Volunteers

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

- A.** Melody Haley, Clifford Twp.; Track and Field, Produce Market
- B.** Brynn Whipple, Nicholson; Kid Writing
- C.** Paige Feduchak, Kingsley; Kid Writing
- D.** Cody Shay, Thompson; Boys JV/Varsity Volleyball
- E.** Emory Bewley, Susquehanna; JV/Varsity Softball
- F.** Makenzie Bell, Nicholson; JH Softball
- G.** Melissa Wisniewski, New Milford; PTO

Motion Carried:

Item A: 6 Yes (Mr. Barhite, Mr. Decker, Mr. Talabiska, Mr. Molenko, Mr. O'dell, Mr. Richmond), 2 No (Mr. Flynn, Mr. Very), 1 Absent (Ms. Cator)
Items B through G: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

3.3. Post and Advertise for 2 Elementary Teaching Positons

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. O'Dell, to post and advertise for 2 Elementary Teaching Positions.

Motion Carried: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

3.4. Post and Advertise for Anticipated Special Education Positon

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. O'Dell, to post and advertise for an anticipated Special Education Teaching Position.

Motion Carried: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

4. Policy Committee: Michael Talabiska Chairperson

Committee Members: Danny Very, Tracy Flynn

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

Policy 121- Field Trips

Policy 907- School Visitors

Policy 916- Volunteers

- Mr. Talabiska led the discussion on Policy 12- Field Trips, Policy 907- School Visitors, and Policy 916 – Volunteers.

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 Mr. O'Dell, to approve the following conference requests:

- A. Carla Hendricks, Thursday March, 21 and Thursday, May 16, 2024, AT Series Part 2 and 3, NEIU 19 (No cost to the district)
- B. Jessica Mead and Maggie Breese, Thursday, April 4, 2024, Postvention Planning for After a School Suicide, Luzerne IU, Kingston (Travel \$33.50)
- C. Sheri Ransom, Tuesday, April 9, 2024, TACT 2 Trainer Recertification, NEIU 19 (Registration \$250.00)
- D. Sheri Ransom, Wednesday, May 1, 2024, Crisis Preparedness, NEIU 19 (Registration \$60.00)
- E. Allison Bluhm, Saturday and Sunday March 23-24, 2024, PASNAP Annual Education Conference, Hershey PA (Travel \$79.74, Lodging \$386.28, Registration \$425.00; Total \$952.10)
- F. Erica Loftus, Friday, April 19, 2024, TACT 2 Recertification, NEIU 19 (Registration \$250.00)

Motion Carried: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

5.2. Approve Field Trip Requests

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the following field trip requests:

- A. Glen Mackey and 4 students, Tuesday, April 16, 2024, Highland Associates Engineering, Clark Summit (Transportation \$30.15, Substitute \$110.00; Total \$140.15)
- B. Mason Stiver and 1 student, Friday, April 26, 2024, PMEA District 9 String fest, Wyoming Valley West HS (Registration \$80.00, Substitute \$110.00; Total \$170.00)
- C. Mason Stiver and 15 students, Friday, May 3, 2024, PMEA District 9 Band fest, Tunkhannock HS (Transportation \$197.80, Registration \$600.00, Substitute \$110.00; Total \$907.80)
- D. Christine Misiura, Susan Gesford, Allison Paparelli, and 12 students, Thursday, May 16, 2024, NPCTM Math Contest, Johnson College, Dickson City PA (Transportation \$219.00, Registration \$180.00, Substitute \$330.00; Total \$729.00)
- E. Kelly Richmond, Kerra Spindler, Danielle Scott and 15 students, Friday, May 10, 2024, Life Skills Prom, Susquehanna Community School (Transportation \$94.86)
- F. Kelly Richmond, Kerra Spindler, Sarah Evans, Danielle Scott, Missy Berish, Charissa Ofalt, Tammy Miller, Michelle Tellish, Cheryl Taylor, Kaylee Trip and 22 students, Thursday, May 16, 2024, Fun Day at Tunkhannock, Tunkhannock Area School District (Transportation \$317.48)
- G. Kelly Richmond, Kerra Spindler, Danielle Scott and 15 students, Wednesday, May 8, 2024, STEM School Day Game, Railriders Game, Railriders Stadium (Transportation \$145.08)
- H. Sheri Ransom, Dave Breese, 5-6 students, Thursday, May 2, 2024, PA Fish and Boat Commission Trout Stocking, Start at Bingham's Restaurant (Transportation \$22.11)
- I. Terri Kelsey, Jessica Trichilo, and A&P Class and AP Bio (Transportation \$361.84 (paid by grant), Substitute \$220.00; Total \$220.00)
- J. Allison Martino, Monday, April 29, 2024, Junior College Fair Field Trip, Kings College and Misericordia University (Transportation \$324.06)
- K. Andrea Sanders, Jackie Ferenczi, Charleene Martens, Mr. McGarry, Wednesday, May 29, 2024, 6th Grade Team Adventure, Rock Mountain Bible Camp (Transportation \$80.87, Participation Cost \$1,695.00; Total \$1,775.87)

Motion Carried: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

5.3. Approve Service Agreement with Drexel University

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve a Services Agreement between the Mountain View School District and Drexel University, as presented.

Motion Carried: 8 Yes, 1 Absent

6. Building and Site Committee: Danny Very, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Kenneth Decker

Mr. Taylor's Report

- Absent.

7. Transportation Committee: Kenny Decker, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Danny Very

- No report.

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

- No report.

9. Administration

9.1. Principals' Comments

Elementary Principal - Mr. Patrick McGarry

- Mr. McGarry said the PSSAs will be starting soon. The Ag-Lab is coming next week. Field trips will occur next month.

High School Principal - Dr. Mark Lemoncelli

- Dr. Lemoncelli mentioned that the Career Fair will be on Wednesday. Arts Alive will occur on Friday. He thanked Courtney Norton for her great work on the softball field and baseball field.

9.2. Director of Special Services - Mrs. Erica Loftus

- Absent.

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

- Absent.

9.4. Business Manager – Mr. Thomas Witiak

- Mr. Witiak said the Proposed Final Budget will be presented at the next meeting.

9.5. Superintendent - Dr. Michael Elia

- Dr. Elia stated that he and Mr. Witiak will meet with all administrators regarding their budget.

10. Closing

10.1. New Business from Board Members

- Mr. Very attended an IU board meeting about board member responsibilities and additional services the IU offers.

- Mr. O'Dell thanked Dr. Lemoncelli for displaying the alumni plaques.

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.

- Ted Brewster asked clarifying questions about the agenda.

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

HELD:

- Monday, April 15, 2024 - 6:00pm – 7:10pm for Personnel

SCHEDULED:

- Monday, April 29, 2024 before the public meeting

11. Adjourn

The motion was made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Very, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Witiak