

Mountain View School District
“A Community’s Commitment to Excellence”
Board of Education Public Meeting
Monday, October 21, 2024
MINUTES

1.1 Call to Order

The regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education on October 21, 2024 was held in the James W. Zick Board Room and was called to order at 7:18 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. Derek O’Dell; Mr. Tracy Flynn; Mr. Michael Molenko; Ms. Louise Cator.

Absent: Mr. Michael Talabiska; Mr. Danny Very.

Administration Present:

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

Absent: None

1.4. Pride in Mountain View:

MVSGA Representative – Brooklyn Anderson

- Brooklyn presented the MVSGA Liaison Minutes.

1.5. Approve the Board Minutes

The motion is made by Ms. Cator, second by Mr. Molenko, to approve the minutes dated September 23, 2024, as presented.

Motion 82 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

1.6. Treasurer’s Report – Michael Talabiska, Treasurer

- Mr. Barhite presented the Treasurer’s Report.

1.7. 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 October Bill List

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the list of bills for October 21, 2024 for the General Fund in the amount of \$952,643.39 and the Cafeteria Fund in the amount of \$66,495.44 totaling \$1,019,138.83, as presented.

Motion 83 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

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

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, 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 84 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

2.3. Award Bid for Snow Plow Services

The motion was made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to award the qualified bid for snow plow services for the 2024-2025 school year to Herbert Excavating of Harford, PA, in the amount of \$120 per hour per piece, per bid specifications, as presented.

Motion 85 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

2.4. Approve Creation of Student Activity

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve creation of the following student activities – Class of 2029 and Autism Support Elementary, for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion 86 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3. Personnel Committee: Michael Molenko, Chairperson

Committee Members: Louise Cator, Derek O'Dell

3.1. Appoint Café Monitor

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, appoint Amanda Batzel, Kingsley, as a Café Monitor at a starting rate of \$11.00 per hour and benefits per MVESPA Agreement, with a start date of October 22, 2024.

Motion 87 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.2. Appoint Café Monitor

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, appoint Gail Batzel, Kingsley, as a Café Monitor at a starting rate of \$11.00 per hour and benefits per MVESPA Agreement, with a start date of October 22, 2024.

Motion 88 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.3. Accept Coach Resignations

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to accept the letter of resignation from the following coaches:

- A. Susan Gravine, JH Softball Assistant Coach, effective September 26, 2024
- B. Joyce Harvey, Varsity Softball Assistant Coach, effective September 26, 2024
- C. Makenzie Bell, JH Girls Basketball Assistant Coach, effective October 15, 2024
- D. Steven Farrell, JH Wrestling Co-Coach, effective October 17, 2024
- E. Kenneth Decker, JH Wrestling Co-Coach, effective October 17, 2024

Motion 89 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.4. Approve Coach

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the following supplemental salary coaching positions:

- A. Girls JH Basketball Head Coach, Makenzie Bell, \$3,228.00

Motion 90 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.5. Authorize Posting and Advertising

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to authorize posting and advertising for the following positions:

- A. JH Softball Assistant Coach
- B. Varsity Softball Assistant Coach
- C. JH Girls Basketball Assistant Coach
- D. JH Wrestling Coach

Motion 91 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.6. Approve Substitute Teachers

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the following substitutes:

- A. Rebekah Reynolds, Montrose, to the Substitute Teacher List
- B. Joanna Burchell, Jermyn, to the Substitute Teacher List, pending paperwork

Motion 92 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.7. Approve Long Term Substitute

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to approve Bridget Sherring as a long-term substitute for having served more than 30 consecutive days as an Elementary Teacher with rate of \$165.00 per day effective October 8, 2024.

Motion 93 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.8. Approve Volunteers

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to appoint the following volunteer(s):

- A. Bailey Guy, Harford, Classroom Activities/Field Trips

Motion 94 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.9. Approve Superintendent Raise

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to approve a 3% raise for superintendent, Dr. Michael Elia for the 2024-2025 school year retroactive to July 1, 2024.

Motion 95 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.10. Accept Resignation

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to accept the letter of resignation for Lori Cobb from her 223 Clerical position effective January 15, 2025, as presented.

Motion 96 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.11. Authorize Posting and Advertising

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to authorize posting for 223 Clerical Position.

Motion 97 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.12. Approve Supplemental Salaries

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the following supplemental salaries:

- A. Laura Beth Sedlak, Co-Play Director
- B. George Paterno, Co-Play Director

Motion 98 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.13 Amend Agenda

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to amend the agenda to add a motion to post and advertise for a Boys Basketball Jr. High Head Coach.

Motion 99 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

3.14 Post & Advertise Boys Basketball Jr. High Head Coach

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to post and advertise for a Boys Basketball Jr. High Head Coach.

Motion 100 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

4. **Policy Committee: Michael Talabiska Chairperson**

Committee Members: Danny Very, Tracy Flynn

4.1. First Reading of the Following Policies:

- Policy 103 – Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Students
- Policy 103.1 – Nondiscrimination – Qualified Students with Disabilities
- Policy 104 – Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Staff
- Policy 234 – Pregnant/Parenting/Married Students

- The first reading of all policies did not occur.

4.2. Approve the Following Policies

The motion is made by Mr. Flynn, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the following policies.

Policy 216 – Student Records

Policy 216.1 – Supplemental Discipline Records

Motion 101 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

5. Education Committee: Michael Talabiska, Chairperson

Committee Members: Tracy Flynn, Louise Cator

5.1. Approve Field Trip Requests

The motion is made by Mr. Flynn, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the following field trip requests:

- A. Kathy McHenry, 2 Students, October 2, 2024, Region 27 FBLA Planning Meeting, Keystone College (Substitute: \$115.00).
- B. Steve Farrell, Jamie Supancik, Joy Bognatz, Brittany Latwinski, 33 Students, October 25, 2024, Robas Family Farm, North Abington Township, (Transportation: \$274.28 Registration: \$640.00, Other (Fire pit): \$60.00; Total: \$974.28, PTO Cost: \$650.00, District Cost: \$324.28).
- C. Mason Stiver 15 Students, November 13, 2024, Susquehanna County Band, Elk Lake High School (Travel: \$113.20, Substitute: \$115.00, Registration \$300.00; Total: \$528.20).
- D. Kelly Richmond, 4 students, October 22, 2024, Unified Youth Summit, Dunmore YMCA (Transportation: \$34.84, Substitute: \$115.00; Total: \$149.84).
- E. Whitney Johnson, 12 students, October 24, 2024, Young Leaders Public Health Summit, Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, (Transportation: \$166.14, Substitute: \$115.00; Total: \$281.14).

Motion 102 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

5.2. Approve Conference Requests

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

- A. Dane Barhite, September 24 2024, Gifted Network, NEIU 19 (Travel: \$26.80 Substitute: \$57.50; Total: \$84.30).

- B. Andrea Aten, December 5 -8, 2024, 2024 National Association for Student Activities Conference, Memphis, TN (Travel: \$134.00, Lodging: \$447.00 Registration: \$375.00, Substitute: \$230.00, Meals: \$100.00 Flight: \$247.20; Total: \$1,533.20, PASC cost: \$447.00, Cost to District: \$1,086.20).
- C. Jessica Trichilo, Todd Calabro, Whitney Johnson, Terri Kelsey, September 24 – 25, 2024, OpenSciEd, NEIU 19 (Travel: \$64.32, Substitute: \$920.00; Total: \$984.32).
- D. Jamie White, November 20, 2024, Maslow Before Bloom: Create Safe and Supportive Schools, NEIU 19 (No Cost).
- E. Michael Elia, December 8-10, 2024, SAS Institute 2024, Hershey, PA (Travel: \$140.70, Lodging: \$333.00, Registration: \$175.00; Total: \$648.70).
- F. Andrew Snyder, December 8-10, 2024, SAS Institute 2024, Hershey, PA (Travel: \$158.12, Registration: \$175.00; Total: \$333.12).
- G. Mary Lynne Twining, March 23 – 26 2025, 2025 PDE Data Summit Conference, Hershey PA, (Travel: \$199.66, Lodging: \$516.15, Registration: \$325.00, Meals: \$70.00; Total: \$1,110.81).
- H. Jamie Esgro, Allison Butash, Andrea Sanders, Anna Van Wert, Christine Misura, October 23 – 24, December 11 – 12, 2024, OGAP Fractional, NEIU 19, (Registration: \$6,000, Substitute: \$2,300; Total: \$8,300.00).

Motion 103 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

5.3. Approve Expulsion

The motion is made by Mr. Flynn, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the expulsion of student #27113 for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion 104 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

5.4. Approve Expulsion

The motion is made by Mr. Flynn, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the expulsion of student #25058 for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion 105 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

5.5. Approve Baseball Skills Camp

The motion is made by Mr. Flynn, second by Mr. Molenko, to approve the Baseball Skills Camp, as presented.

Motion 106 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

6. Building and Site Committee: Danny Very, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Kenneth Decker

Mr. Taylor's Report

- Mr. Taylor said the wood boiler is ready for the heating season. The heating oil tanks will be filled soon.

7. Transportation Committee: Kenny Decker, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Danny Very

7.1. Approve Transportation Substitute Driver

The motion is made by Mr. Decker, second by Mr. Molenko, to appoint the following bus substitute for the 2024-2025 school year.

Tracy Flynn, Hop Bottom, pending paperwork

Motion 107 Carried: 6 Yes (Mr. Decker, Mr. Molenko, Ms. Cator, Mr. O'Dell, Mr. Barhite, Mr. Richmond), 1 Abstain (Mr. Flynn), 2 Absent (Mr. Very, Mr. Talabiska)

7.2. Approve Transportation Substitute Driver

The motion is made by Mr. Decker, second by Ms. Cator, to appoint the following bus substitute/activity driver at the current contracted activity rate for the 2024-2025 school year.

Ben Garrison, Tunkhannock

Motion 108 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

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

9. Administration

9.1. Principals' Comments

Elementary Principal - Mr. Patrick McGarry

- Mr. McGarry said the dance last week was a success. The costume parade will be held on Halloween. The craft fair will be coming on Veteran's Day weekend. The end of the quarter is October 31.

High School Principal - Dr. Mark Lemoncelli

- Dr. Lemoncelli already started conducting observations. The Dunkin' Cruiser was at the HS last week. 3 teams may win district playoffs.

9.2. Director of Special Services - Mrs. Erica Loftus

- Mrs. Loftus will be attending the Unified Sports youth conference. Currently, bocce and track & field are the only Unified Sports available to participate.

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

- Mr. Snyder mentioned that professional development focused on fractions is coming soon. He will be attending a training in December focused on artificial intelligence.

9.4. Business Manager – Mr. Thomas Witiak

- Mr. Witiak stated the 2025-2026 Act 1 Index will be 4.0%.

9.5. Superintendent - Dr. Michael Elia

- Dr. Elia acknowledged Dr. Lemoncelli on being named Principal of the Year. He said that Dr. Lemoncelli has won over his environment and the students of MVHS.

10. Closing

10.1. New Business from Board Members

- Mr. Decker mentioned that the Alumni Association Dinner will be held on November 2.

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, October 21, 2024 - 6:00pm – 7:10 pm for Personnel, evaluations, and contracts

SCHEDULED:

- Monday, November 11, 2024 before the public meeting

11. Adjourn

The motion was made by Mr. Flynn, second by Mr. Barhite, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Witiak