

Mountain View School District
“A Community’s Commitment to Excellence”
Board of Education Public Meeting
Monday, February 17, 2025
MINUTES

1.1 Call to Order

The special meeting of the Board of Education on February 17, 2025 was held in the High School Auditorium and was called to order at 7:10 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. Danny Very (via phone); Mr. Derek O’Dell; Mr. Michael Molenko; Ms. Louise Cator, Mr. Michael Talabiska; Mr. Tracy Flynn.

Absent: None

Administration Present:

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

Absent: Dr. Mark Lemoncelli, High School Principal; Mrs. Erica Loftus, Special Services Director; Mr. Andrew Snyder, Director of Curriculum.

1.4. Pride in Mountain View:

- Mr. McGarry presented the Elementary School Road to Success.

1.5. 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.

- Curt Parkins, attorney for the PTO executive board, spoke in favor of the PTO.
- Aubrey Messick thanked Mr. McGarry. She inquired about PTO actions. She requested PTO minutes and bank records.
- Tenielle Hobart asked about conflict of interest with youth softball.
- Jamie White spoke about the actions of PTO members.

- Megan Yanotta spoke about the location of the ES dance.
- Liz Weida questioned the funding for the PTO lawyer.
- Brian Owens spoke about the use of PTO funds.
- Courtney Hummel spoke about inappropriate comments and location of dance.
- Tenielle Hobart wants the facts of what happened. She questioned who voted to hire a lawyer for the PTO.
- Aubrey Massick questioned if there was a meeting to move the dance or hire a lawyer.
- Christine DeFazio spoke about the hard-work of PTO volunteers. She wants the yearbook to continue.
- Megan Yanotta wants a PTO meeting scheduled tonight after the meeting.
- Brian Owens questioned the PTO by-laws.
- Tenielle Hobart stated former rules of the PTO. She wanted to know when those rules were changed.
- Liz Weida wants to know about lawyer fees.
- Aubrey Messick wants to know when future meeting will be held.
- Courtney Hummel wants the PTO to be more proactive regarding volunteers.
- Curt Parkins stated that online comments on the PTO page were disabled because of inflammatory comments.

2. Finance Committee: Michael Barhite, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Molenko, Derek O'Dell

3. Personnel Committee: Michael Molenko, Chairperson

Committee Members: Louise Cator, Derek O'Dell

3.1. Accept Resignation

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Flynn, to accept the letter of resignation for Stacy Decker from her paraprofessional position effective February 17, 2025, as presented.

Motion 174 Carried: 9 Yes

4. Policy Committee: Michael Talabiska Chairperson

Committee Members: Danny Very, Tracy Flynn

5. Education Committee: Michael Talabiska, Chairperson

Committee Members: Tracy Flynn, Louise Cator

5.1. Approve Action to Revoke Approval of PTO

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. O'Dell, to revoke the approval of the school related Mountain View Parent Teacher Organization for the 2024 - 2025 school year in accordance with Mountain View School District policy 915.

Motion 175 Carried: 9 Yes

6. Building and Site Committee: Danny Very, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Kenneth Decker

7. Transportation Committee: Kenny Decker, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Danny Very

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

10. Closing

10.1. 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.

- Lizzy Robertson wants to know how the PTO will reorganize.
- Brad Owens wants to know which policies the school board follows. He wanted to know more about PTO by-laws.
- Aubrey Messick wanted to know if PTO funds are frozen.
- Curt Parkins wants to maintain PTO continuity.
- Tenielle Hobart asked if PTO members can be teachers too.

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

HELD:

- Monday, February 17, 2025 - 6:00pm – 7:05 pm for litigation concerns

SCHEDULED:

- Monday, March 3, 2025 before the public meeting

11. Adjourn

The motion was made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Flynn, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Witiak