

Mountain View School District
“A Community’s Commitment to Excellence”
Board of Education Public Meeting
Monday, June 9, 2025
MINUTES

1.1 Call to Order

The regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education on June 9, 2025 was held in the James W. Zick Board Room and was called to order at 7:31 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 Molenko; Mr. Tracy Flynn; Ms. Louise Cator, Mr. Michael Talabiska; Mr. Danny Very; Mr. Derek O’Dell.

Absent: None

Administration Present:

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

Absent: Vacant, Director of Curriculum.

1.4. Pride in Mountain View:

Annual Act 55 District Safety Presentation – Dr. Michael Elia

- Dr. Elia presented the Act 55 District Safety plan.

2025 – 2026 Final Budget Presentation – Mr. Thomas Witiak

- Mr. Witiak presented the 2025-2026 Final Budget.

1.5. Approve the Board Minutes

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. O’Dell, to approve the minutes dated May 5, 2025, as presented.

Motion 238 Carried: 9 Yes

1.6. Treasurer’s Report – Michael Talabiska, Treasurer

- Mr. Talabiska 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 June Bill List

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the list of bills for June 9, 2025 for the General Fund in the amount of \$1,744,668.65 and the Cafeteria Fund in the amount of \$65,285.91, totaling \$1,809,954.56, as presented.

Motion 239 Carried: 9 Yes

2.2. Approve 2025 – 2026 Final Budget

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the 2025–2026 Final Budget in the amount of \$23,547,680.00 as presented.

Motion 240 Carried: 9 Yes

2.3. Approve 2025 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the 2025 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion in the amount of \$911,626.51. There are 2,192 eligible Homesteads and Farmsteads.

Motion 241 Carried: 9 Yes

2.4. Approve Transfer of Funds

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to authorize transfer of funds from General Fund to Debt Service Fund in the amount of \$424,205.00 for the July 1, 2025 bond payment of \$424,205.00 for the Bond Series of 2018.

Motion 242 Carried: 9 Yes

2.5. Approve Copier/Printer Agreement

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the 63-month printer and copier agreement with Topp Business Solutions, as presented.

Motion 243 Carried: 9 Yes

2.6. Approve Bank Account

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve opening a Mountain View Elementary Student Account at Peoples Security Bank & Trust retroactive to April 14, 2025.

Motion 244 Carried: 9 Yes

2.7. Approve Continuation of Student Activities

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. Flynn, to approve continuation of the following student activities – Activities, Art Club, Backpack Program, Band, Chorus, Class of 2026, Class of 2027, Class of 2028, Class of 2029, E-Sports, Family and Consumer Sciences, FBLA, Mountain View Student Government Association, Music Theatre, National Honor Society, National Junior Honor Society, PJAS, Students Against Drunk Driving, Scholastic Team, Science, Ski / Snowriders Club, Strategies for Life, Student Climate & Culture, Students In Need, and Yearbook for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion 245 Carried: 9 Yes

2.8. Appoint School District Treasurer for 2025 -2026

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to appoint Ms. Louise Cator as school district treasurer for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion 246 Carried: 9 Yes

2.9. Approve NEIU 19 Service Agreement

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the Special Education Services Agreement between the Mountain View School District and NEIU 19 for the 2025-2026 school year, as presented.

Motion 247 Carried: 9 Yes

2.10. Approve NTIEC Service Agreement

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the Service Agreement between the Mountain View School District and Northern Tier Industry as presented.

Motion 248 Carried: 9 Yes

2.11. Approve Edmentum Service Agreement

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the Service Agreement between the Mountain View School District and Edmentum, as presented.

Motion 249 Carried: 9 Yes

2.12. Approve Aveanna Service Agreement

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the Service Agreement between the Mountain View School District and Aveanna for the 2025 - 2026, as presented.

Motion 250 Carried: 9 Yes

2.13. Approve Mountain View School District Police Department

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the formation of the Mountain View School District Police Department, beginning on June 10, 2025.

Motion 251 Carried: 9 Yes

2.14. Approve 2025 -2026 Annual Tax Levy

The motion is made by Mr. Barhite, second by Mr. O'Dell, to approve the 2025-2026 Annual Tax Levy as follows: 51.7014 mills real estate tax, \$5.00 per capita tax under Act 511, \$5.00 per capita tax under Section 679 of the Public School Code, Occupational Assessment Tax at 100 mills, 0.5% Earned Income Tax under Act 511 and 1 % Real Estate Transfer Tax. The discount rate is 2% and ends on August 31, 2025. Face period begins on September 1, 2025 and ends on October 31, 2025. The penalty rate is 10% and begins on November 1, 2025 and ends on December 31, 2025. The last day to pay tax collector is December 31, 2025. Installment payments are due by August 31, 2025, September 30, 2025 and October 31, 2025, respectively.

Motion 252 Carried: 8 Yes (Mr. Richmond, Mr. Decker, Mr. Barhite, Mr. Talabiska, Mr. O'Dell, Ms. Cator, Mr. Molenko, Mr. Flynn), 1 No (Mr. Very)

3. Personnel Committee: Michael Molenko, Chairperson

Committee Members: Louise Cator, Derek O'Dell

3.1. Approve School Police Officer Compensation Agreement

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the Mountain View School Police Officer Compensation Agreement, as presented.

Motion 253 Carried: 9 Yes

3.2. Approve Job Description

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to approve the Mountain View School District Job Description for the School Police Officer, as presented.

Motion 254 Carried: 9 Yes

3.3. Accept Coach Resignation

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

- A. James Belcher, JH Boys Basketball Head Coach, effective May 7, 2025.
- B. Michael Strouse, Varsity Boys Basketball Assistant Coach, effective May 19, 2025.
- C. Erika Freely, JH Girls Basketball Assistant Coach, effective June 2, 2025.

Motion 255 Carried: 9 Yes

3.4. 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 Boys Basketball Head Coach
- B. Varsity Boys Basketball Assistant Coach
- C. JH Girls Basketball Assistant Coach

Motion 256 Carried: 9 Yes

3.5. Approve Coaching Position

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

- A. Head Wrestling Coach, Rexford Bowman III, \$4,440.00

Motion 257 Carried: 9 Yes

3.6. Approve Volunteer

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

- A. Doris Mirabelli, Factoryville, classroom
- B. Amanda Morris, Kingsley, field trips

Motion 258 Carried: 9 Yes

3.7. Approve Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Federal Programs

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to approve Dr. Bridget Frounfelker, Scranton, PA, as Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Federal Programs with a salary of \$108,000.00 and benefits per the Act 93 Agreement, pending paperwork.

Motion 259 Carried: 8 Yes (Mr. Richmond, Mr. Decker, Mr. Barhite, Mr. Talabiska, Mr. O'Dell, Ms. Cator, Mr. Molenko, Mr. Flynn), 1 No (Mr. Very)

3.8. Accept Resignation

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to accept the letter of resignation for Wendy Thomas from her paraprofessional position effective June 10, 2025, as presented.

Motion 260 Carried: 9 Yes

3.9. Approve Substitute Teacher

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

- A. Wendy Thomas, South Gibson, to the Substitute Teacher List

Motion 261 Carried: 9 Yes

3.10. Approve 90-day Long Term Substitute

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Ms. Cator, to approve Bridget Sherring as a 90-day long term substitute, at a prorated salary of \$53,684.00, Step 1, Bachelors Column of the 2024-2025 schedule, Effective May 19, 2025 (91st day), and benefits according to contract as a result of serving in the same Elementary Classroom position for more than 90 consecutive days.

Motion 262 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 Field Trip Request

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

- A. Kathy McHenry, 1 student, June 27 – July 3, 2025, FBLA National Leadership Conference, Anaheim, CA (Travel: \$1,415.94; Registration: \$320.00 Total: \$1,735.94).
- B. Matthew Donnelly, 6 students, May 31 – June 1, 2025, PIEA State Grand Championships, Cresson, PA (Travel: \$329.00; Total: \$329.00).
- C. Brenda Sinkovich, Todd Calabro, Anna VanWert, Holly James, Wendy Thomas, Dan Lishok, Dawn Ziegler, 8th grade students, May 21 – May 23, 2025, Class of 2029 Trip, Washington DC, (no cost to District).
- D. Mason Stiver, Kathy McHenry, Melissa Davis, 18 students, May 21 – 23 2025, Senior Trip, Stroudsburg, PA (no cost to District).

Motion 263 Carried: 9 Yes

5.2. Approve Marywood University Speech-Language Pathology Program Agreement

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Very, to approve the Memorandum Agreement between the Mountain View School District and Marywood University Speech-Language Pathology Program, as presented

Motion 264 Carried: 9 Yes

5.3. Approve Expulsion

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Very, to approve the expulsion of student #6342184321 for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year and Quarter 1 & 2 of the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion 265 Carried: 9 Yes

5.4. Approve Health and Safety Plan

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Very, to approve Health and Safety Plan for the Mountain View School District, beginning the 2025-2026 school year, as presented.

Motion 266 Carried: 8 Yes (Mr. Richmond, Mr. Decker, Mr. Barhite, Mr. Talabiska, Mr. O'Dell, Ms. Cator, Mr. Molenko, Mr. Very), 1 No (Mr. Flynn)

6. Building and Site Committee: Danny Very, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Kenneth Decker

Mr. Taylor's Report

- Mr. Taylor reported that the natural gas line is being laid. He also discussed the HS hot water set-up.

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

9.1. Principals' Comments

Elementary Principal - Mr. Patrick McGarry

- Mr. McGarry announced that Field Day was a tremendous success.

High School Principal - Dr. Mark Lemoncelli

- Dr. Lemoncelli thanked the board for their support at graduation. He also thanked the board for bringing in the ice cream truck.

9.2. Director of Special Services - Mrs. Erica Loftus

- Mrs. Loftus thanked Wendy Thomas for her time in special services. She announced that Special Services Olympics had to be cancelled because of weather. Special Services Prom turned out wonderful.

9.3. Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Federal Programs - VACANT

9.4. Business Manager – Mr. Thomas Witiak

- Mr. Witiak thanked the board for bringing in the ice cream truck. He informed the board that we are still searching for property & liability insurance for 2025-2026.

9.5. Superintendent - Dr. Michael Elia

- Dr. Elia thanked the board, administrators, teachers and support staff for a great year. He was very proud of the teacher's effort.

10. Closing

10.1. New Business from Board Members

- Mr. Richmond thanked the MV community for their support with recent fundraisers.
- Mr. Decker stated that the alumni association's golf fundraiser was a success.
- Mr. Flynn was impressed by the number of students that graduated with honors.

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.

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

HELD:

- Monday, June 9, 2025 - 6:00pm – 7:20pm for Personnel

SCHEDULED:

- Monday, July 14, 2025 before the public meeting

11. Adjourn

The motion was made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Very, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Witiak