

Mountain View School District
“A Community’s Commitment to Excellence”
Board of Education Public Meeting
Monday, April 20, 2026
MINUTES

1.1 Call to Order

The regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education on April 20, 2026 was held in the James W. Zick Board Room and was called to order at 7:24 PM by Mr. Tracy Flynn, President.

1.2 Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

1.3 Roll Call – Board Members Present:

Mr. Tracy Flynn, President; Mr. Chase Poplawski; Mr. Kenneth Decker; Mr. Derek O’Dell; Ms. Kirsten Smith; Mr. Dan Very; Mr. Jason Richmond.

Absent: Mr. Michael Barhite, First Vice President; Mr. Michael Molenko, Second Vice President.

Administration Present:

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

Absent: Mr. Tim Chidester, Director of Buildings and Grounds.

1.4. Pride in Mountain View:

- Caroline Symuleski – SGA Representative
 - Caroline presented the MVSGA Liaison report.
- Budget Presentations
 - Elementary – Mr. Patrick McGarry
 - Mr. McGarry presented the ES budget.
 - High School & Athletics – Dr. Mark Lemoncelli
 - Dr. Lemoncelli presented the HS and Athletics budget.

1.5. Approve the Board Minutes

The motion is made by Mr. Richmond, second by Ms. Smith, to approve the minutes dated March 30, 2026, as presented.

Motion 195 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

1.6. Treasurer's Report – Jason Richmond, Treasurer

- Mr. Richmond presented the Treasurer 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 about the agenda.

2. Finance Committee: Kirsten Smith, Chairperson

Committee Members: Dan Very, Chase Poplawski

2.1. Approve April Bill List

The motion is made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Very, to approve the list of bills for April 20, 2026 for the General Fund in the amount of \$735,449.19 and the Cafeteria Fund in the amount of \$60,369.34, totaling \$795,818.53, as presented.

Motion 196 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

2.2. Approve Creation of Student Activity Account

The motion is made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Very, to approve creation of the following student activity – 88 Key Fundraiser for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion 197 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

2.3. Appoint School Solicitor

The motion is made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Very, to appoint Joseph F. Gaughan, P.C. as school solicitor for the 2026-2027 school year at an annual retainer amount of \$11,000.00 and a rate of \$140.00 per hour for other services according to proposal, as presented.

Motion 198 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

2.4. Approve Quarterly Reports

The motion is made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Very, to approve the following quarterly reports dated March 31, 2026 as presented and file for audit:

1. High School Activities Account
2. High School Scholarship Account
3. Elementary School Activities Account

Motion 199 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

2.5. Approve Service Agreement with Rubicon West

The motion is made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Very, to approve the Service Agreement between Rubicon West and Mountain View School District, as presented.

Motion 200 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

2.6. Approve Service Agreement with Advanced Assessment Systems, Inc.

The motion is made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Very, to approve the Service Agreement between Advanced Assessment Systems, Inc. and Mountain View School District, as presented.

Motion 201 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

2.7. Approve Transfer of Funds

The motion is made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Very, to authorize transfer of funds from General Fund to Debt Service Fund in the amount of \$95,840.00 for the May 1, 2026 bond payment of \$95,840.00 for the Bond Series of 2025.

Motion 202 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

2.8. Approve Tax Anticipation Note

The motion is made by Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Very, to approve a Tax Anticipation Note with Peoples Security Bank not to exceed \$2,000,000.00.

Motion 203 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

3. Personnel Committee: Jason Richmond, Chairperson

Committee Members: Kirsten Smith, Kenneth Decker

3.1. Approve Coaching Positions

The motion is made by Mr. Richmond, second by Mr. Poplawski, to approve the following supplemental salary coaching positions for the 2026-2027 school year:

- A. Cheerleading Advisor, Josie Evans, \$3,792.00.

B. Cheerleading Assistant Advisor, Rebecca Gully, \$2,004.00.

Motion 204 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

3.2. Approve Volunteer

The motion is made by Mr. Richmond, second by Mr. Poplawski, to approve the following volunteer:

A. Brad Millard, Track & Field, pending paperwork

Motion 205 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

3.3. Approve Posting and Advertising

The motion is made by Mr. Richmond, second by Mr. Poplawski, to authorize posting and advertising for a 7-12th grade school counselor day-to-day substitute.

Motion 206 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

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

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Chase Poplawski

4.1. First Reading of Policies

235.1 – Surveys

140.1 – Extracurricular Participation by Charter/Cyber Charter Students

- Mr Poplawski led the discussion on Policy 235.1 – Surveys and Policy 140.1 – Extracurricular Participation by Charter / Cyber Charter Students.

4.2. Approve School Police Officer Policy & Procedure Handbook

The motion is made by Mr. Poplawski, second by Mr. Very, to approve the Mountain View School District School Police Officer Policy and Procedure Handbook, as presented.

Motion 207 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

5. **Education Committee: Dan Very, Chairperson**

Committee Members: Jason Richmond, Kirsten Smith

5.1. Approve Conference Requests

The motion is made by Mr. Very, second by Mr. Richmond, to approve the following conference requests:

- A. Leslie Gossage, May 8, 2026, Structured Literacy for ELLs, Archbald, PA (no cost).
- B. Maggie Breese, Carole Rainey, Jessica Mead, Erica Loftus, Lisa Kozloski, May 7, 2026, Ensuring Compliance with Section 504, Scranton, PA (no cost).
- C. Carla Hendricks, May 8, 2026, AAC Talks, virtual (no cost).

Motion 208 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

5.2. Approve Field Trip Requests

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

- A. Whitney Johnson, 15 students, May 27, 2026, Jr. High Envirothon, Lackawanna State Park (Travel: \$55.20, Substitute: \$115.00; Total: \$255.20).
- B. Diana Lombardi, Sheri Ransom, 10 students, May 22, 2026, Advanced Art Plein Air Painting, Factoryville, PA, (Travel: \$24.65, Substitute: \$115.00; Total: \$139.65).
- C. Susan Gravine, Jaimie Mirabelli, Ashley Kelly, Nurse TBD, 2nd grade, May 28, 2026, Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour, Scranton, PA (Substitute: \$115.00; Total: \$115.00).
- D. Mason Stiver, Honors Band, May 15, 2026, PMEA District 9 Bandfest, Taylor, PA (Travel: \$50.75, Registration: \$350, Substitute: \$115; Total: \$515.75).
- E. Cynthia Stanton, 14 Students, Everheart Museum, Scranton, PA, (Substitute: \$115.00).
- F. Sarah Evans, Melissa Berish, Charissa Ofalt, 4 students, April 29, 2026, YMCA Water Safety, Carbondale, PA, (Travel: \$29.00).
- G. Sarah Evans, Stacy Decker, Melissa Berish, Charissa Ofalt, Kim Fletcher, Brittany Latwinski, Nurse TBD, May 6, 2026, Safari Farm Petty Zoo, Lake Ariel, PA, (no cost).

Motion 209 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

5.3. Support PA House Bill 41

The motion is made by Mr. Very, second by Mr. Poplawski, to support PA House and Senate Bill 41, as presented.

Motion 210 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

5.4. Approve MOU with PA State Police

The motion is made by Mr. Very, second by Mr. Poplawski, to approve MOU between the PA State Police and Mountain View School District, as presented.

Motion 211 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

5.5. Approve Student Settlement

The motion is made by Mr. Very, second by Mr. Poplawski, to approve a settlement agreement between the Mountain View School District and student #32009.

Motion 212 Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent.

6. Building and Site Committee: Kenneth Decker, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Molenko, Derek O'Dell

Mr. Chidester's Report

- Absent. Dr. Elia read the Building and Site update prepared by Mr. Chidester.

7. Transportation Committee: Derek O'Dell, Chairperson

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Michael Molenko

8. Labor Relations Committee: Tracy Flynn, Chairperson

MVEA Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Kenneth Decker, Jason Richmond

MVESPA Committee Members: Jason Richmond, Michael Molenko, Michael Barhite

9. Administration

9.1. Principals' Comments

Elementary Principal - Mr. Patrick McGarry

- Mr. McGarry announced that 6th grade students attended a leadership conference. The 6th grade is holding a fundraiser at Bingham's tomorrow. The PTO bingo is on Sunday.

High School Principal - Dr. Mark Lemoncelli

- Dr. Lemoncelli said the PSSAs are starting tomorrow. The HS hopes to have the highest PSSA scores in the county again.

9.2. Director of Special Services - Mrs. Erica Loftus

- Mrs. Loftus said that April is Occupational Therapy Month and thanked Heather Larkin for her hard work. April is also Autism Acceptance month.

9.3. Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Federal Programs – Dr. Bridget Frounfelker

- Dr. Frounfelker stated that MV received a security grant. MV continues to improve its physical safety plan, reunification plan and plan access.

9.4. Business Manager – Mr. Thomas Witiak

- Mr. Witiak noted that he and Dr. Elia worked many hours on the budget this past week.

9.5. Superintendent - Dr. Michael Elia

- Dr. Elia thanked new athletic director, Ashley Kilmer. She is learning quickly.

10. Closing

10.1. New Business from Board Members

- None.

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 20, 2026 - 6:00pm – 7:15pm for Personnel

SCHEDULED:

- Monday, May 4, 2026 before the public meeting

11. Adjourn

The motion was made by Ms. Smith, second by _Mr. Poplawski, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Witiak