

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

**Monday, March 4, 2024**  
**MINUTES**

**1.1 Call to Order**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Education on March 4, 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; Ms. Louise Cator; Mr. Tracy Flynn; Mr. Michael Talabiska; Mr. Danny Very; Mr. Michael Molenko.

Absent: Mr. Michael Barhite, Second Vice President; Mr. Derek O’Dell.

**Administration Present:**

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

Absent: None

**1.4. Pride in Mountain View:**

**SGA Representative - Penelope Ziegler**

- Absent

**1.5. Presentation – Southland Industries, Michael Bayesa**

- Michael Bayesa, John Schmid, and John Magleveini presented solar energy proposals.

**1.6. Approve the Board Minutes**

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Very, to approve the minutes dated February 12, 2024, as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

**1.7. Treasurer’s Report**

- A. September 2023
- B. October 2023
- C. November 2023
- D. December 2023
- E. January 2024

- Mr. Talabiska presented the September through January Treasurer's Reports.

### 1.8. 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 March Bill List

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Very, to approve the list of bills for March 4, 2024 for the General Fund in the amount of \$655,279.70 and for the Cafeteria in the amount of \$113,463.61 totaling \$768,743.31, as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

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

The motion is made by \_\_\_\_\_, second by \_\_\_\_\_, 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 Tabled. No exonerations to approve.

### 2.3. Authorize Establishing ESports/Gaming Club Student Activity Account

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Very, to authorize establishing ESports/Gaming Club Student Activity Account.

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

### 2.4. Approve Service Agreement with GSL Government Consulting

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Very, to approve a Services Agreement between the Mountain View School District and GSL to assist The Mountain View School District in applying for Government Grants for possible future building projects.

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

**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. Talabiska, to accept the letter of resignation from Brenda Evans from her Custodian position effective February 15, 2024, as presented.

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

**3.2. Authorize Posting and Advertising**

The motion is made by Mr. Molenko, second by Mr. Talabiska, to authorize posting and advertising for the following position:

Custodian

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

**3.3. Approve Substitute**

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

Yulia Thomas, Clifford PA, to the Substitute Paraprofessional List

Bridget Sherring, Kingsley, PA to the Substitute List

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

**3.4. Approve Coaches:**

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

A. Baseball Assistant Coach, Anthony Borgia, \$3,278.00

B. Track and Field Assistant Coach, Anna Van Wert, \$2,682.00

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

**3.5. Approve Volunteers**

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

- A. Rex Bowman III, Hop Bottom; JH Softball, JH and Varsity Wrestling
- B. Karen Prestys, Clifford Twp., Discovery Center Field Trip

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

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

Committee Members: Danny Very, Tracy Flynn

**4.1. Approve the Following Policy:**

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Very, to approve the following policy, as presented.

Policy 707 attachments A and B- Use of School Facilities

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

**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. Very, to approve the following conference requests:

- A. Katie Naegele, Pamela Ealo, Catherine Sekely, Monday, March 11, 2024, The Intersection of Reading and Writing, Virtual, (Substitute \$330.00)

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

**5.2. Approve Field Trip Requests**

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

- A. Jamie Bottger and 4 students, Friday, March 15, 2024, PMEA District 9 Chorus Fest, Honesdale HS (Transportation \$171.88, Registration \$213.50, Substitute \$110.00; Total \$495.38)

- B. Mason Stiver and 10 students, Friday and Saturday, April 12-13, 2024, PMEA District 9 Jazz Band, Montrose HS (Transportation \$53.60, Registration \$300.00, Substitute \$110.00; Total \$463.60)
- C. Glen Mackey and 7 students, Friday, April 12, 2024, What's So Cool About Manufacturing Awards (Transportation \$64.32, Substitute \$110.00; Total \$174.32)
- D. Sheri Ransom, Glen Mackey and 15 students, Thursday, March 21, 2024, STEM Day at Lackawanna College (Transportation \$75.04)
- E. Molly Birozak and 6 students, Friday, March 15, 2024, Chorus Fest, Honesdale High School (Transportation \$115.20, Registration \$300.00, Substitute \$110.00; Total \$525.20)
- F. Kevin Reuss, 1 staff member and, Tuesday, May 7, 2024, 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Teen Symposium on The Holocaust, The Hilton Scranton Conference Center (Transportation \$272.80, Substitute \$220; Total \$492.80)

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

### **5.3. Approve Homebound**

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Very, to approve Homebound for Student #28037 beginning January 24, 2024 through April 24, 2024.

Motion Carried: 7 Yes, 2 Absent

### **5.4. Approve High School Program of Studies**

The motion is made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Very, to approve the 2024-2025 Program of Studies, as presented.

Motion 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 reported the wood boiler is off because it is too warm. He thinks we will burn wood next week before turning it off for the season.

## **7. Transportation Committee: Kenny Decker, Chairperson**

Committee Members: Michael Barhite, Danny Very

### **7.1 Approve Parent Driver**

The motion is made by Mr. Decker, second by Mr. Talabiska, to approve Michele Vinci of Kingsley as a parent driver.

Motion 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 stated that vision statements were created by each grade and are on display. The entire ES watched the HS play, *Beauty and the Beast*.

High School Principal - Dr. Mark Lemoncelli

- Dr. Lemoncelli said that *Beauty and the Beast* was a tremendous success. The next girl's basketball playoff game will be home on Saturday.

**9.2. Director of Special Services - Mrs. Erica Loftus**

- Mrs. Loftus announced that the Mikayla's Voice program has been a great success. Their art project will be unveiled soon.

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

- Mr. Snyder said that 3 grants were submitted – one for safety, one for mental health, and one for remodeling the vestibule.

**9.4. Business Manager – Mr. Thomas Witiak**

- Mr. Witiak said that thanks to his great and kind staff, all business office tasks are up-to-date.

**9.5. Superintendent - Dr. Michael Elia**

- Dr. Elia thanked the board for considering the solar energy proposal.

**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.

- Jamie White thanked the board for making the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls basketball a school sport.

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

**HELD:**

- Monday, March 4, 2024 – 6:000 pm – 7:15 pm for Personnel

**SCHEDULED:**

- Monday, March 18, 2024 before the public meeting

**11. Adjourn**

The motion was made by Mr. Talabiska, second by Mr. Very, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Witiak