



## **Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative**

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### **Executive Advisory Board Meeting**

**June 3, 2026**

**9:00 AM**

The Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative Board met in Regular Session on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at the Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative, 1304 Ronzheimer Avenue, St. Charles, IL 60174.

#### **Call to Order**

Dr. Barrett, Superintendent D304, Board Secretary called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

#### **Roll Call**

Upon roll call the following members were also present: Mrs. Ruh, District Liaison D101; Dr. Kilrea, Interim Superintendent D301; Dr. Rohlwing, Superintendent D302; and Mrs. O'Brien, District Liaison D303. Absent was Dr. Gordon, Superintendent D303; and Mr. Kim, Superintendent D101.

Also present: Special Education Administrative Liaisons/Designees from the member districts; Mrs. Lisa Palese, Mid-Valley Executive Director; Mr. Matthew McDonald, Mid-Valley Director of Business and Human Resources; and Mrs. Brandi Pedersen, Recording Secretary.

#### **Public Comment**

None

#### **Consent Agenda**

- 3.1 Approval of Minutes, Executive Board Meeting, May 6, 2026
- 3.2 Approval of Closed Session Minutes, May 6, 2026
- 3.3 Approval of Bills, May 2026
- 3.4 Approval of Payroll, May 2026
- 3.5 Approval of Financial Report, May 2026
- 3.6 Approval of the Treasurer's Report, May 2026

Dr. Barrett called for Approval of the Consent Agenda. Dr. Kilrea moved and Dr. Rohlwing seconded the motion. Approval of the Consent Agenda was confirmed by unanimous vote. 5-0.

#### **For Information**

##### **4.1 Restraint Time-Out (RTO) Prevention**

Mrs. Palese updated the Board regarding Mid-Valley's revised Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (NCI) Training Plan. Focus has shifted from compliance-based practices to strategies centered on compassion, de-escalation, and student dignity. The 2019-2020 school year had 79 incidents involving restraint or time out across MVSEC and the 2025-2026 school year had 16 incidents involving momentary restraint across MVSEC, typically lasting less than one minute and occurring only at Mades-Johnstone School due to imminent danger to self or others.

##### **4.2 2026-27 Student Enrollment and Classroom Space Update**

Mrs. Palese reported that with the collaboration and ongoing communication with our district partners and leadership team, we have been able to confirm many of our previously pending student placements. Currently there are 284 confirmed students and 9 pending. This is still changing daily.

#### **4.3 2026-27 Staffing Update**

Mrs. Palese shared that the staffing recommendations for the 2026–27 school year remain unchanged and the only area where adjustments may occur is in the number of teaching assistants, as staffing needs will continue to respond to changes in class size. She also presented a 1:1 Paraprofessional Decision-Making Checklist to show how this is determined.

#### **4.4 FY27 Tuition Update**

Mr. McDonald informed the Board of the projected tuition for each program. For FY27, Mid-Valley is projecting 284 program students, up from 275.8 FY26 actual students, an increase of about 8.2%. SAFE Schools is projected separately at 4 students.

#### **4.5 ESY 2026 Tuition**

Mr. McDonald explained the tuition cost per student attending ESY. A total of 343 students are enrolled in ESY this year. This is 19 more than last year (27 more than those enrolled at billing time last year).

#### **4.6 Real Estate Broker Update**

Mr. McDonald shared that he is reviewing options from three potential brokers regarding the search for a new building for our Transition Program. Each broker is qualified, but one stands out as more suited and is recommended by the cooperative's attorneys. He will provide the Board with a formal update as soon as the decision is finalized.

#### **For Action**

##### **5.1 Approval of the Personnel Report, May 2026**

Dr. Rohlwing motioned, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, for Approval of the Personnel Report, May 2026. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. 5-0

##### **5.2 Approval of the FY27 Budget**

Dr. Rohlwing motioned, seconded by Mrs. Ruh, for Approval of the FY27 Budget. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. 5-0

#### **New Business**

None

#### **Adjournment**

Motion made by Dr. Kilrea and seconded by Dr. Rohlwing. By consensus, the motion carried 5-0 Ayes.

**The meeting adjourned at 9:26 AM**

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Chair of the Mid-Valley Board

*The next Regular Mid-Valley Executive Advisory Board Meeting will be Wednesday, June 24, 2026, 9:00 AM at the Mid-Valley Administration Offices, 1304 Ronzheimer Avenue. St. Charles, IL 60174*