



Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative

1304 Ronzheimer Avenue
St. Charles, IL 60174
Phone: 331-228-4873
Fax: 331-228-4874

Executive Advisory Board Meeting January 7, 2026 9:00 AM

The Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative Board met in Regular Session on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at the Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative, 1304 Ronzheimer Avenue, St. Charles, IL 60174.

Call to Order

Dr. Gordon, Superintendent D303, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Roll Call

Upon roll call the following members were also present: Mr. Kim, Superintendent D101; Dr. Rohlwing, Superintendent D302; and Dr. Barrett, Superintendent D304. Absent was Dr. Kilrea, Interim Superintendent D301.

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, December 3, 2025
- 3.2** Approval of Closed Session Minutes, December 3, 2025
- 3.3** Approval of Bills, December 2025
- 3.4** Approval of Payroll, December 2025
- 3.5** Approval of Financial Report, December 2025
- 3.6** Approval of the Treasurer's Report, December 2025

Dr. Gordon called for Approval of the Consent Agenda. Mr. Kim moved and Dr. Rohlwing seconded the motion. Approval of the Consent Agenda was confirmed by unanimous vote. 4-0.

For Information

4.1 Student Enrollment Update and Classroom Openings, December 2025

Mrs. Palese reported stable enrollment trends, noting no significant changes. Since August 2025, Mid-Valley has welcomed 24 new students, with an additional six currently pending.

4.2 2026-27 Student Enrollment Projections: Phase One

Mrs. Palese presented enrollment projections for the next school year. Current data indicates that opening additional classrooms will be unnecessary. Furthermore, should the proposed transition facility be approved, the expanded capacity and optimized space would allow for a reduction in staff by one teacher. Consequently, the vacancy created by an upcoming retirement would not require a replacement.

4.3 Staffing Update, December 2025

Mr. McDonald informed the Board that staffing levels remain stable, with no current requirement for additional paraprofessional support. He noted, however, that 40% of the existing paraprofessional staff are currently sourced through contract agencies.

4.4 Administrative Liaison Meeting Minutes, December 19, 2025

Mrs. Palese reviewed the Liaison meeting minutes and informed the Board that she has formally submitted a letter to the State Board of Education regarding advocate-related matters. Additionally, she is working with the liaisons on evaluating classroom space availability for the next academic year. She also noted that Mid-Valley is offering a diverse range of professional development options to the districts for the county-wide Institute Day in February.

For Action

5.1 Approval of the Personnel Report, December 2025

Dr. Barrett motioned, seconded by Mr. Kim, for Approval of the Personnel Report, December 2025. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. 4-0

New Business

None

Adjournment

Motion made by Dr. Rohlwing and seconded by Dr. Barrett. By consensus, the motion carried 4-0 Ayes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 AM

Chair of the Mid-Valley Board

The next Regular Mid-Valley Executive Advisory Board Meeting will be Wednesday, February 4, 2026, 8:00 AM at the Mid-Valley Administration Offices, 1304 Ronzheimer Avenue. St. Charles, IL 60174