

**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Skillman, New Jersey 08558**

**Meeting, Monday, April 17, 2023
5:00 p.m. Public Session**

Board of Education Office – Large Conference Room

AGENDA FOR SPECIAL MEETING

2022-2023 District Goals

- Goal 1: Academic - Increase the understanding and implementation of *Universal Design for Learning*, a framework that guides the design of learning experiences to proactively meet the needs of all types of learners, in order to improve student success across all classroom settings.
- Goal 2: Equity - Increase *cultural competency* among administration, staff, and students in order to create a work and learning environment that supports diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Goal 3: SEL - Increase staff training and implementation of research-based, trauma-informed strategies that will decrease stress, promote wellness, build resilience and create a supportive learning environment for all students, administration, and staff.
- Goal 4: Communication - Improve all methods of communication to deliver clear and transparent district messaging to all district stakeholders by leveraging social media platforms, the website, and email blasts to increase engagement with the community.

OPENING OF THE MEETING

Call to Order – Board President

Statement of Open Meeting and Public Participation - In accordance with the State's Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing notice of meeting on April 12, 2023. Notice was provided to Board of Education Members, Montgomery Township Clerk, Rocky Hill Borough Clerk, Public Library, Township Posting, School Posting, PTSA Officers, Courier News, Montgomery News, Princeton Packet, Trenton Times, and The Star Ledger.

The Board reserves the right to enter into Executive Session during all meetings of the Board of Education.

It is the School Board's intention to conclude this meeting no later than 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

SALUTE THE FLAG

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public are allotted one opportunity to address the Board regarding the **Action Agenda** for up to a maximum of three (3) minutes during this period of the meeting. All comments or questions must be directed to the board president. The board president may need to refer an issue to the superintendent if the particular issue has not been handled through the appropriate chain of command within the school district before coming to the board for a response. All responses will be provided at the end of this session.

ACTION AGENDA

3.0 OPERATIONS, FACILITIES AND FINANCE

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the finance agenda as follows:

3.1 Resolution Concerning Group Medical and Prescription Drug Benefits – approve the following resolution:

The Montgomery Township Board of Education hereby resolves effective July 1, 2023 to make the following changes relative to its group medical and rx drug benefits programs, as follows:

1. Terminate its group medical and prescription drug self-insurance administrative services contract with Horizon Healthcare Services, Inc.
2. Award its group medical benefits program to Schools Health Insurance Fund (SHIF), per the SHIF proposal dated March 6, 2023, which is incorporated herein as part of this resolution.
3. Award its group prescription drug benefits program to Heartland Fidelity Insurance Co. (Benecard), per the Benecard proposal dated March 1, 2023, which is incorporated herein as part of this resolution.
4. Designate Brown & Brown Benefit Advisors, Inc. as broker of record for these programs, with the following authority:
 1. To ensure with SHIF and Benecard that benefits delivered are “equal to or better than” the Board’s current self-insured group medical and rx drug insurance plans.
 2. To periodically market the Board’s group benefit plans.
 3. To assist employees and dependents in the resolution of elevated service issues that cannot be resolved by employees first contacting SHIF/Aetna, SHIF/AmeriHealth and Benecard directly.
 4. To ensure all reporting provided to the Board or its administrators is compliant with HIPAA relative to protected health information (PHI).

5. To advise the Board of Education relative to compliance with Federal and State regulations regarding self-insured group benefit plans.

6. To accept commission payments from SHIF and Benecard, per the enclosed proposals.

All appropriate Board of Education staff members are authorized to take such action and affect such documentation as necessary to implement these changes.

3.2 Resolution to Join Schools Health Insurance Fund – approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a number of school boards in the State of New Jersey have joined together to form the SCHOOLS HEALTH INSURANCE FUND hereafter referred to as "SHIF", as permitted N.J.S.A. 18A:18B-1 et seq., and;

WHEREAS, the SHIF has received approval by the Commissioner of the Department of Banking and Insurance on August 10, 2015;

WHEREAS, the statutes and regulations governing the creation and operation of a joint insurance fund, contain certain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a school board joint insurance fund;

WHEREAS, the governing body of Montgomery Township Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as "SCHOOL BOARD" has determined that membership in the SHIF is in the best interest of said SCHOOL BOARD.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the SCHOOL BOARD hereby agrees as follows:

- i. SCHOOL BOARD shall become a member of the SHIF for the period outlined in the SCHOOL BOARD's Indemnity and Trust Agreement.
- ii. SCHOOL BOARD will participate in the following type (s) of coverage (s):
 - a.) Health Insurance as defined pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17B:17-4, the SHIF's Bylaws and the SHIF's Plan of Risk Management.
- iii. SCHOOL BOARD accepts and approves the SHIF's Bylaws and agrees to be bound by the terms thereof.
- iv. SCHOOL BOARD shall execute an application for membership and any accompanying certifications.

- v. SCHOOL BOARD agrees to commit to the four principles of the SHIF which are:
 - a.) A long-term philosophy on rates.
 - b.) A willingness to work with bargaining units to achieve plan design changes.
 - c.) Professional management with stability and commitment.
 - d.) Rating structure based on actuarial numbers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the SCHOOL BOARD is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the SHIF as required by the SHIF's Bylaws, and to deliver these documents to the SHIF's Executive Director with the express reservation that these documents shall become effective only upon:

- i. Approval of the SCHOOL BOARD by the SHIF.
- ii. Receipt by the SHIF of a Resolution from the SCHOOL BOARD accepting SCHOOL BOARD's SHIF assessment.
- iii. Approval by the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance of SCHOOL BOARD as a member of the SHIF.

3.3 Appoint Fund Commissioner to the Schools Health Insurance Fund – approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Montgomery Township Board of Education that Gary L. Ottmann is hereby appointed as Fund Commissioner to the Schools Health Insurance Fund effective July 1, 2023 to represent the Montgomery Township Board of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that David F. Palumbo is appointed as Alternate Fund Commissioner to the Schools Health Insurance Fund effective July 1, 2023.

3.4 Resolution Approving the Appointment of Benefit Risk Manager – approve the following resolution:

The Board of Education hereby resolves effective July 1, 2023 to designate James T. Finn, CLU, of Brown & Brown, Inc. as its Benefit Risk Manager for our Schools Health Insurance Fund (SHIF) medical plan.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Brown & Brown, Inc. is authorized as follows:

- 1. To assist employees and dependents in the resolution of elevated service issues that cannot be resolved by Aetna, AmeriHealth or SHIF.

2. To advise the Board of Education relative to compliance with Federal and State regulations regarding group benefit plans.
3. To review periodic SHIF financial reports and advise the Board of Education on the financial status of the SHIF and how that relates to the forecasting of future SHIF assessment rates.
4. To advise the Board of Education on the impact of current, proposed and future changes to by-laws, procedures or vendors associated with SHIF.

All appropriate Board of Education staff members are authorized to take such action and affect such documentation as necessary to implement these changes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

ADJOURNMENT