

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

**Meeting, Tuesday, November 21, 2023  
6:30 p.m. Executive Session  
7:30 p.m. Public Session**

**Orchard Hill Elementary School Cafeteria**

**BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**

2023-2024 District Goals

Goal 1: Academics

Increase academic achievement for all students, using the implementation of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles and practices in all learning environments.

Goal 2: Equity

Continue building a culturally competent school community that demonstrates a commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB).

Goal 3: Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)

Increase learning opportunities designed to develop essential life skills, emotional intelligence, and positive social behaviors for all students.

Goal 4: Communication

Standardize base frequency, methodology, and communication content across all buildings, leveraging messaging and social media platforms to share information and celebrate student success.

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 January 4, 2023 and November 17, 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 10:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

It is recommended that the Board of Education adopt a resolution to convene in executive session as follows:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 of the Laws of 1975 provides that a public body may exclude the public from that portion of a meeting of which the public body discusses certain matters for which confidentiality is required as permitted in Section 7B of the act.

WHEREAS, the items that are permitted to be discussed in executive session are as follows:

- 1) a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law
- 2) a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds
- 3) material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy
- 4) a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it
- 5) a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds
- 6) protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law
- 7) pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations and/or matters of attorney-client privilege
- 8) specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session
- 9) deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education will be discussing items 3, 4, and 8. Action may take place on these items. The matters discussed in executive session shall be disclosed to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

### ROLL CALL

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION – 7:30 p.m.

### SALUTE THE FLAG

### MTSD STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

### SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT / PRESENTATIONS

### ACTION AGENDA ITEMS PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board of Education welcomes and encourages input from the public. Members of the public are allotted one opportunity to address the Board regarding the **Action Agenda items ONLY** for up to a maximum of three (3) minutes per speaker. All comments must be directed to the Board. Before you make your comment, please state your name and address and write both in the notebook provided. Being mindful of privacy rights regarding students, board employees, and board members, and to avoid any liability on the part of the speaker, the board discourages defamatory and discourteous remarks. The public comment portions of the meeting are not structured as question-and-answer sessions but rather are offered as opportunities for the public to share their thoughts with the Board. The Board may need to refer an issue to the superintendent if the issue has not been handled through the appropriate chain of command, usually starting at the school level. Responses may be provided at the end of this session.

## COMMITTEE/REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

### Representative Reports

- MTEA Report
- Board Member Delegate/Representative Reports  
(SCSBA, PTSA, MAC, Legislative, NJSBA, Ed. Services Commission, etc.)

### Board Committee Reports

- Assessment, Curriculum and Instruction Committee (ACI)
- Equity Committee (EC)
- Operations, Facilities and Finance Committee (OFF)
- Policy and Communications Committee (PCC)
- Human Resource Committee (HRC)
- Officers' Report

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the following Board Meeting(s):

1. October 30, 2023 Executive Session Meeting
2. October 30, 2023 Business Meeting
3. January 24, 2023 Business Meeting Amended

CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD – List of correspondence to the Board:

1. Email dated 10/24/23 from C. Witt regarding Support for HiTops Contract
2. Email dated 10/30/23 from J. Church regarding Incivility at BOE Meetings
3. Email dated 10/30/23 from J. Church regarding Incivility at BOE Meetings
4. Email dated 10/31/23 from J. Church regarding Postponement of Board Meeting to October 30
5. Email dated 10/31/23 from J. Church regarding Incivility at BOE Meetings
6. Email dated 10/31/23 from P. Jabaraj regarding HiTops concerns
7. Email dated 10/31/23 from J. Church regarding October 30 BOE – public comments & unanswered questions
8. Email dated 11/10/23 from G. Zayova regarding Why is there no Strategic Plan?
9. Email dated 11/10/23 from G. Zayova regarding Is Mrs Spence really a doctor?
10. Email dated 11/13/23 from J. Church regarding October 30 BOE – public comments & unanswered questions
11. Email dated 11/13/23 from G. Zayova regarding OPRA 11/13
12. Email dated 11/13/23 from J. Church regarding Community member harassed at BOE meeting by union officer/teacher
13. Email dated 11/14/23 from M. McLoughlin regarding Community member harassed at BOE meeting by union officer/teacher
14. Email dated 11/14/23 from Montgomery SEPAG regarding request to fix errors in the 1/24/23 BOE meeting minutes
15. Email dated 11/15/23 from J. Church regarding Community member harassed at BOE meeting by union officer/teacher
16. Email dated 11/16/23 from G. Zayova regarding Why is there no strategic plan?
17. Email dated 11/17/23 from Ga. Zayova regarding 3<sup>rd</sup> Follow up: OPRA - HiTops

## NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD/PUBLIC

The Board of Education welcomes and encourages input from the public. Members of the public are allotted one opportunity to bring any **NEW BUSINESS** to the Board for up to a maximum of three (3) minutes per speaker. All comments must be directed to the Board. Before you make your comment, please state your name and address and write both in the notebook provided. Being mindful of privacy rights regarding students, board employees, and board members, and to avoid any potential liability on the part of the speaker, the board discourages defamatory and discourteous remarks. The public comment portions of the meeting are not structured as question-and-answer sessions. The Board may need to refer an issue to the superintendent if the issue has not been handled through the appropriate chain of command, usually starting at the school level. Responses may be provided at the end of this session.

## ACTION AGENDA

### **1.0 ADMINISTRATIVE**

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the administrative items as follows:

#### 1.1 Routine Monthly Reports – Accept the following reports:

- a. Student Control Report
- b. Fire/Security Drill Report
- c. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Report
- d. Bus Evacuation Drills – 2023-2024 SY, Fall 2023

#### 1.2 Policy/Regulation First Reading - Accept the following policies and regulations as a first reading:

3212	Attendance – Teaching Staff Members
3212R	Attendance – Teaching Staff Members
4212	Attendance – Support Staff
4212R	Attendance – Support Staff
5517	School District Issued Student Identification Cards

#### 1.3 Policy/Regulation Second Reading - Accept and adopt the following policies and regulation following a second reading:

5111	Eligibility of Resident/Non-Resident Students
5111R	Eligibility of Resident/Non-Resident Students
5514	Student Use of Vehicles
8500	Food Services

#### 1.4 School Safety and Security Plan - Approve the Montgomery Township School District School Safety and Security Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2023-2024 school year.

## 2.0 CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the curriculum and instruction agenda as follows:

- 2.1 Out-of-District Tuition (McKinney-Vento): 2023-2024 - Approve the following Out-of-District Tuition (McKinney-Vento) for the 2023-2024 School Year:

		<b>TUITION</b>			
<b>Student ID</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>ESY</b>	<b>RSY</b>	<b>Total for Year</b>
108186	Lore Elementary School, Ewing	9/11/23-6/21/24		\$20,355.00	\$20,355.00

- 2.2 Consultant Approvals: 2023-2024 - Approve the following consultants for the 2023-2024 School Year:

<b>CONSULTANT NAME/VENDOR</b>	<b>SERVICES PROVIDED</b>	<b>RATES OF SERVICE</b>
Soliant Health, LLC	School Psychologist Counselor/Social Worker Sign-Language Interpreter School Nurse (LPN,RN,CSN) Teacher of Deaf Teacher of Visually Impaired Behavior Aide/Paraprofessional Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) Behavior Specialist (RBT) Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) Speech Language Pathologist Assistant Occupational Therapist (OT) Physical Therapist (PT)	\$90-\$120/hour \$70-\$90/hour \$70-\$80/hour \$65-\$80/hour \$75-\$95/hour \$75-\$95/hour \$45-\$55/hour \$80-\$95/hour \$55-\$65/hour \$90-\$120/hour \$65-\$85/hour \$85-\$110/hour \$85-\$110/hour
TW Math Consulting	Provide Professional Development for K-3 Teachers around the Math Bridges Program	\$12,000.00 <i>To be funded by ARP ESSER</i>
Nathaniel White	Provide Professional Development for Orchestra Staff on Pedagogy and Instructional Practices	\$3,300.00 <i>To be funded by ESEA Title II</i>

- 2.3 Special Olympics New Jersey (SONJ) Grant for the 2023-2024 School Year - Accept grant money in the amount of \$2,000 from SONJ for Unified Champion Schools (UCS) for Montgomery Upper Middle School.

- 2.4 Athletic Team Field Trip Approval - Approve the field trip for the MHS Baseball Team to participate in three games at the Cal Ripken Experience Field in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, from April 1, 2024 through April 5, 2024, which is the MTSD 2024 Spring Recess, at no cost to the district.

### **3.0 OPERATIONS, FACILITIES AND FINANCE**

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

#### **3.1 Acceptance of the Financial Reports**

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 requires the Board Secretary and the Board of Education of the Montgomery School District to certify that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that the sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligation, and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 further requires the Board of Education of the Montgomery Township School District receive and accept the monthly financial statement, the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports; and

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the month ending October 31, 2023 are presented for the Board to accept and are on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education of the Montgomery Township School District acknowledges receipt of and accepts the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the month ending October 31, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary and the Board of Education certifies that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that there are sufficient funds available to meet the District's financial obligation.

#### **3.2 Approval of Transfers**

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10-(c)1 states that a report shall be presented to the Board showing all transfers between line item accounts for each line item account shown on the budget prepared in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8; and

WHEREAS, Board Policy 6422 designates the Superintendent of Schools to approve transfers as necessary between meetings of the Board and be reported to the Board, ratified and duly recorded in the minutes at a subsequent Board meeting; and

WHEREAS, transfers were necessary to maintain the needs of the district and are on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montgomery Township Board of Education ratifies and approves the transfers through October 31, 2023 within the 2023-2024 school year budget, as approved by the Superintendent, so that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds would be available to meet the district's financial obligations, as requested by various district;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution shall take effect immediately, and the Montgomery Township Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent, Board President and School Business Administrator to sign any documents on behalf of the Montgomery Board of Education with regards to exercising the intent of this resolution.

3.3 Approval of Bill List Fiscal Year 2024

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:19, Expenditure of Funds; Audit and Payment of Claims, provides Board of Educations to make payments on claims for goods received and services rendered payable to the order of the person entitled to receive the amount after approval by the board; or in accordance with payrolls duly certified; or debt service or when provided by resolution approval by a person designated by the board; and

WHEREAS, a list of bills dated November 21, 2023 is being presented to the board with the recommendation that they be ratified and paid respectively; and

WHEREAS, each claim or demand has been fully itemized, verified and audited as required by law in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-2;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montgomery Township Board of Education approves the list of bills for payment in the grand sum of \$6,171,691.97 and

General Account	\$6,009,004.28
Food Service Account	\$ 162,687.69
TOTAL	\$6,171,691.97

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the list of bills is on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montgomery Township Board of Education authorizes the School Business Administrator to pay bills if it is determined that a need arises prior to the next board meeting in accordance with Board Policy 6470 – Payment of Claims.

3.4 Travel Reimbursement – 2023-2024 – Approve the Board member and/or staff conference and travel expenses as per the travel reimbursement list dated 11/21/23.

3.5 Receipt/Award for B24-09 Transportation School Related Activities (Rebid) – Bids were received on October 31, 2023 for the Transportation services for School-Related Activities for the Montgomery School District as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
First Student Inc.	3-hour minimum per bus - \$735.00
Monmouth Junction, NJ	\$235 per hour after 3-hour minimum

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve B 24-09 Transportation School-Related Activities as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
First Student Inc. Monmouth Junction, NJ	3-hour minimum per bus - \$735.00 \$235 per hour after 3-hour minimum

3.6 Receipt/Award for RFP 24-08 Services for an Instructional Tutoring Firm – Bids were received on November 14, 2023 for the services of an instructional tutoring firm to provide on-site tutoring of Montgomery School District personnel:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Advance Education Advisement Corp. Hillsborough, NJ	1:1 - \$65.00 per hr. 2:1 - \$45.00 per hr. 3:1 - \$39.00 per hr.
Catapult Learning Philadelphia, PA	\$94.00 per hr.
Kelly Education Troy, MI	\$38.00/hour Instructional Tutor \$52.00/hour NJ Certified Teacher Tutor \$40.00/hour Bilingual Instructional Tutor \$54.00/hour Bilingual NJ Certified Teacher Tutor
Public Consulting Group Staunton, VA	\$69.00 per hr.
Tutorfly Response Farmers Branch, TX	\$60.00 per hr.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve RFP 24-08 Services for Instructional Tutoring Firm as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Kelly Education Troy, MI	\$38.00/hour Instructional Tutor \$52.00/hour NJ Certified Teacher Tutor \$40.00/hour Bilingual Instructional Tutor \$54.00/hour Bilingual NJ Certified Teacher Tutor

3.7 Appointment of Reconciler of School Monies – It is recommended that the Board appoint Robert Skibinski as Reconciler of School Monies for the 2023-2024 school year for a fee of \$5,200.



- 3.8 Approve B & H Photo & Electronics Corp. – Approve B& H Photo for the purchase of 28 Chromebox computers, monitors and google management licenses for Village Elementary School to refresh computer lab in the amount of \$17,785.04 entered into on behalf of HCESC CAT 22-01 (Hunterdon County Educational Services) for the 23/24 school year as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
B & H Photo & Electronics Corp.	\$17,785.04

#### **4.0 PERSONNEL**

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve Personnel Resolutions which may include: Resignations/Retirements, Leaves of Absence, Appointments of Staff, Transfers Voluntary/Involuntary, Appointments Funded ESSER Grant, Appointments Funded by ESEA Grant, Appointments of Mentor Teachers, Appointments of SOAR, Appointments of Substitutes, Appointments of Visual and Performing Arts, Tuition Reimbursement, Appointments of Co-Curricular, Appointments of Extra Curricular Activities, and Other following discussion in Executive Session.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**