

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

Meeting, Tuesday, November 24, 2020

6:00 p.m. Executive Session

**7:30 p.m. Public Session – Board of Education Candidate Interviews
Executive Session Immediately Following Interviews to Evaluate Candidates
Open Session to Appoint New Board Member**

REMOTE – Participation Information Available on District Website

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

2020-2021 District Goals

- Goal 1: Maximize the social-emotional and academic growth of every student
- Goal 2: Ensure a learning environment that promotes excellence
- Goal 3: Strengthen stakeholder relationships to support and enhance student learning
- Goal 4: Optimize operational and financial resources to enhance student experience

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 8, 2020 and November 18, 2020. 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, 7, 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

INTERVIEW BOARD CANDIDATES

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It is recommended that the Board convene in Executive Session for the purpose of evaluating the candidates to fill the Board vacancy.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/PRESENTATIONS

- Building an Inclusive Curriculum

NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD/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 or questions must be directed to the board president. The Board of Education welcomes and encourages input from the public. There are two times during board meetings that the public is invited to speak. One time is now when members of the public are invited to bring any new business to the board for up to a maximum of three minutes per speaker. Later in the meeting there will be a second opportunity to address the board regarding the Action Agenda.

Before you make your comment, please state your name, address and subject matter. Being mindful of privacy rights regarding students and board employees and to avoid any potential liability on the part of the speaker, the board discourages references to specific individuals. While directing your comments or questions to the board president, please understand that the public comment portions of the meeting are not structured as question and answer sessions but rather are offered as opportunities for you to share your thoughts with the board. 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 with the school district before coming to the board for a response. Responses may be provided at the end of this session. However, there are times when comments and questions will require additional information gathering before a response is provided.

COMMITTEE/REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Representative Reports

- Student Representative Report
- 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)
- Anti-Racism and Reform Committee (ARRC)
- Operations, Facilities and Finance Committee (OFF)
- Policy and Communications Committee (PCC)
- Human Resource Committee (HRC)
- President's Report

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

1. October 27, 2020 Executive Session Meeting
2. October 27, 2020 Business Meeting

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

1. Email dated 10/30/20 from K. Patkar regarding MHS full virtual
2. Email dated 11/2/20 from R. Jacinto MHS full virtual
3. Email dated 11/2/20 from G. & R. Jacinto regarding COVID-19 Dashboard on district website
4. Email dated 11/3/20 from L. Gaynor regarding Hybrid at MHS
5. Email dated 11/3/20 from L. Gaynor regarding MHS hybrid model
6. Email dated 11/3/20 from L. Gaynor regarding MHS hybrid model
7. Email dated 11/3/20 from A. Haas regarding The Watchtower
8. Email dated 11/4/20 from A. Miller regarding resignation from BOE
9. Email dated 11/11/20 from J. Pena regarding Montgomery Special Ed. PTA meeting
10. Email dated 11/11/20 from D. Sciascia regarding MSEPTA meeting agenda
11. Email dated 11/14/20 from R. Cavalli regarding MTSD employees and mask wearing
12. Email dated 11/18/20 from N. O'Hara regarding Message from the Superintendent
13. Email dated 11/18/20 from M. Deutsch regarding case manager
14. Email dated 11/18/20 from E. Seguin regarding public comment
15. Email dated 11/19/20 from K. Gericitano regarding school shutdown

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

1.0 ADMINISTRATIVE

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

- 1.1 Accept Resignation of Board Member – Accept the resignation of Mrs. Amy Miller, board member, effective November 4, 2020.
- 1.2 Routine Monthly Report – Accept the following reports:
 - a. Student Control Report
 - b. Fire/Security Drill Report
 - c. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Report
- 1.3 Approval of Bylaw 0164.6 - Move the Board of Education suspend Bylaw 0131 that requires two readings to adopt a Bylaw or Policy and adopt Bylaw 0164.6 – Remote Public Board Meetings During a Declared Emergency with one reading to be in compliance with the new emergency regulations regarding remote meetings held during a Governor-declared emergency, N.J.A.C. 5:39-1.1 through 1.7, promulgated by the Department of Community Affairs.
- 1.4 Policy First Reading - Accept the following policies/regulations as a first reading:

1648	Restart and Recovery Plan
1648.02	Remote Learning Options for Families
1648.03	Restart and Recovery – Full-Time Instruction
2464	Gifted and Talented Students
5200	Attendance
5200R	Attendance
- 1.5 Policy Second Reading - Accept and adopt the following policies and regulation following a second reading:

5330.04	Administering an Opioid Antidote
5330.04R	Administering an Opioid Antidote
5610	Suspension
5610R	Suspension Procedures
5620	Expulsion

- 1.6 Nursing Services Plan – Approve the Montgomery Township School District Nursing Services Plan for the 2020-2021 school year.
- 1.7 School Safety and Security Plan - Approve the Montgomery Township School District School Safety and Security Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2020-2021 school year.
- 1.8 District Goals – Approve the following District Goals for the 2020-2021 school year:
 - Goal 1: Provide deeper student-teacher-parent connection to allow for continued excellent academic education and emotional well-being of students regardless of mode of instruction during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Goal 2: Revise the Science Curriculum and Structure to reflect new developments and requirements in Science.
 - Goal 3: Implement curricular changes to incorporate diversity and inclusion.
 - Goal 4: Prioritize our financial resources to drive innovation in ongoing student education.
- 1.9 HIB Self-Assessment 2019-2020

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has recommended that the Board of Education approve the schools’ updated Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Self-Assessment Scores for the 2019-2020 school year;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education finds that it is in the best interest of the school district to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the updated HIB School Self-Assessment is approved by the Board of Education on November 24, 2020.

2.0 CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

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

- 2.1 Consultant Approvals 2020-2021 - Approve the following consultants for the 2020-2021 school year:

CONSULTANT NAME/VENDOR	SERVICES PROVIDED	RATES OF SERVICE
Brett DiNovi and Associates Inc.	Clinical Associates Consultation Services Behavioral Consultant Services	\$55.00/hour \$125.00/hour

2.2 Out-of-District Placements 2020-2021 - Approve the following Out-of-District placements for the 2020-2021 school year:

Pupil ID	School	Dates	TUITION		
			ESY	RSY	Total for Year
181958	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$1350.00	\$1350.00
101449	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$1350.00	\$1350.00
100818	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School – TOPS	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$26,000.00	\$26,000.00
100669	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$1350.00	\$1350.00
107250	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$1350.00	\$1350.00
100781	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$1350.00	\$1350.00
101608	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$1350.00	\$1350.00
101848	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$1350.00	\$1350.00
101822	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School-Shared Time	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$675.00	\$675.00
101315	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School-Shared Time	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$675.00	\$675.00
100273	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School-Shared Time	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$675.00	\$675.00
103879	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School-Shared Time	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$675.00	\$675.00
101318	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School-Shared Time	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$675.00	\$675.00

105505	Somerset County Vocational & Technical School-Shared Time	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$675.00	\$675.00
102423	Academy for Health & Medical at Somerset County Vo-Tech	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$1350.00	\$1350.00
103271	Academy for Health & Medical at Somerset County Vo-Tech	9/8/20-6/22/21		\$1350.00	\$1350.00
107789	East Mountain School	10/20/20-6/21/21		\$48,773.00	\$48,773.00
181939	Caldwell University Center for Autism – Withdrawal	11/4/20-6/26/21		-\$167,000.00	-\$167,000.00

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, 2020 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, 2020; 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, 2020 within the 2020-2021 school year budget, as approved by the Superintendent, so that no budgetary line item account has been over-expanded 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 Lists

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 October 29, 2020, November 10, 2020, November 18, 2020 and November 25, 2020 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 \$6,761,662.09 and

General Account	\$6,735,363.80
Food Service Account	\$26,298.29
TOTAL	\$6,761,662.09

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the list of bills are 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 –2020/2021 – approve the Board member and/or staff conference and travel expenses as per the travel reimbursement list dated 11/24/20.

- 3.5 Approve a Maximum Allowable Cost for an Independent Educational Evaluation – approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Special Education law permits a parent to request an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) if there is a disagreement with any evaluation provided by the Board of Education, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, may annually determine the reasonable and customary rate for such Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) to be consistent in the range of what it would cost the Board to provide the same type of assessment approved under N.J.A.C. 6A:14-5, and:

WHEREAS, the Board approved rate will be provided upon formal request from a parent or guardian for the provision of Independent Educational Evaluations (IEE);

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montgomery Township Board of Education establishes the maximum allowable cost for an independent evaluation to be limited to the reasonable and customary rate of \$1,000.00 per evaluation requested.

- 3.6 Approve the Submission of the School Security Grant to the County Executive Superintendent’s Office - approve the submission of the School Security Grant to the County Executive Superintendent's Office in the amount of \$267,839 with the use of local funds should the eligible projects exceed this amount.

- 3.7 Resolution Regarding CARES Act Funds from the U.S. Treasury – approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the County has received CARES Act funds from the United States Treasury (the “Stimulus Funds”) through the State of New Jersey to be used to reimburse the County and agencies within the County including the School districts due to economic damage caused to them by the Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, as the recipient of the Stimulus Funds, it will be the responsibility of the County to disburse the Stimulus Funds to eligible recipients in accordance with the terms and provisions of the CARES Act and any guidelines or regulations issued by United States government or any of its agencies and/or departments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by November 30, 2020 the Montgomery Township School District shall submit a reimbursement application for March 1, 2020 to July 31, 2020 in the amount of \$23,388.80; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County shall review the Allocation and make an adjustment to the Allocation dependent upon the claims for reimbursement made by and paid to date to the Montgomery Township School District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Montgomery Township School District understands that the decision by the County as to any adjustments to the Allocation shall take into consideration the needs of the County and the Montgomery Township School district; the amounts of reimbursements made to the County and the Montgomery Township School District to date; and the remaining balance contained in the Stimulus Funds.

- 3.8 Approval of Joint Transportation Agreement - approve joint transportation agreement with Camden County Educational Services Commission (CCESC) as the host and Montgomery as the joiner at a total cost of \$8,583.75 to Archway School, Atco for the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

<u>Route#</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u># CCESC Students</u>	<u># Montgomery Students</u>	<u>Joiner Cost</u>
948	Archway School, Atco	6	1	\$8,583.75

- 3.9 Receipt and Award of Bid – Winter Athletic Awards, Equipment, Supplies and Uniforms for the Montgomery Township School District (Bid #B21-06) – Bids were received on November 13, 2020 for winter athletic awards, equipment, supplies and uniforms for the Montgomery Township School District as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Base Bid</u>
BSN Sports, Passon’s Sports & US Games Jenkintown, PA	\$7,440.87
Winning Teams by Nissel, LLC Flemington, NJ	\$2,718.00
Pyramid School Products Tampa, FL	\$1,389.15
Aluminum Athletic Equipment Co. Royersford, PA	\$740.85
MFAC, LLC (M-F Athletic) West Warwick, RI	\$600.00

It is recommended the Board of Education reject the bids received from the following vendors; pursuant to 18A:18A-22e since the purposes or provisions or both of N.J.S.A.18A:18A-1 et seq. is being violated:

Pyramid School Products, Tampa, FL - The low bid received for the *bolt on backboard padding* is being rejected because the item offered will not fit and cover the area properly where they will be installed.

BSN Sports, LLC, Dallas, TX - The low bid received for *sweatshirts* is being rejected because specification required 12-ounce cotton and they offered 9.3-ounce.

It is recommended that the Board of Education award Bid #B21-06 for winter athletic awards, equipment, supplies and uniforms for the Montgomery Township School District as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	
BSN Sports, LLC Dallas, TX	\$4,060.50
Winning Teams by Nissel, LLC Flemington, NJ	\$2,718.00
Pyramid School Products Tampa, FL	\$801.99
MFAC, LLC (M-F Athletic) West Warwick, RI	\$316.00
Total Bids Awarded	\$7,896.49

4.0 PERSONNEL

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the personnel agenda following discussion in Executive Session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

ADJOURNMENT