

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Minutes of the Tuesday, March 13, 2017 7:00 P.M. Workshop and Business Meeting

These minutes have not been formally approved and are subject to change or modification.

OPENING OF THE MEETING

- A. The Montgomery Township Board of Education held a workshop and business meeting on Tuesday, March 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Upper Middle School media center.
- B. Roll Call - The following Board Members were present: Phyllis Bursh, Richard Cavalli, Minky Chenette, Charles F. Jacey, Jr., Dr. Paul Johnson, Amy Miller, Ranjana Rao, and Shreesh Tiwari

Absent: Dharmesh Doshi

Also Present: Nancy Gartenberg, Superintendent
Elizabeth Nastus, Interim Assistant Superintendent
Annette M. Wells, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Robbin Boehmer, Assistant Business Administrator/Assistant Board Secretary
Nora Wynn, Student Representative

- C. President Cavalli read the following 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 the meeting on January 10, 2018 and March 9, 2018. Notice was provided to Board of Education Members, Montgomery Township Clerk, Rocky Hill Borough Clerk, Public Library, Township Posting, School Postings, PTSA Officers, Courier News, Princeton Packet, Trenton Times, and The Star Ledger.
- D. President Cavalli then led everyone in the Salute to the Flag.
- E. President Cavalli welcomed all to the workshop and business meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- A motion was made by Ms. Rao and seconded by Dr. Johnson that the board adopt a resolution to go into executive session at 7:05 p.m.

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.

RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Township of Montgomery in the County of Somerset and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. Items related to personnel, harassment, intimidation and bullying incidents, and negotiations with the Montgomery Township Education Association will be discussed.
2. The matters discussed in executive session shall be disclosed to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION- The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:35 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD/PUBLIC

Montgomery Mayor Mark Conforti and Lt. Jim Gill from the Montgomery Police spoke to the board and the public on continuing efforts toward safety and security within the Montgomery Schools. The Montgomery Police Department has a history of promoting a culture of safety and security within the schools. The police department looks to continually change and evolve to meet the schools' needs as safety and security issues evolve. Communication between district administration and the town is key and occurs daily to ensure that safety and security is constantly and continually evaluated and monitored. Both entities have the same goal of providing an environment where students will thrive.

The public commented on the following:


- The availability of the syllabus of the new science course
- The opportunity for public comment and dialogue on agenda items immediately prior to the board's vote

Ms. Gartenberg responded that the syllabus for the new science course was not complete, but that it would be possible to email the program of study.

Mr. Cavalli explained the format of the agenda and opportunity for public comment.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT PRESENTATIONS

Strategic Plan Update: Wilson Reading – Ms. Nastus reviewed the strategic goal of providing for the social, emotional and academic growth of every student. She introduced Mr. Damian Pappa, Director of Data Assessment & Accountability, and Ms. Alison Pankowski, Reading Interventionist, who gave the following presentation:



Montgomery Township School District

MTSD Strategic Plan


GOAL 1: STUDENT SUCCESS
Maximize the social-emotional and academic growth of every student.


OBJECTIVE 4.2
Evaluate the impact of programs and expenditures on student learning.

Presented By:

Alison Pankowski: District Reading Interventionist
Damian Pappa: Director of Data, Assessment & Accountability

March 13, 2018







Montgomery Township School District


OBJECTIVE 4.2

Evaluate the impact of programs and expenditures on student learning.

Wilson Reading System






Montgomery Township School District 

**2017-2018
4.2 Objective Team**

Ariana Erickson, LMS Academic Support Literacy Teacher

Alison Pankowski, District Reading Interventionist

Damian Pappa, Director of Data, Assessment & Accountability

Montgomery Township School District 


Wilson Reading System (Cont.)

When? During the school day, frequency and duration as indicated by the student's IEP.

Where? Supplemental Reading Instruction class- instruction provided by a special education teacher who is Wilson Certified.


Why? To become proficient readers
"Single word decoding, accuracy and fluency are necessary for proficient reading" (NICHD, 2000).

MTSD has established exit criteria with pre and posttest data and collaboration between teachers, case managers and district reading interventionist to determine the appropriate time for students to exit Wilson instruction.

Montgomery Township School District 


Struggling Readers


- About 85% of students nationwide who qualify for special education under the classification Specific Learning Disability (SLD) have a primary learning disability in reading and language processing (IDA-Fact Sheet-Dyslexia Basics).
- 8 million students between 4th and 12th grade nationwide...require some form of remediation (Biancarosa & Snow, 2006).
- 1 in 5 students nationwide show characteristics of dyslexia (National Institute of Health).

Montgomery Township School District 

The Six Syllable Types

Closed syllable-map, ath
Vowel-consonant-e -hope, lete
Open Syllable.....me, bla, try
Consonant-le syllable.....table
R-controlled syllable..... car, stork, fern
D-syllable.....jeep, tray, droip, scraw




Montgomery Township School District 

Wilson Reading System


Who? Classified students in grades 2-12, who are eligible due to word level reading deficits.

- Decoding
- Spelling
- Oral reading fluency




What? Reading and Spelling Supplemental Curriculum

- Also includes fluency, vocabulary and comprehension
- Provides curriculum over several years of instruction as needed
- Systematic, Cumulative Sequence
- Explicit and Multisensory Instruction
- Data Driven Instruction- teach to mastery, diagnostic planning


Montgomery Township School District 

Wilson Certification


- Training provides teachers with a common language to talk about reading instruction and supports generalization beyond the small group classroom.
- "Completing the Wilson Language training has better prepared me to teach reading to my students. I feel I am a stronger teacher because of this training. The decoding and encoding strategies that are taught are effective. Working with children and seeing it connect for them through this program is priceless!" (Erika Fedo, Special Education Teacher at LMS)




Montgomery Township School District
Historical Comparison:
Wilson Teachers




	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Level 1 Certified	12	17	23	21
Level 1 In Training	5	6	6	3
Level 2 Certified	0	0	1	4
Level 2 In Training	1	4	4	2

- Montgomery Township School District**
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- Objective Update**
- The 4.2 team in collaboration with ECRA examined growth for students in the Wilson reading program in the 2016-2017 school year.
 - The selected Wilson students were those who had been in the Wilson program for three consecutive years prior to the 2017-2018 school year.
 - Growth in reading for students enrolled in the program was compared to growth of students who were not enrolled in the reading program.
 - Additionally, growth was compared between students in the program and those who were not in the program who had similar performance histories.


Montgomery Township School District
Historical Comparison:
Wilson Students



Level	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Elem.	40	52	62	63
Middle	44	54	59	58
High	0	7	7	5
Total	84	113	128	126


- Montgomery Township School District**
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- Growth Model (Propensity)**
- Each MTSD student with historical test score data was assigned a propensity, or composite achievement score, based on their historical assessment scores.
 - The propensity score indicated the expected achievement for that student during the evaluation year.
 - The assessments used to compute propensity varied across grade levels.

Montgomery Township School District
Historical Comparison:
Wilson Reading Expenditures



Activity	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Instructional/Training Materials	\$4,045	\$6,363	\$7,890	\$8,834
Prof. Development	\$3,300	\$3,800	\$4,200	\$2,800
Wilson Training Fee	\$3,675	\$6,430	\$6,390	\$4,125
Totals	\$11,020	\$16,593	\$18,480	\$15,759


Montgomery Township School District



Growth Model (Propensity) Example

Grade	Inputs for Propensity
5th grade (2016-2017)	Grade 4 PARCC ELA & Math (Spring)
	Grade 4 Math Benchmark (Fall/Winter/Spring)
	Grade 4 MAP Reading & Math (Fall)
	Grade 4 Narrative Writing (Fall/Spring)
	Grade 4 NJASK Science (Spring)


Montgomery Township School District



Growth Model (Growth)

- As previously mentioned, each MTSD student with historical test score data was assigned a propensity, or composite achievement score, based on their prior grade assessment scores.
- To evaluate their growth, the students' actual scores were compared to the expected values provided by the growth models.
- Local norms were established using data up through and including 2015-16.
- 2016-17, served as the first cohort of students for which growth could be evaluated against those fixed local norms.


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In-Progress

- Analyze the students in the comparative group to determine any involvement in Wilson, with the intention of examining their performance.
- Finalize objective team questions for certified Wilson Teachers.
- Conduct focus groups with certified Wilson Teachers.
- Examine feedback from certified Wilson Teachers.
- Determine best approach to eliciting student feedback.

Montgomery Township School District




Summary of Findings

- Wilson Reading Program Proficiency: 23% of students in the Wilson program met the PARCC or MAP benchmark for reading proficiency, while 19 % of students with similar performance history who were not in the Wilson program met proficiency benchmarks.
- Wilson Reading Growth: Overall, growth for students in the Wilson program was in the expected range in reading. 70% of students in the Wilson program achieved their expected growth while 65% of students with similar performance history who were not in the Wilson program achieved their expected growth.
- Students in the Wilson Program were trending towards higher growth compared to students with similar performance history who were not in the Wilson Program.

Student Recognition – 7th grade student, Ms. Megan Kane, was recognized for her accomplishments as a student who has embraced her diagnosis of dyslexia. She credits the 12 steps of the Wilson Program and embracement of technology as having helped her to reach her potential by managing her dyslexia.

Personnel Preliminary Budget Presentation – Ms. Kelly Mattis, Director of Human Resources, presented the Preliminary Personnel Budget as follows:

Montgomery Township School District




Preliminary Budget Presentation Proposed Personnel Adjustments 2018-2019

Maintaining Excellence

Kelly M. Mattis
Director of Human
Resources
March 13, 2018

Montgomery Township School District



Strategic Planning Goals

<p>Goal 1: Student Success <i>Maximize the social-emotional and academic growth of every student.</i></p>	<p>Goal 2: School and Work Environment <i>Ensure a learning environment that promotes excellence.</i></p>
<p>Goal 3: Collaboration and Communication <i>Strengthen stakeholder relationships to support and enhance student learning.</i></p>	<p>Goal 4: Resources and Operations <i>Optimize operational and financial resources to enhance student experience.</i></p>

Montgomery Township School District

Goals

- Goal 1: Student Success
 - Differentiation
 - Review of Special Education Programs
 - Transitions Between Grades and Schools
 - Social Emotional Framework
- Goal 2: Work and School Environment
 - Portrait of a Graduate
 - High School Pathways
- Goal 3: Collaboration and Communication
 - Recruit and Retain
 - Partnerships Schools, Families, Community
 - Improve Communication
- Goal 4: Resources and Operations
 - District Safety Team

Montgomery Township School District

Enrollment Projections Half-Day Kindergarten Demographic Study

Data from Demographic Study for the MTSD School District
January 27, 2015
Statistical Forecasting LLC
CSR-Corporate Social Responsibility

Montgomery Township School District

District Student Enrollment

enrollment totals from Genesis

Montgomery Township School District

Enrollment Projections Half-Day Kindergarten 2015 Demographic Study

	PK-2	3-4	5-6	7-8	9-12
2015-16	905	613	752	819	1,714
2016-17	894	620	727	798	1,691
2017-18	836	678	675	792	1,683
2018-19	831	670	678	62	1,654
2019-20	833	593	737	704	1,632

Data from Demographic Study for the MTSD School District
January 27, 2015
Statistical Forecasting LLC
CSR-Corporate Social Responsibility

Montgomery Township School District


School Student Enrollment

Montgomery Township School District

Fixed Costs

- Anticipated and unanticipated leaves of absence-salary plus benefits overlap- unpredictable
- Budget for step 1 BA, hire best candidates with MA at times for hard to fill positions-\$59,440 to 65,440
- Tuition Reimbursement-\$145,000
- Substitutes-over \$600,000
- Salary advancement due to credits earned- \$75,000 (advancements Sept. 1 and Feb. 1)
- Frontline Evaluation System \$18,000-over 2,000 evals
- Retirement Sick Day Payout \$74,600

Montgomery Township School District




Fixed Costs / Driving Factors Health Benefits

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	%±
Medical	10,831,804	8,628,807	9,845,191	+14
Prescription	2,907,944	2,534,071	3,187,589	+25
Dental	611,857	500,196	536,525	+8
Vision	40,000	75,000	75,000	+0
Totals	14,391,705	11,841,044	13,624,305	+16

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Montgomery Township School District



Regulation 2312 Class Size

The Montgomery Township School District will assign pupils to classes in accordance with the following chart of minimum, maximum, and optimal class sizes.

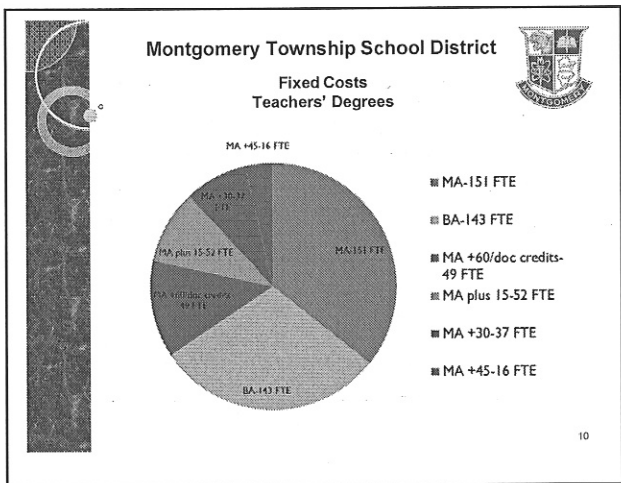
Kindergarten – 2	20 - 22
Grades 3 – 8	23 - 25
Grades 9 – 12 General Academic Class	23 - 27
Grades 9-12 Science	24
Grades 9-12 English	22

Maximum class size for pull-out ESL/Math/Literacy Support 10


Special Education: As dictated by N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.3

Entitlement Programs: As dictated by applicable state and federal guidelines

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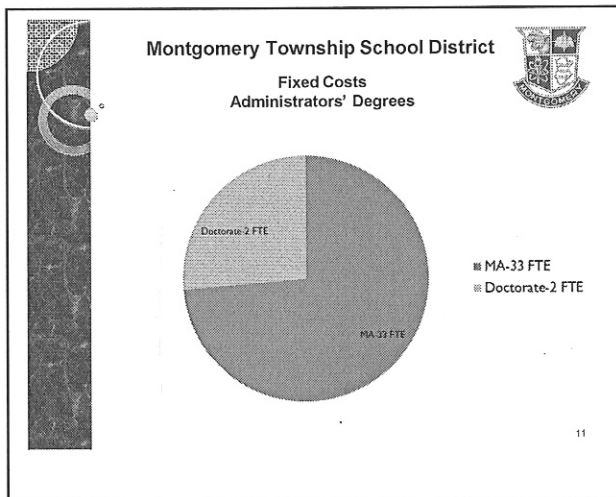
Montgomery Township School District




Proposed Personnel Adjustments

- Lower Middle School
 - .2 Music Teacher- New
 - 1.0 Special Education Teacher- New
- Upper Middle School
 - .8 Music Teacher- New
 - .5 School Counselor- Reallocation
- Montgomery High School
 - 1.0 Mathematics Teacher- New

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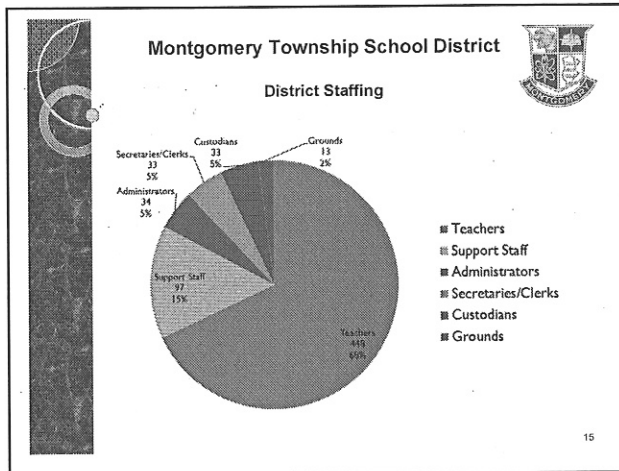
Montgomery Township School District



Proposed Personnel Adjustments

Added Staff Needs	Salary	Benefits
1 Special Ed Teacher	\$ 59,440	\$ 30,000
1 Music Teacher	\$ 59,440	\$ 30,000
1 Math Teacher	\$ 59,440	\$ 30,000
.5 School Counselor (reallocated position)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Sub Total	\$ 178,320	\$ 90,000
Grand Total	\$ 268,320	

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Montgomery Township School District

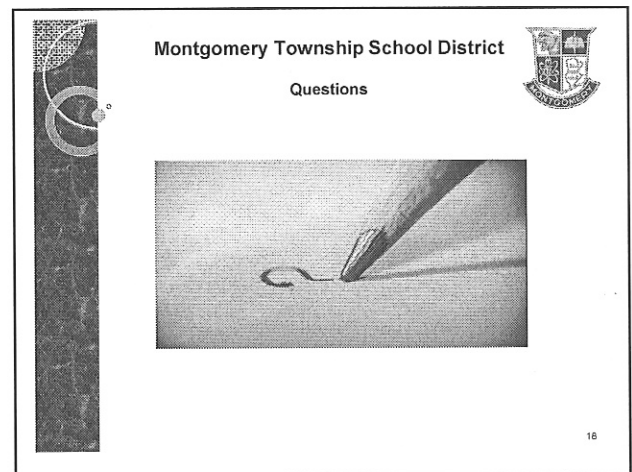
Total Personnel Budget Projection Fund Summary

	Actual 2016-17	Revised 2017-18	Prelim. 2018-19	Diff.	% Change
Paras	2,050,301	2,527,684	2,635,776	108,092	4.28%
Buid. & Grounds	2,668,100	2,695,508	2,836,444	140,936	5.23%
Curric. Writ. St. Dev.	167,258	253,789	250,800	-2,986	-1.18%
ESA	299,823	299,569	303,907	4,338	1.45%
Total Salaries	\$48,628,298	50,947,289	52,235,215	1,287,926	2.53%

Montgomery Township School District

Total Personnel Budget Projection Fund Summary

	Actual 2016-17	Revised 2017-18	Prelim. 2018-19	Diff.	% Change
Teachers	34,213,245	35,551,300	36,444,216	892,916	2.51%
Administration	3,952,932	4,052,406	4,117,158	64,752	1.60%
Other Support Staff	1,083,304	1,081,380	1,096,234	14,854	1.37%
Secretarial/Clerical	1,264,010	1,313,711	1,336,727	23,016	1.75%
Transportation	1,849,241	2,039,505	2,075,627	36,122	1.77%
Athletics & Co-Curr.	1,080,084	1,132,437	1,138,326	5,889	0.52%



Pupil Services Preliminary Budget Presentation – Ms. Mary McLoughlin, Director of Pupil Services, presented the Preliminary Pupil Services Budget Presentation as follows:

Montgomery Township School District

Pupil Services Preliminary Budget Presentation 2018-2019


Maintaining Excellence

Mary E. McLoughlin
Director of Pupil Services
March 2018

- ### Montgomery Township School District
- #### Staff
- Special Education
 - 3 Supervisors
 - 87 Teachers
 - 86 FT and 13 PT Paraprofessionals
 - Related Services
 - 9 Speech and Language Specialists
 - 3 Occupational Therapists
 - 1 PT Physical Therapist
 - 2 Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA)
 - Child Study Team
 - 5 Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultants (LDTCC)
 - 6 School Psychologists
 - 4 School Social Workers

Montgomery Township School District

Staff




- Counseling Services
 - Director of Academic and School Counseling Services
 - 15 School Counselors
 - 1 School Assistance Counselor (SAC)
- Health Services
 - 6 Certified School Nurses
 - 4 Registered Nurses
- School Physician
- Effective School Solutions (contracted)
 - 1 Clinical Counselor UMS
 - 3 Clinical Counselors MHS (1 new proposed)

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Montgomery Township School District

Goals




- Goal 1: Student Success
 - Differentiation
 - Review of Special Education programs
 - Transitions between grades and schools
 - Social Emotional Framework
- Goal 2: Work and School Environment
 - Portrait of a Graduate
 - High School Pathways

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Montgomery Township School District

Overview of State and Federal Requirements




- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS)
- 504 Plans (Rehabilitation Act of 1973)
- Individualized Health Plans (IHPs)
- Non Public Schools' Services Chapters 192-193
- Non Public Technology Liaison
- Non Public Security Liaison
- District Homeless Liaison
- District Affirmative Action
- Dyslexia Law training requirements
- Janet's Law training and equipment requirements

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Montgomery Township School District

Goals




- Goal 3: Collaboration and Communication
 - Community partnerships
- Goal 4: Resources and Operations
 - District Safety Team

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Montgomery Township School District

Strategic Planning Goals




<p>Goal 1: Student Success <i>Maximize the social-emotional and academic growth of every student.</i></p>	<p>Goal 2: School and Work Environment <i>Ensure a learning environment that promotes excellence.</i></p>
<p>Goal 3: Collaboration and Communication <i>Strengthen stakeholder relationships to support and enhance student learning.</i></p>	<p>Goal 4: Resources and Operations <i>Optimize operational and financial resources to enhance student experience.</i></p>

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Montgomery Township School District

Laws




- State: New Jersey Administrative Code for Special Education (N.J.A.C. 6A:14)
- Federal: Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004)

Both laws ensure students with disabilities receive:

- FAPE - Free and appropriate public education
- LRE - Least Restrictive Environment

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Montgomery Township School District
Fixed Costs / Driving Factors



- Salaries
 - Staff/student ratios determined by NJAC 6A
 - 1:1 paraprofessional need determined by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- Out of District Tuitions
 - Determined by student's IEP in accordance with the federal and state laws that insure Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)

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Montgomery Township School District
Fixed Costs / Driving Factors




Effective School Solutions

- We are building the capacity for 27 students at MHS for the 2018-2019 school year. Present status:
 - 17 enrolled
 - 1 referred
 - 5 moving up from UMS
- Plan to remain with capacity for 9 students at UMS with 4 current students remaining in program for the 2018-2019 school year

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Montgomery Township School District
Out of District by Grade




OOD Students / Grade - 37 Total

Grade	# of students
PreK	1
K	0
1	0
2	0
3	4
4	1
5	2
6	2
7	1
8	3
9	6
10	6
11	11
12	0

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Montgomery Township School District
Effective School Solutions




ESS RESULTS
Montgomery High School
AP 2 2017-2018

Metric	Pre-ESS	Post-ESS
Discipline Incidents (OOD)	0.51	0.40
Absences	6.26	2.11
GPA	2.17	2.86

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Montgomery Township School District
Fixed Costs/Driving Factors




Effective School Solutions- Contracted

- Clinical program designed to allow students to remain in district rather than be placed in an out of district placement (ODP)
 - Approximate cost for out of district placement (tuition only) per student: \$ 55,000
 - Approximate cost avoidance to district (tuition only): \$1.4 Million (based on actual students enrolled not proposed increase in capacity)

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Montgomery Township School District
Effective School Solutions




ESS RESULTS
Montgomery Upper Middle School
AP 2 2017-2018

Metric	Pre-ESS	Post-ESS
Discipline Incidents (OOD)	1.82	0.80
Absences	5.44	1.96
GPA	2.51	2.90

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Montgomery Township School District

Proposed Additions




- Additional Staffing
 - 1 New SE Teacher LMS
- Outside Contracting
 - Effective School Solutions
 - 1 Additional Counselor for MHS

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Montgomery Township School District

IDEA Grant




Year	2015-2016	2016-2017	Preschool
	\$853,997	\$821,282	\$23,292
	\$821,282	\$813,781	\$23,825
	\$813,781	\$821,282	\$23,658

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Montgomery Township School District

Contracted Services




- Behaviorist
- IEP Direct
- Medical Bedside Instruction
- NJ Commission for the Blind
- Outside Private Evaluations
- Services for Hearing Impaired
- Services for Visually Impaired

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Montgomery Township School District

Preliminary Budget: Summary




Proposed Budget	\$18,811,621
Increase	\$1,660,090
Percentage Increase	8.82%

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Montgomery Township School District

Health and Nursing Services




- Nurse on the bus as prescribed by health condition
 - Contracted services
 - Internal substitute nurses
- School Physician
- Employee and Student Drug Testing
- AED supplies and training
- Medical supplies
- Family ID program for sports physicals
- Summer hours for sports physicals and 504 plans and Individualized Health Plans
- Maintenance of screening equipment and O2 tanks

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Montgomery Township School District

Preliminary Budget Highlights



Item	2016-2017 Actual	2017-2018 Revised	2018-2019 Preliminary Budget	Change	% Change
Special Education Teachers	\$6,493,758	\$6,767,416	\$7,162,070	\$394,654	5.51%
<small>Includes salaries for Extended School Year, Substitutes, Home Instruction & Summer Work</small>					
Out of District Tuition 43 students	\$3,440,997	\$2,932,951	\$3,821,917	\$888,966	23.26%
		37 students	44 projected		
<small>Includes Projected Tuitions & Legal Settlements</small>					
Child Study Team & Related Services Staff	\$2,667,407	\$2,797,027	\$2,927,140	\$130,113	4.45%
Paraprofessional Staff	\$2,050,301	\$2,527,684	\$2,633,087	\$105,403	4.00%

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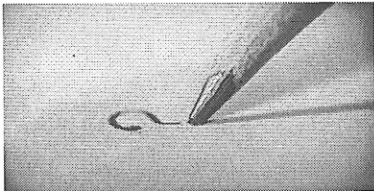
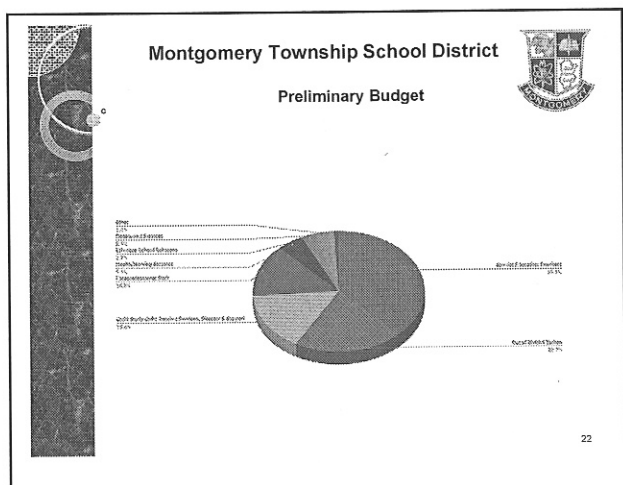
Montgomery Township School District
Preliminary Budget Highlights

Item	2016-2017 Actual	2017-2018 Revised	2018-2019 Preliminary Budget	Change	% Change
Health/Nursing Services	\$912,041	\$957,137	\$956,957	-\$180	-0.02%
Includes Salaries, Nurse on Bus services, School Physician, Drug Testing, & AED Supplies					
Effective School Solutions	\$275,000	\$400,000	\$510,000	\$110,000	21.57%
Contracted Services	\$438,449	\$474,058	\$455,701	-\$18,357	-4.03%
Other	\$116,838	\$159,389	\$191,420	\$32,031	16.73%
Special Education Supplies	\$111,609	\$135,869	\$153,329	\$17,460	11.39%
Total	\$16,506,400	\$17,151,531	\$18,811,621	\$1,660,090	8.82%

Montgomery Township School District

Conclusion

Questions?

Time was allowed for the board and public comment on the presentations.

COMMITTEE/REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Student Representative Report

Ms. Nora Wynn, student representative, updated the board on the senior Disney trip that had recently taken place, International Night, and Monty’s Got Talent - a fundraiser for next year’s senior trip. She also noted that Montgomery High School’s response to the Parkland shooting walkout on March 14th would be a 17 minute non-political assembly honoring those who were lost. There will be an additional protest on April 20th. Participation in these events is voluntary for all students.

MTEA Report

Mr. Scott Mason, MTEA president, commented on the following:

- The well-received response for Ms. Gartenberg and Mr. Mason at the Rutgers’ symposium on collaboration. Ms. Gartenberg served on a panel addressing over 250 board members, union leaders, and school administrators, and Mr. Mason served on a panel for union leaders also discussing collaboration.

- The district will also be presenting on collaboration at the NJASA Women's Conference at Forsgate Country Club this week.
- The request to review budget presentations prior to board meetings requires forwarding of information earlier than previously received. The MTEA cannot endorse budget recommendations without time to analyze information.

Mr. Cavalli commented that the Montgomery presence at Rutgers' symposium was well received with many viewing the district as a leader on the collaborative process. He also vowed to Mr. Mason that a more concerted effort would be made to see that presentations were forwarded to the MTEA with more time for review.

Board Member Delegate/Representative Reports

Somerset County School Boards Association – Ms. Chenette spoke of the committee's review of the school funding formula and the educational mandates for school busing.

Municipal Alliance Committee – Ms. Bursh reported:

- That new posters were going to the schools outlining the dangers of vaping and marijuana use. There will also be a new packet available shortly utilized for the disposing of pills.
- The committee is looking into mental health issues with more information to follow.
- The Princeton YMCA is offering free memberships to 7th graders. The student need not be a resident of Princeton to take advantage of the offer.

Board Committee Reports

Assessment, Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report

Ms. Miller reported that the ACI committee reviewed the Technology preliminary budget as well as the Pupil Services preliminary budget. A request for proposal will be conducted for a special education audit in the future. The K-4 Report Card is also slotted for discussion with the two elementary principals. The committee and board spoke about making decisions based upon data, noting the need to see a wide variety of information and more depth and breadth of data to make measurable evaluations of programs and student success. The obligation of the board is to monitor success.

Operations, Facilities and Finance Committee Report

Mr. Jacey reported that the Safety and Security audit by Safe Havens would be done sometime during March. The exact date will not be publicly released. He also noted that the 2018-19 budget is "grim and unfortunate" with the district's ability to "sustain great programs has outpaced the ability to pay for them." The committee will look to formulate a 3-5 year plan to help focus on the district's financial goals.

Mr. Jacey updated the board on the Safe Havens Security audit. Ms. Miller inquired as to whether a "suggestion box" email had been set up and sent to the public as a way to voice comments and concerns regarding safety and security that could part of the Safe Havens audit review. Ms. Wells responded that a form had been developed and would be sent out shortly with responses forwarded to Michael Dorn.

The board members suggested that a review of programs be undertaken as well as a look at the organizational structure and statewide policies. Additional revenue sources also need to be

considered including grants. Ms. Gartenberg will be sharing the Taxpayers Guide to Educational Spending for the board's review.

Human Resources and Negotiations Committee Report

Ms. Miller noted that the committee set a meeting for early April and thanked Mr. Mason for a robust discussion earlier in the week in bringing the perspective from the teachers. They also reviewed the personnel budget with Ms. Mattis.

Communication and Advocacy Committee Report

Ms. Chenette reported that the committee meeting was re-scheduled due to snow. The committee will meet again on March 27th.

Chairs and Policy Committee Report

Mr. Cavalli noted that several policies were up for review. The Board asked that the discussion of policies be moved to the following board meeting. He asked that the board review the policy on Social Media.

The committee also discussed the Strategic Plan, next steps after the Safe Havens audit, general grading philosophy, and noted that policy on board attendance at public meetings was being reviewed by the board attorney.

President's Report

Mr. Cavalli commented that the climate within the district is reportedly very high, with all feeling a spirit of collaboration. He detailed the recruiting efforts of an Assistant Superintendent and praised the district's role at the recent Rutgers' symposium on collaboration.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

The board reviewed the following minutes:

1. February 13, 2018 Executive Session Meeting
2. February 13, 2018 Workshop and Business Meeting
3. February 27, 2018 Executive Session Meeting
4. February 27, 2018 Business Meeting

The minutes will be approved at the March 27, 2018 business meeting.

REVIEW OF THE DRAFT MARCH 27, 2018 BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

The board reviewed the draft agenda for the March 27, 2018 business meeting.

BOARD/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Nora Wynn, Student Representative, read biographical entries of two Parkland victims who died and will be honored at tomorrow's assembly.

Members of the public questioned the following:

- The \$200 parking fee at the high school and whether the fee is in line with surrounding districts
- Grading standards and teacher variation in grades
- Schedule for public comment and whether time frames could be assigned to the board agenda. A question also involved the timing of the public agenda release

- Transportation budget projected increase and the costs of a tiered bus system
- If police have data on bow and arrow owners
- Special education costs and whether the district has considered receiving special education students as a source of revenue. A question also was asked as to how far special education students were being transported.
- Whether other boards are facing “catastrophic budgets” and the amount the district can expect in state aid

Ms. Wells responded that the parking fees result in approximately \$50,000 in general fund miscellaneous revenue. Some parking revenue is utilized to maintain the lots. The district is required by law to bus all of its students, and therefore, has to pay for every child to have a seat on the bus.

Mr. Cavalli reported that equity in grading is being reviewed by the board and the Superintendent. The ACI committee is also reviewing this topic.

Mr. Cavalli reviewed the board agenda, noting that the public comment segment usually occurs between 7:30 and 7:45 p.m. Ms. Wells explained that the Schoolboard.net website included an option for an email to be sent with any release of board information. A hyperlink will also be added to link the agenda to the notice on the website.

On the issue of transportation, it was noted that the OFF committee would be reviewing an analysis with Ms. Friedlander and Ms. Wells evaluating two-tier and three-tier busing routes. Board committees also would be considering changes in the start times of schools in the interest of the well-being of students.

Ms. McLoughlin addressed the question on the receiving of special education students, noting the details in making decisions regarding students with varied special needs. She and Ms. Gartenberg noted that while the district can accept tuition students other requirements such as having 20% of seating open for the district’s own students also came into play. Transportation of special education students was also discussed, noting the distance varies based upon the state’s requirement of a Free and Appropriate Education in the Least Restrictive Environment for all students.

Ms. Wells noted that the state aid figures had not been released. However, based on the Governor’s address, he was hoping to increase funding based on the formula.

ACTION AGENDA

1.0 ADMINISTRATIVE

A motion was made by Ms. Bursh and seconded by Ms. Chenette to approve agenda items 1.1 through 4.1 as follows:

1.1 Routine Monthly Report – Accept the following report:

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Report

2.0 CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

- 2.1 Field Trip Approval 2017-2018 – Approve the Field Trip for the MHS Robotics Team to participate in the FIRST Robotics World Champion Competition in Detroit, Michigan, from April 24, 2018 to April 28, 2018, at no cost to the Montgomery Township School District.

3.0 FINANCE

- 3.1 Travel Reimbursement – 2017/2018– approve the Board member and/or staff conference and travel expenses as per the attached list (see Page 17).

4.0 PERSONNEL

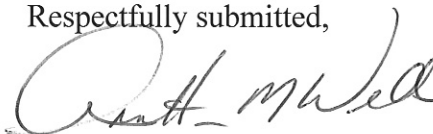
- 4.1 Approval of Personnel Agenda – approve the personnel agenda as attached (See Pages 18 - 20).

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Tiwari and seconded by Ms. Chenette that the meeting be adjourned at 11:18 p.m. Upon call of the question, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Annette M. Wells
School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary

**Montgomery Township Board of Education
Travel Reimbursement Requests
2017/2018**

Name	School	Date(s)	Conference	Parking & Tolls	*Mileage (-.31)	Meals	Lodging	Registration	Other	Total**	Approved Year-to-Date Total**
Jennifer Amberson	MHS LMS & UMS	3/15/2018	Women's Leadership Conference					\$175.00		\$175.00	\$175.00
Regina Dunich		4/13/2018	Legally Compliant IEPs					\$75.00		\$75.00	\$105.00
Anita LaPorte	VES	4/18/2018	Enhance Therapy Effectiveness for Auditory Processing Disorder					\$249.00		\$249.00	\$498.43
Iryna Lupak	MHS	5/30 - 6/1/18	NJTESOL					\$394.00		\$394.00	\$394.00
Kelly Mattis	BO	4/13/2018	TCNJ Career Fair					\$100.00		\$100.00	\$878.13
Kelly Mattis	BO	4/25/2018	Center for Academic Success - Kean Univ.					\$75.00		\$75.00	\$878.13
Joe Riccardi	MHS	5/17/2018	Best Specially Designed Instruction Strategies to Strengthen Your Co-Teaching		\$34.72			\$249.00		\$283.72	\$836.22
Jessica Ritson	MHS	3/20/2018	Explore the New School Counselor Day	\$8.50					\$39.00	\$47.50	\$47.50
Gloria Stuart	OHES	4/13/2018	FLENJ Annual Conference		\$10.48					\$10.48	\$13.15
Diane Tucker	OHES	5/15/2018	Best Specially Designed Instruction Strategies to Strengthen Your Co-Teaching		\$10.14			\$249.00		\$259.14	\$259.14

BOE 3/13/18

**Estimated

**Excluding Tolls

**Includes Registrations

4.1 PERSONNEL

Resignations/Retirements/ Rescissions

Location	First	Last	Position	Effective	Reason	Dates of Employment/Notes
OHES	Hillary	Cadra	Paraprofessional AID.OH.TIA.EO.03	03/30/2018	Resignation	09/01/2017 – 03/29/2018
MHS	Dana	Bucci	Teacher/Math TCH.HS.MATH.MG.05	07/01/2018	Resignation	09/01/2006 – 06/30/2018
MHS	Joanne	Tonkin	Supervisor-9-12 Pupil Services SPV.HS.SPED.NA.01	07/01/2018	Retirement	09/01/1998 – 06/30/2018

Leaves of Absence

Location	First	Last	Position	Type of Leave	Dates of Leave/Notes
LMS	Deborah	Billik	Teacher/Grade 5/ Math/Science TCH.LM.MASC.05.02	Leave of Absence Anticipated Return	02/12/2018 – 04/11/2018 (Paid with Benefits) 04/12/2018
DISTRICT	Nora	Kolbert	Administrative Assistant BUS.BO.ADAST.NA.01	Leave of Absence Anticipated Return	03/15/2018 – 06/15/2018 (Paid waives Benefits) 06/18/2018
LMS	Susanne	Shyptycki- Charos	Paraprofessional AID.LM.TIA.RC.04	Leave of Absence Leave of Absence Anticipated Return	03/22/2018 – 05/03/2018 (Paid w/ Benefits) 04/23/2018 & 04/30/2018 (Unpaid) 05/04/2018

Appointments/Renewals (Certificated Staff)

Location	First	Last	Position	Replacing	Degree	Step	Salary	Pro-rated	Dates of Employment/Notes
UMS	Stefani	Levonaitis	Teacher – English (Leave Replacement) TCH.UM.CCNT.MG.05	Shelley Moore	BA	1	\$59,440	Yes	03/01/2018 – 06/30/2018

Transfers/Voluntary Reassignments

New Position/Location	First	Last	Previous Position/Location	Step	Salary	Pro-Rated	Dates of Employment
OHES/Custodian 3 rd Shift	Johana	Soto	OHES/Custodian Mid-Day	4-7 3 rd Shift Stipend	\$38,300 \$661	Yes	03/16/2018 – 06/30/2018

Appointments – To Be Funded by Title 1 Grant 2017-18

Location	First	Last	Position	Salary/ Stipend	Dates/Notes
LMS	Enrica	Pirone	Teacher – Period 9	\$59.98/hour	03/14/2018 – 06/22/2018 Not to Exceed 24 hours
VES	Casey	Maxwell	Coordinator – Fun Fridays Administrative Prep Instructional Prep	\$800/program \$30.00/hour \$59.98/hour	09/27/2017 – 06/20/2018 Not to Exceed 10 hours (Revised) Not to Exceed 20 hours (Revised)
VES	Michelle	Barbarasch	Coordinator – Fun Fridays Administrative Prep Instructional Prep	\$800/program \$30.00/hour \$59.98/hour	09/27/2017 – 06/20/2018 Not to Exceed 10 hours (Revised) Not to Exceed 20 hours (Revised)
OHES	Laura	Sapnar	Coordinator – Bridges Program Administrative Prep	\$800/program \$30.00/hour	11/8/2017 – 06/20/2018 Not to Exceed 12 hours (Revised)
OHES	Eric	Sletteland	Coordinator – Bridges Program Administrative Prep	\$800/program \$30.00/hour	11/8/2017 – 06/20/2018 Not to Exceed 12 hours (Revised)

Appointments – Curriculum Writing 2017-2018

Location	First	Last	Position	Salary/ Stipend	Dates/Notes
MHS	Gene	Porcelli	Curriculum Development – US in the Modern World	\$34.00/hour	03/14/2018 – 06/20/2018 Not to Exceed \$1428.00

Appointments/Substitutes

Location	First	Last	Position	Status	Dates of Employment/Notes
District	Melanie	Dubs	Substitute Teacher	NEW	2017-2018
District	Rajyalakshmi	Sayani	Substitute Teacher	NEW	2017-2018
District	Dawn	Schmidt	Substitute Teacher	NEW	2017-2018

Appointments – Mentor Teachers

Location	Provisional Teacher/Mentee	Mentor Teacher	Route	Stipend	Pro-rated	Dates of Employment
LMS	Maria Gelinas	Tara Dec *Revision to Mentor	Alternate	\$400.00	Yes	2/22/2018-6/30/2018
UMS	Stefanie Levonaitis	Violet Markmann	Traditional	\$275.00	Yes	2/8/2018 – 6/30/18 *Revision to dates

***Pending Criminal Background Clearance**