

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Meeting, Tuesday, January 27, 2026

EXECUTIVE SESSION A G E N D A

4.1 PERSONNEL

A. Resignations/Retirements/ Rescissions

	Location	First	Last	Position	Effective	Reason	Dates of Employment/Notes
1.	DISTRICT	Sarah	Anderer	Secretary/Bookkeeper 12 MO SEC.BO.PSVC.NA.02	01/17/2026	Resignation	11/04/2025 – 01/16/2026
2.	TRANS	Wilbur	Higgins	Bus Driver TRN.TR.DRVR.NA.13	02/01/2026	Retirement	09/01/2004 – 01/31/2026
3.	UMS	Sumitha	Santhana Krishnan	Teacher/Related Arts	01/21/2026	Resignation	12/02/2024 – 01/20/2026
4.	LMS	Susan	Craven	Paraprofessional AID.LM.TIA.EO.05	03/28/2026	Resignation	09/01/2016 – 03/27/2026
5.	OHES	Christine	O’Lone	Teacher/Speech and Language Specialist TCH.OH.SPCH.MG.02	07/01/2026	Retirement	09/01/1998 – 06/30/2026
6.	OHES	Jenna	Valentine	Teacher/Special Education TCH.OH.AUT.MG.01	02/28/2026	Resignation	09/01/2022 – 02/27/2026

B. Leaves of Absence

	Location	First	Last	Position	Type of Leave	Dates of Leave/Notes
1.	TRANS	Victoria	Novack-Metz	Bus Driver TRN.TR.DRVR.NA.14	Leave of Absence FMLA Anticipated Return	01/20/2026 – 02/03/2026 (Paid; w/ Benefits) 02/04/2026 – 02/12/2026 (Unpaid; w/ Benefits) 02/13/2026
2.	HS	Jacqueline	Rauchbach	Teacher/Social Worker TCH.HS.SWKR.MG.ST2	Temporary Disability FMLA/NJFLA Anticipated Return	06/01/2026 – 06/30/2026 (Paid; w/ Benefits) 09/01/2026 – 11/20/2026 (Unpaid; w/ Benefits) 11/23/2026
3.	LMS	Kathy	Jordan	Teacher/Grade 5 LA/SS TCH.LM.LASS.05.02	Temporary Disability Temporary Disability FMLA/NJFLA Anticipated Return	04/27/2026 – 06/16/2026 (.5 am) (Paid; w/ Benefits) 06/16/2026 (.5 pm) – 06/30/2026 (Unpaid; w/ Benefits) 09/01/2026 – 11/20/2026 (Unpaid; w/ Benefits) 11/23/2026

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4.	LMS	Michelle	Prior-Cernadas	Teacher/Grade 5 LA/SS TCH.LM.LASS.05.06	FMLA/NJFLA Anticipated Return	02/02/2026 – 04/28/2026 (Unpaid; w/ Benefits) 04/29/2026
5.	VES	Patricia	Cizin	Teacher/Certified School Nurse TCH.VS.NRSE.MG.01	FMLA/NJFLA Anticipated Return	01/20/2026 – 01/30/2026 (Unpaid; w/ Benefits) 02/02/2026
6.	OHES	Michael	Belfiore	Teacher/Health & PE TCH.OH.HPE.MG.05	Leave of Absence Anticipated Return	01/08/2026 – 03/10/2026 (Paid; w/ Benefits) 03/11/2026
7.	OHES	Kaitlyn	Merritt	Teacher/Grade 2 TCH.OH.TCHR.02.13	Temporary Disability FMLA/NJFLA FMLA/NJFLA Anticipated Return	05/11/2026 – 06/10/2026 (Paid; w/ Benefits) 06/11/2026 – 06/30/2026 (Unpaid; w/ Benefits) 09/01/2026 – 10/30/2026 (Unpaid; w/ Benefits) 11/02/2026

C. Appointments/Renewals/Rescinds (Certificated Staff)

	Location	First	Last	Position	Replacing	Degree	Step	Salary	Pro-rated	Dates of Employment/ Notes
1.	DISTRICT	Adelle	Valentine	Assistant BA/Assistant Board Secretary BUS.BO.ASBA.NA.01	Andrew Italiano	N/A	N/A	\$105,000	Yes	01/16/2026 – 06/30/2026 - Revised
2.	HS	Emily	Fockler *, **	Teacher/English (Leave Replacement) TCH.HS.ENGL.MG.14	Kellye Statz- Simon	BA	A	\$67,315	Yes	03/05/2026 – 06/30/2026 *Pending Issuance of Certification
3.	UMS	Jordan	Conroy **	Teacher/Social Studies TCH.UM.SOST.MG.06	Kevin Lonergan	MA	A	\$73,315 - Revised	Yes	01/05/2026 – 06/30/2026
4.	LMS	Cherylann	Brown **	Teacher/Special Education (Interim) TCH.LM.ERI.MG.04	Marci Warboys	MA	A	\$73,315	Yes	02/17/2026 – 06/30/2026
5.	VES	Olivia	Asare **	Teacher/Grade 3 (Leave Replacement) TCH.VS.TCHR.03.09	Rose Bauer	BA	A	\$67,315	Yes	01/06/2026 – 02/27/2026
6.	OHES	Julie	Benoff **	Teacher/LDTC (Leave Replacement) TCH.OH.LDTC.MG.01	Julia Ameri	MA+30	A	\$77,815	Yes	01/20/2026 – 06/30/2026
7.	OHES	Kimberly	Petro-Orlik *, **	Teacher/Special Education TCH.OH.AUT.MG.01	Jenna Valentine	MA	C	\$74,815	Yes	03/02//2026 – 06/30/2026

D. Appointments (Non-Certificated Staff)

	Location	First	Last	Position	Replacing	Step	Salary	Pro-rated	Dates of Employment/Notes
1.	DISTRICT	Patricia	Leicht	Secretary/Bookkeeper 12 MO (Interim) SEC.BO.PSVC.NA.02	Sarah Anderer	K	\$62,543 (\$260.60 p/d)	Yes	01/12/2026 – 03/27/2026 (2 days per wk)
2.	DISTRICT	James	Witzel **	Maintenance/Grounds MNT.BO.MANT.NA.04	Michael Fejko	C	\$59,695	Yes	01/05/2025 – 06/30/2026
3.	LMS	Taniya	Mitra **	Paraprofessional AID.LM.TIA.EO.05	Susan Craven	A	\$30,610	Yes	04/07/2026 – 06/30/2026
4.	VES	Courtney	Zummo **	Paraprofessional AID.VS.TIA.RC.02	Mary Preetha Frank	A	\$30,610	Yes	03/02/2026 – 06/30/2026

E. Appointments – To be Funded by ESEA Title I FY26

	Location	First	Last	Position	Salary/ Stipend	Dates of Employment/Notes
1.	OHES	Jennifer	Petrozinni	Monitor – Title 1 Connection Program	\$500.00/stipend	11/14/2025 – 03/31/2026

F. Appointments – To be Funded by the Mayors Wellness Campaign Grant

	Location	First	Last	Position	Salary/ Stipend	Dates of Employment/Notes
1.	HS	Joseph	Bassford	Hope Squad Advisor	\$1,500	01/01/2026 – 06/30/2026
2.	HS	Danielle	Santoro	Hope Squad Advisor	\$1,500	01/01/2026 – 06/30/2026
3.	UMS	Victoria	Giunta	Hope Squad Advisor	\$1,500	01/01/2026 – 06/30/2026
4.	UMS	Christine	Grossmann	Hope Squad Advisor	\$1,500	01/01/2026 – 06/30/2026
5.	LMS	Jessica	Mains	Hope Squad Advisor	\$1,500	01/01/2026 – 06/30/2026
6.	LMS	Damaris	Guzman	Hope Squad Advisor	\$1,500	01/01/2026 – 06/30/2026

G. Appointments – Mentor Teachers

	Location	Provisional Teacher/Mentee	Mentor Teacher	Route	Stipend	Pro-rated	Dates of Mentoring
1.	VES	Olivia Asare	Jennifer Furman	Traditional	\$550.00	\$146.66	01/06/2026 – 02/27/2026
2.	LMS	Ryan Barcelona	Laura McGill	Traditional	\$550.00	\$220.00	02/17/2026 – 05/15/2026
3.	UMS	Jordan Conroy	Sarah Juarez	Alternate	\$1000.00	\$766.67	01/05/2026 – 06/30/2026

H. Appointments/Substitutes

	Location	First	Last	Position	Status	Dates of Employment/Notes
1.	DISTRICT	Tugba	Aydos	Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026
2.	DISTRICT	Ronald	Cefalone	Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026
3.	DISTRICT	Sally	Hogan	Substitute Teacher/Secretary/Clerk/ESA/Paraprofessional	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026
4.	DISTRICT	Gulay	Kayapinar	Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026
5.	DISTRICT	Stephanie	Pace	Student Intern/Substitute Teacher	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026
6.	DISTRICT	Maggie	Pena	Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026
7.	DISTRICT	Catherine	Petrozzini	Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026
8.	DISTRICT	Bhuvanesh	Prabakar	Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026
9.	DISTRICT	Mary Preetha	Frank	Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026
10.	DISTRICT	Paige	Ryan	Substitute Teacher/Paraprofessional	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026
11.	DISTRICT	Nisha	Sharma	Substitute Secretary/Clerk/ESA/Paraprofessional	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026
12.	DISTRICT	Shubha	Srivastava	Substitute Secretary/Clerk/ESA	NEW	12/16/2025 – 06/30/2026
13.	DISTRICT	Cheryl	Sullivan	Substitute Secretary/Clerk/ESA	NEW	01/27/2026 – 06/30/2026

I. Salary Advancement – 2025-26 (effective February 1, 2026)

(Step/Board Index/Salary are based off of the 24-25 salary guide until negotiations are settled and then will be adjusted.)

	Location	First	Last	Assignment	Degree	Step	Salary	Dates of Employment/Notes
1.	HS	Elizabeth	Dilgard	Teacher/Science	MA	P	\$96,870	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
2.	HS	Kristin	DiPietro	Teacher/Math	MA+30	O	\$99,545	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
3.	HS	Valerie	Kruger	Teacher/English	MA+60/ DOC	L	\$98,570	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
4.	HS	Christian	Lugo	Teacher/Social Studies	MA+15	I	\$86,350	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
5.	HS	Jenna	Lugo	Teacher/Math	MA+30	I	\$88,600	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
6.	HS	Sejal	Rana	Teacher/Health & PE	MA+30	G	\$84,965	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
7.	HS	Brian	Santaniello	Teacher/Health & PE	MA+60/ DOC	H	\$91,280	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
8.	HS	Karen	Tessein	Teacher/Math	MA+30	M	\$95,895	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
9.	UMS	Andrew	DeSisto	Teacher/Social Studies	MA	C	\$74,815	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
10.	UMS	Ashley	Grossbard	Teacher/Speech and Language Specialist	MA+30	E	\$81,565	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
11.	LMS	Catherine	Gonzalez	Teacher/Grade 5 Math/Science	MA	G	\$80,465	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
12.	LMS	Martha	Ospina	Teacher/Spanish	MA	N	\$93,220	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
13.	OHES	Julia	Amaricci	Teacher/Grade 2	MA+45	J	\$92,670	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
14.	OHES	Diamond	DaBronzo	Teacher/Special Education	MA+45	H	\$89,030	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026
15.	OHES	Rachelle	Hanna	Teacher/Certified School Nurse	MA+15	L	\$91,820	02/01/2026 - 06/30/2026

J. Tuition Reimbursement

	Location	First	Last	School	Semester	Credits	Reimbursed Amount	Course
1.	HS	Lea	Apesa	Rutgers University	2025-2026	3	\$2706.00	Theories of Second Language Acquisition and Learning K-12

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2.	HS	Elizabeth	Dilgard	William Paterson University	2025-2026	3	\$1805.40 <i>*Revised</i>	Special Education Law
3.	HS	Elizabeth	Dilgard	William Paterson University	2025-2026	3	\$1805.40 <i>*Revised</i>	Curriculum Design for All Learners
4.	HS	Kristin	DiPietro	Idaho State University	2025-2026	3	\$165.00	Creating Inclusive Math Classrooms in Rural Settings: Strategies for Belonging and Engagement
5.	UMS	Allison	Farr	University of LaVerne	2025-2026	3	\$420.00	How the Brain Learns to Read: Decoding, Comprehension and Motivation
6.	HS	Jeanne	Fedun	UCLA Extension	2025-2026	4.5	\$890.00	Tests/Career Assessments
7.	UMS	Kelli	Kallens	New Jersey City University	2025-2026	3	\$2691.48	Advanced Field Experience
8.	UMS	Kelli	Kallens	New Jersey City University	2025-2026	3	\$2691.48	Administration and Supervision of Library Media Centers
9.	UMS	Stefanie	Lachenauer	Tabor College	2025-2026	3	\$1800.00	Fundamentals of Neuroscience
10.	UMS	Stefanie	Lachenauer	Tabor College	2025-2026	3	\$1800.00	Educational Research Methods
11.	HS	Jenna	Lugo	Idaho State University	2025-2026	3	\$165.00	Youth Mental Health
12.	HS	Alyssa	Massahos	Rutgers University	2025-2026	3	\$2706.00	Seminar in Literacy Research, Professional Development and Curriculum Design
13.	HS	Eugene	Porcelli	Gettysburg	2025-2026	3	\$750.00	Warfare in Early America: 1585-1840
14.	OHES	Anna	Quick	Colorado State University-Pueblo	2025-2026	3	\$429.00	A New Look at Behavior: Connecting, Calming and Coaching
15.	HS	Kelly	Rafferty-Kneafsey	Idaho State University	2025-2026	3	\$165.00	Game On: Enhancing Math Learning with Interactive and Engaging Practice
16.	HS	Kelly	Rafferty-Kneafsey	Idaho State University	2025-2026	3	\$165.00	Increasing Fact fluency in Secondary Education
17.	HS	Kelly	Rafferty-Kneafsey	Idaho State University	2025-2026	3	\$165.00	Youth Mental Health

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18.	HS	Katherine	Tessein	Idaho State University	2025-2026	3	\$165.00	Creating Inclusive Math Classrooms in Rural Settings: Strategies for Belonging and Engagement
19.	HS	Katherine	Tessein	Idaho State University	2025-2026	3	\$165.00	Engaging Multilingual Learners: Strategies for Inclusive Classroom Instruction
20.	HS	Jaissa	Urso	TCNJ-RTC	2025-2026	3	\$2055.00	Skills for Building the Collaborative Classroom
21.	HS	Katherine	Van Zandt	Gettysburg College	2025-2026	3	\$750.00	The Vietnam War

K. Co-Curricular 2025 - 2026 (Titles/Stipends are based off of the 2022-2025 MTEA Agreement)

	Location	First	Last	Position	Stipend	Dates of Employment/Notes
1.	HS	Christine	Grossmann	People Project @ 50%	\$977.50	2025-2026 School Year
2.	HS	Danielle	Santoro	People Project @ 50%	\$977.50	2025-2026 School Year
3.	HS	Timothy	Leicht	Robotics Advisor (Head) @ 52.38% - <i>Revised</i>	\$5,500	2025-2026 School Year
4.	HS	Ashley	Watt	Robotics Advisor (Head) @ 47.62%	\$5,000	2025-2026 School Year

L. Other

	Location	First	Last	Assignment	Salary/Stipend	Dates of Employment/Notes
1.	DISTRICT	Heather	Pino-Beattie	STARR Supervisor	\$10,000.00	09/01/2025 – 06/30/2026
2.	DISTRICT	Stacey	Delbridge	STARR Clinical Coordinator	\$5,000.00	09/01/2025 – 06/30/2026
3.	HS	Jennifer	Amberson	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Special Education)	\$9,783.87	02/02/2026 – 06/30/2026
4.	HS	Michael	Baldino	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Special Education)	\$9,035.97	02/02/2026 – 06/30/2026
5.	HS	Cynthia	Gorman	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Special Education)	\$7,520.97	02/02/2026 – 06/30/2026
6.	HS	Gina	Iacono	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Special Education)	\$9,599.55	02/02/2026 – 06/30/2026
7.	HS	Marybeth	Torralba	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Special Education)	\$9,403.10	02/02/2026 – 06/30/2026
8.	UMS	Brandi	Gaudiosi	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Special Education)	\$9,293.90	01/05/2026 – 06/30/2026

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9.	UMS	Rachel	Ledebuhr	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Special Education)	\$11,729.83	01/05/2026 – 06/30/2026
10.	UMS	Michael	Brennan	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Related Arts)	\$9,403.10	02/02/2026 – 06/30/2026
11.	UMS	William	Dawson	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Related Arts)	\$6,798.82	02/02/2026 – 06/30/2026
12.	UMS	Stefanie	Lachenauer	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Related Arts)	\$10,139.90	02/02/2026 – 06/30/2026
13.	UMS	James	Mulligan	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Related Arts)	\$9,783.87	02/02/2026 – 06/30/2026
14.	UMS	Cory	Weingart	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Related Arts)	\$6,950.32	02/02/2026 – 06/30/2026
15.	UMS	Elizabeth	Dilgard	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Science)	\$1,363.05	01/12/2026 – 01/30/2026
16.	UMS	Kristen	Donahue-Doulis	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Science)	\$1,335.68	01/12/2026 – 01/30/2026
17.	UMS	Allison	England	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Science)	\$1,065.98	01/12/2026 – 01/30/2026
18.	UMS	Jane	Heebner	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Science)	\$1,423.80	01/12/2026 – 01/30/2026
19.	UMS	Jessica	Pagodin	Teaching 1 Additional Period (Science)	\$1,560.68	01/12/2026 – 01/30/2026

* Pending Criminal Background Clearance and Employment History Clearance

**Salary/Step based on 24-25 salary guides until new salary guides are established.

4.2 Resolution Authorizing Administrative Leave of Employee – Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has recommended that employee #4773 be placed on administrative leave with pay; pending an investigation;

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 employee is on administrative leave with pay, effective January 8, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorizes the Superintendent or her designee to take whatever steps are necessary to effectuate the purposes of the resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall provide said employee with notice of the Board's action as set forth in this Resolution forthwith.

4.3 Resolution Approving SIS Manager/Data Software Coordinator Job Description

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has recommended that the job description for SIS Manager/Data Software Coordinator be approved;

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 job description will take effect January 28, 2026;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Montgomery Township Board of Education approves the job description for the SIS Manager/Data Software Coordinator.

4.4 Resolution Approving Successor Collective Negotiations Agreement for MTEA

WHEREAS, the Montgomery Township Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) and the Montgomery Township Education Association (hereinafter referred to as the “Association”) have negotiated a successor collective negotiations agreement (hereinafter referred to as the “Successor CNA”) for the 2025-2026 through 2027-2028 school years, the terms of which are contained in a Memorandum of Agreement, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, the Association has, by a majority vote of its membership, ratified the Memorandum of Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby ratifies and approves the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement for a Successor CNA for the 2025-2026 through 2027-2028 school years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby agrees that the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement shall be incorporated into the Successor CNA and shall be implemented upon both parties’ execution of the Successor CNA; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board President and the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to execute such documents as are necessary to effectuate the Memorandum of Agreement.

4.5 Resolution Approving Successor Collective Negotiations Agreement for Montgomery Safe Passage Association (Wheels of Change)

WHEREAS, the Montgomery Township Board of Education and the Montgomery Safe Passage Association (Wheels of Change) have negotiated a successor collective negotiations agreement for the 2025-2026 through 2029-2030 school years; and

WHEREAS, the Association has, by a majority vote of its membership, ratified the successor agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby ratifies and approves the terms of the successor agreement with the Association for the 2025-2026 through 2029-2030 school years, a copy of which is attached to this Resolution and made a part hereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby authorizes the Board President and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute, on behalf of the Board, the successor agreement by and between the Board and the Association.