

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

**Meeting, Tuesday, August 22, 2023**

**5:30 p.m. Executive Session**

**7:30 p.m. Public Session**

**Montgomery Upper Middle School Media Center**

**BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**

District Goals

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

OPENING OF THE MEETING

Call to Order – Board President

Statement of Open Meeting and Public Participation - In accordance with the State's Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing notice of meeting on January 4, 2023 and August 18, 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, 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

### MTSD STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

### SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT / PRESENTATIONS

- NJ Graduation Proficiency Assessment Results, Spring 2023

### 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. July 18, 2023                      Executive Session Meeting
2. July 18, 2023                      Business Meeting

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

1. Email dated 7/18/23 from NJEFP regarding NJEFP Summer Newsletter 2023
2. Email dated 7/22/23 from J. Sullivan regarding Pendleton Biology
3. Email dated 7/24/23 from J. Church regarding Adequate Notice for Rubicon Atlas
4. Email dated 7/24/23 from M. McLoughlin regarding Adequate Notice for Rubicon Atlas
5. Email dated 7/25/23 from J. Trent regarding Adequate Notice for Rubicon Atlas
6. Email dated 7/27/23 from J. Church regarding Adequate Notice for Rubicon Atlas
7. Email dated 8/1/23 from G. Zayova regarding Publicly Posted Images of Board President
8. Email dated 8/4/23 from J. Church regarding Adequate Notice for Rubicon Atlas
9. Email dated 8/11/23 from W. Dong regarding Communication

## 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 report:

- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Report

1.2 District Goals - Approve the following District Goals for the 2023 – 2024 school year:

- 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.

1.3 Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Learning Plan - Approve the Emergency Virtual or Remote Learning Plan for the 2023-2024 School Year

1.4 Affirmative Action Officers 2023-2024 – It is recommended that the Board appoint the following staff member as the Affirmative Action/504 Officer for Montgomery High School for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Vincent Cuccaro (MHS)

### **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 Placements: 2023-2024 - Approve the following Out-of-District placements for the 2023-2024 School Year:

Student ID	School	Dates	TUITION		
			ESY	RSY	Total for Year
108294	New Hope Academy	7/5/23-6/14/24	\$6,900.00	\$45,500.00	\$52,400.00

102426	Douglass Development Disabilities Center Withdrawal	8/31/23-6/14/24		-\$129,697.20	-\$129,697.20
102426	The Eden School	9/6/23-6/18/24		\$97,803.95	\$97,803.95
104703	New Hope Academy	9/15/23-6/14/24		\$45,500.00	\$45,500.00
104587	Hunterdon County Vo-Tech-Shared Time	9/1/23-6/30/24		\$8,263.00	\$8,263.00

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>
IDE Corporation	IDE Corporation will be providing on-site workshops, on-site teacher coaching, leadership support, digital tools, and on-demand resources in order to deepen our understanding of the pedagogy of UDL to design and create a classroom that embraces student efficacy and choice in order to meet the needs of all learners. RFP24-05 – For the 2023-2024 school year.	\$110,995.00 <i>To be funded by IDEA Grant</i>

2.3 LinkIt! – Approve the purchase of LinkIt! Assessment and Data Management system along with support and training for the 2023-2024 school year. Total Cost is \$45,505.00 to be funded by district technology funds.

2.4 Riverside Insights – Approve purchase of online CogAT (Cognitive Abilities Test) testing licenses that will be used as one of the data measures in the identification process for gifted and talented. Cost: \$30,906.00.

2.5 Professional Development Plan Fiscal Impact – In accordance with the 2023-2024 district goals, the Board hereby approves the District’s Professional Development Plan Fiscal Impact in the amount of \$91,962 as presented and approved in the District’s Annual Budget.

2.6 Professional Development Plan and Statement of Assurance – Approve the Professional Development Plan and the Statement of Assurance for the 2023-2024 school year.

- 2.7 Princeton University Teacher Prep Membership – Approved the district’s membership to the Princeton University Teacher Prep program which will provide professional development opportunities for district staff at a cost of \$2,000.00 for the 2023-2024 school year.
- 2.8 Curriculum Approval – 2023-2024 – Approve the revision and alignment of district curricula with the State Board Adopted Standards for implementation during the 2023-2024 school year.

New Courses:

- [Kindergarten Spanish Explorer \(OHES\)](#)
- [Math 7\(UMS\)](#)
- [Math 7 Integrated \(UMS\)](#)
- [Math 8 \(UMS\)](#)
- [Algebra 1 8 \(UMS\)](#)
- [Learning Strategies \(UMS 7/8\)](#)
- [Painting \(UMS 7/8\)](#)
- [Explorations in Music \(UMS 7/8\)](#)
- [Media Production \(UMS 7/8\)](#)
- [Discovery of Hispanic Culture and Language \(UMS 7/8\)](#)
- [Theater Design, Technology, and Stage Management \(MHS\)](#)
- [Forensic Science \(MHS Science Elective\)](#)
- [Nutrition and Food Science \(MHS Science Elective\)](#)
- [Intro to Guitar \(MHS\).](#)

Major Revision

- [Kindergarten Literacy \(OHES\)](#)
- [Grade 4 Math \(VES\)](#)
- [Grade 8 Social Studies \(UMS\)](#)
- [Grade 8 ELA \(UMS\)](#)
- [Foundations in Art \(UMS\)](#)
- [ENG 11: HVM/Reality Vs Illusion HONORS \(MHS\)](#)
- [Photography 3a \(MHS\)](#)
- [Photography 3b \(MHS\)](#)

- 2.9 Science Olympiad Team Field Trip Approval – Approve the field trips for the MHS Science Olympiad Team to participate in Regional Invitational Competitions, at no cost to the Montgomery Township School District, to be held as follows:

Competition Site	Competition Dates
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY	November 17 – 18, 2023
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA	January 19 – 20, 2024

### **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 July 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 July 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, 2022-2023 School Year**

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 June 30, 2023 within the 2022-2023 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 Transfers, 2023-2024 School Year

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 July 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.

3.4 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 August 22, 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 \$4,884,504.51 and

General Account	\$4,879,310.65
Food Service Account	\$ 5,193.86
TOTAL	\$4,884,504.51

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.

3.5 Travel Reimbursement – 2023-2024 – Approve the Board member and/or staff conference and travel expenses as per the travel reimbursement on Schedules A through F.

3.6 Settlement Agreement – Approve the following resolution pertaining to a settlement agreement:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Montgomery Township Board of Education (the “Board”) that the terms, stipulations and conditions as set forth in the Settlement Agreement and Release between the Board and the Parents of a student whose name is on file in the Superintendent’s office, which is annexed hereto, are hereby adopted and approved by the Board. The Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Settlement Agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate the settlement.

3.7 Approve and Accept the IDEA – Title Funding for the 2023-2024 School Year – Approve the following IDEA – Title Funding for the 2023-2024 school year:

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)	
• Basic	\$ 972,009
• Pre-School	<u>\$30,295</u>
Total	\$1,002,304

3.8 Settlement Agreement – Approve the following resolution pertaining to a special education settlement agreement:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Montgomery Township Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) that the terms, stipulations and conditions as established in the Settlement Agreement and Release (hereinafter referred to as “Agreement”) between the Board and the Parents of a student whose name is on file in the Superintendent’s office, and which Agreement is located in the student’s file, are hereby adopted and approved by the Board. The Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement, and any other documents necessary to effectuate the settlement.

- 3.9 Settlement Agreement – Approve the following resolution pertaining to a special education settlement agreement:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Montgomery Township Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) that the terms, stipulations and conditions as established in the Settlement Agreement and Release (hereinafter referred to as “Agreement”) between the Board and the Parents of a student whose name is on file in the Superintendent’s office, and which Agreement is located in the student’s file, are hereby adopted and approved by the Board. The Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement, and any other documents necessary to effectuate the settlement.

- 3.10 Receipt/Award - Lease Purchase Financing (Q24-04) - Quotes were received on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 for lease purchase financing as follows for five years:

<u>Respondent</u>	<u>Rate quote</u>
TD Equipment Finance Mount Laurel, NJ 08054	5.73%
First Hope Bank N.A. Columbia, NJ 07832	5.198%

It is recommended that the Board of Education award Quote Q24-04 for lease purchase financing as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Rate Quote</u>
First Hope N.A. Columbia, NJ 07832	5.198%

- 3.11 Approval for the purchase of 2 (54) 2025 Passenger Buses – Approve the purchase of two (54) Passenger Buses entered into on behalf of the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission – HCESC-VEH-22-10 as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Contract#</u>	<u>Bus Description</u>	<u>Total</u>
H.A. Dehart Son Inc. Thorofare, NJ 08086	HCESC-VEH-22-10	(1) 54 passenger bus	\$160,233.88
	HCESC-VEH-22-10	(1) 54 passenger bus	\$160,233.88
		TOTAL	\$320,467.76

- 3.12 Approval of National Fence Systems Inc. - Approve additional expansion of fencing for the safety and security of the ECC building in the amount of \$21,111.55. This is entered on behalf of the Hunterdon County Co-Op HCESC-CAT-22-17 from July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024.

- 3.13 Virtual Consultative Services with Frontline Technologies Group – Approve nine hours of virtual consultative services with Frontline Technologies Group for IEP Direct Training Administration at a total cost of \$2,400.

- 3.14 Receipt/Award of Student Transportation Services – School-Related Activities B24-06 – Bids were received on August 17, 2023 for Student Transportation services – School- Related Activities as follows:

Vendor

Amount

*No Bids were received on Thursday, August 17, 2023 for B24-06, Student Transportation Services - School Related Activities*

#### **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**