

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Skillman, New Jersey 08558

Meeting, Tuesday, October 15, 2024
6:00 p.m. Executive Session
7:00 p.m. Public Session

Orchard Hill Elementary School Cafeteria
BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

2023-2024 District Goals

Goal 1: Academics

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

Goal 2: Equity

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

Goal 3: Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)

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

Goal 4: Communication

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

OPENING OF THE MEETING

Call to Order – Board President

Statement of Open Meeting and Public Participation - In accordance with the State's Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mailing notice of meeting on January 8, 2024 and October 11, 2024. 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 – 7:00 p.m.

SALUTE THE FLAG

MTSD STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT / PRESENTATIONS

- Student Safety Data System (SSDS) Report: 2023-2024 School Year, Period 2/Full Year
- Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (HIB) – Investigations, Trainings and Programs (ITP), 2023-2024 School Year, Period 2/Full Year, and HIB Grades Report
- Statewide Assessment Results, 2023-2024

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)
- Operations, Facilities and Finance Committee (OFF)
- Policy and Communications Committee (PCC)
- Human Resource Committee (HRC)

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

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. September 17, 2024 | Executive Session I Meeting |
| 2. September 17, 2024 | Executive Session II Meeting |
| 3. September 17, 2024 | Business Meeting |

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

1. Email dated 9/15/24 from C. Lobo regarding Topic for 9/17 BOE Meeting
2. Email dated 9/21/24 from K. Alaimo regarding Panic Buttons
3. Email dated 10/4/24 from N. Wolfson regarding High School Start Time
4. Email dated 10/9/24 from V. Sahouri-Azer regarding Support

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 full name and address and enter both on the chromebook 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.

ACTION AGENDA

1.0 ADMINISTRATIVE

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

- 1.1 Routine Monthly Reports – Accept the following reports:
 - a. Student Control Report
 - b. Fire/Security Drill Report
 - c. Bus Evacuation Drills – 2024-2025 SY, Fall 2024
 - d. Student Safety Data System (SSDS) Report: 2023-2024 School Year, Period 2/Full Year
- 1.2 School Safety and Security Plan - Approve the Montgomery Township School District School Safety and Security Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2024-2025 school year.

1.3 Policy/Regulation First Reading – Accept the following policies and regulation as a first reading:

5512	Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying
8420	Emergency and Crisis Situations
8467	Firearms and Weapons
8467R	Firearms and Weapons

1.4 Policy/Regulation Second Reading – Accept and adopt the following policies and regulation following a second reading:

0141	Board Member Number and Term
5350	Student Suicide Prevention
7610	Vandalism
7610R	Vandalism

1.5 HIB Self Assessment 2023-2024

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has recommended that the Board of Education approve the schools' completed Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Self-Assessment Scores for the 2023-2024 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 HIB Schools' Self-Assessment for the 2023-2024 school year is approved by the Board of Education.

1.6 District Goals - Approve the following District Goals for the 2024 – 2025 school year:

- Goal 1: The Student Experience: Student Achievement, Teaching and Learning
To cultivate a learning community that is safe, comprehensive, and customized to provide a balanced academic, creative, and engaging experience to prepare students to make an impact on the future.
- Goal 2: Communication, Community Engagement, and Outreach
Increase community engagement by improving two-way communication so that all community members are well-informed and feel connected.
- Goal 3: Climate and Culture (Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) – Cultural Sensitivity, Health and Wellness, Resilience)
Enhance the social-emotional learning environment to support the development and resiliency of all learners.

2.0 CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

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

2.1 Special Olympics New Jersey (SONJ) Grant for the 2024-2025 School Year - Accept grant money in the amount of \$3,000 from SONJ for Unified Champion Schools (UCS) for Montgomery Upper Middle School.

- 2.2 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, at a cost not to exceed \$32,837.50.
- 2.3 Work-Based Learning 2024-2025 - Approve the following location for Work-Based Learning for the Montgomery Township School District:
 - Walgreens, Pennington
- 2.4 Consultant Approvals for Special Services: 2024-2025 - Approve the following consultants for Special Services the 2024-2025 School Year:

CONSULTANT NAME/VENDOR	SERVICES PROVIDED	RATES OF SERVICE
Soliant	School Psychologist	\$90.00 - \$120.00/hour
	Counselor/Social Worker	\$70.00 - \$90.00/hour
	Special Education Teacher	\$65.00 - \$80.00/hour
	Sign Language Interpreter	\$70.00 - \$80.00/hour
	School Nurse (LPN, RN, CSN)	\$65.00 - \$80.00/hour
	Deaf/Hard of Hearing Teacher	\$75.00 - \$95.00/hour
	Teacher of the Visually Impaired	\$75.00 - \$95.00/hour
	General Education Teacher	\$65.00 - \$70.00/hour
	Behavior Aide/Paraprofessional	\$45.00 - \$55.00/hour
	Board Certified Behavior Technician (BCBA)	\$80.00 - \$95.00/hour
	Behavior Specialist/ RBT & Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)	\$55.00 - \$65.00/hour
	Speech Language Pathologist (SLP)	\$90.00 - \$120.00/hour
	Speech Language Pathologist Assistant	\$65.00 - \$85.00/hour
	Occupational Therapist/Physical Therapist	\$85.00 - \$110.00/hour
		<i>* Not to Exceed \$30,000.00 Total *</i>

<p>Branchburg Board of Education</p>	<p>Teacher of the Deaf Services</p> <p>Travel</p>	<p>\$84.72/hour</p> <p>\$98.82/per trip</p> <p><i>* Not to Exceed \$20,000.00 Total *</i></p>
<p>Light Way ABA Services</p>	<p>BCBA & RBT Assessments for: Treatment Plan, Behavior Identification</p> <p>RBT Direct Treatment, Group Treatment, Adaptive Behavior</p> <p>BCBA Supervision, Family Training, Home Services: Adaptive Behavior</p> <p>BCBA Group Adaptive Treatment with Protocol</p> <p>BCBA Behavior Identification Supporting, Adaptive Behavior Treatment</p> <p>Preparation of Reports</p>	<p>\$125.00/hour</p> <p>\$60.00 - \$70.00/hour</p> <p>\$100.00 - \$150.00/hour</p> <p>\$75.00/hour</p> <p>\$175.00/hour</p> <p>\$100.00/hour</p> <p><i>* Not to Exceed \$5,250.00 Total *</i></p>
<p>Neuropsychology Associates of New Jersey</p>	<p>Comprehensive Neuropsychological Evaluation for 8 years and older Includes: Assessments of all domains of cognitive function. Full day of testing, parent interview, teacher/school consultation, and written report</p>	<p>\$5,000.00/per evaluation</p> <p><i>* Not to Exceed \$10,000.00 Total *</i></p>
<p>Brain Health Neuropsychology</p>	<p>Comprehensive Neuropsychological/ Neurodevelopmental Evaluation Includes: Assessments of all domains of cognitive functioning. Full day of testing, parent interview, written report</p>	<p>\$6,500.00/per evaluation</p> <p><i>* Not to Exceed \$10,000.00 Total *</i></p>

<p>Bayada</p>	<p>Skill Nursing Services (LPN and RN) for 1:1 School and Bus</p> <p>RN for Substitute Nursing in school or on trips</p>	<p>\$63.00/hour</p> <p>\$75.00/hour</p> <p><i>* Not to exceed \$10,000 Total*</i></p>
<p>Horizon Healthcare (Staffing Services)</p>	<p>Paraprofessionals/Health Aides/Instructional Aides</p> <p>Registered Behavioral Technicians</p> <p>LMSW, LCSW, School Certified LCSW</p> <p>LDTC (Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant)</p> <p>ABA</p>	<p>\$36.80 - \$42.00/hour</p> <p>\$42.00/hour</p> <p>\$59.00 - \$80.00/hour</p> <p>\$96.00/hour</p> <p>\$126.00 per 90 minutes</p>
<p>Horizon Healthcare (Homecare Therapies)</p>	<p>RNs – Health Office/field trip, Certified School Nurse, 1:1, Specialty RN 1:1 (medically fragile)</p> <p>LPNs 1:1 Skilled Nursing, Nurse Specialty</p> <p>Student Transportation Only (2-hr minimum each way)</p> <p>RN – Overnight School Trips, RN Visit (dispense meds), RN In-Service/Consulting</p> <p>Nurse Practitioner</p> <p>CNAs</p> <p>Physical/Speech/Occupational Therapy</p> <p>4-Hour Minimum Per Day for all Positions</p>	<p>\$72.00 - \$85.00/hour</p> <p>\$65.00 - \$68.00/hour</p> <p>\$90.00/hour</p> <p>\$72.00 - \$156.00/hour</p> <p>\$96.00/hour</p> <p>\$40.00/hour</p> <p>\$120.00/hour</p> <p><i>*Horizon Healthcare Staffing Services and Homecare Therapies*</i></p> <p><i>* Not to exceed \$10,000.00 Total*</i></p>
<p>Eden Autism</p>	<p>Compensatory Services</p>	<p>\$120.00/hour</p> <p><i>* Not to exceed \$9,720.00 Total*</i></p>

2.5 Consultant Approvals for Curriculum and Instruction: 2024-2025 - Approve the following consultants for Curriculum and Instruction for the 2024-2025 School Year:

CONSULTANT NAME/VENDOR	SERVICES PROVIDED	RATES OF SERVICE
American Reading Co.	Provide professional development to staff on reading assessments.	Not to Exceed \$2,400.00 <i>To be funded by ESEA Title II</i>
Renaissance	Provide professional development for district staff on the Renaissance Suite software.	Not to Exceed \$3,750.00 <i>To be funded by ESEA Title II</i>
Jared Campbell Music	Provide social emotional learning assemblies at Orchard Hill Elementary School.	Not to Exceed \$2,250.00
NJCIE (New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education)	Provide professional development to HPE teachers around inclusive best practices.	Not to Exceed \$1,250.00 <i>To be funded by ESEA Title II</i>
Empowered School Solutions, LLC	Provide professional development to district staff on disproportionality/inclusive education.	Not to Exceed \$5,500.00 <i>To be funded by ESEA Title II</i>
Nate White	Provide professional development to LMS, UMS and MHS orchestra teachers on pedagogy and instructional practice in the double bass.	Not to Exceed \$3,300.00 <i>To be funded by ESEA Title II</i>

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 August 31, 2024 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 August 31, 2024; 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 August 31, 2024 within the 2024-2025 school year budget, as approved by the Superintendent, so that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds would be available to meet the district's financial obligations, as requested by various district;

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

3.3 Approval of Bill List Fiscal Year 2025

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 15, 2024 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 \$14,548,789.15 and

General Account	\$14,532,514.65
Food Service Account	\$ 16,274.50
TOTAL	\$14,548,789.15

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

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

- 3.4 Travel Reimbursement – 2024-2025 – Approve the Board member and/or staff conference and travel expenses as per the travel reimbursement list dated 10/15/24.
- 3.5 Submission of Comprehensive Maintenance Three-Year Plan/M1 Form – Approve the following resolution regarding the approval and submission of the district’s comprehensive maintenance plan:

Whereas, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting “required” maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and

Whereas, the required maintenance activities as listed in the plan for the various school facilities of the Montgomery Township School District are consistent with these requirements, and

Whereas, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid, and

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Montgomery Township School District hereby authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan inclusive of the M1 Form for the Montgomery Township School District in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

- 3.6 Approval of Open Systems Integrators Inc. for Safety Enhancements to the Intercom System in MHS – Approve Open Systems Integrators Inc. to integrate more speakers/strobe lights in stairwells/bathrooms etc. to the intercom system throughout MHS as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Open Systems Integrators Inc. Hamilton Twp., NJ	\$57,908.00

- 3.7 Approval of Storr Tractor to repair (1) Toro 5910 Mower – Approve Storr Tractor to perform an extensive repair to one 5910 Toro Mower for MTSD as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Storr Tractor Somerville, NJ	\$33,980.96

3.8 Approval for Parette Somjen Architects for UMS Partial Roof Replacement – Approve Parette Somjen Architects for their services on the partial roof replacement design (ROD GRANT G5-6743) at UMS as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Parette Somjen Architects Rockaway, NJ	\$135,000.00

3.9 Receipt and award of Bid – Winter Athletics Awards, Equipment, Supplies and Uniforms B 25-02 – Bids were received on October 02, 2024 for the contract for Winter Athletics Awards, Equipment, Supplies and Uniforms for The Montgomery School District as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
BSN Sports Dallas, TX	\$1,226.05
Sportsman’s Johnstown, PA	\$10,603.12
Varsity Spirit Memphis, TN	\$379.12

It is recommended that the Board of Education award B25-02 Winter Athletics, Awards, Supplies, Equipment and Uniforms contract for October 2, 2024 – June 30, 2024 as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
BSN Sports Dallas, TX	\$1,226.05
Sportsman’s Johnstown, PA	\$10,603.12
Varsity Spirit Memphis, TN	\$379.12
Total Bids Awarded:	\$12,208.29

Resolution/Rejection of Bid – Winter Athletic Awards, Supplies and Uniforms B25-02 - It is recommended the Board of Education reject the bids from the following vendors; pursuant to N.J.S. 18A:18A-22:

e. The purposes or provisions or both N.J. S. 18A:18A-1 et seq. are being violated:
 Sportsman’s, Johnstown, PA - The low bid received for the following items is being rejected because the vendor cannot supply the requested bid item. The vendor substituted the requested bid for another style/brand. The style must match current uniform in use or requested brand:

- Girls Basketball - Slip-Nott Traction Mat - Small
- Girls Basketball - Slip-Nott Traction Mat Replacement Sheets - Small
- Dance - Varsity Spirit - 4” Solid Vinyl Pom (Hot Pink)
- Dance - Varsity Spirit - 6” Solid Vinyl Pom (White)

- 3.10 Approval for Parette Somjen Architects to Create a District-Wide Capital Improvement Plan – Approve Parette Somjen Architects for their services on the district-wide capital improvement plan in the amount of \$42,450.00 as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Parette Somjen Architects Rockaway, NJ	\$42,450.00

- 3.11 Approval for Graybar Electric Company Inc. on renewal of Firewall Subscription for the District – Approve Graybar Electric Company Inc. for the renewal of the Firewall subscription for the District in the amount of \$17,213.76 as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Graybar Electric Company, Inc. Boston, MA	\$17,213.76

- 3.12 Approval for Storr Tractor to Service (2) Toro Groundsmaster Vehicles – Approve Storr Tractor to service (2) Toro groundsmaster vehicles under Co-op ESCNJ 22/23-12 in the amount of 17,829.28 as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Storr Tractor Somerville, NJ	\$17,829.28

- 3.13 Approve SOAR Private Music Lessons – Approve the following to teach SOAR private music lessons at an hourly rate of \$65.54 and not to exceed \$16,000:

Name	Dates
Andrew Hill	10/16/24 – 6/30/25
Matthew Sakasitz	10/16/24 – 6/30/25
Leigh Huber	1/1/25 – 6/30/25

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.

NEW BUSINESS FROM 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 full name and address and enter both on the chromebook 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.

CLOSING DISCUSSION OF THE BOARD

ADJOURNMENT