MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

February 8, 2021

The Montgomery County Board of Education convened in a regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 6:30 pm at the Montgomery Central High School Auditorium. Board members present were Steve W. DeBerry – Chair, Tommy Blake – Vice Chair, Bryan Dozier, Lynn Epps, Cindy Taylor and Jesse Hill.

Chairman Steve DeBerry called the meeting to order and moved to adopt the agenda as shown. Bryan Dozier made the motion with Jesse Hill seconding. The agenda was accepted with unanimous approval from the board.

Chairman DeBerry announced that our board is deeply saddened by the loss of Sandra Miller who passed away last Thursday evening. Sandra served on this board for the last ten years. All who had the pleasure to serve with her will agree that she was a wonderful and caring person and a great example of what a board member should be. Her main goal was to put our students first. She was a life-long educator who gave insight of the challenges that teachers face. Sandra's family would appreciate your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. This board will certainly miss Sandra. Chairman DeBerry asked that we stand for a moment of silence in honor of Sandra Miller.

Chairman Steve DeBerry shared thoughts entitled "What Makes Me." Mr. DeBerry read from Proverbs 23:7. Thinking without acting takes you nowhere. The person who says just what he thinks, should stop and think. If you think there is a good chance you will go awry. It is the thoughtless ones that go astray.

Chairman DeBerry led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

During the Public Comments section Sharon Swanke addressed the board regarding the safety of teachers and students. It is her hope to have our teachers vaccinated before bringing students back to class. She shared an analogy regarding the control of this virus is a fallacy and we are not out of the woods yet. Ms. Swanke emphasized that we are not out of the woods.

Superintendent Ellis introduced the Certified and Classified Employees of the Month for Montgomery Early College and Montgomery Learning Academy. Dr. Ellis called upon Heather Seawell, Principal of Montgomery County Early College and Mollie Williams the certified winner. Mrs. Seawell described Mrs. Williams as a dedicated teacher who makes sure her students master their materials. She constantly reflects on making her practice better with her colleagues. She also helps seniors prepare for scholarship interviews to help them get the most money possible. Dr. Ellis called upon Amy. B. Reynolds, Principal of Montgomery Learning Academy and Wanda Blue the classified winner. Mrs. Reynolds described Wanda Blue as an essential part of MLA. She is a great help in locating students. Ms. Reynolds shared a story that touched her heart of how Wanda helped a homeless student who needed a coat. They stopped at Walmart and Wanda purchased a coat. Mrs. Reynolds thought she had purchased it for herself. Ms. Blue took the tags off and gave it to the student. We need more people like her in our school system who are willing to give the coats off their backs for our students.

Superintendent Ellis called upon Dr. Chuck Dulin for the Exceptional Children staff recognitions for 2020-2021. Dr. Dulin read the nominations for each of the winners. He explained that these nominations can come from an administrator or a peer. Laura Wilson was named the Exceptional Childrens' Teacher Assistant of Excellence. Joe Korzelius was named the Exceptional Childrens' Related Service Provider of Excellence. Maria Borges was named the Exceptional Childrens' Teacher of Excellence. Dr. Dulin stated these honorees will also be recognized at the state level.

Chairman DeBerry asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Tommy Blake made the motion with Bryan Dozier seconding. The motion carried unanimously with the board. The following items were approved:

- Board Minutes from January 4, 2021
- Board Minutes from January 13, 2021 Special Called Meeting
- Personel and Auxiliary Reports as follows:

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS PERSONNEL REPORT

Tracy Grit, Associate Superintendent for Operations/HR February 8, 2021

 Upon the recommendation of the principal, approval of the following additions to the certified substitute teacher list:

Employee/ <u>Effective Date</u>	School/ Assignment	Record <u>Check</u>
1. Payton Harrell 1/13/2021	Montgomery Central High Science Teacher	Yes
2. Ja'Quil Capel 1/04/2021	Montgomery Central High PE Teacher	Yes
3. Kira Hannah 2/1/2021	Candor Elementary School 5 th Grade Teacher	Yes
4. Julie Daniel 1/15/2021	Montgomery Central High Science Teacher	Yes

- Upon recommendation, approval of the following *probationary* contracts for the 2020-2021 school year as provided by General Statute 115C-325:
 - 1. Dunasia Dumas Montgomery Central High
- c. Upon recommendation, approval of the following *interim* contracts for the 2020-2021 school year as provided by General Statute 115C-325:

Employee/ <u>Effective Date</u>	School/ <u>Assignment</u>	Record <u>Check</u>	
1. Logan Jordan 1/15/2021	Montg. Central High Social Worker	Yes	

d. Report of the following transfers:

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Effective Date	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
1. Jessalyn Spell	Central Office	Central Office
1/04/2021	Differentiation Coord.	Dir. of Accountability & Quality

e. Upon recommendation of the superintendent, approval of recommendation for employment of the following non-certified personnel:

Employee/ Effective Date	School/ <u>Assignment</u>	Record Check	
1. Adrian Mauldin 1/25/2021	Central Office Mechanic I	Yes	
2. Crystal DeBray 1/04/2021	Candor Elementary MERIT Site Coordinator	Yes	

f. Superintendent reports the acceptance of the following resignations/retirements:

Resignation/Retirement	School/Assignment	Effective Date
Daniel Dalton Retirement	Montg. Central High School Psychologist	07/04/2021
2) Doris Davis Resignation	East Middle School P.T Cafeteria	01/04/2021
3) Terrie Furr Retirement	Candor Elementary Bookkeeper	03/01/2021
4) Caleb Stout Resignation	West/East Middle Schools Computer Programming	01/25/2021
5) Leathea Woodruff Resignation	Green Ridge Elementary 5 th Grade Teacher	02/28/2021

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS AUXILARY REPORT FEBRUARY 8, 2021

 $Upon \ recommendation, approval \ of \ release \ from \ Montgomery \ County \ Schools \ requested \ for \ the \ 2020-2021 \ school \ year.$

Montgomery County Schools to Home School (ID# 200226)

Montgomery County Schools to Stanly County Schools

 $Upon\ recommendation, approval\ of\ release\ from\ Montgomery\ County\ Schools\ requested\ for\ the\ 2021-2022\ school\ year.$

Montgomery County Schools to Moore County Schools

Montgomery County Schools to Stanly County Schools

• Budget Amendment as follows:



441 Page Street • P.O. Box 427 Troy, North Carolina 27371-0427

PHONE: (910) 576-6511 • FAX: (910) 576-2044

To: Board of Education

From: Mitch Taylor

Date: February 8th, 2021

Subject: Agenda Item (Section – Consent Agenda)

Attached you will find a budget amendment for your consideration for the year ending June 30, 2021.

Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget Amendment # 4

State Funds

1) A net increase of \$310,213.00 to the State Budget Fund (Fund 1):

\$259,637.00 increase in PRC 056 (Transportation) – The district received 70% of our transportation funding in July and this represents the final 30% of our state allotment for transportation.

\$14,040.00 increase in PRC 128 (CARES Funding – Home WiFi) – the state provided additional funding to assist the district in providing internet access to our students and teachers.

\$122,530.00 increase in PRC 134 (CARES Low Wealth Funding) and a corresponding decrease of \$122,530.00 to PRCs 121 (CARES Jump Start Summer Funding), PRC 128 (CARES Funding – Home WiFi) and PRC 132 (CARES Funding Exceptional Children) The State CARES funds were to expire on December 30th, 2020. To enable the districts to spend these funds by the deadline, the state granted the ability to transfer unspent funds to other CARES budget funds that provided greater flexibility in how they were spent. Sick leave pay related to COVID can be paid from PRC 134, and during November and December, we were able use CARES funding for this purpose instead of our normal payroll funding.

\$60,240.00 increase to PRC 063 (Special Program Funds for EC) – These funds are used to pay the salary related expenses for two EC school staff members.

\$4550.00 decrease to PRC 032 (Exceptional Children) – Funding reverted back to the state due to a decrease in the number of EC student enrolled in the district in comparison to the estimated head count when the budget was created.

\$8389.00 decrease to PRC 001 (Teacher salaries) – This was a reversion by the state to account for 2 Montgomery County students enrolled in the state's virtual learning program.

\$10,765.00 decrease to PRC 048 (Test Score Bonus) – This is a reversion by the state for unpaid funds that were initially allotted to pay principal bonuses. This represented the amount that the state overfunded the account.

Local Funds

2) No change to the Local Fund Budget (Fund 2)

While the district did not have an increase or decrease to the local budget, there was a transaction between budget codes that led to an offsetting budget amendment. There was a decrease of \$13,733.66 in PRCs 027 (Teacher Assistant pay) and PRC 028 (Staff Development) and an increase of \$13,733.66 to PRC 461 (JCPC In-Kind Match funding). This was an adjustment to the district's in-kind match budget related to our state JCPC grant. This change made it easier way to track these in-kind expenses.

Federal Funds

3) A net increase of \$24,267.00 to the Federal Budget Fund (Fund 3)

\$2000.00 increase to PRC 119 (Targeted Assistance for the Pre-K EC program) – This funding is to assist with special needs of EC Pre-K students enrolled in the district.

\$5250.00 increase to PRC 118 (Targeted Assistance for the EC program) – This funding is to assist with special needs of EC students enrolled in the district.

\$17,017.00 increase to PRC 166 (CARES Learning Management System) – This is additional CARES funding to provide funds for virtual learning.

Capital Outlay Funds

4) No change to the Capital Outlay Budget (Fund 4)

Child Nutrition

5) No change to the Child Nutrition Fund. (Fund 5)

Special Local Fund 8

6) A net increase of \$218,260.50 to the Special Local Budget Fund (Fund 8)

\$23,403 increase to PRC 413 (NC Pre-K funding) – This represents additional funding provided to operate the district's Pre-K program.

\$194,857.50 increase to PRC 378 (Pfeiffer Teacher Cadet Grant) – This represents the year 3 allotment for operating the district's teacher cadet program in connection with Pfeiffer University.

7) Overall, these adjustments resulted in an increase of \$552,740.50 to the total 2020/2021 budget for Montgomery County Schools.

I will be available to answer any questions you may have.

This amendment is an action item and will require a vote.

Budget Amendment #4

Montgomery County Administration Unit

The Montgomery County Board of Education at a meeting on the 8th day of February 2021. passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the following amendments be made to the Budget Resolution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
	STATE FU	NDS	
	Revenues		
1.3100	PRC 056 Revision #30	\$259,637.00	
1.3100	PRC 128 Revision #30	\$14,040.00	
1.3100	PRC 063 Revision #35	\$60,240.00	
1.3100	PRC 032 Revision #37		\$4,550.0
1.3100	PRC 001 Revision #38		\$8,389.0
1.3100	PRC 048 Revision #31		\$10,765.0
	Net Change in State Revenues	\$310,213.00	
	Expenses		
1.6000.056	PRC 056 Transportation	\$259,637.00	
1.5000.128	PRC 128 Home/Community WiFi	\$14,040.00	
1.5000.121	PRC 121 CARES Summer Jump Start		\$90,429.0
1.6000.121	PRC 121 CARES Summer Jump Start		\$5,570.9
1.5000.128	PRC 128 CARES Community WiFi		\$23,140.0
1.5000.132	PRC 132 CARES Exceptional Children		\$3,390.0
1.5000.134	PRC 134 CARES Low Wealth	\$116,530.00	
1.6000.134	PRC 134 CARES Low Wealth	\$6,000.00	
1.5000.063	PRC 063 Special Program Funds EC	\$60,240.00	
1.5000.032	PRC 032 Children With Special Needs		\$3,550.0
1.6000.032	PRC 032 Children With Special Needs		\$1,000.0
1.5000.001	PRC 001 Teaching positions		\$8,389.0
1.5000.048	PRC 048 Test Result Bonus		\$10,765.0
	 		
	Net Change in State Expenses	\$310,213.00	
	Net Change in State Budget	<u>\$310,213.00</u>	
	ustments made for actual revenues and exp on in Current Budget	enditures.	\$27,643,800.0
Amount of Increa	se		\$310,213.0
Total Appropriati	on in Current Amended Budget		\$27,954,013.0

Budget Amendment #4

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
	LOCAL FL	JNDS	
	Revenues		
	Expenses		
2.5000.027	Teacher Assistants		7,265.00
2.5000.028	Staff Development		6,468.66
2.5000.461	JCPC In Kind Match Budget	13,733.66	
	Net Change in Local Budget	\$0.00	
		•	
Explanation: A	djustments made for actual revenues and exp	penditures.	
Total Appropria	ation in Current Budget		\$6,843,517.13
Amount of Incr	ease		\$0.00
Total Appropris	ation in Current Amended Budget		\$6,843,517.13

Budget Amendment # 4

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
	FEDERAL F	UNDS	
	Revenues		
3.3600.119	PRC 119	\$2,000.00	
3.3600.118	PRC 118	\$5,250.00	
3.3600.166	PRC 166	\$17,017.00	
	Net Change in Federal Revenues	\$24,267.00	
	Expenses		
3.5000.119	Targeted Assistance Pre-K	\$1,938.12	
3.8000.119	Targeted Assistance Pre-K	\$61.88	
3.5000.118	EC Targeted Assistance	\$5,250.00	
3.5000.166	CARES Learning Mgmt System	\$17,017.00	
	Net Change in Federal Expenses	\$24,267.00	
	Net Change in Federal Budget	\$24,267.00	
Explanation: Adj	justments made for actual revenues and expe	enditures.	
Total Appropriati	on in Current Budget		\$4,619,276.36
Amount of Increa	ase		\$24,267.00
Total Appropriati	on in Current Amended Budget		\$4,643,543.36

Budget Amendment # 4

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
	CAPITAL OUTLA	Y FUND	
	Revenues		
	Net Change in Capital Outlay Revenues	\$0.00	
	Expenses Expenses	\$6.66	
	Net Change in Capital Outlay Expenses	\$0.00	
	Net Change in Capital Outlay Budget	\$0.00	
Explanation: Adju	ustments made for actual revenues and expenditur	es.	
Total Appropriation	on in Current Budget		\$704,253.52
Amount of Increas	se		\$0.00
	on in Current Amended Budget		\$704,253.52

Expense Code	Description of Code		Increase	Decrease
	9	CHILD NUTRITION	I FUND	
	Revenues			
			\$0.00	
	Expenses			
			\$0.00	
	Net Change in Child Nu	trition Budget	\$0.00	
Explanation: Adju	stments made for actual reven	ues and expenditures	3.	
Total Appropriation	on in Current Budget			\$3,301,460.00
Amount of Increase	se			\$0.00
Total Appropriation	on in Current Amended Budget			\$3,301,460.00

Budget Amendment #4

Expense Code	Description of Code		Increase	Decrease
		CAL FUND 8		
	Revenues		*** *** ***	
8.3700.413	NC Pre-K		\$23,403.00	
8.4890.378	Pfeiffer Teacher Cadet program		\$194,857.50	
			0040 000 50	
	Total Changes in Fund 8 Revenues	,	\$218,260.50	
	Expenses		-	
8.5000.413	NC Pre-K funding		\$23,403.00	
8.5000.378	Pfeiffer Teacher Cadet program		\$194,857.50	
	, ,			
			90	
	Total Change in Fund 8 Expens	es	\$218,260.50	
	Net Change in Local Fund	8 Budget	\$218,260.50	
Amount of Increa	ase ion in Current Amended Budget			\$218,260.50 \$4,714,582.55
	Summary of Bud	get Changes		
	Previous Budget State Budget Change Local Budget Change Federal Budget Change Capital Outlay Budget Change Child Nutrition Budget Change Eund 8 Budget Change Current Budget	\$47,608,629.06 \$310,213.00 \$0.00 \$24,267.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$218,260.50 \$48,161,369.56		
Passed by majorit	ty vote by the Board of Education of M	_	n the 8th day of F	,

- Audit Contract
- Mental Health Personnel Report
- Sora MOU

Steve DeBerry called upon Heather Seawell, Mollie Williams and Michelle Hare for Montgomery Early College's presentation "Virtual Professional Development to Improve Student Achievement and Engagement." In their presentation they discussed how teachers wanted an opportunity to share strategies to improve virtual learning. Teachers were seeking ways to provide an engaging and rigorous remote learning environment for all students. In the past, MCEC found teacher learning walks and the reflective discourse to be very valuable. They sought to adapt teacher learning walks to the remote learning environment. The process has impacted student achievement and engagement. They are finding what works best for our students. Students are mastering technology tools. PDSA data is improving. Participation in live sessions and assignment completion has increased. Support is provided for at risk students. Students' strengths and areas of need are understood. The student and teacher relationships have improved.

Steve DeBerry called upon Amy B. Reynolds, Principal of Montgomery Learning Academy. Mrs. Reynolds introduced Ruby Parsons and Daniel Jones to help present

Montgomery Learning Academy's presentation "Remote Learning: Student Support and Survival." Mrs. Reynolds explained that they have found that their students need more than just academic support from them. In the presentation they described how they are providing support for students and families. Daily contacts are being made by calls, emails and texts. Teachers are making daily contact with students who are not active online. Teachers make weekly contact with parents and students to check on their wellbeing and address concerns. Home visits are being made regularly to deliver technology, work on tech issues, delivery of food, wellness checks and to deliver paper packets. It is their goal to reach every student every day in some way. Seniors are being closely monitored to ensure graduation through online courses and course credit recover. Graduation is the only option.

Steve DeBerry called upon Wade Auman for Montgomery County Schools' presentation "Sora Implementation." Sora is a free electronic reading platform that features age-appropriate E-books and audiobooks for students. This app is identified through the IAL grant to expand reading opportunities for remote learning students. The IAL grant will be ending this year. Current titles were imported and we will purchase new titles through Sora. Student information is populated through the Clever sync with PowerSchool. Students access the platform through the Clever App for MCS. Students can access three libraries and over 30,000 books after adding them to their profile in Sora. Once the libraries have been added, students can borrow books. Titles will automatically check themselves back in after 14 days. This eliminates late fees and book damages. Students must have a digital library card that is free of charge to borrow books.

Steve DeBerry called upon Dr. Ellis to discuss Governor Roy Cooper's letter regarding in-person instruction. Dr. Ellis explained that this letter was received last week. The letter was signed by Governor Cooper, Mandy Cohen, NC Department of Health & Human Services, Catherine Truitt, Superintendent of NCDPI, and Eric Davis, Chair of State Board of Education. In their letter they are strongly encouraging us to go back to school in-person. This letter does not force us to return but is an ongoing conversation we should be having. The last action of the board set the return of students for March 8, 2021 on plan B. The numbers of COVID cases have steadily decreased. However, it will not be possible for our staff to have both vaccines by the date of return. This will make our decisions at our next board meeting on March 1, 2021 more difficult. A letter was shared with board members from the Schools Superintendent Association that was directed to the governor's office requesting educators to be prioritized in receiving the vaccines. Board member Bryan Dozier questioned if we wait until teachers are vaccinated why return so late in year. The board requested an update on the schedule of staff vaccines. Dr. Ellis relayed as of now they hope to give educators' the first round of vaccines by the end of February and second round by the end of March. Tommy Blake asked what the class size would average on plan B. Dr. Ellis responded the average size would be eight to ten students. Dr. Ellis recommended unless numbers drastically increase students should return March 8, on plan B as planned. Having been remote for a year we need to get our students back in school. Board members agreed. Board member Lynn Epps asked who can we advocate to and have educators moved up on the vaccine list. Dr. Ellis suggested contacting state level government officials.

Steve DeBerry called upon Tracy Grit for calendar 2021-2022 options. Tracy reminded the board we had to return to the traditional start date based on legislation. Lynn Epps asked if the legislature changes could we revisit the earlier start date. Noting the benefit of ending testing before Christmas. Other board members agreed. Tracy Grit stated we would revisit the earlier start date if the legislature changes and we have a calendar ready to go. Chairman DeBerry asked

for a motion to approve. Tommy Blake made the motion with Lynn Epps seconding. The motion carried unanimously with the board.

Tracy Grit presented the following policy for first read: Policy 1720/4030/7235 – Title IX Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex. This policy will be up for approval at the March 1, 2021 board meeting.

Chairman DeBerry called upon Dr. Dale Ellis for his Superintendent's Remarks, Dr. Ellis highlighted that February is Black History Month. This is an exciting time for our students. Teachers are working hard with special projects celebrating this time. Dr. Ellis wanted to take a moment of "personal privilege" to share comments regarding Sandra Miller. It is very crucial for a superintendent to have a good relationship with their board of education. I have been very blessed in Montgomery County to have a wonderful board. We have an outstanding board and outstanding boards are made of outstanding people. I just want to take a moment to let the world know if you did not know Sandra Miller what a wonderful woman she was. She was an outstanding board member but more importantly she was an outstanding person. She was a retired educator. She was passionate, passionate about kids. She was one of the first ones to push the board for our early college. What a wonderful blessing the early college has been for all of our students. She was excited for the Montgomery Central High School. Katie Hursey shared a picture where she had signed the beam "We finally got it." Sandra pushed passionately for what she knew was right for kids. Teachers had never met a better friend than Sandra Miller. She worked behind the scenes to make sure teachers had what they need. She was a wonderful board member and she would be proud to be remembered as a wonderful board member. I am proud to say she was a wonderful friend.

Chairman DeBerry then asked for a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel and consult the board attorney. Bryan Dozier made the motion, with Jesse Hill seconding. The board approved entering into closed session unanimously.

Following closed session, Chairman DeBerry asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. With a motion by Bryan Dozier and second by Lynn Epps, the meeting was duly adjourned.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 6:30 pm at the Montgomery Central High School Auditorium.

Steven W. DeBerry, Chairman	Dale Ellis, Ed. D., Secretary