

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES**

**July 10, 2023**

The Montgomery County Board of Education convened in a regular monthly meeting on Monday, July 10, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the Montgomery County Schools Boardroom. Board members present were Steve W. DeBerry – Chair, Tommy Blake - Vice Chair, Angela Smith, Lynn Epps, Anne Evans. Bryan Dozier and Cindy Taylor.

Chairman Steve DeBerry called the meeting to order. Mr. DeBerry moved to adopt the agenda as submitted. Bryan Dozier made the motion with Lynn Epps seconding. The agenda was accepted with unanimous approval from the board.

Chairman Steve DeBerry shared an opening devotional titled “Making Failure Work for You.” When things happen to us that are not exactly what we hoped for, there are several ways we can respond. However, there is only one response that will help us move on toward the promise of a new day full of opportunities. We need to first get over it, get up and then try again. If there is something you have failed at in the past, revisit it and try again. Maybe enough time has passed that you have learned a new approach or technique that will help you succeed with this attempt.

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

No one signed up to speak during the public comments section.

Chairman DeBerry called upon Dr. Dale Ellis for Employee of the Month recognition. Dr. Ellis called upon Wade Auman to speak on behalf of Brooke Howell, winner of the Employee of the Month award for our Central Office.

Chairman DeBerry stated the next item is the consent agenda. Dr. Ellis has requested to hold the consent agenda until after closed session. The board approved unanimously.

Chairman DeBerry called upon Dr. Ellis for End of the Year Review Dates. Dr. Ellis presented three options: Tuesday, August 22, Thursday, August 24, or Thursday, September 7. Lynn Epps made a motion to approve the September 7 option with Anne Evans seconding. The End of Year Review date was accepted with unanimous approval from the board.

Chairman DeBerry then called upon Dr. Kevin Lancaster for policies for approval. Mr. DeBerry asked for a motion for approval. Lynn Epps made the motion with Tommy Blake seconding. The motion carried unanimously with the board.

Chairman DeBerry called upon Dr. Dale Ellis for his Superintendent’s Remarks. Dr. Ellis stated that we did deal with a concerning issue that multiple school districts have also dealt with. There was a ransomware attempt on our computer systems. I would like to publicly thank Matthew Woodard, Wade Auman, our Director of Technology, Brian Helms and our whole technology staff. We are still not at 100% capacity after this latest ransomware attack, but we are the one district in the state that caught the attack it in its infancy. This same attack hit several different districts and from my understanding they

were not as lucky as we are. Our team caught it early, on a server that impacted information used to sign into items such as emails but there was never any financial data, employee data, or student data at risk. However, these individuals can make a very lucrative business out of locking you out of mundane, everyday systems that you need to run your school district. So, I would like to publicly acknowledge our staff for doing an awesome job of not only catching it but getting our systems back up and running. Our finance staff along with Mitch Taylor were invited to Lee County to close out our books from their finance office and do our final reports to DPI so that we could legally close out the year the way we are supposed to do. This was a ransomware attack that was not successful so you can imagine what school districts, counties, and state government agency's deal with when they are affected by this kind of attack. We do carry a robust insurance policy, and this is why we spend so much on coverage. This type of attack has become increasingly common as you have people whose only job is to find holes in people's systems. Thankfully we have a great staff that mitigated that damage for us, and we all should be thankful.

Chairman DeBerry asked if there were any comments. Ms. Evans stated that she did have a comment but not about the ransomware attack. She stated that she attended the Friends in Focus Gala. She noted that Mary Gilman, who has long been a champion of education, was honored at the event. It was a great night for education and there were many Montgomery County students that were recognized and received scholarships.

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 Cindy Taylor seconding. The board approved entering closed session unanimously.

Mr. DeBerry called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Upon a motion by Bryan Dozier and a second by Anne Evans the consent agenda was approved 6-0, with Lynn Epps abstaining.

After closed session the following items were approved:

- 1) Board Minutes from June 5, 2023
- 2) Personnel and Auxiliary Reports:

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS  
PERSONNEL REPORT  
Kevin Lancaster, Interim HR Director  
July 10, 2023**

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

<u>Resignation/Retirement</u>	<u>School/Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
1) Jasmine Cox Resignation	Green Ridge Elementary Teacher Assistant	6/26/2023
2) Cheryl Johnson Retirement	Montgomery Central High Distance Learning	9/1/2023
3) Stephanie Pages Resignation	Candor Elementary Pre-K Teacher	6/16/2023
4) Meredith Massey Resignation	Montgomery Central High Culinary Arts Teacher	7/1/2023
5) Tracy Grit Resignation	Central Office Deputy Superintendent	7/1/2023
6) Betty Stubbs Resignation	East Middle School P.T. Child Nutrition	6-9/2023
7) Miriam DeBerry Resignation	Green Ridge Elementary Kindergarten Teacher	6/16/2023
8) Felecia Chambers Retirement	Mt. Gilead Elementary Special Education Teacher	7/1/2023
9) Yvonne Lucas Resignation	Page Street Elementary P.T. Media Assistant	7/3/2023

b. Report of the following transfers:

<u>Transfer/ Effective Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Replacing</u>
1) Kim Turner 8/18/2023	Montg. Learn. Ac. Edmentum Facilitator	Montg. Learn. Ac. Middle Math Science	Jay Myrick

2) Diane Vuncannon 8/21/2023	Page Street Elemen. STEM Assistant	Page Street Elemen. Media Coordinator	Yvonne Lucas	2) Hayley Henley 8/18/2023	TBD P.T. T.A. Apprentice	Yes	
3) Adriane Claret 6/15/2023	Mt. Gilead Elemen. Interim Principal	Candor Elementary Assistant Principal		3) Shawna Slack 8/18/2023	East Middle School Teacher Assistant/Bus Driver	Yes	Jennifer Haywood
4) JaMese Black 8/1/2023	Central Office Dir. of Student Serv.	Mt. Gilead Elementary Principal	Sloan Bourgeois	e. Upon recommendation, approval of the following coaches:			
5) Amanda Deaton 7/1/2023	Troy Elementary Principal	Central Office Interim Account./Quality	Jessalyn Spell	<b>Montgomery Central High School:</b>			
6) Emily Dunn 8/1/2023	Mt. Gilead Elem. Assistant Principal	Green Ridge Elem. Interim Principal	Erin West	<b>Football:</b> Chris Metzger Damien Decatur Spencer Shaw Jack Carpenter Gavin Watts Terry Callicutt John Weiss Jon Hancock Sam Julien	<b>Men's Soccer:</b> Henry Bustle Angel Garcia Vazquez	<b>Women's Tennis:</b> Delana Cagle	
7) Erin West 8/1/2023	Green Ridge Elem. Principal	TBD Teacher		<b>Cheerleading:</b> Jasmine Goins			
c. Upon recommendation, approval of the following probationary contracts for the 2023-2024 school year as provided by General Statute 115C-325:				<b>Volleyball:</b> Stefanie Panzer John Paul Callicutt Blair McKenzie	<b>Cross Country:</b> Dan Jones Rhonda Thompson		
<b>Employee/ Effective Date</b>	<b>School/ Assignment</b>	<b>Record Check</b>	<b>Replacing</b>	<b>East Middle School:</b>			
1) Donald Mabe 8/21/2023	East/West Middle Schools CTE Public Safety/Drones	Yes	Ryan McDonald	<b>Football:</b> Jack Carpenter Chris Callahan Kenneth Lymhacum	<b>Volleyball:</b> Jocelyn Smith Kathy Singleton		
2) Tressie Sargent 8/7/2023	Troy Elementary Instructional Facilitator	Yes	Erin Leuch	<b>Cheerleading:</b> Barbara Streeter			
d. Upon recommendation, approval of the following certified substitute teacher:				<b>West Middle School:</b>			
<b>Employee/ Effective Date</b>	<b>School/ Assignment</b>	<b>Record Check</b>	<b>Replacing</b>	<b>Football:</b> Gavin Watts	<b>Cross Country:</b> Christy McIntyre Allison Kessinger	<b>Cheerleading:</b> Toshia Little	
1) Tashiana McBride 8/18/2023	West Middle School Physical Education	Yes	Garrett Griffin	<b>Volleyball:</b> Caroline Steed Renee Dunlap Raegan Lanier			
e. Upon recommendation, approval of recommendation for employment of the following non-certified personnel:							
<b>Employee/ Effective Date</b>	<b>School/ Assignment</b>	<b>Record Check</b>	<b>Replacing</b>				
1) Kamrie Holder 8/4/2023	Montg. Cou. Early Coll. Distance Learn. T.A.	Yes	Mandy Georgeputl				

4

f. Upon recommendation, approval of the following administrative contracts:

**Principal-Annual 12-month term commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2025**

- Jessalyn Spell, Troy Elementary School

**Assistant Principal-Annual 11-month term commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2025**

- Toby McLaurin, Montgomery Central High School

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS  
AUXILARY REPORT  
JULY 10, 2023**

Upon recommendation, approval of release from Montgomery County Schools requested for the 2023-2024 school year.

Montgomery County Schools to Stanly County Schools

Montgomery County Schools to Randolph County Schools

Montgomery County Schools to Richmond County Schools



To: Board of Education  
From: Mitch Taylor  
Date: July 10, 2023  
Subject: Agenda Item (Section – Consent Agenda)

Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget Amendment # 10

[illegible]

### Budget Amendment # 10

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
<b>LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>Revenues</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>			
2.5000.003	Non-Instructional Support		\$150,000.00
2.6000.003	Non-Instructional Support	\$150,000.00	
2.5000.009	Non-Contributory Benefits		\$39,500.00
2.6000.009	Non-Contributory Benefits	\$39,500.00	
2.5000.081	Supplies		\$22,000.00
2.6000.081	Supplies	\$22,000.00	
	<b>Net Change in Local Budget</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget		\$6,667,016.00	
Amount of Increase		\$0.00	
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget		\$6,667,016.00	

### Budget Amendment # 10

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
<b>FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>Revenues</b>			
<b>Expenses</b>			
	<b>Net Change in Federal Revenues</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
	<b>Net Change in Federal Expenses</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
	<b>Net Change in Federal Budget</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget		\$12,397,569.21	
Amount of Increase		\$0.00	
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget		\$12,397,569.21	

### Budget Amendment # 10

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
<b>CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND</b>			
<b>Revenues</b>			
4.4000.802	County Funding	\$1,450.00	
4.4000.802	Insurance Settlement	\$1,889.91	
	<b>Net Change in Capital Outlay Revenues</b>	<b>\$3,339.91</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			
4.9000.802	Tree Removal	\$4,450.00	
4.9000.802	Paving Street Break-in	\$1,839.91	
4.6000.802	Eduon Server	\$5,768.49	
4.9000.802	Eduon Server		\$5,768.49
	<b>Net Change in Capital Outlay Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,339.91</b>	
	<b>Net Change in Capital Outlay Budget</b>	<b>\$3,339.91</b>	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget		\$2,668,870.54	
Amount of Increase		\$6,339.91	
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget		\$2,675,210.45	

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
<b>CHILD NUTRITION FUND</b>			
<b>Revenues</b>			
0.8000.038	USDA Food Supplement	\$100,000.00	
<b>Expenses</b>			
0.7500.038	USDA Food Supplement	\$100,000.00	
	<b>Net Change in Child Nutrition Budget</b>	<b>\$100,000.00</b>	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget		\$3,513,860.00	
Amount of Increase		\$100,000.00	
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget		\$3,613,860.00	

### Budget Amendment # 10

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
<b>LOCAL FUND 8</b>			
<b>Revenues</b>			
8.4000.701	Daycare Program	\$50,000.00	
8.3000.306	Restricted Medicaid	\$130,000.00	
8.3100.306	Restricted Medicaid	\$85,000.00	
8.3800.073	School Connectivity	\$60,000.00	
8.4000.671	Technology Fees	\$40,000.00	
8.4000	Miscellaneous	\$11,000.00	
8.4000.012	Drivers Ed	\$8,000.00	
8.4400.802	Maintenance	\$2,383.10	
8.4000.802	In-Direct Cost Reimburse	\$615,000.00	
	<b>Total Changes in Fund 8 Revenues</b>	<b>\$1,002,068.10</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			
8.7000.701	Daycare Program	\$50,000.00	
8.5000.306	Restricted Medicaid	\$11,291.90	
8.6000.306	Restricted Medicaid	\$98,768.01	
8.6000.306	Restricted Medicaid	\$10,000.00	
8.6000.802	Maintenance	\$638.91	
8.6000.671	Technology Fees	\$15,000.00	
8.6530.802	Utilities	\$795,528.54	
	<b>Total Change in Fund 8 Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,002,068.10</b>	
	<b>Net Change in Local Fund 8 Budget</b>	<b>\$1,002,068.10</b>	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget		\$4,645,071.21	
Amount of Increase		\$1,002,068.10	
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget		\$5,647,139.31	

#### Summary of Budget Changes

Previous Budget	\$59,558,870.00
State Budget Change	\$27,000.00
Local Budget Change	\$0.00
Federal Budget Change	\$0.00
Capital Outlay Budget Change	\$6,339.91
Child Nutrition Budget Change	\$100,000.00
Fund 8 Budget Change	\$1,002,068.10
Current Budget	\$60,694,078.14

Passed by majority vote by the Board of Education of Montgomery County on the 10th day of July, 2023.

Chairman, Board of Education

Secretary, Board of Education

#### 4) Activity Bus Salvage:



441 Page Street • P.O. Box 427  
Troy, North Carolina 27371-0427  
PHONE: (910) 576-6511 • FAX: (910) 576-2044

July 1, 2023

To: Dr. Dale Ellis  
From: Matthew Woodard

Re: Use of Old Activity Buses for Fire/Rescue Training and Subsequent Salvage

Dr. Ellis:

With your approval, may the Board please consider allowing the former West and East High activity buses to be used for a fire/rescue training exercise. Montgomery Community College has requested the buses as an integral part of a local first responder training exercise on their campus in late August 2023.

As part of the exercise, the buses will be damaged by fire. Thereafter, MCC will be responsible for removal and delivery of the buses to a salvage yard. The revenue collected from the value of the scrap metal will be returned to Montgomery County Schools. It is estimated the bus salvage will generate \$1000.00 per vehicle.

The buses were purchased with local dollars and served the high schools for decades. They have not been operational since 2018. They are not mechanical operable, and it is the opinion of the MCS Transportation Department that given the age, condition, and the availability of the newer activity buses, the old buses have no foreseeable use for the district.

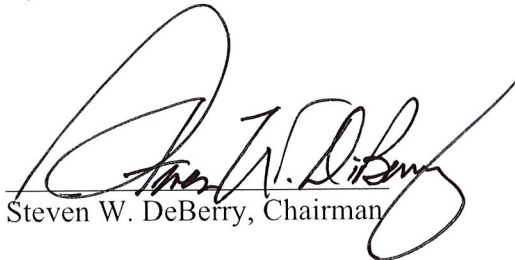
While it is conceivable that the buses could be sold for slightly more than the salvage value, we feel the overall value of the MCC training for local first responders supports the decision to participate and subsequently scrap sale the buses. Last year, the Department of Public Instruction donated three of our decommissioned State-owned yellow buses for this same program.

- 1972 Pass Thomas CAT 3126 Vin # 1T7HR4B21W1157234
- 1972 Pass Thomas CAT 3126 Vin # 1T7HR4B23W1157235

Thank you and the Board for considering this request.

Following approval of the consent agenda, Chairman DeBerry asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bryan Dozier made the motion with Angela Smith seconding; the meeting was duly adjourned.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 7, 2023, at 6:30 pm at the Montgomery County Central Office.

  
Steven W. DeBerry, Chairman

  
Dale Ellis, Ed. D., Secretary