

# **MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

**February 1, 2016**

The Montgomery County Board of Education convened in its regular monthly meeting on Monday, February 1, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Board members present were Steven W. DeBerry – Chair, Tommy Blake – Vice Chair, Jesse Hill, Ann Long, Bryan Dozier and Sandra Miller. Shirley Threadgill was absent.

Chairman DeBerry called the meeting to order and moved to adopt the agenda as shown. With a motion by Ann Long and a second from Sandra Miller, the agenda was adopted as presented.

Chairman DeBerry opened the meeting with a devotional. The story includes Proverbs 21:23 *Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue, keepeth his soul from troubles*. Abraham Lincoln is often a model of achievement to children. The Gettysburg Address is still studied and memorized by many students. Amazingly, Lincoln had only four months of formal education, which he earned in a one-room country schoolhouse where students ranged from five to twenty-five. His teacher probably had no more than an eighth grade education, if that. One day, a father was reciting all of Mr. Lincoln's achievements to his son. "Where else but America could this happen", he asked his son. Hoping to instill a little more ambition in his son, the father asked, "Do you know what Abe Lincoln was doing when he was your age"? The boy answered, "No but I do know what he was doing when he was your age." Moral: We nearly always err when we suggest to others that they be like anybody other than themselves.

Chairman DeBerry called on Montgomery Learning Academy students Annabelle Ludlum and Ra'Qwon Shepherd to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Superintendent Ellis welcomed Chrissy Haynes and the 2015-16 Youth Leadership Montgomery students. As part of their leadership experience, the students must attend a county and school board meeting to learn how local government works.

Mt. Gilead Elementary Employees of the Month are Allison Vanness, Certified and Cathy Horne, Classified. Principal John Beard presented the certificates along with Dr. Ellis. Although, Ms. Vanness could not attend the meeting, Mr. Beard stated that he "is blessed" to have both of them at Mt. Gilead. Ms. Vanness is a third and fourth grade teacher and Ms. Horne, an eighteen-year MCS employee, is an assistant in kindergarten.

Troy Elementary Employees of the Month are Melissa Harris, Certified and Marie Ingram, Classified. Stephanie Lynthacum, Instructional Facilitator at Troy, joined Dr. Ellis to present the certificates. Mrs. Lynthacum stated that words could not describe how much Mrs. Harris and Ms. Ingram mean to Troy Elementary. Both women each have worked over eighteen years with Montgomery County Schools. Mrs. Harris is a first grade teacher and Ms. Ingram is a teacher's assistant and bus driver.

Superintendent Ellis and Donnie Lynthacum, Principal at Candor Elementary, introduced Randy White, Candor Police Chief and Ed Stewart, Candor Fire Chief. Mr. Lynthacum expressed appreciation to the men and their departments for their dedication to the students and the school.

Chairman DeBerry asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as submitted. With a motion by Sandra Miller and a second by Ann Long, the board approved the consent agenda unanimously. The following items were approved:

- 1) Board Minutes from January 11th, 2016;
- 2) Personnel and Auxiliary Reports as follows:
  - a. Upon the recommendation of the principal, approval of the following additions to the substitute teacher list:

<u>Noncertified</u>	<u>Recommended By</u>	<u>Record Check</u>
1) Teresa Thomas	Heather Seawell	Yes
2) Yvonne Lucas	Teresa Dunn	Yes
3) Seneka Ingram	Donna Kennedy	Pending

- b. Superintendent reports the acceptance of the following resignations/retirements:

<u>Resignation/Retirement</u>	<u>School/Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
1) Candice Dunton Resignation	Mt. Gilead Elementary 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher	02/19/2016
2) Fannie Covington Resignation	East Middle School Teacher Assistant	02/08/2016

- c. Upon recommendation, approval of the following probationary contracts for the 2014-2015 school year as provided by General Statute 115C-325:

<u>Contract/ Effective Date</u>	<u>School/ Assignment</u>	<u>Record Check</u>	<u>Replacing</u>
1) Mark McClay Contract Pending Lateral Entry Req.	West Montgomery High JROTC	Pending	Martha Dickens

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

<u>Employee/ Effective Date</u>	<u>School/ Assignment</u>	<u>Record Check</u>
1) Kim Ellis 1/25/2016	Mt. Gilead Elementary PT Tutor	Yes

e. Report of the following transfers:

<b><u>Transfer/ Effective Date</u></b>	<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>To</u></b>	<b><u>Replacing</u></b>
1) Deborah Robinson 02/01/2016	West High School Custodian/ Sub Bus Driver	Central Office Custodian/ Sub Bus Driver	Garry Marshall
2) Irene Robledo 02/01/2016	Green Ridge Elem. ESL Teacher	West Middle Lead ESL Teacher	Ernesto Robledo
3) Kenny Young 11/20/2015	West High School PT Custodian	West High School FT Custodian	Deborah Robinson
4) Ernesto Robledo 02/01/2016	West Middle School ESL Teacher	Green Ridge Elem. ESL Teacher	Irene Robledo

f. Upon recommendation of the superintendent, approval of recommendation for employment of the following bus driver/sub drivers:

Nikeri Smith	Bus Driver	Yes
Rachel Haywood	Bus Driver	Yes
Stephanie Harrington	Bus Monitor	Yes
Leah Rhodema Lilly	Bus Monitor	Yes
Tiffany Smith	Bus Monitor	Yes

Montgomery Learning Academy presented a power point titled "Creating Choices Leading to Success". Tim Addis, Principal and Amy Reynolds, Assistant Principal, discussed positive interventions at the school, such as Communities in Schools partnership, monthly speakers and a mentor program. Jerry Spencer with Communities in Schools visits with students each week. The students talk with Mr. Spencer and discuss issues or problems that may be concerning them. Teachers and staff have become mentors to students who may be in danger of dropping out or who just may need extra support. One student, Hakim Jones, told the board how important his mentor, Bill Gaisford, is to him. Hakim decided he wanted to attend college, but knew his grades were not the best and wasn't sure how to enroll. Mr. Gaisford took Hakim to Montgomery Community College and helped him start the process. Hakim stated that with the help and support of Mr. Gaisford, his dream of being a substance abuse counselor may be a reality.

Superintendent Ellis discussed the East Middle wing addition. He stated that during the last year, the Facilities Committee had identified several things at the schools that needed improving. One topic was how to handle growing pains at East Middle. Architects developed blueprints for a new wing addition. The drawing shows ten extra classrooms and his and her restrooms. The plan is moving forward with the next step being to decide how to fund the wing and where to build it on the school's property.

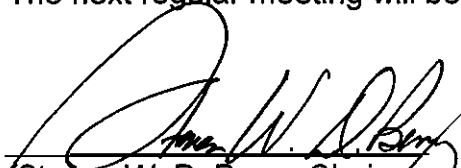

Kevin Lancaster, Deputy Superintendent, asked for approval of Policy code 7430 concerning substitute teacher. The policy was presented for first reading at the January meeting. Sandra Miller made the motion to approve with Bryan Dozier seconding the motion. The board approved the policy unanimously.

During his Superintendent Remarks, Dr. Ellis stated that January was Board Appreciation month. He thanked the board for supporting our students and staff. He also recognized February as Black History month.

Chairman DeBerry then asked for a motion to adjourn and move into closed session. With a motion by Bryan Dozier, and a second from Jesse Hill, the board unanimously approved going into closed session to discuss personnel.

After returning from closed session, Chairman DeBerry asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. With a motion by Bryan Dozier and a second by Tommy Blake, the meeting was duly adjourned.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, March 7, 2016 at 6:30 pm.

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

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MIDYEAR REVIEW RETREAT  
February 23, 2016**

The Montgomery County Board of Education convened in its mid-year review session on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 6:00 pm with the following members present:

Steven S. DeBerry, Chair  
Tommy Blake, Vice Chair  
Bryan Dozier  
Jesse Hill  
Ann S. Long  
Sandra Miller  
Shirley M. Threadgill

Chairman DeBerry called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to accept the agenda as presented. With a motion from Bryan Dozier, along with a second from Jesse Hill, the board unanimously approved the agenda.

Superintendent Ellis welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced guest Bryant Ford. Mr. Ford is a retired teacher with MCS and is completing his doctorate from Wingate University.

Superintendent Ellis continued with the Montgomery County School Board Mid-Year Review. Dr. James gave a review of Globally Competitive Students that encompasses strengths and weaknesses of the graduation rate, CTE Program, AMO Targets, ABC Expected Growth and the most recent assessment data.

Kevin Lancaster gave an update of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Professionals/Healthy & Responsible, which includes the goals for ethical violations, teacher satisfaction and retention, OSS suspension rate and attendance rate.

Takeda Legrand updated the group on the teen pregnancy rate, which includes strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for improvement.

Katie Hursey discussed the Leadership Guides Innovation portion covering grants, MCS community and parent contact goals.


Mitch Taylor reviewed 21<sup>st</sup> Century Systems, which includes audit-finding goals and maintaining an adequate fund balance.

Dr. Ellis covered the adequate facilities portion of the meeting with an update on the Early College and high school renovations.

Dr. Ellis ended the meeting looking forward to continued improvement in the second half of the year. He thanked everyone in attendance for their hard work in all areas of Montgomery County Schools.

Chairman DeBerry asked for a motion to adjourn. With a motion from Bryan Dozier, along with a second from Tommy Blake and unanimous approval from the board, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Steven W. DeBerry, Chair

  
Dale Ellis, Ed. D., Secretary