

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

December 6, 2021

The Montgomery County Board of Education convened in a regular monthly meeting on Monday, December 6, 2021 at 6:30 pm in the Montgomery County Schools Boardroom. Board members present were Steve W. DeBerry – Chair, Tommy Blake - Vice Chair, Bryan Dozier, Lynn Epps, Cindy Taylor, Jesse Hill and Anne Evans.

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

Chairman Steve DeBerry shared opening thoughts by John Whitehead entitled, “A Christmas to do List for a Better World.” Number 1, Move beyond the us vs. them mentality. Number 2, Tune in to what is happening in your family, community and the world and get active. Number 3, Show compassion to those in need. Number 4, Stop acting entitled and start acting empowered. Number 5, Learn tolerance in the true sense of the word. Number 6, Value your family. Number 7, Feed the hungry shelter the homeless and comfort the lonely and broken hearted. Number 8, Give peace a chance. Number 9, Get educated. Number 10, Start anywhere just start. It is up to each us to make this a better world.

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

Chairman DeBerry called upon three individuals that signed up to speak during the public comments section. Chairman DeBerry reminded them of the three minute time limit. Mark Cummins was called to speak. Mr. Cummins spoke in opposition of the continued mask mandate. He reminded the board of references that he shared last month and questioned why the board did not ask for his references. Mr. Cummings continued by saying parents are complaining about masks. He questioned the board if COVID funds are influencing their COVID protocols. Sharon Swanke was called to speak. Ms. Swanke continued with her plea to keep masks for the next 13 days with students until our next meeting on January 10, 2022. Hoping to prevent the spike from Thanksgiving gatherings. Cacia Parter was called. Mrs. Parter addressed the board asking them to reevaluate the distribution of bonuses from January to December. Mrs. Parter stated this is a needed time. Some people are living from paycheck to paycheck. She reminded the board that all staff have worked hard during the last two years in pandemic to do their jobs well. Their decision could affect some families having to celebrate Christmas in January instead of December if this bonus is held until January.

Chairman DeBerry called upon Dr. Dale Ellis for Employee of the Month recognitions. Dr. Ellis recognized Irais Hernandez as classified winner from Page Street Elementary and Destiny Garner as certified winner from Page Street Elementary. Both were not in attendance due to family commitments.

Dr. Dale Ellis called upon Mitch Taylor for finance recognitions of bookkeepers with “No Comment Audits.” The following were called for recognition: Lynn Reynolds of Candor Elementary, Kristy VanHoose of East Middle School, Rebecca Ridgeway of Green Ridge

Elementary, Lynn Maness of Star Elementary, Cindy Williams of West Middle School, Megan Braswell of Montgomery Early College, Christy Shepherd of Page Street Elementary and Jessica King of Montgomery Central High School. Mitch Taylor explained the thorough audit process and these ladies had no findings. Out of the ten schools audited eight had clean audits. Mr. Taylor expressed we have an awesome group. My only complaint is that three of them retired. The three that retired Kristy VanHoose, Rebecca Ridgeway and Cindy Williams were not in attendance. Mr. Taylor thanked them for the outstanding job they do every day.

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

The following items were approved:

- 1) Board Minutes from the November 1, 2021 Board Meeting
- 2) Board Minutes from the November 15, 2021 Special Called Board Meeting
- 3) Personnel and Auxiliary Reports:

<p>MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS PERSONNEL REPORT Tracy Grit, Associate Superintendent for Operations/HR December 6, 2021</p>

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

<u>Resignation/Retirement</u>	<u>School/Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
1) Kelsie Brigman Resignation	Page Street Elementary 3 rd Grade Teacher	11/26/2021
2) Elizabeth Tedder Resignation	Green Ridge Elementary CIS Student Support Specialist	11/30/2021
3) Mattie Ingram Retirement	Troy Elementary School Teacher Assistant/Bus Driver	12/17/2021
4) Letha Dumas Resignation	Montgomery Central High Custodian	10/28/2021

B. Report of the following transfers:

<u>Transfer/ Effective Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
1) Crystal DeBray 11/30/2021	Troy Elementary Teacher Assistant	Green Ridge Elem. Pre-K Teacher Asst.
2) Tiffany Batten 11/08/2021	Montg. Central Child Nutri. Sub.	Montg. Central P.T. Child Nutrition

C. 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>	<u>Replacing</u>
1) Mark Little TBD	Montg. Learning Ac. PT Custodian	Yes	Argie Medley
2) Shacorea Garcia 11/19/2021	Candor Elementary Teacher Assistant	Yes	Selena Valdovinos
3) Morgan Crider 11/16/2021	Troy Elementary Pre-K Teacher Assistant	Yes	Crystal DeBray
4) Madison Provines 11/15/2021	Green Ridge Elem. Teacher Assistant	Yes	Kristy Kissell
5) Kelsie Brigman 11/29/2021	Page Street Elem. Title I Tutor	Yes	
6) Maria Garcia TBD	Montg. Central High Custodian	Pending	Lee Garcia

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

<u>Employee/ Effective Date</u>	<u>School/ Assignment</u>	<u>Record Check</u>	<u>Replacing</u>
1) Cynthia Martinez TBD	Star Elementary School Interim ESL Sub.	Yes	
2) Rebekah Callicutt 12/6/2021	East/West Middle Agriculture Teacher	Yes	Cody Williams
3) Hannah Anderson 11/29/2021	Mt. Gilead Elementary Kindergarten Teacher	Yes	Nicole Byrd
4) Ellen Jones 11/29/2021	Montg. Co. Early Col. P.T. Dist. Lmg. Facil.	Yes	

E. Upon recommendation, approval of the following probationary contracts for the 2021-2022 school year as provided by General Statute 115C-325:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>School Assignment</u>	<u>Record Check</u>
1) Jodi McKenzie	Montgomery Central High	Yes
2) Daniel Jones	East Middle School	Yes
3) Lori White	Star Elementary School	Yes
4) Delana Cagle	East Middle School	Yes
5) Will Bowers	Montgomery Central High	Yes

F. Upon recommendation, approval of the following bus drivers that are not dual employees:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>School/ Assignment</u>	<u>Record Check</u>
1) Angie Stanback TBD	All Locations Bus Driver	Yes
2) Takhia Conrad TBD	All Locations Bus Driver	Yes

G. Upon recommendation, approval of the following coach:

West Middle School

Wrestling - Salamkao Chitavong	Yes
- Matthew Chappell	Pending

4) Budget Amendment, December 6, 2021:



**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: December 6, 2021
Subject: Agenda Item (Section – Consent Agenda)

Attached you will find a budget amendment for your consideration for the year ending June 30, 2022.

Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget Amendment # 3

State Funds

A net decrease of \$887.16 to the State Budget Fund (Fund 1):

\$887.16 decrease in PRC 016 (Summer Reading Program) – This represents the remaining balance for expenses related to the 2021 Summer Reading Program.

Local Funds

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

Federal Funds

3) A net increase of \$2,064,124.15 to the Federal Budget Fund (Fund 3):

\$1,658,585.38 increase to PRC 050 (Title I) – This funding is the district’s annual allotment for Title I designated schools and is primarily used to pay teacher and teacher assistant salaries.

\$228,595.61 increase in PRC 103 (Supportive and Effective Instruction) This funding is the district’s annual allotment to support effective instruction in our district and is used to pay a teacher salary and fund teacher recruitment and retention.

\$40,414.00 increase to PRC 104 (Language Acquisition) – This is the district’s annual allotment that funds an ESL interpreter position.

\$134,926.58 increase to PRC 108 (Student Support and Enrichment) – This funding is the district’s annual allotment and is used to pay a PE teaching position, provide technology support and pay for teacher substitutes.

\$1602.88 increase to PRC 111 (Title III Language Acquisition) – This funding is the district’s annual allotment and is used for professional development and supplies related to ESL.

Capital Outlay Funds

4) A net increase of \$2785.00 to the Capital Outlay Budget Fund (Fund 4):

\$2785.00 increase in PRC 802 (Site Improvement) – this represents funding provided by the county to install a propane gas line to a griddle in the concession stand at the high school.

Child Nutrition

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

Special Local Fund 8

6) A net increase of \$62,028.00 to the Special Local Fund 8 Budget (Fund 8):

\$27,000.00 increase in PRC 807 (Donations) – A private donation from a county resident to be applied to improvements to the high school baseball field.

\$11,675.00 increase in PRC 413 (NC Pre-K Grant) – This is additional funding provided by the state for Pre-K expenses.

\$23,353.00 increase in PRC 464 (NC Pre-K Grant) – This is additional funding provided by the state for Pre-K expenses to be used for cots, playground equipment and administrative expenses.

7) Overall, these adjustments resulted in an increase of \$2,128,050.29 to the total 2021/2022 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 # 3

Montgomery County Administration Unit

The Montgomery County Board of Education at a meeting on the 6th day of December 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, 2022.

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
STATE FUNDS			
Revenues			
1.3100	State Revision #19 PRC 016		\$887.16
	Net Change in State Revenues	-\$887.16	
Expenses			
1.5000.016	Summer Reading Program		\$887.16
	Net Change in State Expenses	-\$887.16	
	Net Change in State Budget	-\$887.16	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget			\$26,378,042.00
Amount of Increase			-\$887.16
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget			\$26,377,154.84

Budget Amendment # 3

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
LOCAL FUNDS			
Revenues			
Expenses			
	Net Change in Local Budget	\$0.00	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget			\$6,646,016.00
Amount of Increase			\$0.00
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget			\$6,646,016.00

Budget Amendment # 3

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
FEDERAL FUNDS			
Revenues			
3.3600.050	State Rev #14	\$1,658,585.38	
3.3600.103	State Rev #14	\$228,595.61	
3.3600.104	State Rev #14	\$40,414.00	
3.3600.108	State Rev #14	\$134,926.58	
3.3600.111	State Rev #14	\$1,602.88	
Net Change in Federal Revenues		\$2,064,124.45	
Expenses			
3.5000.050	Title I	1,598,974.20	
3.6000.050	Title I	18,856.51	
3.8000.050	Title I	\$40,754.67	
3.5000.103	Supportive Effective Instruction	223,744.48	
3.8000.103	Supportive Effective Instruction	\$4,851.13	
3.5000.104	Language Acquisition	\$39,346.15	
3.8000.104	Language Acquisition	\$1,067.85	
3.5000.108	Student Support & Academic Enrichment	\$132,420.48	
3.6000.108	Student Support & Academic Enrichment	\$2,506.10	
3.5000.111	Title III Language Acquisition	\$1,560.53	
3.8000.111	Title III Language Acquisition	\$42.35	
Net Change in Federal Expenses		\$2,064,124.45	
Net Change in Federal Budget		\$2,064,124.45	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget			\$12,106,164.43
Amount of Increase			\$2,064,124.45
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget			\$14,170,288.88

Budget Amendment # 3

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
CAPITAL OUTLAY FUND			
Revenues			
4.4110.802.532	Reimbursement from County	2,785.00	
Net Change in Capital Outlay Revenues		2,785.00	
Expenses			
4.9000.802.532	Gas line for griddle at MCHS	2,785.00	
Net Change in Capital Outlay Expenses		2,785.00	
Net Change in Capital Outlay Budget		\$2,785.00	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget			\$1,975,659.51
Amount of Increase			\$2,785.00
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget			\$1,978,444.51

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
CHILD NUTRITION FUND			
Revenues			
		0.00	
Expenses			
		0.00	
Net Change in Child Nutrition Budget		\$0.00	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget			\$3,246,560.00
Amount of Increase			\$0.00
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget			\$3,246,560.00

Budget Amendment # 3

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease																		
LOCAL FUND 8																					
Revenues																					
8.4430.807.411	Donation for Baseball Program	27,000.00																			
8.3700.413	Additional allotment for NC Pre-K	11,675.00																			
8.3700.464	Pre-K Administrative Funding	23,353.00																			
	Total Changes in Fund 8 Revenues	\$62,028.00																			
Expenses																					
8.5110.807.411	Donation for Baseball Program	27,000.00																			
8.5000.413	NC Pre-K Program	11,675.00																			
8.5000.464	Pre-K Administrative Funding	23,353.00																			
	Total Change in Fund 8 Expenses	\$62,028.00																			
	Net Change in Local Fund 8 Budget	\$62,028.00																			
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.																					
Total Appropriation in Current Budget			\$3,463,440.12																		
Amount of Increase			\$62,028.00																		
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget			\$3,525,468.12																		
<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Summary of Budget Changes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Previous Budget</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$53,815,882.06</td> </tr> <tr> <td>State Budget Change</td> <td style="text-align: right;">-\$887.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local Budget Change</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Federal Budget Change</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,064,124.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Capital Outlay Budget Change</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,785.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Child Nutrition Budget Change</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fund 8 Budget Change</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$62,028.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current Budget</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$55,943,932.35</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Summary of Budget Changes		Previous Budget	\$53,815,882.06	State Budget Change	-\$887.16	Local Budget Change	\$0.00	Federal Budget Change	\$2,064,124.45	Capital Outlay Budget Change	\$2,785.00	Child Nutrition Budget Change	\$0.00	Fund 8 Budget Change	\$62,028.00	Current Budget	\$55,943,932.35
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Passed by majority vote by the Board of Education of Montgomery County on the 6th day of December 2021.																					
Chairman, Board of Education		Secretary, Board of Education																			

Chairman DeBerry called upon Jon LaChance Principal of Page Street Elementary. Mr. LaChance shared their presentation “Character Showcase.” Third grade students were assigned a series of events researching characters. Each students goal was to describe characters in a story with guidance and support from adults, using digital tools and resources to produce and publish writing (using word processing skills) as well as to interact and collaborate with others. Students used technology to create a Google Slides presentation. Students then presented their character and answered questions based on their fictional characters. Board member Lynn Epps commented during their school visit the students really seemed to enjoy it.

Chairman DeBerry called upon Dr. Ellis for the Staff Bonus Plan. Dr. Ellis started by saying he wanted to clarify based on some of the comments here tonight what we are talking about is our local employee bonus plan. The state budget plan had several different bonus plans built in as part of the state budget. All those bonuses have to be paid in January since they are predicated upon the person being employed January 1st. Some people have found that out and changed their retirement date from December 31st until later so that they did not give up their bonus and I don’t blame them. The state bonus plan is part of the state budget and will be paid in January because that is how it is laid out.

The plan was presented as follows: Current Full-Time Employees: All employees employed full-time are eligible to receive a retention bonus in accordance with the following guidelines:

1st Payment – January 2022 in the amount of \$1,500.00

2nd Payment – May 2022 in the amount of \$1,500.00

3rd Payment – May 2023 in the amount of \$1,500.00

Current Permanent Part-Time Employees:

All employees employed as permanent part-time employees are eligible to receive a retention bonus in accordance with the following proration guidelines:

1st Payment – January 2022 for a percentage of \$1,500.00 based upon hours worked divided by full-time hours

2nd Payment – May 2022 for a percentage of \$1,500.00 based upon hours worked divided by full-time hours

3rd Payment – May 2023 for a percentage of \$1,500.00 based upon hours worked divided by full-time hours

2022-2023 Potential Full-Time Employees:

All potential full-time employees to be hired for the 2022-2023 school year are eligible to receive a recruitment and retention bonus in accordance with the following guidelines:

Recruitment Bonus – August 2022 in the amount of \$1,500.00

Retention Bonus – May 2023 in the amount of \$1,500.00

2022-2023 Potential Permanent Part-Time Employees:

All potential permanent part-time employees to be hired for the 2022-2023 school year are eligible to receive a recruitment and retention bonus in accordance with the following proration guidelines:

Recruitment Bonus – August 2022 for a percentage of \$1,500.00 based upon hours contracted to work divided by full-time hours

Retention Bonus – May 2023 for a percentage of \$1,500.00 based upon hours worked divided by full-time hours

2023-2024 Potential Full-Time Employees:

All potential full-time employees to be hired for the 2023-2024 school year are eligible to receive a recruitment bonus in accordance with the following guidelines:

Recruitment Bonus – August 2023 in the amount of \$1,500.00

2023-2024 Potential Permanent Part-Time Employees:

All potential permanent part-time employees to be hired for the 2023-2024 school year are eligible to receive a recruitment bonus in accordance with the following proration guidelines:

Recruitment Bonus – August 2023 for a percentage of \$1,500.00 based upon hours contracted to work divided by full-time hours

All employees are required to sign and adhere to the requirements outlined in the MCS Retention and Recruitment Contract to receive the retention bonus. If employment ceases for any reason, the employee is required to repay a pro-rated amount of the bonus based upon the criteria outlined in the MCS Retention and Recruitment Bonus Contract.

Board member Lynn Epps shared that she had heard a \$1,000 bonus would be paid out on December 21. Dr. Ellis clarified that was for other state departments such as DOT and DHHS and not education. K-12 was not built as back pay but as a bonus where you have to be employed January 1, 2022 to be eligible. Cindy Taylor agreed that this a great retention plan. A lot of the questions I have been asked from teachers and staff is about appreciation for the work they have endured during this pandemic. Is there not a bonus they can get for what they have already dealt with? This is definitely great for the schools to retain teachers and staff. Dr. Ellis explained that is why the \$1,500 is front loaded. They are only agreeing to stay five months. Dr. Ellis stated that we work at the pleasure of the board. He shared his concerns about turning all of the money over at once. Lynn Epps said one of the questions asked to her by an employee, If this is put into place could it be reversed by new board members or is this steadfast? Dr. Ellis stated once you sign the contract it is a contract. Bryan Dozier asked if an employee gets the bonus in January and leaves in February how will we get that money back. Dr. Ellis stated that some of this money would be lost. Steve DeBerry agreed that it would be difficult to get money back once they have spent it. Cindy Taylor asked what percentage of employees are substitute since this does not apply to them. Dr. Ellis said it is a small percentage on any given day. Wade Auman explained substitutes are hired through ESS and are no longer considered MCS employees. Anne Evans stated this is not even about COVID. If she were still in the classroom she would be so honored to get this money. It was a calling that she became a teacher. This is a long time coming pat on the back for a lot of teachers. There will be some that take it and run but we can't let that ruin it for others. Bryan Dozier requested a backup plan to prevent loss. Dr. Ellis said we will work with Max regarding wording in the contract warning of potential payback. Not so much for teachers but staff with higher turn-over rates. Steve DeBerry asked if it would be feasible to pay in December rather than January or is that realistic. Lynn Epps asked if it had to be in the same paycheck. Dr. Ellis stated we will meet with the finance staff tomorrow morning to see if that could happen. The issue is that we always pay earlier in December. This year being December 16 instead of December 25. It is the desire of the board to send it out as soon as possible. Jesse Hill asked for clarification of who is receiving, especially custodians, cafeteria workers and bus drivers. Dr. Ellis stated it is for all full and part time staff. Part time staff is based on what percentage of hours they work. Steve DeBerry asked for a motion for approval. Bryan Dozier made the motion with Lynn Epps seconding. The motion carried unanimously with the board.

Chairman DeBerry called upon Dr. Ellis for Face Coverings and COVID 19. Dr. Ellis shared data from the Montgomery County Health Department. Their recommendation states everyone in Montgomery County, North Carolina should wear a mask in public indoor settings. Cases as of December 6, 2021 was 34. Case rate per 110k was 125.12. Percentage of positivity was 4.36%. Deaths were 0. Percentage of population \geq 12 years of age fully vaccinated was 45.3%. New hospital admissions 0. Dr. Ellis stated one positive thing can be said. The positive rate is below 5%. It has not been that low in a long time. The issues we face now are different variants. At this point we still do not know the ultimate effect of the Thanksgiving holiday. We should start seeing that this week. It is my recommendation to you that we continue with the masks until the January 10, 2022 meeting. I will tell you that if the numbers do not spike over Christmas my recommendation will be different next time. I understand the pressure you are receiving from parents at this time. North Carolina is still considered a high risk state even though our county is now below 5%. Lynn Epps was told by a parent that high school students are no longer able to eat lunch outside. Mandy Hall responded that is not true. As long as there is supervision the students are still eating lunch outside. Lynn Epps expressed her disappointment that every month parents have been told 5% is the goal to drop the mask mandate. Steve DeBerry

responded he understands some students don't want to wear them. However, on their visits the students are doing well with them. It will be hard to drop the mandate and then go back and have them wear them again. Lynn Epps asked what do we tell the parents now that the rate is below 5% and we still require the masks. Cindy Taylor responded that our category is still considered high. Bryan Dozier stated that he has had more employees get COVID recently than when it was raging. They were not vaccinated. Dr. Ellis responded he is still conveying the message to parents to have their children vaccinated. Tommy Blake expressed the importance of sending messages to parents regarding vaccination opportunities. Dr. Ellis stated FirstHealth is doing a great job. He is proud of our staff. The survey showed that 90% of our staff have been vaccinated. Steve DeBerry asked for a motion to continue wearing masks until our January 10, 2022 board meeting where we will reassess. Tommy Blake made the motion with Bryan Dozier seconding. The motion carried unanimously with the board.

Chairman DeBerry called upon Tracy Grit for Policies for First Read. Mr. Grit shared the 35 policies for first read. These will be up for approval at the January 10, 2022 board meeting. Bryan Dozier asked about the policy regarding parental involvement. He asked if a student is having trouble and falling below grade level we should be sending out three communications to parents. Tracy Grit agreed. Mr. Dozier stated that parental involvement is the number one problem that we have. He asked if this was being monitored and three times is not enough. Mr. Grit responded that we send interim reports and report cards home more than three times a year as well as diagnostic screenings. We are doing far more than what the school board association is asking. Anne Evans asked if that is related to the read to achieve law which requires three communications during times of diagnostics that are done three times a year. Wade Auman explained how monitoring is done and that parent contact logs are being required at school locations.

Chairman DeBerry called upon Dr. Dale Ellis for his Superintendent's Remarks. Montgomery Central High School is nearing final completion as we work with the contractors to smooth out the last of any disputed items and finishing work on an awesome field house. I would like to thank Frankie Maness and our County Commissioners, both past and present, Matthew Woodard, and Bill Mingin for helping to see us over this much-anticipated finish line. As we have discussed before, no matter how much you spend, it is still hard to get everything you want in any facility. While no expense was spared on the academic side, we did make some adjustments on the athletic side to make sure we came in on budget. What we got was exceptionally nice, but we can always hope for world-class. As we began the process and moved through the process, we had the best of the best on the athletic side as well. A jumbo tron scoreboard, turf fields and a natatorium with a full Olympic-sized pool for the entire Montgomery County community was all on the wish list. As time passed, we did move away from some of those bigger desires to make sure we were rightfully taking care of the academic pieces first. That will always be priority one. Thanks to some help from community donors, we will have the jumbo tron scoreboard with video capabilities next year. We have also received a large donation toward a new turf field for football. We are halfway there, we are working with the County on how to fund the rest of it, and we continue to look forward to working with them to see that project through so the new turf field will be available next year. It has been a long road and we are almost there for most everything we could have ever desired for our students. Our kids deserve only the best. We are oh so close to giving them that in every possible way. It is truly an exciting time to be a Timberwolf.

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 Anne Evans seconding. The board approved entering into closed session unanimously.

Following closed session, Chairman DeBerry asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bryan Dozier made the motion with Cindy Taylor seconding, the meeting was duly adjourned.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, January 10, 2022 at 6:30 pm at the Montgomery County Central Office.

Steven W. DeBerry, Chairman

Dale Ellis, Ed. D., Secretary