

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

February 25, 2021

The Montgomery County Board of Education convened in its Mid-Year Review Session on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 5:30 pm at the Montgomery Central High School Auditorium. Board members present were Steven W. DeBerry – Chair, Tommy Blake – Vice Chair, Lynn Epps, Cindy Taylor, and Bryan Dozier. Jesse Hill attended virtually.

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

Superintendent Dr. Dale Ellis welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. The purpose of this review is to present all related performance data aligned to the Strategic Plan. 2020-2021 is the first full year in this strategic planning cycle. The goal is for continuous improvement and we have much to be proud of in all areas. Dr. Ellis shared his excitement for face-to-face instruction beginning March 8, 2021. Our schools are prepared and stocked with personal protective equipment. First Health has secured 200 vaccines for our staff next week. The second dose of the vaccine will be available by spring break.

Wade Auman, Assistant Superintendent of Learning, gave a review of Globally Competitive Students that encompasses strengths and weaknesses of the graduation rate, College and Career Ready Proficiency, Ready Expected Growth and the most recent assessment data. The goals presented for Graduation Rate and Post-Secondary Education presented as follows. By 2022, the 4-year cohort graduation rate will increase to meet or exceed 92.5% and 50% of all graduates will have received a minimum of two post-secondary credits. By 2025, the 4-year cohort graduation rate will increase to meet or exceed 93% and >95% of all graduates will have received a minimum of two post-secondary credits. Grade-level proficiency goals presented as follows. By 2022, grade-level proficiency will increase to meet or exceed 60%. By 2025, grade-level proficiency will increase to meet or exceed 70%. Ready expected growth goal presented as follows. By 2022, the percentage of MCS schools that meet or exceed READY expected growth targets will be 100%. By 2025, the percentage of MCS schools that meet or exceed READY expected growth targets will remain 100%. Composite Achievement Gap goals presented as follows. By 2022, the MCS composite achievement gap measure will decrease by 10%. By 2025, the MCS composite achievement gap measure will decrease by 15%.

Tracy Grit, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, gave a review of 21st Century Professionals – Healthy/Responsible. Teacher attendance goals presented as follows. By 2022, MCS will maintain an overall teacher attendance rate that meets or exceeds 95%. By 2025, MCS will maintain an overall teacher attendance rate that meets or exceeds 96%. Beginning Teacher Retention goals presented as follows. By 2022, MCS will retain beginning teachers in a 3-year cohort at a rate of 60%. By 2025, MCS will retain beginning teachers in a 3-year cohort at a rate of 75%. Out of School Suspension Rates goals presented as follows. By 2022, the out of school suspension incident rate will be reduced by 5%. By 2025, the out of school suspension incident rate will be reduced by 10%.

Jack Cagle, Interim Assistant Superintendent/Student Services, and Katie Hursey, Public Information Officer, gave a review of Leadership Guides Innovation covering grants and digital instruction. Grant goals presented as follows. By 2022, MCS will increase grant submissions by

four. By 2025, MCS will increase grant submissions by eight. Digital Instruction goals presented as follows. By 2022, teachers will implement Triple E methodology into lesson plans and use the Framework Measurement Tool to improve student lessons. By 2025, teachers will continue use of Triple E methodology into lesson plans and use Framework Measurement Tool to improve student lessons.

Mitch Taylor, Chief Financial Officer, and Matthew Woodard, Executive Director for Auxiliary Services/Emergency Management, gave a review of 21st Century Systems. Adequate Fund Balance goals presented as follows. By 2022, MCS will maintain an adequate fund balance for operations and capital as measured by recommendations from the external auditor and internal budget committee. By 2025, MCS will continue to maintain an adequate fund balance for operations and capital as measured by recommendation from the external auditor and internal budget committee. Adequate Facilities goals presented as follows. By 2022, MCS will complete a revised five-year facilities study to identify facility improvement strategies as measured by the facilities study. By 2025, MCS will complete 25% of the revised five-year facilities plan as measured by project completion documents. Adequate Technology Resources goals presented as follows. By 2022, MCS will refresh student and staff devices as outlined in the master technology plan as measured by the plan. By 2025, MCS will continue to refresh devices and maintain adequate digital access for all students as measured by the plan.

Dr. Dale Ellis asked if there were any questions or discussions from the board. Board member Lynn Epps asked if the technology fees were causing hardships for families. Dr. Ellis stated that the insurance has eliminated the outrageous costs of damages to devices. Tommy Blake stated that our improved facilities should be a selling point to attract teachers. Steve DeBerry commented our teacher recruitment video being impressive. Dr. Ellis stated it is on our website, social media and shared with each principal. Bryan Dozier requested a comparison of housing costs from surrounding counties. New board member Lynn Epps thanked the board for the hard work they have done.

Chairman DeBerry asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tommy Blake made the motion with Bryan Dozier seconding. The meeting was duly adjourned.

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

Steven W. DeBerry, Chairman

Dale Ellis, Ed. D., Secretary