

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

October 4, 2010

The Montgomery County Board of Education convened in its regular monthly meeting on Monday, October 4, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. Board members were present as follows:

Steven W. DeBerry, Chair
James M. Spivey, Vice Chair
Almetta Armstrong
Ann Long
Tommy A. Blake
Frances Reaves

Board Member, Shirley Threadgill was sick and did not attend.

Chairman DeBerry called the meeting to order and called for a motion to adopt the meeting agenda. Upon a motion by Mr. Spivey, and a second by Mrs. Long, the agenda was adopted with unanimous approval from the board.

The opening devotional thoughts by Chairman DeBerry were from Book of James, Chapter 1, Verse, 17. Every good and perfect gift comes from God. Take the time to enjoy nature, show a kindness, for there is magic in each kindness. Travel slower and enjoy the moment that you live.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Candor Elementary students, Caroline Steed and Ruben Velasco-Perez.

With no one signing up to address the board, the meeting moved on to recognitions.

The Montgomery County Board of Education recognized the first Montgomery County Schools Community Partnership Award recipient, David Thomas, for his contributions to Candor Elementary School in building a butterfly garden and an amphitheatre.

Chairman DeBerry called for unanimous consent to approve the consent agenda until after the closed session. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Ben Grindstaff presented the 2009-2010 SAT results. The combined report showed an 8 point drop. Math will continue to be the focus for improvement for the students. More students are taking the SAT with 57% signing up, which is a 12 point increase with more students anticipating going to college. We have SAT tutoring given by teachers. Cost in some cases could be a reason that some students don't sign up,

but if students receive free or reduced lunches, they are waived from paying the \$47.00 fee.

Superintendent Dale Ellis gave an update on the Federal Race to the Top Grant that North Carolina has applied for. Montgomery County's approximate gain will be \$500,000 which can be taken as a lump sum or spread over four years. A team from Montgomery County Schools, including Board Member, James Spivey, has been designated to work on this grant.

Beth Blake gave an update on Montgomery County Schools Distance Learning program. Distance Learning lost 225 classes because of budget cuts from the state. Montgomery Community College has come up with some help, but those classes will not transfer to a four year college. They will be credible, only if you go to Montgomery Community College. These classes gave rural school students opportunities that only larger school systems offered. We had proposed approximately 500 students attending this year before these budget cuts were made to this program. Lobbying efforts are being done to recoup this funding. Superintendent Ellis and the board will write a letter to our legislators to ask that this funding be returned to our schools.

The curriculum update was presented by Candor Elementary School Principal, Donnie Lynthacum and Child Nutrition Director, Frank Fiorella. This year's new Universal Free Breakfast program is taking place at Candor Elementary. With cooperation from the Child Nutrition department, Candor has almost 100% students eating breakfast every day. Kids go directly to their classes with reading groups starting at 8:15am. Morning discipline issues are reduced and more attention to reading is given. This is a win-win situation. Special credit is given to the staff who totally bought in to the program. It is hoped that a rise in test scores will also show another reason for having this breakfast program.

Superintendent Dale Ellis presented the request by the North Carolina School Board Association to join in a lawsuit on House Bill 961 which has conflicting laws concerning the public release of personnel records. With a motion from Mr. Spivey, and a second from Mrs. Long, the board unanimously approved the request.

Superintendent Ellis then presented an update on the Jobs Bill. Montgomery County Schools has been approved for \$965,000 but has not received it. When it is received, what is the future for these funds. If we look at the cliff for next year of \$3 million and \$4 million possible revenue loss, it could have significant effect for Montgomery County. If we hire people and then have to cut them because of the loss of further revenue, we will also have to pay unemployment for them. The recommendation is to keep the money and see what the state cuts will be. We want to make sure we can preserve the positions we have now.

The 2010-2011 Montgomery County Schools Goals were presented by Superintendent, Dale Ellis. He explained the feedback input everyone gave, along with the model for instructional excellence. The foundation holds up the pillars of essential curriculum, quarterly benchmarks, professional learning communities, and instructional facilitators.

With a motion from Mr. Blake, along with a second from Mrs. Reaves, the board unanimously approved the 2010-2011 Montgomery County School Goals as shown.

- Promote the ideal of success for ALL students.
- Promote a child-centered culture of health, rigor, and high expectations.
- Promote the importance of graduation and improve the graduation rate.
- Promote family engagement at all school locations.
- Promote distance learning and college opportunities for students.
- Promote understanding of the demands of the 21st century.
- Promote student engagement and improve student achievement.
- Promote the technology that is available and increase technology and its integration in instruction.
- Promote effectiveness and efficiency of operations to maximize available resources.

Kevin Lancaster then presented the following policies for first reading.

- Policy Code 3470/4305 - Alternative Learning Programs/Schools
- Policy Code 4130R - Discretionary Admission
(Assignment and Transfer of Students)

Kevin Lancaster went on to explain the Guardian program which is offered at no extra charge with the company that is currently doing the background checks. It will make Montgomery County Schools aware if a person has been charged with anything in or out of North Carolina. This would also include traffic violations.

Superintendent Dale Ellis gave his state of the schools. The number one question put to him is “what do you believe?” This is in answer to this. Superintendent Ellis will take his model for instructional excellence to staff meetings and present it to everyone. Results are proven for this model. It begins with the vision and mission with data driven decisions. The pillars are curriculum with master teachers coming together. There are quarterly benchmarks, professional learning communities and instructional facilitators. The essential questions are: What do students need to learn? How will they learn it? How will we know they have learned it? What will we do if they don't learn it? What will we do if they have already learned it? We will start with Page Street Elementary on October 15th and use this model.

Chairman DeBerry asked for a motion to adjourn to closed session for discussion of personnel. With a motion from Mr. Spivey, and a second from Mr. Blake, the board unanimously approved the adjournment to closed session.

After returning from closed session, Chairman DeBerry reconvened the meeting. With a motion from Mrs. Long, along with a second from Mrs. Reaves, the board unanimously approved the consent agenda as follows:

The minutes from the September 13, 2010 board meeting and the personnel report 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) Linda Cagle	Derrick McCoy	Yes
2) Sue Hurley	Vance Thomas	Yes
3) Lois Shue	Donnie Lynthacum	Yes
4) Shannon Strickland	Charles DelForge	Yes
5) Toronto Brown	Donnie Lynthacum	Yes
6) Kellie Sedberry	Emilie Simeon	Yes
7) Peggy Sedberry	Vance Thomas	Yes
8) Shanita Lilly	John Ward	Yes
9) Susan Britt	Emilie Simeon	Yes
10) Brandie Bulthuis	Beth Lancaster	Yes
11) Francelle Freeman	Derek McCoy	Yes
12) Willia Vundagles	Bryant Voncannon	Yes
13) Sarah Blanton	Charles DelForge	Yes
14) Nakeia Graham	Jack Cagle	Yes
15) Laura Reza	Donnie Lynthacum	Yes
16) Louise McIntyre	Emilie Simeon	Yes
17) Chauncey Harris	Donna Kennedy	Yes
18) Cynthia Holt	Beth Lancaster	Yes
19) Mary Beesley	Derek McCoy	Yes
20) Lisa Mabe	Charles DelForge	Yes
21) Holly Null	Jack Cagle	Yes
22) Lola Tyson	Anne McLean	Yes
23) Preciosa Wilkins	Terry Jordan	Yes

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

<u>Resignation/Retirement</u>	<u>School/ Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
1) James Page Resignation	East Montgomery High Part-time custodian	September 13, 2010

<u>Resignation/Retirement</u>	<u>School/ Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
2) Eva Suggs Resignation	Mt. Gilead Elementary Intervention Specialist	July 28, 2010

- c. Upon recommendation of the superintendent, approval of recommendation for employment of the following noncertified personnel:

<u>Employee/ Effective Date</u>	<u>School Assignment</u>	<u>Record Check</u>	<u>Replacing</u>
1) Gary Noah 09/20/10	East Montgomery Part-time custodian	Yes	James Page
2) David Parsons 10/05/10	Maintenance Dept. HVACII	Yes	Paul Pipkin

d. Report of the following transfers:

<u>Transfer/ Effective Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Replacing</u>
1) Karen Moore	Central Office EC Office Support	West Montgomery Bookkeeper	Rebecca Ridgeway

e. Upon recommendation, approval of the following probationary contracts for 2010-2011 as provided by General Statute 115C-325:

<u>Contract/ Effective Date</u>	<u>School/ Assignment</u>	<u>Record Check</u>	<u>Replacing</u>
1) Quint Dunlap 08/17/10	East Montgomery Auto Tech Instructor	Yes	Lateral-entry re-employment
2) Gina Blake	Candor/Mt.Gilead Elementary Schools Music Teacher	Yes	Corey Dawkins

a. Upon recommendation, approval of the following administrative contract:

- Cindy Sweet, Assistant Principal, West Montgomery High School, annual eleven month term commencing October 4, 2010, and ending June 30, 2012, pending background check.

Chairman DeBerry asked for a motion to adjourn. With a motion from Mrs. Long and a second from Mrs. Reaves, the meeting was duly adjourned.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, November 1, 2010.

Steven W. DeBerry, Chairman

Dale Ellis, Ed. D., Secretary