

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

June 6, 2011

The Montgomery County Board of Education convened in its regular monthly meeting on Monday, June 6, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. Board members were present as follows:

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

Chairman DeBerry called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to hold the consent agenda until after the closed session. With a motion from Sandra Miller, and a second from Ann Long, the agenda was adopted with this change with unanimous approval from the board.

The opening devotional thought by Chairman DeBerry was from Proverbs, Chapter 4, Verse 7, on getting wisdom and understanding. Sometimes a parent not only helps teach a child in obvious ways, but is their best example of showing perseverance and hard work when they also go back to school and continue their education.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Mt. Gilead Elementary students, Mason Coble, Zoe Shipp, Devin Sneed, Nashai Thomas.

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

The Montgomery County Schools Community Partnership Award was presented to Phyllis Parnell who supports incentives for employees and fund raising activities at Troy Elementary School. Montgomery County Schools thanks you for your contributions.

Further recognitions are:

2011 Prezell R. Robinson Scholars Program Award - Lacey Yarbrough – West Montgomery High School

Montgomery County Schools 2011-2012 Teacher of the Year- Mary Gilman, US History Teacher – East Montgomery High School

Montgomery County Schools Employees of the Year for 2010-2011

Bus Driver Employee of the Year – Donna Brown – West Montgomery High School

Child Nutrition Employee of the Year – Andrea Vuncannon – Central Office

Custodian Employee of the Year – Milton Horne – West Middle School

Instructional Support Employee of the Year – Rochelle Bostic – East Montgomery High School

Office Support Employee of the Year – Terrie Furr – Candor Elementary School

Teacher Assistant Employee of the Year – Martha Lalor – Page Street Elementary School

2010-2011 ENERGY Star Award goes to East Montgomery High School and Mt. Gilead Elementary

Montgomery County Schools Finance Department – Kathy Johnson, Lisa Ritter, Donna Morris, Pam Cameron, Lourdes Yarborough received two awards.

2010-2011 Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting
(Government Finance Officers Association)

2010-2011 Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting (Association of School Business Officials International)

Making a Difference Award – High School Level

Katie Kimrey, Certified – West Montgomery High School

Cheryl Johnson, Classified – East Montgomery High School

Board member, Jesse Hill commended Dr. Ellis by saying the employees of the year awards show an embracing of all employees. We honor all facets in the school systems. Dr. Ellis showed us the worth of this. Thank you.

With holding the consent agenda until after the closed session, the agenda continued to the Mt. Gilead Elementary School presentation, “Positive behavior, intervention, and support initiative.” Principal, Charles DeForge introduced Teacher, Vickie Panzer who is the coordinator for the program. Students, Sara Delaney and Tony Ferry told about their experience with the program and the rewards of positive behavior. Students are accountable for their behavior. All students are given instruction on what the rules are for behavior. A team of teachers look at where the problems are and focus on positive results. Parents, students, and staff have all bought in to this program.

Superintendent Ellis gave an update on the Montgomery County Schools Bible Classes. Montgomery County Schools received a letter from the Montgomery County Bible Association that they are fully funding the Montgomery County Bible classes to be held at both East and West Montgomery High Schools. Interviews will start for a teacher for this program and the Bible Association and Montgomery County Schools will make a joint decision on this position.

Superintendent Ellis then asked the board to consider two dates for scheduling an end of year board retreat. He asked them to consider August 6th or August 13th and let Carol Hardee know the date that works for the board.

Director of Child Nutrition, Frank Fiorella gave information about school lunch prices. Because of a Federal requirement to even the cost of paid lunches with the invested cost of free lunches, it is needed to slightly raise the cost of middle and high school lunches 10 cents per meal. Questions were asked about what is needed to receive free lunches and if we check those verifications. Three percent are pulled for verification, plus parents provide recent check stubs for the process. With a motion to accept this price increase made by Bryan Dozier, along with a second from Sandra Miller, the board unanimously approved the increase as presented.

Director Fiorella then presented the 2011-2012 food services bids. Most stayed the same, a few prices increased, and some chemicals were slightly higher. With a motion from Tommy Blake, along with a second from Shirley Threadgill, the board unanimously approved the 2011-2012 food services bids.

Kevin Lancaster presented the following policies and regulations for first reading. They will be voted on at the July 11, 2011 Montgomery County Board of Education Meeting.

- Policy Code 1510/4200/7270 School Safety
- Policy Code 1710/4021/7230 Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying
- Policy Code 1720/4015/7225 Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Complaint Procedure
- Policy Code 3000 Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program
- Policy Code 3450 Class Rankings
- Policy Code 4315 Disruptive Behavior
- Policy Code 4318 Use of Wireless Communication Devices
- Policy Code 4325 Drugs and Alcohol
- Policy Code 4353 Long -Term Suspension, 365 Day Suspension, Expulsion
- Policy Code 7950 Probationary Teachers - Nonrenewal
- Policy Code 9130 Supervision of Construction Contracts
- Policy Code 9205 Pest Management

Board member Bryan Dozier wanted to know why students should have cell phones in the schools. What good comes out of students having them? Montgomery County Board of Education Attorney, Max Garner mentioned that it is a way to contact authorities in a critical situation such as the Columbine shooting. Parents want them to have them. Teachers sometimes have problems with these students with phones and must ask them to put them somewhere when they come into the classroom. Some feedback sessions will be held first when school begins and then we will address the situation.

Superintendent Ellis asked the board to approve a resolution for regulatory relief for America's schools. Because of the federal program for education "No Child Left Behind", if this resolution is not passed, it could put us in sanctions if we don't conform. With a motion from Ann Long, and a second from Sandra Miller, the board unanimously approved supporting this resolution.

Superintendent Ellis's topic for his superintendent's remarks was entitled "5 Reasonable People". This portion of the meeting was video taped to send to all legislatures and the governor.

"You can tell it is even more serious this month as I not only have typed my comments but I have given it a title. I am calling my comments this week 5 Reasonable People. I know some of you may have read about or seen the movie 12 Angry Men. It is about a jury that looks beyond the obvious, really digs into the facts and makes the best decision, the right decision in the end. Well, that is where we are with the NC budget. We need to identify 5 reasonable people in the NC state legislature. I'll get back to that in just a moment.

The bottom line is something has just got to be done about this proposed budget. The General Assembly is getting ready to take the riskiest gamble ever perpetrated on the citizens of North Carolina with this budget. I did not choose the word perpetrated lightly. I chose it specifically. What's getting ready to happen should be a crime. So this is my shot at doing something. You might ask what one young Superintendent from little old Montgomery County can do. You may notice that Mr. Whitley is here taping my comments tonight. We are going to post it on the web and email a copy to our County Commissioners, every House representative and Senator in the state, the Governor, and we might even send a copy to President Obama if we can find his email address. That's been a tough one to get. But we think everybody in the world needs to know what the state of North Carolina is getting ready to do to its children. Some might find what I have

to say is inappropriate, but the time has come to take the gloves off. I feel I will be saying what needs to be said. If I offend anyone, I apologize beforehand.

The basic premise behind this budget is that it is a business model. Part of the rhetoric behind this sham of a budget is that it will allow the state government to operate as a business. The General Assembly is comprised of more business people than educators so I guess they think us poor education folk don't understand how business works. Now, some of you might not know this because I do have a doctorate in education, but I do not have a master's degree in education. I got my Master's degree in Business Administration. Now, when I was getting my MBA I learned all I needed to about business and I want to teach you all you need to know for a business degree in 15 seconds. If your business is operating at a loss, much like the state is with the projected deficit, there are two things you can do to remedy that situation. The first, you can cut costs. I think every business in the country can attest to this fact with having to cut costs, which usually means people. We have seen that in education over the last few years as well. The second way you can remedy the deficit situation is to raise revenue. I think we have all seen this in the business world with the higher prices we have to pay for gas and groceries and such. In the government, revenue is raised through taxes. I think we all agree here that raising taxes is not the best way to get through this current deficit. So, I think everyone has been expecting that we were going to have to cut costs and we as a school system have been preparing for that for some months. You all now qualify for a business degree. If it ain't going well you cut costs or raise revenue. It took me two years of hard, hard study to learn that concept. Well, this new business model currently being developed by the General Assembly is that we are going to cut costs AND cut revenue. They are cutting revenue through the elimination of one cent on the sales tax. In the face of the worst deficit in state history, they want to cut revenue and make the cuts worse. They are referring to this as operating the state like a business. If your business was a billion dollars in the hole and you were facing massive layoffs, would you say you wanted to cut revenue just so you could shed a few more thousand people? I think not. Yet, that is what is being sold to North Carolinians as a sound business model. That is a business model that leads to bankruptcy. The unfortunate recipient of this bankruptcy is the education system and our most vulnerable population...our children.

Here is where we need 5 reasonable people. Last week the media was reporting that the legislature was bragging that they now have a "veto-proof" budget by 5 votes. It seems they would prefer to brag about "beating" the governor than providing for our children. I have met the governor a couple of times and she is a nice lady, but I do not agree with everything she says and does as I am sure if she knew my work at that level that she would not agree with how I approach everything. But, I do agree with her intense focus on education. She believes education is the key to job creation in our state. I believe the same thing in Montgomery County as you all have heard me say on numerous occasions. Everyone wants more jobs but it takes a significant investment in education to make that happen. The Governor has vowed to veto this budget and I encourage her to do so. Our General Assembly has been more worried about accumulating a "veto-proof" majority on the budget rather than if they were doing the right thing for our children. I hear them saying they are protecting the classroom while passing down discretionary cuts that will require this Board to cut more teachers than they claim to be "gifting" us with. They continue to think, quite arrogantly I think, that educators are stupid. They think that we can't see past what they are trying to do. I even saw an email from the Senate attacking teachers, attacking the NCAE. I can only tell them that they are poking a bear when they do that and they can keep on poking it because next November that bear's probably gonna poke back.

SO, we need to know, in the entire General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, are there 5 reasonable people among you in the whole bunch. Are there 5 among you that will actually read the budget bill and say this is wrong for NC, wrong for our children. Is it unreasonable to allow one cent in sales tax to remain in place until after this recession, say when the state might have a surplus, and cut it then. Would that not make more sense?

Here on the screen is a picture of one of the precious children we have here in Montgomery County. I want everyone in the audience to repeat after me while you look at this picture..."You are not worth a penny." Come on louder. "You are not worth a penny." I have trouble saying that to a picture of a child, much less to the actual child. Yet, that is what the state legislature is doing. Here's another picture and another. Is that child not worth a penny. Or that one. Or that one. Right over there is Montgomery County's penny jar. As you can see, it is several pennies short to begin with. This budget will cut 36 positions from our staff. I'm not willing to gamble with a child's future over a penny, are any of you?

We need 5 state legislators to step across the aisle, join your colleagues who have already voted against this budget, and support the Governor's veto. Are there 5 among you that are reasonable enough to dig into the facts and do what's right for this state and our children. I guess we are fixin' to find out."

Chairman DeBerry then asked for a motion to go into closed session for the discussion of personnel and property. With a motion from Bryan Dozier, along with a second from Tommy Blake, the board unanimously approved the adjournment to closed session.

Chairman DeBerry called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. With a motion from Sandra Miller, and a second from Shirley Threadgill, the consent agenda was unanimously approved by the board as follows.

The minutes from the May 2, 2011 Montgomery County Board of Education meeting.

The personnel and auxiliary report as follows:

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

<u>Resignation/Retirement</u>	<u>School/ Assignment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
1) Edward Caldwell Resignation	Central Office Dropout Prevention	May 13, 2011
2) Andrea Rivers Resignation	Page Street Elementary 4 th Grade Teacher	June 15, 2011
3) Teresa Bruton Retirement	Candor Elementary EC Teacher	June 15, 2011
4) Janice Harless Resignation	Central Office Director of Technology	May 7, 2011
5) Wanda Greene Retirement	Star Elementary Cafeteria	July 1, 2011
6) Suzanne Dzezinski Resignation	West Middle School Math/Science Teacher	June 15, 2011
7) Barbara Cook Resignation	East Montgomery High Office Support/NC Wise	May 11, 2011
8) Brenda Hurley Retirement	Troy Elementary Teacher Assistant	July 1, 2011

9) Joel Childrey Resignation	West Middle School 7 th Grade Teacher	June 15, 2011
10) Allen Maupin Resignation	West Middle School 8 th Grade Teacher	June 15, 2011
11) Meghan Harter Resignation	East Middle School EC Teacher	June 15, 2011
12) Joseph Gaddy Resignation	West Montgomery AG Teacher	June 15, 2011
13) Connie Haynes Resignation	Troy Elementary Teacher Assistant	June 15, 2011
14) Jean Harrison Resignation	Troy Elementary Speech Pathologist	June 13, 2011
15) Caleb Rushing Resignation	East Middle School Social Studies Teacher	June 15, 2011

- b. Upon recommendation, approval of the following interim 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) Sharon Furlano 07//01/2011	Central Office Speech Therapist	Yes	Jean Harrison
2) Le Anne Purvis 06/07/2011	Central Office Occupational Therapist	Yes	New

- 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) Ashley Johnson	Green Ridge Elem. Teacher Assistant	Yes	New Position

- d. Report of the following transfer:

<u>Transfer/ Effective Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Replacing</u>
1) Tina Mabe 05/26/2011	East Montgomery Custodian	East Montgomery NC Wise Data Mgr.	Barbara Cook

- e. Upon recommendation of the superintendent, approval of recommendations for re-employment of teachers to receive career teacher status during 2011-2012 as described by General Statute 115C-325:

Green Ridge Elementary- Brittany Caldwell, Cindy Niece, Teresa O'Connor

Mt. Gilead Elementary- Chris Blake, Nancy Biggs McLendon, Melissa Shields, Jerry Stevens, Gina Blake

Candor Elementary- Royal Little, Autumn McNeill

Star Elementary- Emily McIntyre

Troy Elementary- Chareta Green, Lucy Lloyd

Page Street Elementary- Suzette Miller

East Middle School- Jennifer Hare, Mary Beth Ingram

West Middle School- Daniel Bruton, Debra Knowles, April Daywalt

East Montgomery High- Kate Dunklegod, Michelle Larking, Scott Blue, Amy L. Reynolds

West Montgomery High- Holly Berriman, Rick Peters

Montgomery Learning Academy- Teresa Curinga

- f. Upon recommendation of the superintendent, approval of recommendations for re-employment of teachers to receive probationary contracts during 2011-2012 as described by General Statue 115C-325 (subject to availability of funds):

Green Ridge Elementary- Angela Dawkins Greene, Laura Smith, Catherine Tucker, Brandy Whitley, Laura Wolf

Candor Elementary School- Kerma Taylor, Ashley Morris

Page Street Elementary- Betty Harvel, Alexandria Springer-Post, Susan Starnes, Kathryn Tortorella

Troy Elementary School- Pebble Byrd

Mt. Gilead Elementary- Chris Jonassen, Emily Harrison, Amanda Haithcock, Melissa Nassetta, Amanda Hall

Star Elementary School

Liz Honeycutt, Danielle Hurley, Jaclyn Kennedy, Melanie Lamonds

East Middle School- Brandon Clothier, Daniel Cox, Amy Frieary, Maggie McKinley, Jennifer Pieczynski, Matthew Smith, Jamie Teeter, Andrew Terry, Laura Williams, Lorianne Miklaszewski

West Middle School- Suzanne Ames, Kyle Greene, Stephanie Schraw, Angela Sorenson

East Montgomery High School- Heather Beane, Madeline Hunt, Tom Berriman, Meredith Johnson, Felicia Chambers, Cynthia Martinez, Carrie Cleaveland Edana McDonald, Lora Coble, Kevin Park, Sam Davis, Wilbur Pender, Quint Dunlap, Anthony Timmons, Teresa Furr, Joseph Whetstine, Kymberlie Hare, Sean Hassell

West Montgomery High School- Rikki Baldwin, Leigh Anne Lamonds, Sean Day, James McCall, Beth DeBerry, Tim Morris, Gary Graham, Stefanie Panzer, Jessica Hargest, Leah Brown, Katie Kimrey, Rhonda Hall

Montgomery Learning Academy- Ruby Jenkins, David Whitesell III, Ericka Shaw, Jennah King

- g. Upon recommendation of the superintendent, approval of recommendations for non-renewal of teacher contracts during 2011-2012 as described by General Statute 115C-325:

West Montgomery High School

Ron Golden

East Middle School

Kim Oxendine

East Montgomery High School

Enoc Robledo

Laura Dawkins

- h. Upon recommendation, approval of the following administrative contracts:
- Barbara Slingerland, EC Director, annual twelve-month term commencing June 7, 2011 and ending June 30, 2013.
 - Donnie Lynthacum, Principal, Candor Elementary School, annual twelve-month term commencing July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2015.
 - Alisha Ellis, Director of Technology and Curriculum Support, annual twelve-month term commencing June 7, 2011 and ending June 30, 2013.
- i. Upon recommendation of the superintendent, approval of recommendation for leave of absence of the following personnel:
- Angie Tofflemeyer, West Middle School, requesting leave of absence to participate in the Sandhills Leadership Academy, effective July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2012.
 - Amy Parsons, West Middle School, requesting leave of absence to participate in the Sandhills Leadership Academy, effective July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2012.

Budgets Amendments 17 and 18 as follows:

State Fund

Montgomery County Administration Unit

The Montgomery County Board of Education at a meeting on the 6th day of June 2011, passed the following resolution.

Be it resolved that the following amendments be made to the Budget Resolution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.

Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
1.6000.056	Transportation Costs	3,015	
1.5000.009	Non-Contributory Benefits	154,052	
1.3100	Allocation State Public School Funds	157,067	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget		\$	24,958,789
Amount of Increase		\$	157,067
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget		\$	25,115,856

Federal Fund			
Montgomery County Administration Unit			
The Montgomery County Board of Education at a meeting on the 6th day of June 2011 passed the following resolution.			
Be it resolved that the following amendments be made to the Budget Resolution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.			
Expense Code	Description of Code	Increase	Decrease
3.5000.050	Title I	3,500	
3.5000.119	IDEA Targeted Assist for Preschool	9,648	
3.5000.103	Improving Teacher Quality	2500	
3.8000.050	Title I		3,500
3.8000.119	IDEA Targeted Assist for Preschool	352	
3.8000.103	Improving Teacher Quality		2,228
3.3600.119	IDEA Targeted Assist for Preschool	10,000	
3.3600.103	Improving Teacher Quality	272	
Explanation: Adjustments made for actual revenues and expenditures.			
Total Appropriation in Current Budget			7,026,408
Amount of Increase			10,272
Total Appropriation in Current Amended Budget			7,036,680

Also included in the consent agenda and approved as shown was the following:

- 2011-2012 School Food Service Procurement Plan
- 2011-2012 Federal Applications
- Montgomery County Board of Education 2011-2012 Calendar of Meetings
- Montgomery Community College Board of Trustees 2011-2012 Appointment

Chairman DeBerry then asked for a motion to adjourn. With a motion from Tommy Blake, along with a second from Sandra Miller, the meeting was duly adjourned.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 11, 2011.

Steven W. DeBerry, Chairman

Dale Ellis, Ed. D., Secretary