

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special-Called Meeting
December 10, 2024

MINUTES

The Montgomery County Board of Education convened in a special-called meeting on Monday, December 10, 2024, at 5:30 pm, to view the Masonboro Superintendent Search Proposal presentation. The board members present were Anne Evans - Chair, Lynn Epps-Vice Chair, Tommy Blake, Angela Smith, Bryan Dozier, Cindy Taylor, Isai Robledo.

Board Chair Anne Evans called the meeting to order. Ms. Evans moved to adopt the agenda as submitted. Bryan Dozier made the motion with Cindy Taylor seconding. The agenda was accepted with unanimous approval from the board.

Board Chair Anne Evans then called on Dr. Ed West for the Masonboro Superintendent Search Proposal presentation. Dr. West and Dr. Jim Watson then introduced themselves and provided their background experience in the educational field. Dr. West stated that their objective is to secure a highly qualified candidate to be unanimously selected as Superintendent of Schools for the Montgomery County Board of Education. He stated that one of the most important aspects of their search will be to select candidates that will understand Montgomery County. Dr. West and Dr. Watson then presented the information and steps in their process beginning with the development of the selection criteria to the final selection of a Superintendent-elect by the Board of Education. Once the presentation was completed the board members asked several questions regarding their search process, whether the survey could be done in multiple languages, adjustment of dates listed on the timeline, Dr. Watson's current association with the Montgomery County Schools, and the current status of their business. Ms. Smith noted that during her research, she was unable to locate a webpage for the business and that the business appeared to have been dissolved earlier this year. Dr. West stated that they were in the process of putting the webpage back in place and that due to illness he had filed to dissolve the business. However, he stated that he is doing much better and if they were able to obtain this contract with Montgomery County, they would be reinstating the business.

Board Chair Anne Evans then thanked Dr. West and Dr. Watson for their presentation.

Board Chair Anne Evans then stated that we are still in open session for the purpose of discussing and possible decision as to which group the Board would like to use to conduct the Superintendent Search for the Montgomery County Schools. The two groups that have presented are the NCSBA and The Masonboro Group. The board members discussed in length the qualifications and concerns they had regarding each group that presented. Board Chair Evans then asked that each board member think of three qualities they feel are important to look for in the Superintendent. Board Chair Evans also stated that she had confirmed with Mr. Thorp (NCSBA) that there is no extra charge for the use of the NCSBA Simbli site referred to in his presentation. Mr. Blake also stated that it was just as important that we look good, as a board, to the candidates so that they will want to come to Montgomery County.

Board Chair then asked if the board members wish to wait and research the information presented or move forward with a vote. Mr. Robledo asked Mr. Garner for his legal perspective on what variables the Board should consider regarding the status of The Masonboro Group. Mr. Garner stated that the main piece that should be considered by the Board should be experience. Mr. Auman then stated that from the legal standpoint, outside counsel is not required for this process. Therefore, you as a Board need to decide which group you trust to narrow down the

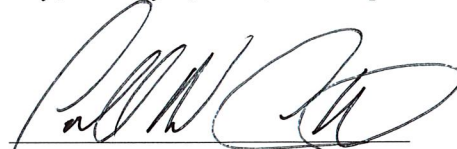
candidates through their screening process and then provide you with the best candidates for Montgomery County. Lynn Epps then made a motion to approve the NCSBA to conduct the Superintendent search. Angela Smith seconded the motion. The board approved unanimously.

Mr. Garner will contact the NCSBA on Wednesday to confirm and request the contract. He stated that he will also reach out to Dr. West.

Board Chair Anne Evans asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bryan Dozier made the motion, with Lynn Epps seconding; the meeting was duly adjourned.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, January 6, 2025, at 6:30 pm in the Central Office Boardroom.


Anne Evans, Vice Chairman


Wade Auman, Interim Secretary