

Montgomery Township School District

Creating confident, compassionate, and successful learners

Date: October 14, 2022

Subject: Updated Tax Information for Full Day Kindergarten

Dear Montgomery Township School District Community,

Thank you to all the community members who attended our Town Hall on Full-Day Kindergarten on Monday, October 10, 2022. In response to the insightful questions posed during the Town Hall meeting, we reviewed the financial data and contacted the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) to confirm our information on the tax levy assessment. During the meeting with the NJDOE, the Business Administrator identified that she made an error in how the percentages were allocated for Montgomery Township and Rocky Hill Borough.

We apologize for publicly sharing inaccurate information. The revised numbers for the average assessed home in Montgomery (\$505,821.00) and Rocky Hill (\$488,448.00) are:

Question 1A (Ongoing annual operational costs):

Montgomery: \$201 (previously provided as \$98 for 6 months)

Rocky Hill: \$133 (previously provided as \$3 for 6 months)

Question 1B (One-time assessment):

Montgomery: \$83 (previously provided as \$57 for 6 months)

Rocky Hill: \$54 (previously provided as \$1.80 for 6 months)

For the first year, this is a net decrease for Montgomery homeowners and an increase for Rocky Hill homeowners from what was previously presented. For each homeowner, to determine their individual tax impact, the rate per \$100,000 of assessed value is:

Question 1A:

Montgomery: Per \$100,000 of Assessed Value ($\$201 \times 100,000/505,821$) is \$39.74

Rocky Hill: Per \$100,000 of Assessed Value ($\$133 \times 100,000/488,448$) is \$27.23

Question 1B:

Montgomery: Per \$100,000 of Assessed Value ($\$83 \times 100,000/505,821$) is \$16.41 Rocky Hill:

Per \$100,000 of Assessed Value ($\$54 \times 100,000/488,448$) is \$11.05

We have updated the website with the corrected fiscal impact information. The district auditor reviewed the revisions to ensure accuracy. There will be a presentation on the revised calculations at the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, October 18, 2022. The district auditor, Suplee, Clooney & Company, will be present at the public meeting.

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Please note that the overall amount requested by the public question remains unchanged: the recurring amount of \$1,620,152.00 and the one-time amount of \$669,763.00. The error was in the proposed tax impact for the Montgomery Township and Rocky Hill Borough municipalities.

The academic and social-emotional benefits of full-time Kindergarten remain the same, as does the fact that we are one of the few districts in the state that do not offer full-day Kindergarten. We appreciate all the support and involvement of our community members. We regret that inaccurate information was shared on the financial impact of the full-day Kindergarten initiative.

Thank you for your understanding. We encourage you to attend the BOE meeting on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 7:30 PM at the LMS cafeteria or email bdofed@mtsd.us with your questions.

Sincerely,

Mary E. McLoughlin, Superintendent

Montgomery Township Board of Education