

**Mooresville Graded School District Board of Education  
Regular Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, September 10, 2019, 6:00 p.m**

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met in regular monthly session on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, in the Community Meeting Room at Mooresville Town Hall.

Present were Mr. Roger Hyatt, Chairman; Mr. Greg Whitfield, Vice Chairman; Mr. Leon Pridgen; Dr. Debbie Marsh; and Mrs. Kerry Pennell.

Superintendent Dr. Stephen Mauney and Attorney Kevin Donaldson were present. Mrs. Terry Haas, Chief Finance Officer; Dr. Todd Black, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Instruction and CTE; Dr. Scott Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Instruction and Technology; Dr. Ingrid Medlock, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Dr. Michael Royal, Chief Operations Officer; and Mrs. Tanae McLean, Chief Communications Officer were present.

Media represented: Kate Stevens, *Mooresville Tribune*

Mr. Hyatt called the meeting to order, shared how proud he is of the Mooresville Graded School District and their strong 2018-2019 state-wide test results. He stated these results are a clear indication that teachers and staff at MGSD are meeting the daily challenges they face to meet the needs of each child, every day. Mr. Hyatt reflected on the tragic September 11 events and asked that we all take some time to remember this day. Mr. Hyatt held a moment of silence and introduced Katie Jenkins, 3rd-grader from Park View Elementary School who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: None

**On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as presented.**

**On a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Mr. Pridgen, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2019, regular meeting as presented.**

The next school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 15, 2019, at the Mooresville Town Hall beginning at 6:00 p.m

**Staff Reports:**

- A. Facilities and Construction Report: Dr. Royal advised the first session of the 2019-2020 school year's student Random Suspicionless Drug Testing was performed at Mooresville Middle School and Mooresville High School. A report of the results will be provided at our June board meeting. He stated the MGSD Calendar Committee will have their first meeting on Thursday, September 12, 2019, to begin drafting the 2020-2021 school year calendar. October is "celebrate custodian month" and Dr. Royal requested that everyone show

- appreciation to all of our custodians for all of their hard work. He provided an athletic update on all fall sports at Mooresville High School and Mooresville Middle School and advised the MHS varsity football team with play against Vance H.S at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte on October 12, 2019. Tickets for this event can be purchased on the MGSD website. Dr. Royal advised the 2019 Hall of Fame nominations have now closed and winners will be presented at the varsity football game on October 25, 2019. He stated the district will hold a “Night of Champions” at Mooresville High School to honor the district’s 16 championship teams dating back to 1961. More information on this event will be provided.
- B. Instructional Report: Dr. Smith advised he was proud of the 2018-2019 school year, K-6 state-wide test results released last week and highlighted some of the Elementary and Intermediate level results. 3rd-grade students at MGSD had an overall ranking of fourth in the state and a second-place ranking in math. He indicated the district’s transition to Canvas Learning Management System from Blackboard Learn is going well and although there have been some challenges, teachers are embracing the new program. The Canvas LMS is easier to use and he recommends that all parents sign up for a parent account as a way to stay involved. Dr. Smith provided an update on the Gateway Project Alignment meetings with Dr. Black and Mrs. Conley. The Gateway Project Alignment for grades 3, 6, 8, and 12 will begin this school year and the projects will contain 5 main components. Additional information on Gateway Project Alignments will be provided soon. Dr. Smith was excited to report that additional funding received has been allocated to add a 4th NC pre-k class at South Elementary School. The new pre-k class started last week and is serving an additional 16 pre-k students. Dr. Black discussed the 2018-2019 secondary schools state-wide test results and accountability model and highlighted some of the results. 8th-grade reading and math at Mooresville Middle School ranked 9th in the state, at Mooresville High School, math-3 ranked 4th in the state, and math-1 ranked 7th in the state. MHS had a 94.5% graduation rate. Dr. Black provided information on the foreign exchange program at the high school and advised 20 students from Mooresville’s sister city, Hockenheim, Germany will stay with local families and attend classes at MHS from September 23 - October 5, 2019. Many fun activities have been planned for the students. He advised Dr. Joseph Allen, the MGSD Inclusion and Diversity Specialist will lead diversity training cohorts at the Teacher Leadership meetings. Dr. Black stated a meeting will be scheduled soon to discuss senior projects at Mooresville High School. Board Member, Mr. Leon Pridgen and Board Chairman, Mr. Roger Hyatt shared how proud they were of the MGSD 2018-2019 school year statewide test results and applauded the entire staff for their commitment and hard work in achieving these strong academic results.
- C. Business Services Report: Mrs. Haas advised the General Assembly has not passed the 2019-2020 budget but will she provide a preliminary budget at the October 15, 2019 board meeting. Mrs. Haas will meet with each board member to discuss the preliminary budget in detail. She stated that although the General Assembly has not passed the public education budget, some pieces of the 2019-2020 state budget has been approved. She advised public education staff are currently working on the 2018-2019 salary base and is unsure if salary will become retroactive once the 2019-2020 budget is finally approved.
- D. Human Resources Report: Dr. Medlock advised Mooresville Graded School District has formed partnerships with different Universities to host student teachers during their clinicals. Some of the Universities we are hosting are; University of North Carolina-

- Charlotte, Appalachian University, Queens University, Western Governors University (online), and others. Hosting student teachers provides the district with an increase of qualified student teachers and the opportunity to hire great teachers. Dr. Medlock shared the new MGSD Diversity and Inclusion Specialist, Dr. Joseph Allen has met with Principals throughout the district to develop and implement their staff diversity training. School based professional training will be held for all district office staff on September 27, 2019. Dr. Medlock advised the beginning teachers mentorship program is underway and has already met with both the beginning teachers and their teacher mentors. She reported MGSD has hired a total of 63 new hires this year. The Assistant Principal Leadership Academy will begin meeting beginning on September 26, 2019, their theme will be “understanding our why”. She reported each student teacher completing their clinicals at MGSD has a liaison from their universities that communicates with Human Resources. She explained the process of evaluation used between the liaisons, schools, and the Universities to better evaluate the student teachers and determine if they are qualified to be hired.
- E. Public Communications Report: Mrs. McLean advised the community “Picnic in the Park” hosted by the district’s Executive Team will be held on September 26, 2019, at Magla Park from 6:00-7:30 p.m. The administrators from Mooresville High School, East Mooresville Intermediate, and Park View Elementary will be in attendance. She stated the Mooresville Graded School District is a sponsor at the upcoming “Out of the Darkness” walking event which brings awareness to mental health and suicide awareness. The event will be held at Statesville High School on October 5, 2019. More information on this event can be found on their website. Mrs. McLean advised MGSD recently received a grant from the Town of Mooresville. More information on how the district will use the grant will be provided soon.
- F. Superintendent’s Report: Dr. Mauney advised the Mooresville Foundation for Excellence in Education’s 12th annual golf tournament will be held on Friday, October 4, 2019. This is a major fundraising event for the foundation that provides funding to support our teachers and students throughout the school year. He reported the North Carolina State Board Association recently voiced their support for district local control of their school calendars rather than the General Assembly mandating the start and end dates. Dr. Mauney stated he feels strongly that MGSD and the other districts that adopted modified year-round school calendars are meeting the exemption criteria outlined in the state law and that our current calendar best serves our students and community. He shared he was pleased with the MGSD 2018-2019 school year state-wide test results and reported the district continues to rank at the top level in the state as measured by these state-mandated assessments. Overall MGSD ranked number 9 in the state among 115 public school districts and out-paced the state average in student proficiency by 20 points. Students at all school levels performed strongly. Dr. Mauney stated he is very proud of the academic accomplishments as measured by the stated-mandated tests but is also extremely proud of the instructional and support staff for the opportunities they provide their students to meet their maximum potential and for regularly going above and beyond to meet the needs of the students. He stated the staff at MGSD is the district’s greatest strength that contributes greatly to the overall success of our students and the district.
- G. Board Events and Announcements: The calendar of events were reviewed. Board members will attend the NCSBA District 7 meeting in Hickory, NC on September 25, 2019.

**Student of the Month:** Katie Jenkins, 3rd-grader at Park View Elementary School was recognized with the Student of the Month Award. Teacher, Mrs. Loring nominated Katie and this what she wrote about her in the nomination; “Katie is an all around outstanding student. She always puts forth her best efforts in school and works very hard. In addition to being a hard worker, Katie is also a kind and caring friend. She has served on the kindness club at Park View and would often take time before or after school to help with special kindness projects. We are very proud of Katie and the example she sets for all of our students every day!”

**Spotlight on People (a):** 2019 Governor’s School Participant: Richard Whitfield, MHS

Dr. Mauney recognized Richard Whitfield, Senior at Mooresville High School for being selected and participating at the 2019 Governor’s School Program. Dr. Mauney thanked Richard Whitfield for his accomplishments and for representing Mooresville High School and the entire District.

Dr. Mauney shared information on the prestigious Governor’s School of North Carolina and advised the Governor’s School program is one of the oldest summer residential programs in the nation for intellectually gifted high school students. He shared the process of selecting the Governor’s School candidates at Mooresville High School and advised how the limited spots in the program make the selection process extremely competitive.

**Spotlight on People (b):** 2019 D.A.R.E Educator of the Year: Mrs. Becky Snyder - EMIS

Mrs. Becky Snyder, 5th-grade teacher at EMIS was recognized and presented with a Certificate of Recognition for being selected as the 2019 D.A.R.E Educator of the Year. Officer Kratz who teaches the D.A.R.E class at EMIS and MIS nominated Ms. Snyder for this award. The D.A.R.E program stands for Drug Abuse Prevention Education. This class is taught to 5th graders at MIS and EMIS to educate the students about the harmful impact that drugs and alcohol can have on their life goals. In the nomination Office Kratz wrote; “Each year the North Carolina D.A.R.E. Officers’ Association recognizes an educator as the D.A.R.E educator of the year. D.A.R.E. instructors from across the state nominate educators they feel are deserving of the recognition. The winner is then chosen by the D.A.R.E association’s Board of Directors. I nominated Becky Snyder from East Mooresville Intermediate School as I feel she exemplifies all of the qualities needed to be recognized as the D.A.R.E Educator of the year. Nine years ago Mrs. Snyder immediately welcomed me as part of the EMIS family. Each year it’s clear that Becky Snyder has a passion for education and her students. There is love in everything she does and I can’t think of a teacher that supports or echoes the D.A.R.E. program or its goals more. Mrs. Snyder always assists in collecting D.A.R.E. reports and has helped grade/judge them. I actually believe Becky Snyder’s classroom has more D.A.R.E. swag than mine does. Becky is the teacher I would want my own children to have. I think we all have a lot to learn from teachers like Becky Snyder!”

**ABCD Award:** Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award was presented to Sherie Russ, teacher assistant at Park View Elementary School. She was nominated by Principal, Dr. Misha Rogers, & Assistant Principal, Ms. Robin Melton. In the nomination they wrote; “Mrs. Russ is simply a wonderful person. She has worked in kindergarten all of her time at Park View Elementary and has great working relationships with everyone on our staff. For this school year, we asked her to move to first grade and she agreed without hesitation. This is just one example of how flexible she is when working with any situation, student, or teacher.

She is always willing to help with anything and keeps a smile on her face Mrs. Russ has a calm demeanor and is extremely patient. Students are easily comforted and encouraged to try their best when working with her. Being that we have already been in school for a little over a month, Mrs. Russ has developed an excellent rapport with the two teachers she works with in her new grade level. When asked, they wanted us to share that “she can do anything and does it with a smile”, “she is every word that describes wonderful”. She is dedicated to supporting students and teachers she works with daily. We are fortunate to have an excellent example of kindness and genuine love of children among us. It is an honor to recognize Mrs. Sherie Russ for going above and beyond to support our school!”

**Artists of the Month:** Mrs. Hatch’s 3rd Grade students from Park View Elementary School were recognized with the Artists of the Month Award and performed the National Anthem. Students were nominated by Ms. Katherine Lewis, Music Teacher at Park View Elementary. In the nomination she wrote; “Mrs. Hatch’s heroes are a group of wonderful young musicians who have embraced our new adventures in music class this year with open arms. They are always up to the task at hand of learning, playing, and growing together. They are natural leaders within our classroom and school and excellent examples of our Park View Pillars to strive to Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Respectful, and Be Responsible. I am thrilled to share their angelic voices with everyone with the National Anthem.”

**Mrs. Hatch’s 3rd-Grade Hero’s:** Leona Aispuro, Brenon Bailey, De’ron Brice, Adalyn Drum, Gabriel Duke, Gabriel Ellis, Isis Ellis, Kayley Huerta-Engombia, Morgan Korak, Ella Lewis, Ja’Kayia McCall, Malachi Miller, Justin Nieves, Logan Place, Aviya Stutts and James Willis

**Instructional Highlights:** Park View Elementary School - “The Power of Morning Meetings”

Dr. Smith introduced Instructional Coach, Ms. Schroeder and Teacher, Mrs. Mays who shared how teachers at Park View Elementary are successfully implementing student morning meetings in their classrooms. They explained how teachers and students are enjoying these positive meetings and shared the different components used in the meetings. 25 minutes have been built into the class schedule to allow enough time for morning meetings each day. Morning meetings have 4 main components that teach students skills in; greeting, sharing, group activities that include movement of the body, and sharing. Ms. Schroeder advised some of the exercises performed during group activities help exercise both sides of the students brain. Teachers are also able to include components of reading and writing during some of these activities. Mrs. Mays introduced some of her students and modeled some of the activities they perform during her classroom morning meetings.

**Board Policies:** Mrs. Haas presented the following 7 board policies being presented for first reading. These policies will be reviewed and brought for approval in October.

<b>Policy Number</b>	<b>Name</b>
a) Policy 9125	Participation by Minority Businesses
b) Policy 6421	Purchase Orders and Per-Audit and Disbursement Certifications
c) Policy 6442	Vendor Lists
d) Policy 8220	Gifts and Bequests
e) Policy 8300	Fiscal Management Standards
f) Policy 8325	Daily Deposits

g) Policy 8510 School Finance Officer

**Approval of Resolution in Support of School Bond:** Dr. Mauney presented and explained the Resolution of the Mooresville Graded School District Board of Education being sent to the Iredell County Board of Commissioners requesting an education bond referendum be added to the March 2020 primary ballot and asked the board for approval. This resolution is seeking action on behalf of the County Board of Commissioners to provide a funding source so that Mooresville Graded School District can build a new middle school. **On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Whitfield, the board voted unanimously to approve the resolution as presented.**

Mr. Hyatt, under G.S. §143-318.11 (a)(6) & (a)(3), announced the board would go into closed session to review personnel and consult with the board attorney. **On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Mr. Pridgen, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session.**

**On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Whitfield, the board voted unanimously to adjourn from closed session.**

**On a motion by Mr. Pridgen, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the personnel list as recommended by the superintendent.**

#### **New Employees:**

Erica Gershman, EC Teacher, Park View Elementary School, 09/06/2019  
Samara McMillen, EC Teacher (50%), Mooresville Middle School, 08/19/2019  
Maria Figuera Affigne, NC Pre-K, Teacher Assistant, South Elementary School, 08/19/2019  
Tauranisia Jones, Lead Teacher (BASP), East Mooresville Intermediate School, 09/09/2019  
Diane Linton, Substitute, School Nutrition, 08/28/2019  
Samantha Robinson, Lead Teacher (BASP), Rocky River Elementary, 09/06/2019  
April Rowinski, Substitute, School Nutrition, 08/22/2019

#### **Rehire**

Kellie Cilley, Substitute Teacher, 08/30/2019, Previously a Tutor at Mooresville Middle School  
Heather Gibbs, Stars Pre-K Teacher Assistant, Rocky River Elementary, 08/22/2019, Previously a Lead Teacher at BASP

#### **Promotions/Changes**

Kimberly Amstutz, Reading Specialist, RRES, 09/03/2019, Previously a Small Group Instructor at Rocky River Elementary School  
Helen Bailey, Substitute Monitor, Transportation, 08/26/2019, Additional Assignment: Custodian at Mooresville Intermediate School  
Regan Cooper, EC Teacher (Interim), RRES, 09/27/2019-11/15/19, Transferred from 50% EC at Rocky River Elementary School  
Victoria Craver, Manager Trainee, School Nutrition (EMIS), 09/19/2019, Transferred from School Nutrition Assistant at East Mooresville Intermediate School  
Elisa Greene, Substitute Teacher, 09/05/2019, Previously a EC Teacher Assistant at Mooresville Middle School

Lisa Gruneiro, Small Group Instructor, Rocky River Elementary School, 09/05/2019-05/20/20, Additional Assignment: Substitute Teacher

Josephina Mateo, School Nutrition Assistant, Mooresville Middle School, 08/26/2019, Previously a Substitute for School Nutrition

Kristin Morgan, Substitute Teacher, 08/30/2019, Additional Assignment: BASP Lead Teacher at Park View Elementary School

Danielle Wood, Substitute Monitor, Transportation, 08/26/2019, Additional Assignment: Custodian at Mooresville High School

Hillary Zwolinski, Teacher Assistant, Interim, Park View Elementary, 09/10/2019-05/27/2020, Additional Assignment: Substitute Teacher

**There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Pridgen, seconded by Mr. Whitfield, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted:

Stephen A. Mauney, Secretary  
Board of Education