

MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Called Meeting, Wednesday, July 22, 2020, 8:30 a.m.

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met in a duly noticed called meeting on Wednesday, July 22, 2020, in the Performing Arts Center at the Mooresville High School, 659 E. Center Avenue, Mooresville, NC 28115.

Board Members Present: Mr. Roger Hyatt, Chairman; Mr. Greg Whitfield, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Leon Pridgen, II; Dr. Debbie Marsh; and Mrs. Kerry Pennell.

Dr. Stephen Mauney, Superintendent, and Mr. Kevin Donaldson, Board Attorney 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; Mrs. Tanae McLean, Chief Communications Officer; Mrs. Jemma Conley, Elementary Curriculum Coordinator; Mrs. Tracy Waid, Secondary Curriculum Coordinator; and Mrs. Sylvia Martinez, Board Clerk, were present.

Media representative: *Kate Stevens, Mooresville Tribune*

Mr. Hyatt called the meeting to order, shared a quote by John Mann, held a moment of silence, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Dr. Marsh seconded by Mr. Pridgen, the board voted unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

Presentation of Reopening Plan Options: The MGSD Executive Team, Elementary and Secondary Curriculum Coordinators presented and explained the MGSD Fall 2020 Reopening Plans B, C, C+, and the Mooresville Online Academy (MOA). Plan B is a combination of in-person learning at school and remote learning at home; Plan C is a complete virtual learning at home plan where students in grades K-12 will have a blended model made up of live virtual instructional time and independent work time four days a week; Plan C+, a newly created plan is a combination of remote learning and in-person instruction that would apply only to students in grades K-3. Plan C+ for students in grades 4-12 is a fully complete virtual learning at home plan. The Mooresville Online Academy option is a long-term complete virtual learning at home plan that requires a 1-year commitment from parents. The district looked at every aspect from educational best practices, logistics, quality instruction time, state requirements, and the safety of our staff and students to develop each of the reopening plans. The Iredell County daily average data of COVID-19 cases from March 16, 2020 to July 20, 2020 showing that COVID-19 cases are increasing in Iredell County with a 2.4% higher percentage rate than the State.

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Mrs. Mclean shared the data and results from the MGSD Intentions Survey sent out last week to parents/students, teachers, staff, and administrators. This survey was conducted to help in the reopening decision process. Overall, 2866 (48%) parents and 515 (74%) staff members responded to the survey. Mrs. McLean shared 66 percent of MGSD teachers and 71 percent of school or district administrators who responded to the survey preferred Plan C as opposed to Plan B. Of the 2,866 parents who responded to the survey, 56.9 percent said it was best to open under Plan B with 43.1 percent saying it was best to open under Plan C.

Dr. Smith and Mrs. Conley provided an overview and highlighted and explained the process and procedures for reopening Plans B, C, C+, and the MOA for students in grades K-3 and 4-6. Mrs. Conley also shared the weekly and daily schedule for students and teachers for each of the reopening plans. Dr. Smith advised as per the state requirement all EC students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) will have a remote learning contingency plan or IEP addendum developed with the IEP team to address instruction that occurs during school closures. Students will continue to receive special services from current MGSD specialists. These services include but are not limited to AIG, ESL, Intervention and 504 services. Students with disabilities may have additional in person instruction based on guidelines and remote learning plan. Dr. Black and Mrs. Waid provided an overview and highlighted and explained the process and procedures for the reopening Plans B, C, C+, and the MOA for students in grades 7-8 at Mooresville Middle School, and grades 9-12 at Mooresville High School/MIWAYE. Mrs. Waid also shared the weekly and daily schedules for students and teachers in the secondary grade levels for each of the reopening plans. Mrs. Waid and Dr. Black advised after reviewing the MOA enrollment numbers for MMS and MHS students, it became clear that the secondary MOA cannot function the same as the K-6 MOA. Students in grades 7-12 will be provided with external online platforms; Apex Learning Virtual School, North Carolina Virtual Public School, and MHS online Academy. Mrs. Waid advised the MHS Senior Capstone project has been revised, eliminating the summer hour requirements.

Dr. Royal presented and explained the reopening Plan B - safety requirements and cleaning protocols that MGSD would follow as mandated by the state. He also shared the reopening Plan B - transportation bus protocols and procedures.

Dr. Medlock presented and explained the Plan B exposure protocols, procedures, and the 3 flow charts for employees that test positive for COVID-19, are symptomatic, or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. She shared the state has not provided any guidance at this time, with regard to how COVID-19 absences are going to be recorded. Dr. Medlock stated the Iredell County Health Department has provided MGSD with much information and guidance.

Mrs. Haas presented and explained the MGSD school nutrition plans for reopening plans B and C. She advised that at this time MGSD would operate under the normal school nutrition plans, therefore all meals would need to be purchased as if in normal operation. Meals can be delivered to the community utilizing the yellow buses. Mrs. Haas shared NCDPI is working on a waiver to allow MGSD to provide Universal Feeding under reopening Plan C. She also shared the Plan B

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Before and After School Program (BASP) plans and fees for students in Elementary and Intermediate schools.

Dr. Mauney held a Q&A for the board members to provide them with additional information and answers to their questions.

Public Comment: Andrea Fenical, 217 S. Sherrill Street, Mooresville, NC 28115

Board members and the elementary school principals Dr. LaRusso, Dr. Rogers, and Dr. Cottone shared their thoughts, concerns, and reopening plan recommendations. The board members also thanked the staff for their hard work in designing each of the reopening plans as presented.

Dr. Mauney shared his recommendation to reopen under Plan C for the first quarter. He advised his recommendation to reopen under Plan C was derived from the recent increase in COVID-19 cases in Iredell County and the survey results that indicated teachers have serious safety concerns for themselves, families, and students. Dr. Mauney shared the protocols required under reopening Plan B would take a substantial amount of time away from student instruction and he is very concerned how COVID-19 positive test results would impact staff, students, and families. He stated after days of studying every aspect of multiple variations of the different plans he feels strongly that Plan C is the best plan at this time for our students and staff.

Approval of the 2020-2021 School Year Reopening Plans: Dr. Mauney asked the board to approve the 2020-2021 School Year Reopening Plan C and allow yellow school buses to be used for school nutrition services to deliver meals. He stated MGSD will reopen under Plan C through the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year; however, if it is safe to transition to a less restrictive Plan B or Plan A, the district will make that decision no later than two weeks before October 16, 2020, allowing families time to prepare for any potential transition. **On a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Mr. Pridgen, the board voted unanimously to approve the 2020-2021 School Year Reopening Plan C as presented.**

There being no further business, on a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Pridgen, the meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Mr. Roger Hyatt, Chairman
Board of Education

Dr. Stephen A. Mauney, Secretary
Board of Education