

MGSD Board of Education
December 8, 2020, Regular Meeting Minutes

MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, December 8, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met during a regular monthly session on Tuesday, December 8, 2020, in the Performing Arts Center at 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 and Title IX Coordinator; and Mrs. Sylvia Martinez, Board Clerk, were present.

Media representatives: *Kate Stevens, Mooresville Tribune*
Melinda Skutnick, Iredell Free News

Mr. Hyatt called the meeting to order, reflected on Christmas and shared a quote by Michael Eric Dyson; “The greatest mark of our humanity and character show when we are concerned about others beyond our circle”. Mr. Hyatt held a moment of silence, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: None

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

On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Whitfield, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2020, regular meeting and the November 23, 2020, emergency called meeting as presented.

The next regular school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, in the Performing Arts Center at Mooresville High School at 6:00 p.m.

ABCD Award: The Above and Beyond of Call of Duty was presented to Terri Garrett, Front Office Support at East Mooresville Intermediate School. Ms. Garrett was nominated by Julie Evans, Interim Principal, at East Mooresville Intermediate School. In the nomination Ms. Evans wrote; “In my short time at EMIS Terri has gone above and beyond to meet the needs of our students, staff, and parents. She comes to work with a positive attitude daily and radiates happiness every morning. Terri assists in our morning car rider line, and she is often the first smiling face to greet our students. She is always

looking to make students and parents feel more comfortable in this time of uncertainty. There are many moving pieces in education right now and Terri continues to keep me, and our other administrators, on track with what's to come. Terri wears many hats at EMIS as you can see her making copies, answering phones, sending emails, and working with transportation to insure the safety of our students. My favorite thing that Terri does is ask EVERY adult in our building how their life is going outside of school. Our staff truly appreciates the hard work and dedication Terri has given to both EMIS and the MGSD. The staff at EMIS is forever blessed to work with Ms. Terri Garret. Thank you for going above and beyond every single day for our students. It's very easy to be decent- but you choose to be GREAT.”

Staff Reports:

- A. **Facilities and Construction Report:** Dr. Royal provided a facilities and construction update and advised renovations at the Central Office are now complete with only a few items on the punch list being finalized. The construction of the new breezeway at the NF Woods campus is now complete and the installation of the new doors will be completed by the end of next week. He shared the design process for the Selma Burke Middle School, South Elementary School, and Park View Elementary projects are going well, with renovations tentatively scheduled to begin at South Elementary and Park View Elementary in March, and bidding for the Selma Burke Middle School construction scheduled to begin in June. Dr. Royal advised the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) has begun the high school football conference realignment process that will go into effect in August 2021. He reported athletics at Mooresville Middle School and Mooresville High School are underway and provided specific results for the athletic teams at both schools. Dr. Royal gave a shout out to the athletes and coaches for doing a wonderful job in following the COVID-19 safety protocols that were put in place to keep students and staff safe.
- B. **Instructional Report:** Dr. Smith provided a technology update and advised the technology department has been tremendously busy with the technology Refresh and advised as of December 6, 2020, they have completed the Refresh of 2,867 students laptops and 500 students ipads. Dr. Smith reported laptop deployment for 6-12 grade students and teachers will be held on Saturday, December 12, 2020, at Mooresville High School. He reported the K-5 learning plan transition has gone well and advised due to some of the Holidays falling on Mondays, the K-5 calendar will be modified so that that all students will be able to attend in person instruction 2-days a week. He shared the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) which has provided updated COVID-19 guidance, clarifying that school age children, five (5) years or older enrolled in a school or preschool, are now required to wear a face mask. Dr. Black provided a secondary instructional update and advised WIN Wednesdays is going well at MMS and MHS, and he has received positive feedback from teachers and parents. He advised WIN Wednesday’s provides students with in-person instruction but also helps teachers in building relationships with their students. Dr. Black congratulated Mooresville High School and the students in the NAF Academy and CTE programs for being named one of five National finalists in the U.S. Department of Education’s CTE Mission; CubeSat (Cube Satellite). Dr. Black

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advised high school teams from 22 states participated in this national competition where each team developed mission proposals for their CubeSat projects. As one of the 5 finalists, the MHS team will receive \$5,000 that they may use to build the Cube Satellite prototype for the second phase of the challenge that will be submitted in March 2021. Dr. Black shared MHS students completed the ACT WorkKeys exams last week, final exams will begin next week, and the Senior Capstone projects will be presented virtually on December 9, 2020.

- C. **Business Services Report:** Mrs. Haas provided her business service report later in the evening when she presented and requested approval for her board items.
- D. **Human Resources Report:** Dr. Medlock advised the Assistant Principal Leadership Academy held their second session on December 3, 2020, and Latoya Caesar, the MGSD Diversity Inclusion Specialist, was a guest presenter. The topic of the session was “Equity in Leadership through the lens of the year 2020.” Dr. Medlock shared the session allowed meaningful discussion regarding the basic principles of equity of literacy as it relates to school leadership. Ms. Caesar will follow up with each of the MGSD Assistant Principals to continue these discussions and to see how they are applying these principles in their leadership at their schools. She shared the State has provided a draft of a new Principal and Assistant Principal evaluation rubrics, and she will be meeting with some of the school administrators to get their feedback and questions that she can take back to the State for the completion of the development process for this comprehensive evaluation tool for our school leaders. Dr. Medlock provided the COVID-19 staff reports update and data since our last board meeting on November 10, 2020.
- E. **Public Communications Report:** Mrs. McLean advised she recently attended a NCDHHS training with Dr. Medlock and the district nurses for their new Contact Tracing system that will begin on December 15, 2020. She shared the recent change in the COVID-19 quarantine State requirements indicates staff and students can now return to school after 10-days of quarantine in lieu of 14-days of quarantine if they have not experienced COVID symptoms during those 10-days. Mrs. McLean provided the updated Iredell County Data from the COVID-19 County Alert System and advised Iredell County currently falls in the “Red” category in Case Rate, Percent Positive, and Hospital Impact. She provided the updated COVID-19 data for MGSD employees and staff and stated she will continue to update the MGSD COVID-19 Dashboard that can be accessed on the MGSD website. She thanked and gave kudos to all of the MGSD nurses for their diligence and hard work.
- F. **Superintendent’s Report:** Dr. Mauney advised since the district returned to the modified learning plan B schedule, none of the classrooms in the district have needed to be quarantined and the number of “close contact” exposures have greatly reduced, especially in the elementary and intermediate schools. He shared MGSD will continue to closely monitor the COVID data in Iredell County and within MGSD, and as anticipated,

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since Thanksgiving Break, Iredell County has seen a significant increase in all 3 categories; number of positive cases, percent of positive test indicators, and in hospital impact. Dr. Mauney provided the up to date Iredell County COVID data and reported sadly, Iredell County has recently moved up to a “Red” County on the NC County Alert System signifying “critical community spread”. He stressed the importance of helping keep our schools open by keeping children home if they are sick and practicing the 3 W’s; Waiting 6 feet apart, Washing your hands frequently, and Wearing a mask. Dr. Mauney requested for families to plan ahead in the event that the district needs to close down a school, close a classroom, or return to a virtual learning environment on a moment’s notice.

- G. **Board Events and Announcements:** The board reviewed the upcoming events and shared laptop deployment will be held at Mooresville High School on Saturday, December 12, 2020, and the MHS Senior Capstone Presentations will be held virtually on Wednesday, December 9, 2020.

Presentation of 2021-2022 Draft School Calendars: First Reading – Dr. Royal presented three draft versions of the 2021-2022 school calendar for first read. He advised the three calendars were drafted with the help and input from the MGSD Calendar Committee that is represented by administrators, teachers, and parents from each of the schools in the district. Dr. Royal provided a breakdown of each of the calendars, listed some of the important school dates, and asked the board to review the calendars that will be brought for approval in January.

Approval of Auditors for Year Ending June 30, 2021 – Mrs. Haas presented and requested board approval of the audit contract with the firm of Anderson, Smith & Wike LLC to provide the required audit for MGSD for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. **On a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the auditors for the year ending June 30, 2021, as presented.**

Approval of Increase to Design, Build Contract – Mrs. Haas presented and requested board approval of an increase to the design build contract with Performance Services which will be used to provide needed updates to the kitchens at South Elementary School and Park View Elementary School. **On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the increase to the design build contract as presented.**

Board Policies - For Approval: Mrs. Haas requested board approval of the following board policies that were presented at the November 10, 2020, regular board meeting. **On a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the following board policies as presented.**

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Policy Number:	Name:
a) 1300	Governing Principle – Parental Involvement
b) 1310/4002	Parental Involvement
c) 1500	Governing Principle – Safe, Orderly, and Inviting Environment
d) 1600	Governing Principle – Professional Development
e) 1700	Governing Principle – Removal of Barriers
f) 1725/4035/7236	Title IX Sexual Harassment – Prohibited Conduct and Reporting Process
g) 1726/4036/7237	Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process
h) 2500	Hearings Before the Board
i) 4023	Education for Pregnant and Parenting Students
j) 4040/7310	Staff-Student Relations
k) 4202/5029/7272	Service Animals in Schools
l) 4328	Gang-Related Activity
m) 4333	Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety
n) 4335	Criminal Behavior
o) 4345	Student Discipline Records
p) 4353	Long-Term Suspension, 365-Day Suspension, Expulsion
q) 7130	Licensure
r) 7503	Teleworking
s) 7820	Personnel Files
t) 8510	School Finance Officer

Board Policies - First Reading: Mrs. Haas presented the following board policies being presented for first reading. These policies will be reviewed and brought for approval in January.

Policy Number:	Name:
a) 1510/4200/7270	School Safety
b) 1710/4020/7230	Discrimination and Harassment Prohibited by Federal Law
c) 1740/4010	Student and Parent Grievance Procedure
d) 1742/5060	Responding to Complaints
e) 1750/7220	Grievance Procedure for Employees
f) 1760/7280	Prohibition Against Retaliation
g) 2120	Code of Ethics for School Board Members
h) 2121	Board Member Conflict of Interest
i) 3000	Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program
j) 3102	Online Instruction
k) 3300	School Calendar and Time for Learning
l) 3410	Testing and Assessment Program
m) 3460	Graduation Requirements
n) 3620	Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations

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- o) 4001 Equal Educational Opportunities
- p) 4400 Attendance
- q) 4600 Student Fees
- r) 5020 Visitors to the Schools
- s) 5030 Community Use of Facilities
- t) 5070/7350 Public Records – Retention, Release, and Disposition
- u) 6305 Safety and Student Transportation Services
- v) 7232 Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace
- w) 7510 Leave

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 Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Pridgen, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session.**

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

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

New Employees:

Maria "Luisa" Caruso, Pre-K Teacher Assistant, RRES, 12/01/2020, 15 years experience Pre-School Teacher/Central United Methodist Church
Angela Davis, Chief Finance Officer, CO, 01/19/2020, 9 years experience ISS
Karmen Guzman, Substitute Teacher, 11/19/2020
Michelle Stang, EC Teacher Assistant, PVES, 12/07/2020, 2 years experience as a Library Aide and Story Hour Director

Rehire:

Kim Amstutz, Substitute Teacher, 12/03/2020, Previously a Reading Specialist at RRES
Thea Smith, Substitute Bus Driver, 11/23/2020, Previously a Bus Driver/Custodian at PVES
Timothy Tomlin, Substitute Bus Driver, 12/03/2020, Previously a Custodian/Bus Driver

Promotions/Changes:

Janna Brown, Substitute, School Nutrition, 11/30/2020, Transferred from 3 hour position at PVES
Lisa Giffin, Substitute Monitor, Transportation, 11/16/2020, Additional Assignment; School Nutrition Assistant at MHS
Lisa Gruneiro, Small Group Instructor, RRES, 12/07/2020, 05/27/2021, Additional Assignment; Substitute Teacher
Courtney Reid, District Roaming Custodian, Maintenance, New Position, 11/16/2020, Transferred from Temporary Custodian

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Retirement:

Thomas Chester, Carpentry/Masonry Teacher, MHS, 12/31/20, 25 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC

Sarah Deese, Crossing Guard, MHS, 12/31/20, 15 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Mr. Roger Hyatt, Chairman
Board of Education

Dr. Stephen A. Mauney, Secretary
Board of Education