

MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met during a regular monthly session on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, 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; Dr. Debbie Marsh; and Mrs. Kerry Pennell. Mr. Leon Pridgen, II attended the meeting electronically.

Dr. Stephen Mauney, Superintendent, and Mr. Kevin Donaldson, Board Attorney were present. Mrs. Angie Davis, 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

Mr. Hyatt called the meeting to order, shared March is Women's History Month, a time of observance and celebration of the vital role of women in American history and shared a quote by Eleanor Roosevelt. Mr. Hyatt held a moment of silence and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: The following MGSD parents shared their views and concerns regarding the cancellation of the 2021 Prom, plans for graduation, and the 4th Quarter Learning Plans; Scarlett Overbay-Inman, 162 Stallings Mill Drive, Mooresville, NC; Kena Crume, 120 Colony Hill Lane, Mooresville, NC; Shannon Brewer, 122 Winterbell Drive, Mooresville, NC; Ed Fisher, 130 Forest Walk Way, Mooresville, NC; and Dena Walley, 119 Rockhopper Lane, Mooresville, NC.

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

On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2021, regular meeting as presented.

Spotlight on People - Recognition of 2020 National Board-Certified Teachers: Dr. Mauney and Dr. Medlock formally recognized and acknowledged three Mooresville Graded School District educators for their accomplishments in attaining their National Board Certifications, the highest

credential in the teaching profession. Dr. Medlock advised MGSD is a leading school district with a total of 62 National Board-Certified Teachers, 9% of all staff, and congratulated each of the teachers for a job well done; **Caitlin Carmendy**, Mooresville High School, Instructional Coach; **Melissa Ligh**, Mooresville High School, English/Language Arts Teacher; and **Deborah Welborn**, Park View Elementary School, First Grade Teacher.

ABCD Award: The Above and Beyond of Call of Duty award was presented to Ms. Teresa Peña, District Translator. Ms. Pena was nominated by District School Administrators and Staff. In the nomination they wrote, “Teresa Peña is a tremendous asset to MGSD staff, students, and families. She is passionate about her work and about assisting families and students. Any time I have a need, she responds immediately and goes above and beyond what I have asked. She connects with families, educates them, and seeks to empower them to be engaged with their student's school and academic life. She serves as a resource to every staff person at MGSD and seeks to provide us with helpful knowledge and tools to connect with families. She is conscientious and takes great initiative in all she does and in all areas, she notices need. She gives a voice to families who struggle to have one due to language barriers. Teresa is a pleasure to work with, and I am grateful to have her in MGSD.”

The school board will hold an electronic virtual called meeting on Wednesday, March 24, 2021, and the next regular school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, in the Performing Arts Center at Mooresville High School beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Staff Reports:

- A. **Facilities and Construction Report:** Dr. Royal provided a facilities and construction update and advised the contractor bids for the construction projects at South Elementary and Park View Elementary are due tomorrow. He provided an update on the athletic programs at MHS and MMS and provided the team's scores and final season results. Dr. Royal gave a shout out to the district athletic directors, coaches, and families for following all of the Covid-19 safety protocols and guidelines set forth by DPI and NCHSAA. Dr. Royal advised the NCHSAA has finalized the new athletic conferences with their realignment plan that will go into effect in this Fall. Mooresville High School will be moving into a conference with Lake Norman H.S, South Iredell H.S, and other 4A schools from Cabarrus County. In honor of National Certified Athletic Trainer month, Dr. Royal recognized MHS Certified Athletic Trainer Hannah Pierce for her dedication and for working closely with our coaches and athletes on a daily basis. He shared the 2020 Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet and Induction ceremony, has been rescheduled and will be held on November 6, 2021. Dr. Royal gave a shout out to our district bus drivers and custodians for their continued hard work and dedication in keeping our students and staff safe.
- B. **Instructional Report:** Dr. Smith provided an update on the 2021-2022 MGSD Dual Immersion Program and advised South, Rocky River, and Park View Elementary School will each have one Kindergarten and one First Grade Spanish Dual Immersion class this Fall. Dr. Smith advised three

virtual Dual Immersion information sessions were held for parents of rising Kinders, 152 rising Kinder applications have already been submitted, and the Lottery applications deadline is on April 30, 2021. Dr. Smith shared the hiring process for the program, is almost complete, and has identified the 3 new First Grade partner teachers from Columbia, Chile, and Argentina. The Kindergarten partner teachers selected last year from the Dominican Republic, Peru & Chile are also on board to join MGSD this fall. He shared the following events that are underway for the 2021-2022 school year; Kindergarten virtual registration has begun and 269 rising Kinders have already registered; the STARS pre-school program has filled the 11 available spots available, and the NC Pre-K program applications for the 2021-2022 school year are now available. He provided an update on staff professional development and advised training opportunities and professional development will be expanded for teachers using The Science of Reading Implementation and Planning tool as recommended by the new NC State Superintendent. Dr. Smith reported a recent technology audit went well, and he gave a shout out to the technology department as they continue to provide support for remote and in-person learning. Dr. Black provided a secondary grade level update and shared the Hybrid learning environment that recently began at MMS & MHS is going well. He gave a special thank you to Administrators, Ayana Robinson and Luke Brown for their leadership. Dr. Black shared teachers have been provided with 24" monitors and have received professional development on how to best utilize these monitors for instructional purposes and to enhance lessons for in-person instruction, virtual, and hybrid learning. Instructional Coaches and administrators are also providing teachers with professional development, tools, and methods in preparation for Hybrid learning. Dr. Black shared the K-12 Digital Learning Initiative is going well and advised teachers can now apply for personalized digital resources mini grants for up to \$500 each. He shared M-Powerment Meetups will begin in April and will provide opportunities for staff to receive professional development from their colleagues and they will receive stipends and CEUs for attending. Dr. Black announced Ms. Lindsay Smith, Science Teacher at MHS, has won the Career Award for Science and Mathematics Teachers, and has been awarded a \$175,000 grant that she will receive over five years for her project.

C. Business Services Report: Mrs. Davis provided an update on the rollout of the MGSD crowdfunding platform that is scheduled to begin the next week. She shared the district's Crowdfunding board policy was approved at the February 2020 board meeting and the district has chosen LivingTree as the approved MGSD online platform that will be utilized to solicit donations on behalf of our schools. Mrs. Davis thanked MHS Principal Mr. Brown, the MHS athletic department, and Dr. Royal for agreeing to participate in a trial run with the Blue Devil girls' softball team fundraiser. Mrs. Davis reported Congress passed the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) on December 27, 2020, and as a result of this legislation, MGSD is estimated to receive approximately \$2.3 million dollars which will be utilized specifically to target learning loss, prepare schools for reopening, and for testing. Mrs. Davis advised meetings will be held in the next few weeks to strategize and plan best ways to utilize these funds for our students.

- D. **Human Resources Report:** Dr. Medlock provided an overview of the events occurring throughout the district and advised the Staff Professional Intent Forms for the 2021-2022 school year are in process of being submitted and the deadline is on March 26, 2021. Dr. Medlock gave a special thank you to district and school administrators for their support in the recruitment process and advised the virtual Recruitment Fairs are underway and the college recruitment circuit began last week. She reported the MGSD 2021 (TOY/BTOY) Teacher of the Year/Beginning Teacher of the Year selection process is underway, and schools are currently in the nomination process. Dr. Medlock advised as always, the TOY/BTOY selection committee will be made up of a diverse group of community members, parents, staff, and board members. She reported Principals are completing the 2020-2021 teacher and support staff evaluations, and she will present the board with the employee contract recommendations by our June board meeting. Dr. Medlock proudly announced the Wells Fargo NC Principal of the Year, Ms. Kisha Clemons will be visiting the district on March 23, 2021, and she provided a COVID-19 Staff Reports update since our last board meeting on February 9, 2021; a total of 39 COVID-19 Staff Reports have been made bringing the total to 529 staff reports; out of the 39 new COVID-19 reports, 25 of those reports are staff members exposed to someone who was either symptomatic or tested positive bringing the total exposure cases to 340 out of 529 staff reports; out of the 39 new COVID-19 reports, 12 staff members have tested positive, bringing the total of positive cases to 117 out of 529 reports; a total of 39 staff members have quarantined since our last board meeting on February 9, 2021, bringing the total to 513 staff members have needed to quarantine.
- E. **Public Communications Report:** Mrs. McLean shared the current Iredell County Covid-19 positivity rate is 6.5% and although it is still in the critical red category, every indication shows Iredell County falling out of the red category this week. Mrs. McLean reported 435 staff members received their first dose of the Covid-19 vaccination during the MGSD staff vaccination clinic on February 27-28, 2021 and will receive their second dose this weekend. She advised MGSD will have over 50% of our staff fully vaccinated by April 4, 2021, and she thanked the Iredell Health System for hosting this excellent and successful MGSD staff vaccination clinic. Mrs. McLean advised the TAC/PAC meetings were held on February 22, 2021, and the following meetings will be held on April 19, 2021. Lastly, Ms. McLean provided the current, as of today, COVID-19 data for MGSD employees and students; Current Quarantines: 32 (27 staff members and 5 students); Close Contacts: 24 (4 staff members and 20 students); Symptomatic: 4 (0 staff members and 4 students); Positive Individuals: 4 (1 staff members and 3 students).
- F. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Mauney reported the return to in-person instruction in grade level 6-12 has gone particularly well over the last 2 days and expects a quicker and smoother morning screening process once everyone adjusts to the new routine. Dr. Mauney advised at this time, all school employees have been offered the opportunity to receive the Covid-19 vaccinations and by April 4, 2021, a high percentage of staff members will be fully vaccinated. He thanked the Iredell County Health Department and the Iredell Health Systems for hosting these successful vaccination

clinics for all MGSD employees. Dr. Mauney shared, in conjunction with the General Assembly's legislation and Governor Cooper's recent conference regarding changes to the NC return to school plans, he would later present and request approval for his learning plan recommendations for MGSD moving forward.

G. Board Events and Announcements: The board reviewed the upcoming events as listed on the calendars included in their March board packet. Dr. Hyatt announced a called board meeting will be held on March 24, 2021, for approval of the Design-Build Bids.

Approval of the Re-Formatted Beginning Teacher Support Program: Dr. Medlock presented and requested board approval of the re-formatted MGSD Beginning Teacher Support Program Plan that was presented at the January board meeting for first read and approved at the February board meeting. The BTSP Plan was updated to align with revised policy NC TCED-016 and will be submitted to the NC State Board of Education. **On a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the re-formatted and revised MGSD Beginning Teacher Support Program (BTSP) Plan as presented.**

Approval of 4th Quarter Instructional Plan: Dr. Mauney presented and explained the NC school re-opening plan legislation recently passed by the General Assembly and advised his re-opening learning plan recommendations are based upon the recent legislation, the decrease in Iredell County Covid-19 related data, and the vaccination of many staff members. Dr. Mauney requested board approval of the MGSD fourth quarter instructional plan and his recommendation for the district to return to Learning Plan Option A, allowing all students in grades K-12 to return to in-person instruction 5 days a week beginning on April 7, 2021. **On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Mr. Pridgen, the board voted unanimously to approve the 4th Quarter Instructional Plan as presented.**

Mr. Hyatt, under G.S. §143-318.11 (a1), (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 Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session.**

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

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

New Employees:

Kaylah Blount, 5th Grade Teacher, MOA, 03/01/2021, BA North Carolina Central University: 4 years' experience

Lavendar Barrier, Substitute Teacher, 3/15/2020

Tara Bittiker, Substitute, School Nutrition, 02/22/2021

Elisabeth Turpin, School Nurse, MIS, 03/08/2021, 8 years' experience in Nursing: Cabarrus County

Rehire:

Melissa Alford George, EC Teacher Assistant, EMIS, 02/22/2021, Previously a Teacher Assistant at SES

Promotion/Change:

Michelle Beaver, Office Assistant, Maintenance, 04/05/2021, Transferred from Office Assistant at MMS

Jennifer Carrigan, Tutor, EMIS, 03/15/2021-05/27/2021, Additional Assignment: Substitute Teacher

Jessica Davidson, PowerSchool Data Manager, MIS, 03/25/2021, Transferred from Office Assistant/Bus Driver at MHS

Krystal Ortiz, Substitute Driver, 02/10/2020, Previously a Bus Driver/EC Teacher Assistant

Retirement:

Sharon Allen, Title One Teacher, PVES, 07/01/2021, 5 Years of Service to MGSD and 22 Years of Service to the State of NC

Linda Beatty, Title One Teacher, PVES, 07/01/2021, 3 Years of Service to MGSD and 3 Years of Service to the State of NC

Sandra Fowler, Special Populations Coordinator, MHS, 07/01/2021, 25 Years of Service to MGSD and 30 Years of Service to the State of NC

Jacqueline Justice, Financial Data Manager, PVES, 03/31/2021, 24 Years of Service to MGSD and 24 Years of Service to the State of NC

Laura Smith, Science Teacher, MMS, 07/01/2021, 7 Years of Service to MGSD and 8 Years of Service to State of NC; Total of 30 years Teaching Experience

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Dr. Stephen A. Mauney, Secretary
Board of Education

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