

MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met during a regular monthly session on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 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 were present.

Dr. Stephen Mauney, Superintendent, and Mr. Kevin Donaldson, Board Attorney, were present. Mrs. Angela Davis, Chief Finance Officer; Dr. Todd Black, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Instruction and CTE; Dr. Quinetta Hall Pratt, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Instruction; Dr. Sandra Albert, Chief Student Services Officer; Dr. Scott Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services; Dr. Ingrid Medlock, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Dr. Michael Royal, Chief Operations Officer; and Mrs. Tanae McLean, Chief Communications Officer and Title IX Coordinator were present.

Media Representative: *Kate Stevens, Mooresville Tribune*

Mr. Hyatt called the meeting to order, reflected on the upcoming Veteran's Day & Thanksgiving Holidays, and shared the following quote: "Give thanks for each new morning with its new light, for rest and shelter of the night, for health and food, for love and friends, for everything that goodness sends. He held a moment of silence and students from the Mooresville Online Academy & Mooresville Intermediate School led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2021, Regular Meeting as presented.

Students of the Month: The Board of Education recognized and awarded the following students with the November Student of the Month Award: Alyvia Durkel, 1st grader at the Mooresville Online Academy who was nominated by her teacher, Ms. Amy Smith; and Ashley Dennis, 6th Grader at Mooresville Intermediate School who was nominated by her teacher, Ms. Sutherland & Mrs. Swartwout. Both students were nominated for their enthusiasm, hard work, leadership qualities, and great participation in class.

Artists of the Month: The Board of Education recognized and awarded the following students with the November Artist of the Month Award: Rhythamitha Jayaprakash, first grader at the

Mooresville Online Academy who was nominated by her teachers Ms. Cannon and Ms. Corbett; and Savannah Floyd, 4th Grader at Mooresville Intermediate School who was nominated by her teachers, Mrs. Crawford and Mrs. Silvestri. Both students were nominated by their home room and art teachers for their creativity, artistic talent, and thoughtfulness.

ABCD Award: The Above and Beyond Call of Duty Award was presented to Mr. Levern Clifton, Custodian in the Maintenance Department, at Mooresville High School. Mr. Clifton was nominated by the administrators and staff at MHS who shared the following on his nomination form. “The MHS Custodial team has faced many struggles in the past year with the Covid-19 pandemic and other challenges and Mr. Levern Clifton has jumped in and worked tirelessly to ensure that our school and staff are well taken care of and through it all he has never failed to have a smile and kind words for staff and students alike. We also cannot forget his heartfelt assurances that he's praying for us all. As a token of how much we admire and appreciate him, we hereby nominate Mr. Clifton for the ABCD Award. Mr. Clifton, thank you for all that you do each day!”

Spotlight on People: Mr. J. Leon Pridgen, II - MGSD Board Member

Dr. Mauney & the MGSD School Board Members honored and expressed gratitude to Mr. Pridgen for all of his years of service to the Mooresville Graded School District and presented him with a plaque commemorating his years of service as a member of the MGSD Board of Education. Dr. Mauney shared that Mr. Pridgen has sacrificed his time, talents, and attention to help lead our district over the years and thanked him for being a great advocate for our students, staff, and community. Each board member shared their own personal experiences working with Mr. Pridgen thanked him for all of his many contributions to the district and wished him well on his future endeavors. Mr. Pridgen gave a farewell speech, shared his experiences with MGSD as an eight-year school board member & parent and expressed his appreciation, admiration, and respect for each of the school board members and Superintendent, Dr. Mauney. Mr. Pridgen will be truly missed!

Instructional Highlights: Dr. Pratt introduced Mrs. McGrath, MOA Principal, & Dr. Harris, MIS Principal, who each presented each of their schools Instructional Highlights.

a) MOA - Digital Learning Grant: STEAM Learning & Community Events.

Mrs. McGrath, principal at MOA presented the 2021-2022 Digital Learning Grant - STEAM Learning and Community Engagement and shared the digital learning grant's goal is to provide Mooresville Graded School District with a greater platform to provide culturally responsive instruction via STEAM education and to provide greater opportunities for all MGSD families to have exposure to STEAM resources. Mrs. McGrath wrote this grant last year and shared the Digital Learning Grant has 3 phases that includes; Phase 1: Training, Phase 2: Application, and Phase 3, Support. Mrs. McGrath shared a presentation of teachers, parents, and students who provided feedback on their recent community events.

b) Mooresville Intermediate School - "Learning Blooms in Bobcat Time"

Dr. Harris, principal at MIS presented the "Learning Blooms in Bobcat Time " and shared that the Bobcat Time at MIS provides each student with personalized instruction to meet the student's individual needs. She advised that during Bobcat Time students receive 40 minutes of daily interventions, remediations, and enrichments to meet their individual needs. Dr. Harris shared that monthly MTSS meetings allow teachers to discuss and identify the student's specific needs in the areas of reading and math, set student goals, and progress monitoring. During Bobcat Time at MIS there are approximately 40 small groups per grade level, teachers have at least one intervention group, and the Title I tutor team also participates. The curriculum instructors at MIS presented the various remediation, interventions, & enrichments resources and programs that the students are utilizing during Bobcat Time and shared how they are monitoring the students' progress and data. Lastly, a video providing a "glimpse of Bobcat Time" at MIS was presented.

Staff Reports:

- A. **Schedule Next Meeting:** The next regular school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, in the Performing Arts Center at Mooresville High School at 6:00 p.m.
- B. **Construction Report:** Dr. Royal provided an athletic update and shared the winter athletic programs at MMS and MHS are underway. He shared the MGSD calendar committee which is made up of district parents, teachers, staff, and 4 students held its first meeting last week and created a 2022-2023 rough draft school calendar that the committee will share with colleagues, neighbors, etc. for feedback. Dr. Royal shared that the committee would hold an additional meeting to adjust the calendar if necessary and will present the proposed 2022-2023 school year calendar to the board within the coming months. He provided an update on the Park View Elementary & South Elementary renovations and shared that the kitchen and cafeteria renovations at both schools are progressing. Dr. Royal also provided an update on the Selma Burke Middle School Construction project and shared that the groundbreaking ceremony will be held on December 8, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.
- C. **Auxiliary Report:** Dr. Smith shared that the district is in the process of rolling out the See Something Anonymous Reporting System (SS-ARS), a reporting system that will be implemented & utilized by all school districts in North Carolina. He advised that all students in the 6-12 grade levels will receive training on how to use this new system and how to report anything that they see suspicious. Dr. Smith gave a Technology update and advised that MGSD is in the first stages of installing a new district wide phone system. The new phone system includes a feature that will give all teachers access to a "softphone" that they will be able to use on their laptops. He discussed the

challenges being faced by the district due to the bus driver shortages and advised that MGSD is working hard trying to fill the bus driver & custodian vacancies.

D. Instructional Report: Dr. Pratt provided an instructional report for the K-6 grade levels and provided updates on the following; Assistant Principal Leadership Academy, AIG Local endorsement, District/Teacher Curriculum Planning, and Teacher Leader update. Dr. Pratt reported that the first Assistant Principal Leadership Academy held in September was filled with great discussions, learning, and reflection. The AP Leadership Academy completed a book study on chapters 1-4 of the book “Culturally Responsive Teaching & the Brain” by Author, Zaretta Hammond, held discussions on how to support dependent learners into becoming independent thinkers, and how to prepare Assistant Principals to be culturally responsive practitioners. Dr. Pratt advised that the Assistant Principals had the opportunity to review this year’s curriculum plans and conduct walkthroughs at East Mooresville Intermediate. Dr. Pratt updated the board on the district’s AIG program and shared that the district has created an AIG Local Endorsement for those teachers who are not certified to teach AIG classes. She shared the AIG Local Endorsement teacher requirements and advised that upon successful completion of the requirements, teachers will earn 3 CEU’s and an MGSD Gifted Local Endorsement certificate. Dr. Pratt provided the board with an update on the Teacher Leader meetings and advised that the Teacher Leader meetings that were postponed in September to allow teachers time to build relationships with their students and to focus on the new curriculum, will be postponed for the rest of the school year. This decision was made after holding discussions with the principals, considering the lack of teacher substitutes, and reviewing the data received from a teacher leader survey. A small 3 session PLC will be provided to 10 of the teacher leaders requested to continue the Teacher Leader meetings this year. Lastly, Dr. Pratt shared that a virtual teacher forum has been created to allow teachers the opportunities to discuss their concerns and topics important to them. The first teacher forum held in September went well and will be held quarterly. Dr. Mauney advised the board that in the coming weeks he will schedule individual meetings with the board members and the curriculum team to review in more detail the 2021-2022 School Improvements Plans. **Dr. Black** provided an update on the secondary grade levels and shared some of the events occurring at both MMS & MHS. He shared that the MHS seniors currently taking English 12 will be presenting their Senior Capstone Projects virtually on December 8, 2021, and advised that if additional judges are needed, he would ask board members to volunteer and judge some of the presentations. Dr. Black reported that the first quarter data meetings are wrapping up and shared that the final data meeting was very insightful as teachers were able to share details on how their first quarter went, shared their successes, and struggles. He advised that the Assistant Principal Academy was held on a teacher workday on November 1, 2021, and the following topics were discussed; Social Studies standards & updates, Eleot Walkthrough data dive, Discipline Challenges, & EC Legal Updates. Dr. Black shared that the Federal Government

is providing districts with funding for summer programs and the district has begun the process of looking into a Summer Bridge Academy for the secondary grade levels. The Summer Bridge Academy would be an addition to the current summer school & jumpstart programs that MGSD currently provides to students. He also shared that the district is looking into a Summer Career Accelerator program (SCA) which is going to connect CTE with some of our struggling students. SCA is an evidence-based learning and workforce aligned program for at-risk students that will align with our local CTE priorities while engaging with students, parents, teachers, district leadership, and community partners. Lastly, Dr. Black advised that the teacher made exams will begin December 9, 2021, and EOC's will begin on December 13, 2021.

- E. **Student Services Report:** Dr. Albert provided a student support update and shared that staff members (staff psychologist, social workers, and behavioral specialist) are continuing to work together to meet the needs of students and staff at the school levels and collaborating with community partners to provide resources to students and their families. She advised that there are currently 4 EC teacher vacancies, and the EC support staff are providing support to the EC teachers by visiting the schools and helping them complete necessary paperwork in a timely manner. Dr. Albert reported that support is being provided to the new EC teachers with the biweekly "drop in" sessions. The first EC Parent Night will be held virtually on November 10, 2021, and the Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC), will be presenting on guardianship options. Lastly, Dr. Albert shared that the first EL Family Night held on November 1, 2021, went well, and provided over 30 families who participated with an overview of the district's ESL program and services. The next EL Family Night will be held in the Spring.
- F. **Business Services Report:** Mrs. Davis shared that in preparation for the 2021-2022 fiscal year external audit in Spring of 2022, she has been visiting one school per month conducting internal reviews of the school accounts. She reported that the purpose of the internal school level audits is to ensure compliance in everyday school transitions, provide support to the financial managers, and to increase preparedness for the external auditing firm's review in the Spring. This internal audit program includes a review of school receipts, deposits, disbursements, and other financial practices. Mrs. Davis shared that the internal audit held at East Mooresville Intermediate in October went extremely well and gave a shout out to the EMIS Financial Manager, Mrs. Williams, and Principal Mrs. Pratt-Dixon. Mrs. Davis shared that next week the MGSD school principals will participate in a professional development hosted by the NC Association of School Business Officials (NCASBO), that focuses on school law, financial management, and internal controls.
- G. **Human Resources Report:** Dr. Medlock advised that this year's Fellowship Program at the University of North Carolina - Charlotte is underway and MGSD principals will be able to

nominate 2 licensed faculty members to be in the running for the program. Nominations must be submitted to Human Resources by November 15, 2021. She provided an update on the MGSD Beginning Teacher's Support Program and shared the Beginning Teachers meetings held on October 25 & 26, 2021, focused on student engagement, instructional rigor, appropriate student-teacher relationships, and classroom management. Dr. Medlock reported that the formal audit of the MGSD Beginning Teacher and Mentor Program required every five years by the State, will be held on December 2, 2021, by the regional director, Dr. Karol McNeil-Horton. She shared that she attended the informative Fall Personnel Administrators of NC (PANC) Conference in October which focused on the HR topics across the state related to the challenges of; teacher recruitment, teacher retention, how to handle COVID cases, personnel investigations, Title IX updates, and teacher licensure concerns. Dr. Medlock provided an MGSD personnel update and shared the current district data since August 1, 2021, for the licensed teacher vacancies, resignations, and retirements. She shared the various methods & platforms being utilized by the district to face the current staffing challenges and to recruit & hire the best teachers to fill those vacancies. Finally, Dr. Medlock provided the Staff COVID Reports as of October 19, 2021: Out of 790 total staff members; **16** COVID-19 Staff Reports have been made bringing the total number of COVID-19 Staff Reports to 225. Out of the 16 new COVID-19 reports, **11** of those reports were staff members exposed to someone who was either symptomatic or tested positive. Out of the 16 new COVID-19 reports, **4** staff members tested positive. A total of **13** staff members have had to quarantine since October 19, 2021. Out of the 16 new COVID reports, a total of **12** staff members provided their vaccination status with **7** of the **16** being fully vaccinated. (approx. 1. % Of total staff).

H. Public Communications Report: Mrs. Mclean presented the board with the current MGSD COVID-19 data as of today, November 9, 2021: Total Active Quarantines due to being COVID-19 Positive or a Close Contact - **64**; Close Contacts - **50** (2 employees and 48 students / community 11, school 39); Positive Individuals - **14** (2 employees and 12 students / all community spread); Close Contacts exempt from Quarantine due to being vaccinated - **2** (1 employee / 1 student); Current number of individuals who were close contacts who were exempt from quarantine due to both individuals properly/consistently wearing masks – **48** (1 employee and 47 students); Current number of individuals who were close contacts but exempt from quarantine due to having COVID-19 in the past 90 days - Mrs. Mclean advised that Iredell County is currently still categorized as a RED County under the CDC classification system and Iredell County Dashboard (High Community Transmission category), Iredell County has a 7.4% positivity rate which is up from last week's 7.1%, and a case rate of 127.61 per 100,000 which is down from 165. Mrs. McLean shared that MGSD is holding flu vaccination clinics at each school for all staff members. The flu vaccinations are being provided by Health Smart Pharmacy, a small locally owned pharmacy in Mooresville. Lastly, Mrs. Mclean shared that a movie titled "Something Here", a high school musical, is currently filming scenes at Mooresville High School. The scenes

are being filmed during the weekends and evenings until the end of November and will be released by Netflix next fall.

- I. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Mauney provided his additional comments later in the evening as the meeting progressed through the agenda items.
- J. **Board Events and Announcements:** Mr. Hyatt reviewed the upcoming events as listed on the calendars included in their November board packet and advised the school board would be attending the 2021 NCSBA Annual Fall Conference in Greensboro on November 11-12, 2021.

Public Comments: Mr. Kevin Donaldson, Board Attorney, provided the MGSD public comment guidelines and rules, and introduced each of the 8 individuals listed on the public comment sign-up sheet. *Ian Moye, 1614 Crown Vue Ct, Statesville, NC; Brian D'Amico, 117 Snow Fountain Lane, Mooresville, NC; Allen Richter, 913 Fieldstone Rd, Mooresville, NC; Chris Mineroldi, 154 Red Top Lane, Mooresville, NC; Stephanie Sossamon, 19530 Oak St. Cornelius, NC; Christina Calabrex, 117 Golden Valley Dr., Mooresville, NC; Monica Bender, 122 Caversham Drive, Mooresville, NC; Lea Hidock, 215 Country Lake Dr., Mooresville NC.*

Approval of Board Policy: Face Coverings - 4231/5021/7263: Dr. Mauney presented and requested board approval of Board Policy: Face Coverings - 4231/5021/7263. In accordance with the requirements in Senate Bill 654, school boards must approve a face-covering policy each month for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year. Dr. Mauney advised that as in previous meetings the determining factor and metrics used for the board to approve a face covering policy is based on the Iredell County's status on the CDC Community Transmission Map. Dr. Mauney requested for the board to possibly consider alternatives to the current metrics being used by MGSD for approving a face mask covering policy, presented the board with three face covering options, and made his recommendation for the board to approve the current MGSD face covering policy - Face Masks required for all individuals on a school campus unless specific exemptions are met, until the next board meeting on December 14, 2021, or until Iredell County is categorized as an "orange" County. Dr. Mauney's recommendation is based upon the CDC County Transmission Map metric and the current Iredell County standing which is categorized as a "red" county. The first motion by Mr. Pridgen to approve Dr. Mauney's recommendation did not receive a second motion from the school board therefore, as per Mr. Donaldson, Board Attorney, the motion to approve Dr. Mauney's recommendation died due to lack of a second motion. The Board Chair, Mr. Hyatt requested a motion from the board to recommend and approve a face covering policy for the next month and until the next board meeting on December 14, 2021. Dr. Marsh provided a Face Covering Policy recommendation and gave a first motion for approval. **On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve MGSD Board Policy: Face Coverings - 4231/5021/7263 as follows.** Effective immediately, Face Coverings are optional for 7-12th grade students and staff; however, if a school reaches a 1% positive rate, masks at the 7-12 grade levels will become required for students and staff. Furthermore, masks will

remain required for our PreK-6th grade students and staff until Iredell County is categorized as an “orange” County at which time face masks will become optional for Pre-K-6 students. Due to a Federal order by the CDC, masks are still required for all students on the bus. The Board will revisit the mask policy next month at the regular Board of Education meeting on December 14, 2021.

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

On a motion by Mr. Pridgen, seconded by Mr. Whitfield, the board voted unanimously to adjourn from the 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 Employee:

Emily Griggs, 6th Grade Teacher, EMIS, 10/21/2021
Rebecca Stewart, 5th Grade Teacher, MIS, 11/02/2021
Racheal Brown, Custodian, EMIS, 11/01/2021
Melissa Caldwell, Substitute School Nurse, 10/27/2021
Tara Eyres, Substitute Teacher, 11/02/2021
Judy Gambrell, Substitute, School Nutrition, 10/25/2021
Elif Kocaoglu, Teacher Assistant 1:1, EMIS, 10/25/2021
Michael Nemet, Custodian, PVES, 10/28/2021
Diana Polimina, COVID-19 Protocol Nurse, MGSD, 10/26/2021
Khanh Tran, EC Teacher Assistant, RRES, 11/15/2021

Promotions/Changes:

Amy McComas, Instructional Coach, MMS, 01/03/2022, Transferred from Chorus/Theater Teacher
Christa Ambrose, Full Time Dedicated Substitute, MMS, 11/09/2021 - 05/25/2022, Transferred from Substitute Teacher
Debra Franklin, School Nutrition Manager Trainee, PVES, 10/29/2021, Transferred from School Nutrition Assistant at PVES
Rickeshia Givens, Teacher Assistant, RRES, 11/05/2021, Transferred from EC Teacher Assistant at RRES
Melanie Greenwell, Front Office Support/Receptionist, MHS, 11/08/2021, Transferred from EC Teacher Assistant at MHS
Kristen James, School Nutrition Assistant, EMIS, 11/08/2021, Transferred from Substitute for School Nutrition
Tina Jordan, Tutor, MMS, 10/25/2021, Additional Assignment: BASP Lead Teacher at SES
Mikayla King, Custodian, MHS, Valerie Wilson, 11/24/2021, Transferred from Custodian/Bus Driver at MHS
Candida Knight, Substitute Teacher, 11/01/2021, Additional Assignment: Substitute School Nutrition

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Joe Melodia, Custodian, MMS, Kenneth Threatt, 11/09/2021, Previously a Temp Custodian
Kathleen O'Rourke, EC Teacher Assistant, RRES, 11/05/2021, Transferred from EC Teacher Assistant
at RRES

Tammy Overcash, Substitute, School Nutrition, 11/24/2021, Transferred from Part Time School
Nutrition Assistant at MHS

Teresa Pena, Educational Interpreter, SES, 11/01/2021, Transferred to 11-month Educational Interpreter

Jessica Proctor, Tutor, PVES, 11/02/2021 - 05/24/2022, Additional Assignment: Substitute Teacher

Tanisha Rucker, Substitute Teacher, PVES, 11/05/2021, Transferred from Teacher Assistant/Bus Driver

Stephanie Schrock, Tutor, EMIS, 10/27/2021 - 05/20/2022, Additional Assignment; Substitute Teacher

Rehire:

Elisa Greene, Lead Teacher – BASP, MIS, 10/26/2021, Previously an EC Teacher Assistant at MMS

Retirement:

Dwayne Jackson, Math Teacher, MHS, 1/31/22, 28 Years of Service to State of NC and MGSD

Karen Rhyne, Teacher Assistant, South, 1/31/22, 18 Years of Service to State of NC and MGSD

**There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Pridgen, seconded by Mr. Whitfield,
the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted:

Mr. Roger Hyatt, Chairman
Board of Education

Dr. Stephen A. Mauney, Secretary
Board of Education