

MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, December 14, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met during a regular monthly session on Tuesday, December 14, 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; Dr. Debbie Marsh; Mrs. Kerry Pennell; and Mr. Rakeem Brawley were present.

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. 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; Mrs. Tanae McLean, Chief Communications Officer and Title IX 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 Marcus Aurelius, and requested prayers for the people of the State of Kentucky who recently suffered through devastating tornadoes. He held a moment of silence and introduced MMS student, Maddie Brown who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Administration of the Oath of Office for Elected School Board Members: Dr. Mauney introduced the Honorable Judge Edward Hedrick, IV who administered the Board of Education Oath of Office to board members Mr. Greg Whitfield and Mr. Rakeem J. Brawley who were elected at the November 2021, school board election. Mr. Whitfield was re-elected, and Mr. Brawley was newly elected to serve a four-year term on the MGSD Board of Education.

Election of Chairperson for MGSD School Board of Education: Dr. Mauney requested nominations from the school board to elect an MGSD Board of Education Chairperson. **Dr. Marsh nominated Mr. Roger Hyatt for board Chairman, the nomination was seconded by Mr. Whitfield, and with no other nominations, the board voted unanimously to re-appoint Mr. Roger Hyatt as Board Chairman for the MGSD School Board of Education.**

Election of Vice-Chairperson for MGSD Board of Education: Dr. Mauney requested nominations from the school board to elect an MGSD Board of Education Vice-Chairperson. **Mrs. Pennell nominated Mr. Greg Whitfield as Board Vice-Chairman, the nomination was seconded by Mr. Brawley, and with no other nominations, the board voted unanimously to re-appoint Mr. Greg Whitfield as Vice-Chairman for the MGSD School Board of Education.**

On a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Dr. Marsh, 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 November 3, 2021, Called Meeting & November 9, 2021, Regular Meeting as presented.

Student of the Month: The Board of Education recognized and awarded Maddie Brown, 8th grade student at Mooresville Middle School with the December Student of the Month Award. She was nominated by teachers; Mr. Miller, Ms. Seagroves, Ms. Eaton, Ms. McComas, Ms. Blackwell, Ms. Orlando, and Ms. Avena who wrote the following on her nomination: “Maddie is a perfect choice to lead the pledge because she is an exceptional student and friend. She is kind and hardworking. Her peers and her teachers all know Maddie as dependable and dedicated. Maddie truly exemplifies the heart of a Red Imp!”

Artist of the Month: The Board of Education recognized and awarded DeAsia Savoy, 8th grade student at Mooresville Middle School with the December Artists of the Month Award. She was nominated by teachers; Mr. Gudger, Ms. McComas, and Ms. Thompson who wrote the following on her nomination: "DeAsia has been a phenomenal addition to the Blue Diamonds Color Guard and Dance Team. Joining the Pride in Motion Marching Band as an 8th grader can be a daunting task but DeAsia stepped up to the plate and quickly emerged as a stellar member. She is always prepared for rehearsals and is an incredible performer during sideline dances and our competition show. DeAsia's ability to pick up new movements and remember choreography is incredible. She's a leader in our class for remembering movements and other students look to her for help in remembering timing and choreography. She's a wonderful addition to our class! Her willingness to explore new theater skills were met with great focus and attention to detail. She definitely has the HEART of a Red Imp and will make a fantastic Blue Devil next year.”

ABCD Award: The December Above and Beyond Call of Duty Award was presented to Ms. Joy Miller, Behavioral Interventionist at Mooresville Middle School. Ms. Miller was nominated by the Administrative Team at Mooresville Middle School who wrote the following on her nomination: “Ms. Miller is going above and beyond in her role as the intervention specialist at Mooresville Middle School. Since the start of the school year, she has been working in the 8th grade ELA classroom serving as the substitute teacher. Ms. Miller attends PLC meetings, grades papers, and plans lessons that are aligned to standards. The students LOVE having her as their teacher. Many students have stated they hope we never find a teacher because they don't want her to leave. Ms. Miller works endlessly to meet the needs of all of the students in her class and she does it with a smile. Ms. Miller is not interested in becoming a full-time teacher but if she was, MMS would hire her immediately. Words cannot express how appreciative we are for Ms. Miller. Ms. Miller thanks so much for reminding us why "it's ALWAYS a great day to be a Red Imp!"

Spotlight on People: MGSD Board Members - 2020-2021 NCSBA Gold Bell Award

The Mooresville Graded School District School Board was recognized and awarded the NCSBA Gold Bell Award for the July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021, fiscal calendar. The North Carolina School Boards Association (NCSBA) awarded the MGSD school board with this award for training excellence and commitment during the 2020-2021 NCSBA academy year of the North Carolina School Boards Association Academy of School Boardsmanship. The NCSBA recognizes school board members for individual and whole-board training accomplishments and the Gold Bell Award is the highest honor that is awarded to districts whose board members have earned 12 or more hours of professional development and training during an academy year. Our school board members exceeded the required amount of training with a combined total of 219 hours of professional development during the 2020-2021 fiscal year. We congratulate our board members for this accomplishment and thank them for their hard work and continued support.

Instructional Highlights: Mooresville Middle School - “Scholastic Comprehension Clubs”

Ms. Durham and Ms. Jaroszewski, ELA teachers at Mooresville Middle School gave a presentation on the Scholastic Comprehension Clubs Program that was implemented this school year at Mooresville Middle School for ELA 7th & 8th Grade students. Ms. Durham advised that the Comprehension Clubs are going very well, and students are engaged and excited about reading. The MMS ELA teacher’s shared that the club provides students with routine & structured lessons, encourages talking, thinking, and writing about text every day, encourages all students to participate in the clubs, and gives students choices & a voice. The club also integrates the four C’s; Creativity, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, and Communication. Their presentation also provided examples of the comprehension clubs at MMS.

Staff Reports:

- A. **Schedule Next Meeting:** The next regular school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, in the Performing Arts Center at Mooresville High School beginning at 6:00 p.m.

- B. **Construction Report** – Dr. Royal shared that the groundbreaking ceremony for the Selma Burke Middle school went well and thanked everyone who attended the event. Dr. Royal provided an update on the renovation projects at Park View & South Elementary and advised the kitchen projects at both schools will be completed early in the new year. Dr. Royal provided an athletic update for Mooresville High School and Mooresville Middle School and shared that the MMS boys’ and girls’ basketball teams will be playing in the semi-finals this week and he congratulated the four MMS student athletes on the MMS wrestling team for winning their conference championship.

- C. **Auxiliary Report** – Dr. Smith provided an update on the MGSD school nutrition, BASP, and technology departments, and shared that the technology department will be implementing a new district-wide phone system beginning in January 2022. Dr. Smith advised that the district has been working diligently filling the nine custodian vacancies as previously reported and currently MGSD has 3.5 custodian vacancies still available. He thanked the eight MGSD staff members who are working extra hours to help meet the district’s custodial needs. Dr. Smith reported that the

transportation department continues to be the district's biggest area of need and concern, he provided the MGSD transportation data, and explained how MGSD is handling the bus driver shortages and challenges thereof. Dr. Smith reported that MGSD currently has nine bus driver vacancies and shared discussions are underway regarding the district's bus driver salaries. He thanked the office staff at the transportation department and other eligible MGSD staff members for their willingness to drive school buses to help meet the district's transportation needs.

D. Instructional Report – Dr. Pratt provided an instructional update for the K-6 grade levels, advised that students are continuing to be engaged, and thanked the Executive Team and School Board members for recently providing teachers with classroom coverage allowing them with the needed time and coverage to complete student assessments. Dr. Pratt provided an update on the Dual Immersion Programs at the Elementary Schools, shared some of the activities and Instruction being provided, and shared that plans are underway for the implementation of adding second grade classes to the MGSD Dual Immersion program for the 2022-2023 school year. Interviews are currently underway for additional Spanish speaking Dual Immersion teachers. Dr. Pratt gave an update on the MGSD 2022-2025 AIG Plans, shared an AIG committee made up of AIG teachers, administrators, and parents has been developed to assist in building the plans. Also, per the state's recommendation, teacher survey feedback is also being utilized to assist in developing the 2022-2025 AIG Plans. The AIG Plans will be presented to the board for approval in the coming months and will be submitted to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (DPI) by July 15, 2022. Dr. Black provided an updated secondary grade level instructional update, advised the ACT work keys exams at MHS went well, over 95% of seniors have been tested, and are now complete. Dr. Black reported final exams at Mooresville High School are wrapping up and students will begin the second semester of the 2021-2022 school year on January 5, 2022. Finally, Dr. Black advised the MHS senior capstone projects were conducted virtually and although some students experienced some technical difficulties, overall, the presentations went well. Dr. Black thanked all of the staff, community, and board members for their participation in judging the student's projects.

E. Student Services Report – Dr. Albert provided an EC update, shared that the district is currently serving 796 students with disabilities and advised that the EC child count will provide Federal funds for next school year. She advised that the ESL team is planning a second ESL parent night and are refining the ESL website in order to provide families with ESL resources and contact information. Dr. Albert provided a student's services update and advised that the district-wide school counselors have made over 150 home visits this school year and have been busy providing student referrals for; food, energy, shoes, and outside counseling programs. She advised counselors are also coordinating clubs and school based mental health services at each of their schools and partnering with many outside community agencies that includes: Rainbow Kidz - a grief support group that is currently serving 36 students at MGSD; and Lifestance (Formerly Integrated Wellness) who has been providing in-school mental health services as well as out of

school services for our students for the past 6+ years. Lifestance currently serves over 150 MGSD students.

- F. **Business Services Report** – Mrs. Davis shared that the district payroll team has been busy implementing the \$3,000 board approved staff bonuses that will be included in the December paychecks for all eligible MGSD employees. Mrs. Davis gave a special thank you to the Human Resource staff for ensuring that all new employees receive the new hire bonus incentive. She reported that the NC Governor recently signed into law the new state budget for the 2021-2022 school year and provided highlights of the budget that includes; increases for all employees this year and the next, additional supplement for school psychologists, speech pathologists, audiologists and school counselors, and bonus opportunities for all school system employees.
- G. **Human Resources Report** – Dr. Medlock thanked the board members & Dr. Mauney for recently approving the \$3,000 bonus for all eligible MGSD employees and bonus incentives for new hires. She advised that since the bonus announcement, the district has hired 31 new staff members. Dr. Medlock shared that the 2020-2021 MGSD Beginning Teacher Support Program state audit that was held on December 2, 2021, went well and MGSD was rated accomplished and distinguished in most categories on the monitoring instrument. She thanked all of the MGSD Mentors, Beginning Teachers, School Administrators, Support Staff and Mrs. Tonya Neill, HR/Licensing Specialist for a successful state monitoring visit. Dr. Medlock provided an update on the MGSD Principal Fellow Selection Process for the next cohort of the UNC-Charlotte Principal Fellows Program and thanked all of the MGSD Principals who nominated at least one of their licensed staff members. Interviews will be scheduled after the winter break as part of the final steps to the Fellows Program selection process. Finally, Dr. Medlock presented the 2021-2022 Staff COVID-19 Reports since our last board meeting on November 9, 2021; A total of **44** COVID-19 Staff Reports have been made bringing the total number of COVID-19 Staff Reports to **269**. Out of the **44** new COVID-19 reports, **26** of those reports are staff who were exposed to someone who tested positive. Out of the **44** new COVID reports, **13** staff members tested positive. A total of **29** staff members have had to quarantine since November 9, 2021. Out of the **44** new COVID reports, a total of **27** staff members provided their vaccination status with **17** of the **27** being fully vaccinated. (approx. 2% of total staff).
- H. **Public Communication Report** – Mrs. McLean reported that due to Mooresville High School recently reaching the 1-percent threshold of its population testing positive for COVID-19, effective December 7, 2021, the district returned to requiring face masks at the secondary grade levels. Mrs. McLean provided the board with the following updated COVID-19 district data and breakdown of the quarantine data at each school as of today, December 14, 2021: **3** staff members were quarantined due to Close Contact or for testing Positive for COVID-19. **3** staff members were exempt from being quarantined due to their vaccination status. **180 Active Quarantines due to being COVID-19 Positive or a Close Contact: 149 Quarantined due to Close Contact; (community 47, school**

102); 31 COVID positive individuals; (community 28, secondary grade level schools, 3); 84 Close Contacts exempt from Quarantine; 17 due to masking, 62 due to being fully vaccinated, & 5 due to previous positive status in the past 90 days. Iredell County is currently still in the RED - High Community Transmission category (298 per 100K case rate - 11.7 % Positive Tests). **Total quarantine data by school: PVES - 19; RRES - 6; South - 8; EMIS - 24; MIS - 13; MMS - 77; NF Woods - 1; MHS - 31.** Mrs. Mclean reported that following the Thanksgiving break, MGSD nurses began offering covid-19 testing to staff members, over 100 covid-19 tests were conducted in a two-week period, and over sixty of those tests were given to the staff at MHS. She advised that the Selma Burke Middle School website is now up and running, MGSD recently provided families with updated inclement weather information, and she recommended that all families verify that their contact information is up to date at their schools and in ParentSquare.

- I. **Superintendent's Report** – Dr. Mauney reflected on how quickly we have reached the mid-point of the 2021-2022 school year and reflected on the school's first semester. Dr. Mauney wished students, staff, and the community a wonderful holiday season filled with rest, peace, and quality time with loved ones.
- J. **Board Events and Announcements:** The Board reviewed the upcoming events as listed on the calendars included in their December board packet.

Presentation of MTSS Overview: Dr. Sandra Albert, Chief Student Services Officer, Instructional Coaches, and school staff presented and provided an overview of the district's (MTSS) Multi-Tiered System of Support and shared how MTSS is being utilized at the schools to promote student growth. MTSS is an instructional framework that includes universal screening of all students, multiple tiers of instruction and support services, and an integrated data collection and assessment system to help make informed decisions about instruction. MTSS provides students with evidence-based instructional support in academics, attendance, behavior, and social-emotional practices based on the student's needs through instruction, curriculum, and the environment. The multiple tiers of instruction and layers of support provided through MTSS includes; Tier I/Differentiated Core; Tier II/Supplemental Support; and Tier III/Intensive Intervention. The MGSD instructional coaches and school staff members provided a walkthrough of the MTSS for students in the K-6, 7-8, and 9-12 grade levels, and discussed the various programs and curriculums being utilized at the schools and at each of the MTSS tiers. They also advised the various ways teachers are communicating the student's progress with parents.

Approval of Proposed 2021-2022 Budget: Mrs. Davis presented and provided highlights of the proposed 2021-2022 budget for fiscal year July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022. The proposed budget includes the State Public School Fund, Local Current Expense Fund, Other Current Expense Fund, Federal Program Fund, Capital Outlay Fund, Child Nutrition Fund, and the Before and After School Program Fund. Mrs. Davis advised that the proposed 2021-2022 budget reflects a staff salary increase and provided the board with information regarding federal funding allocations and explained how some of the federal funds are utilized in the district.

On a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the proposed 2021-2022 budget as presented.

Approval of Board Policy: Student Searches - 4342: Dr. Mauney presented & requested approval of the revised MGSD Board Policy: Student Searches - 4342. The board policy has been slightly revised to allow for random suspicion less searches using metal detection devices at any time that students, staff, or visitors are on campus. **On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the Board Policy: Student Searches - 4342 as presented.**

Public Comments: Mr. Kevin Donaldson, Board Attorney, provided the MGSD public comment guidelines and rules, and introduced each of the following 4 individuals listed on the public comment sign-up sheet. *Barbara Johnson, 308 Alexander Street, Mooresville, NC; Brian D'Amico, 117 Snow Fountain Lane, Mooresville, NC; Allen Richter, 913 Fieldstone Rd, Mooresville, NC; Monica Donaldson, 137 Stallings Mill Drive, 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 made his face covering policy recommendation and requested board approval for the following: (a) Follow its current face covering policy that was approved at the November board meeting and until the end of this week on December 17, 2021; face coverings required for K-6 grade levels and face coverings optional for 7-12 grade levels, unless a school reaches a threshold of 1-percent of its population testing positive. (b) Require face coverings for all K-12 grade levels beginning on January 5, 2022, until the next board meeting on January 11, 2021, when the board can review the MGSD Covid data and determine if MGSD moves to masks being optional for all K-12 grade levels, and with the 1% threshold remaining in place at each school. Dr. Mauney explained that his recommendation is due to the recent increase in Covid data at MHS which caused many students to quarantine and miss taking their final exams and Iredell County being categorized as a "Red" County under the CDC County Transmission Map Classification system. Dr. Mauney's recommendation did not get a second motion for approval, therefore 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 January 11, 2021. Mrs. Pennell presented her face covering policy recommendation and provided the first motion for approval. **On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted 4-1 to approve the MGSD Board Policy: Face Coverings - 4231/5021/7263 as follows: Effective December 15, 2021, face coverings are optional for all students and staff in in the K-12 grade levels, unless a school reaches a threshold of 1-percent of its population testing positive and until the next board meeting on January 11, 2022, when the board will review the MGSD Covid data. Due to federal orders, face coverings will continue to be required on all school buses.**

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. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session.**

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

On a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board 4-1 to approve the December personnel list as recommended by the Superintendent.

New Employees:

Erik Barton, Assistant Principal, MIS, 12/13/2021
Keri-Sue Bonnaci, Interim 5th Grade Math Teacher, EMIS, 12/13/2021
Taylor Faulkner, 8th Grade Math Teacher, MMS, 12/09/2021
Rebecca McElfresh, 4th Grade Teacher, EMIS, 11/29/2021
Mark Blythe, Custodian, MHS, 11/29/2021
Meghan Connelly Substitute School Nutrition 11/10/2021
Keona Foye, Teacher Assistant/Substitute Bus Driver PVES 12/14/2021
Michael Goins Technology Assistant MIS 11/29/2021
Christine Ingram EC Teacher Assistant RRES 12/06/2021
Patrick Leak Custodian PVES 12/13/2021 Transferred from Temporary Custodian at PVES
Robert Rexrode, Teacher Assistant/Bus Driver SES 11/29/2021
Angel Rivera Help Desk Technician MHS 12/14/2021

Promotions/Changes:

Kelly Hagedorn Math Teacher MHS 12/09/2021 Transferred from Substitute Teacher
Megan Stark EC Teacher MHS 12/14/2021 Transferred from Substitute Teacher
Angela Alexander Dedicated Substitute Teacher MHS 11/29/2021, Transferred from Substitute Teacher for MGSD
Bernetta Berryman, Permanent Part Time Bus Driver, Transportation 12/14/2021, Transferred from Substitute Bus Driver
Heather Durkee, Dedicated Substitute Teacher, MMS, 11/18/2021, Transferred from Substitute Teacher for MGSD
Oyima Ellis, Permanent Part Time Bus Monitor, Transportation, 12/14/2021, Transferred from Substitute Bus Monitor
Jocelyn Guzman, Dedicated Substitute Teacher, PVES/RRES/SES, 12/03/2021, Transferred from Substitute Teacher for MGSD
Terry Gwyn, Permanent Part Time Bus Monitor, Transportation, 12/14/2021, Transferred from Substitute Bus Monitor
Keshia Hesse, Dedicated Substitute Teacher, MHS, 12/07/2021, Transferred from Substitute Teacher for MGSD
Carrie Knox, Substitute Teacher, 12/10/2021, Additional Assignment: Rocky River BASP Employee
Cynthia Knox, Permanent Part Time Bus Driver, Transportation, 12/14/2021, Transferred from Substitute Bus Driver
Angela Mead, School Nutrition Floater, School Nutrition, 11/16/2021, Transferred from School Nutrition Substitute
Lynn Miller, Permanent Part Time Bus Monitor, Transportation, 12/14/2021, Transferred from Substitute Bus Monitor
Kristin Morgan, Dedicated Substitute Teacher EMIS/MIS, 12/06/2021, Transferred from Substitute Teacher

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Krystal Ortiz, Bus Driver (Part Time), Transportation, 12/01/2021, Transferred from Substitute Bus Driver Alvinia Pearson, Permanent Part Time Bus Monitor, Transportation, 12/14/2021, Transferred from Substitute Bus Monitor

Cassidy Riddle, Interim School Nutrition Assistant Manager MMS 09/09/2021, Transferred from School Nutrition Assistant at MMS

Diane Stockton, Permanent Part Time Bus Monitor, Transportation, 12/14/2021, Transferred from Substitute Bus Monitor

Dora Trivett, Interim School Nutrition Manager, EMIS, 11/09/2021 - 02/04/2022, Transferred from Assistant Manager at EMIS

Brenda Windsor, Permanent Part Time Bus Monitor, Transportation, 12/14/2021, Transferred from Substitute Bus Monitor

Retirement:

Todd Black, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Instruction, C & I, 3/1/2022, 9 Years of Service to MGSD and 30 Years of Service to State of NC

Janeen Mayfield, EC Teacher, MHS, 2/28/2022, 25 Years of Service to MGSD and 33 Years of Service to State of NC

Donna McConnell, Receptionist, SES, 2/25/2022, 24.5 Years of Service to MGSD and the State of NC.

There being no further business, on a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Whitfield, the meeting was adjourned at 10:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Mr. Roger E. Hyatt, Chairman
Board of Education

Dr. Stephen A. Mauney, Secretary
Board of Education