

**MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, November 8, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met during a regular monthly session on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, 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.

Also Present: Dr. Jason Gardner, Superintendent, and Mr. Kevin Donaldson, Board Attorney.

Mrs. Angie Davis, Chief Finance Officer; Dr. Michael Royal, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Instruction & CTE; Dr. Quinetta Hall Pratt, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Instruction; Dr. Scott Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services; Dr. Sandra Albert, Chief Student Services Officer; Dr. Ingrid Medlock, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; and Mrs. Tanae McLean, Chief Communications Officer, and Title IX Coordinator; and Mrs. Sylvia Martinez, Board Clerk were present.

Mr. Hyatt, Board Chairman, called the meeting to order, reflected on election day, and shared a quote by Franklin D. Roosevelt. He held a moment of silence and introduced the MIS Student of the Month, Ramses Bustos Batista, who led the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda: On a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2022, regular meeting as presented.

Student of the Month: The School Board awarded the November Student of the Month Award to Ramses Bustos Batista, 6th grade student at MIS. The MIS Administrative team nominated him and Dr. Gardner shared what was written on his nomination form.

Artists of the Month: MIS 4th-6th grade Bobcat Chorus performed for the school board, and were recognized & presented with the November Artists of the Month Award. They were nominated by Ms. Rebekah Jack, music teacher at MIS. Dr. Gardner, MGSD Superintendent, shared what Ms. Jack wrote on their nomination form.

Spotlight on People: Mooresville Middle School - 2022 Fall Athletics Conference Champions

In our Spotlight on People, the Board recognized & awarded certificates to the MMS student athletes and coaches from the following teams for their successful fall athletic season:

Softball Team – Tournament Champions; Girls Tennis Team – Undefeated & Conference Champions; and Boys Tennis Team – Tri-Champions.

ABCD Award: The board recognized and presented the November 2022 Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award to Mrs. Melanie Greenwell, Administrative Office Assistant at Mooresville High School, who was nominated by the MHS administrative team. Dr. Gardner, MGSD Superintendent, shared the reasons she was nominated as listed on her nomination form.

Instructional Highlights: “Morning Meetings – Connection Circles” – MIS

MIS Assistant Principal, Dr. Mandalinn Browning, provided an overview of the Connection Circles method implemented at MIS during classroom morning meetings. She shared that Connection Circles are a research-based preventative and restorative method that help teachers build relationships with students, by promoting understanding and sharing experiences. Dr. Browning advised that after much research, MIS implemented this method as a preventative measure. Connection Circles allows students & teachers the opportunity to ask each other questions, share what is important to them, and help students feel connected & valued. Dr. Browning shared a presentation that demonstrated the classroom Connection Circle and teachers & students sharing their positive experiences using Connection Circles.

Schedule Next Regular Board Meeting: The next regular school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at the Performing Arts Center at Mooresville High School, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Staff Reports:

- A. **Construction Report:** Dr. Royal presented the school board with an updated Construction Report and shared that the Selma Burke Middle School Construction project continues to go well and remains on schedule for completion. He indicated that the 2nd floor is progressing nicely, work on the athletic fields is underway, and the brick has been laid on the exterior of the building. Dr. Royal shared that MGSD has partnered with Nu-Idea Furniture, who will present their initial furniture design to the MGSD team next week for review and approval. He gave an update on the renovation projects at Park View & South Elementary and shared that the installation of the Gymnasium’s basketball goals still needs to be finalized at both schools. Once completed, MGSD will hold formal Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies at each campus.

- B. **Auxiliary Report:** Dr. Smith provided the board with an updated Auxiliary Report and advised that the transportation department continues to face challenges with bus driver shortages. He shared that three new bus drivers have recently been hired, and MGSD will participate in a Transportation Efficiency Study to find ways for the district to recruit and retain bus drivers more efficiently. Dr. Smith reported that the implementation of “Softphones” in the classrooms are underway and will allow teachers to make & receive calls through their computers. The Technology Department installed the “Softphones” at N.F Woods and will install them next at MHS. He shared that the Before

and After School Program expects to re-open the BASP Programs at Park View & South Elementary in December. Dr. Smith reported that MGSD was awarded an \$858,597 Safety Grant that will be used to fund various safety projects throughout the district. Lastly, Dr. Smith advised that as part of the School Improvement Plans, he will present detailed & confidential school safety plans to the board during closed session.

C. Instructional Reports:

Dr. Pratt provided the board with an updated Instructional Report for the K-6 grade levels. She shared that the state required Literacy Intervention Plans were submitted in October and approved. Dr. Pratt shared that K-5 teachers continue to work on the LETRS and Bridges assignments/modules modules, and recently participated in a second LETRS training session focused on unit two. 97% of the staff are on track in their LETRS training, and 14% are ahead and working on Unit 3. Dr. Pratt shared that the district held a successful and well-attended Pop-Up STEM event on November 7, 2022, and she thanked Ms. Amy Smith for planning the event. MGSD will hold another Pop-Up STEM event in January.

Dr. Royal provided an updated Instructional Report for secondary grade levels. He shared teachers in the 7-12 grade level attended a Curriculum Guides training session, and the first Assistant Principal Leadership Academy led by Dr. Waid, was held during a recent teacher workday. Dr. Royal reported that the MGSD Calendar Committee held their first meeting to discuss and develop the 2023-2024 school calendar drafts. The committee will share the drafts with the district stakeholders and will meet again on November 17, 2022, to examine the feedback from district stakeholders based on the calendar draft presented. A final 2023-2024 calendar draft will be presented to the board for review at the December board meeting. Dr. Royal provided highlights of the following events recently held at MMS, MHS, and N.F. Woods, and thanked everyone who participated and made these events possible: the district-wide Multi-Lingual Family Night; the MIWAYE Fall Festival; and the 20 college visits to Mooresville High School. He shared that secondary data meetings are underway and will allow staff to reflect on benchmark data and create strategies to address the needs of students. Dr. Royal provided an MMS & MHS Fall athletic update, and shared winter sports have begun. Lastly, he shared that the MHS Athletic Hall of Fame for the class of 2020 will take place on February 25, 2023.

D. Student Services Report: Dr. Albert presented an updated Student Support and EC Report. She shared that MGSD social workers continue to meet monthly to collaborate and are working closely with community partners to provide additional services to our students. Dr. Albert advised that social workers have made 119 home visits since the beginning of the school year and continue to help students with social-emotional learning. She shared that MGSD school counselors support students through class lessons, small group sessions, individual sessions, and each counselor has a regular caseload of students that they meet individually. Dr. Albert provided the average student caseload data for counselors at the K-8 grade level. She reported that Student Services continues to assist EC teachers with paperwork and provide teachers with training on the best ways to support

students with disabilities. She shared the following MGSD data results from the 2021-2022 school year reported in October as part of our Federal & State monitoring activities: Indicator 11 (our 90-day timeline for referral to placement of a student with a disability is 92%); and Indicator 12 (our preschool timeline for students to be placed by their third birthday is 100%). Lastly, Dr. Albert shared that the first EC Parent Night will be held at EMIS on November 15, 2022.

- E. **Business Services Report:** Mrs. Davis presented an updated Business Report. She advised that school audits are underway, and she and a member of the finance department visit schools each month to audit their financial records. Mrs. Davis shared that this process helps ensure compliance with our state and board guidelines, increases readiness for our external audit, and provides support to our school financial managers. The recent audits held at Park View & Mooresville Middle School went well. She reported that the district recently partnered with HIL Consultants, who will conduct a salary study for non-certified job groups at MGSD, to review our current pay structure compared to other NC public schools in our area and provide feedback and recommendations.

- F. **Human Resources Report:** Dr. Medlock presented an updated Human Resource Report and shared that she recently attended the 2022 Annual Fall Personnel Administrators of NC Conference (PANC), which was informative, and plans to share this information with our district and school leaders. She advised that the Beginning Teacher meetings in October went well, and Mentors are doing a great job coaching and supporting our Beginning Teachers. Dr. Medlock provided the results and data from the MGSD Beginning Teacher Working Conditions Survey and reported that MGSD outscored the state and region in all areas, as it relates to Beginning Teachers feeling supported by their district. Dr. Medlock reported that the NC Principal Fellow selection process is underway, and MGSD principals are currently in the process of nominating up to two teacher leaders to represent MGSD in the 2023-2024 Principal Fellow Program at the University of North Carolina - Charlotte. Dr. Medlock shared the principal selection process for Selma Burke Middle School is underway, and the first round of interviews will begin next week. Lastly, Dr. Medlock shared that One Mill/MV2 Investments would like to possible partner with MGSD to offer affordable house to Beginning Teachers.

- G. **Public Communications Report:** Mrs. McLean provided an update on the MGSD Mooresville Motivators Volunteer Program and shared that the Motivator volunteers have volunteered 236 hours at MHS & MMS this school year. She advised that the program is going well and thanked community members for participating in our district-wide volunteering program. Mrs. McLean reported that MGSD is eligible to receive \$60,000 SHAC funding from the state, which must be used by the end of the 2022-2023 school year. She shared that the funds are for allowable expenses to support our School Health Advisory Council (SHAC). Lastly, Mrs. McLean advised that MGSD and the Town of Mooresville will co-host the “An Evening of Holiday Classics with the Charlotte Symphony” event that will be held at the Performing Arts Center at MHS on December 11, 2022.

- H. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Gardner shared that Dr. Royal will be presenting the board the MGSD boundary line presentation. He stated that he is confident that the change in grade configurations, the opening of Selma Burke Middle School, and the changes to the school boundary lines will prepare our district for future growth for years to come. Dr. Gardner shared that Dr. Pratt & Mrs. Davis would also present the board with a proposal for a LETRS bonus payment for MGSD K-5 teachers who have embraced the LETRS training and to compensate them for the extra time commitment that the training requires. Lastly, he advised that plans are underway to develop a new MGSD Strategic Plan, and a committee with representation from community members, business partners, parents, students, and district staff members has been formed to help develop the plans. The district will send a survey to all district stakeholders for their feedback, and the first strategic committee meeting will be held on Thursday, November 10, 2022. The new Strategic Plan will take 6 months to create.
- I. **Board Events and Announcements:** Dr. Hyatt reviewed the upcoming events listed on the calendars included in their board packet and shared that school board members will attend the NCSBA Annual Fall Conference, which will be held in Greensboro on November 13-16, 2022.

Approval of MMS 2022-2023 School Improvement Plans: Dr. Royal and Mr. Kosal, MMS Interim Principal, presented and requested board approval of the MMS 2022-2023 School Improvement Plans. Mr. Kosal shared the feedback and reflections from the community survey and advised that many of the concerns raised by the community are already being addressed in the 2022-2023 School Improvement Plans. **On a motion by Mr. Brawley, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the MMS 2022-2023 School Improvement Plan as presented.**

Proposal of LETRS Staff Bonus Payments: Dr. Pratt & Mrs. Davis presented the LETRS Staff Bonus Payments Proposal for MGSD educators in the K-5 grade levels participating in the LETRS training. The LETRS training is extensive and requires teachers to commit extra time to complete the units and modules. Mrs. Davis shared that most of the funding will come from the PRC 085 state funding to support the Science of Reading. The remaining funding will come from federal funding PRC 171 (ESSER II), and local funds. This proposal will be presented for approval at the December meeting.

School Rezoning Proposal: Dr. Royal presented the MGSD School Boundary Lines Rezoning Proposal to the board for first reading. He reported that MGSD has partnered once again with Edulog, an organization that specializes in rezoning, to do research on our community, and assist us in the rezoning process. The draft proposal includes the school rezoning planning timeline of events, the reasons for reconfiguring the grades, and for modifying the district boundary lines. Dr. Royal shared that the grade reconfiguration will create additional space in the elementary schools and will allow sixth grade students to receive a more traditional middle school experience. He advised that the boundary line modifications are needed to prepare for the continued & projected growth in our community, specifically in the

Southeast area of our current boundaries. The School Rezoning proposal will be presented for approval at the December board meeting.

Public Comment: None

Closed Session: 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 Dr. Marsh, the board unanimously voted to go into closed session.**

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

Approval of Personnel Report: On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the personnel list as recommended by the superintendent.

New Employees:

James Hamm, Physical Science Teacher, MHS, 11/7/2022
Kathleen Hamm, Social Studies Teacher, MMS, 11/28/2022
Katherine White, 5th Grade ELA Teacher, MIS, 11/7/2022
Megan Holloway, Substitute, School Nutrition, 11/7/2022
Jessica King, Custodian, MHS, 11/1/2022
Michael Pritt, Temporary Custodian, EMIS, 11/1/2022

Promotion/Change:

Jamie Abercrombie, Reading Specialist, MIS, 11/28/2022, Transferred from Small Group Instructor at RRES
Hayley Johnson, Reading Specialist, SES, 11/21/2022, Transferred from Reading Specialist at MIS
Lori Beyer, Assistant (School Nutrition), MMS, 11/28/2022, Transferred from Substitute in School Nutrition
Mikayla King, Help Desk Technician, MMS, 11/28/2022, Transferred from Custodian at MHS
Amy Reznicek, EC Teacher Assistant, RRES, 11/1/2022, Transferred from Assistant in School Nutrition
Michael York, Small Group Instructor (Math), SES, 11/14/2022-05/10/2023, Additional Assignment:
Substitute Teacher

Rehire:

Kim Killian, Substitute Teacher, 10/27/2022, Previously a Media Assistant at EMIS

Retirement:

Donna Brown, Bus Driver, Transportation, 10/1/2022, 14 Years of Service to MGSD and the State of NC
Jean Stowell, Science Teacher, MMS, 12/16/2022, 21 Years of Service to MGSD and the State of NC

MGSD Board of Education
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Adjournment: On a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Mr. Roger E. Hyatt, Chairman
Board of Education

Dr. Jason D. Gardner, Secretary
Board of Education