

MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, December 13, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met during a regular monthly session on Tuesday, December 13, 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. Scott Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services; Dr. Sandra Albert, Chief Student Services Officer; Dr. Ingrid Medlock, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; 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, and shared the following quote by Taylor Swift: *“No matter what happens in life, be good to people. Being good to people is a wonderful legacy to leave behind.”* He held a moment of silence and introduced the MMS Student of the Month, Alexis McAllister, 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 Mr. Brawley, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the November 8, 2022, regular meeting as presented.

Student of the Month: The School Board recognized & presented the Student of the Month Award to Alexis McAllister, an 8th grader at MMS, who was nominated by teachers Mrs. Ketchie and Mrs. Orlando nominated her. Dr. Gardner shared the reasons the student was chosen, as listed in her nomination write-up.

Artists of the Month: The School Board recognized & presented the Artists of the Month Award to The MMS 8th Grade Dance Imp Time Team, who were nominated by Teacher Ms. Thompson. Dr. Gardner shared the reasons the team was chosen, as listed in their nomination write-up. Members of the dance team performed a dance at the meeting.

Spotlight on People (a): MHS Blue Devils Varsity & JV Football Teams
2022 Fall Athletics Conference Champions

In the Spotlight on People, the Board recognized & awarded certificates to the MHS Blue Devils Varsity and Junior Varsity Football Teams for their successful athletic seasons. The Varsity team won the GM4 Conference Championship and finished the season with a 10-2 record and undefeated conference record. The Junior Varsity team finished the season with a 9-1 record and Co-Conference Iredell County Champions.

Spotlight on People (b): MGSD Board of Education - 2022 NCSBA Gold Bell Award

The MGSD Board of Education was recognized for being awarded the 2022 NCSBA Gold Bell Award. The North Carolina School Board Association recognizes school board members for individual and whole-board training accomplishments each academic year. The Gold Bell Award is the highest honor awarded to districts whose board members have earned 12 or more hours of professional development and training during an academic year and met the 30-hour requirements for recognition through NCSBA's Academy of School Boardmanship. MGSD school board members exceeded the required amount of training, with a combined total of 323 credit hours for professional development during 2021-2022 fiscal year.

ABCD Award: The board recognized and presented the December Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award to Ms. Laura Crenshaw, School Nurse at Mooresville Middle School. MMS Principal, Mr. Patrick Kosal & MMS Cafeteria Mgr. Ms. Deborah Campbell nominated her. Dr. Gardner, MGSD Superintendent, shared the reasons she was nominated as listed on her nomination form.

Instructional Highlights: Standards Based Grading, Grading for Equity - MMS

Mr. Patrick Kosal, MMS principal, and teachers shared a presentation and gave an overview of the new Standards Based Grading - Grading for Equity initiative that MMS is piloting in some classrooms. MMS teachers shared their impressions of Standards Based Grading, explained how the initiative pilot began, and shared reflections on the benefits of grading in a less traditional way, and grading for equity. The presentation also included the student's perspective of the new grading system.

Schedule Next Regular Board Meeting: The next regular school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at the Performing Arts Center at Mooresville High School, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Staff Reports:

- A. **Construction Report:** Dr. Royal presented an updated construction report and advised the Selma Burke Middle School construction continues to progress well, and subcontractors are working daily to complete the project on time and on schedule. He reported that the exterior brick work at SBMS is 80% completed, and the window installations are underway. Dr. Royal shared that staff and students are enjoying the new gymnasiums at Park View & South Elementary, and GL Wilson and Performing Services is working on completing the final punch-list items at both schools. Lastly, He shared that plans are underway to hold official Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies for the new gymnasiums at both schools and will provide the board dates soon.
- B. **Auxiliary Report:** Dr. Smith provided an updated Auxiliary Report and advised that new bus drivers have been hired and are currently attending the required class. He shared that the Before and After School

Programs at Park View and South Elementary have passed inspections & licensing requirements, and the BASP at both schools will re-open on January 4, 2023. Dr. Smith reported to MGSD Safety Projects funded by the safety grant recently awarded to MGSD are underway, and he has been working with the Mooresville Police Department to hire an additional School Resource Officer. Lastly, Dr. Smith shared that the staff in the 6-12 grade levels are currently being trained on the MGSD “See Something Say Something” application.

- C. **Instructional Reports:** Dr. Royal provided an updated Instructional Report and advised secondary schools are in preparation for the second semester, which begins on January 4, 2023. He advised that the first semester EOC exams at MHS & MIWAYE will begin on December 15, 2022, 95% of qualifying MHS seniors have completed WorkKey Assessments, and MHS seniors who attended English 4 in the Fall recently presented their Gateway Projects, and the underclassmen were allowed to observe the presentations. Dr. Royal reported MGSD recently submitted their K-12 Literacy Instruction Standards plans to NCDPI, and shared that Rafael Bonamigo-Valls, an MHS Senior, and a Morehead-Cain nominee, has advanced to the semi-final round. Lastly, Dr. Royal provided an updated MMS & MHS Winter athletic report and congratulated the athletes and coaches for their strong seasons.
- D. **Student Services Report:** Dr. Albert presented an updated Student Services Report and reported that the Exceptional Children (EC) department currently serves 781 Students With Disabilities and is in the process of submitting the MGSD December Child Count, which will provide federal funding to our SWD for the 2023-2024 school year. She shared that MGSD held its first and well attended EC Parent Night on November 15, 2023, and the EC staff recently attended a training session focused on inclusive practices & graduation pathways for students with disabilities. Dr. Albert advised that plans are underway for Student Services and a small task force of community counselors & psychologists to hold a Parent Night event in February to raise mental health awareness and assist families in locating support. Lastly, she recognized our community partners, Rainbow Kids & Lifestance, for their continued support of our students and community.
- E. **Business Services Report:** Mrs. Davis presented an updated Business Report and advised that MGSD employees received an early November payday on November 22, 2022, which included the first installment of local supplements. She reported that the updated NCDPI Public Schools Classified Salary Schedule, which was presented to the State Board of Education in November, was approved on December 1, 2023. Mrs. Davis advised that the new salary schedule will go into effect on July 1, 2024, will align with the legislated School SBE requirements, and allow local districts to create salary schedules for their positions. She reported that MGSD is currently reviewing the new classified salary schedules that will be incorporated and considered in MGSD’s salary study.
- F. **Human Resources Report:** Dr. Medlock presented an updated Human Resource Report and congratulated the MGSD National Board-Certified Teachers who recently renewed their National Board Certifications and the teachers who have earned their National Board Certifications for the first time. The new MGSD National Board-Certified teachers will be recognized at the February board meeting.

Dr. Medlock shared that the teacher leader nominations and selection process to participate in the Principal Fellowship Leadership cohort at UNCC are complete, and the winner will be announced in January. She advised that the 2023-2024 Employee Professional Intent forms will be sent to all staff in January, in preparation for the 2023-2024 school year, the new grade configurations, and the opening of the Selma Burke Middle School. Lastly, Dr. Medlock gave an update on teacher recruitment and shared that MGSD will continue to partner with local colleges and universities through field experiences and student teacher placement. Dr. Medlock recently recruited at Appalachian State University and Western Carolina University.

- G. Public Communications Report:** Mrs. McLean provided an updated Communications Report and advised that the second PAC & TAC meetings were held on December 5, 2023, and the meetings were led by Insight Education, who also held MGSD Strategic Planning focus groups. She reported that SHAC held their second Meeting on December 7, 2023, and plans are underway for MGSD to partner with local health and wellness organizations to hold a Healthy Community Day in April. Finally, Mrs. McLean reported that the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra recently held a wonderful performance at the Performing Arts Center at MHS, and she looks forward to hosting more community events in the PAC.
- H. Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Gardner provided an overview of the holiday events held at each school in MGSD and reported that MHS & MIWAYE staff and students are busy finishing the fall semester and getting ready for EOC exams. He stated he is grateful that our calendar provides an early start date that allows our students to complete the first semester, and take first semester EOC exams, before they go on winter break. Dr. Gardner shared that he is confident that the new Selma Burke Middle School, the change in grade configurations, and the re-zoning of our district lines will prepare our district for future growth. Finally, Dr. Gardner shared that the district continues to work on developing a new MGSD strategic plan, and the steering committee group will meet to discuss what the core values, mission, and vision for the district should include. Feedback from the meeting, from the community survey, and focus groups will be provided to the board during a board work session in February, which will focus on strategic plan development.
- I. Board Events and Announcements:** Dr. Hyatt reviewed and highlighted the upcoming events as listed on the calendars included in the December board packet.

Approval of K-3 Class Size Waiver – Dr. Gardner presented and requested board approval of the K-3 class size waiver that the NC Department of Instruction (NCDPI) requires LEA's to submit if they are not in compliance with the K-3 individual class size mandate. He reported Park View Elementary is currently over the individual class size maximum allowed by NCDPI, with 22 students in two classrooms (maximum allowed is 21). Dr. Gardner requested board approval for the K-3 Class Waiver to comply with state requirements until an additional teacher can be hired at Park View Elementary. **On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the K-3 Class Size Waiver as presented.**

Approval of LETRS Bonus Payments – Mrs. Davis requested board approval of the LETRS staff bonus payments presented to the board for first reading at the November board meeting. The LETRS Staff Bonus Payments is for K-5 MGSD educators participating in extensive LETRS training. **On a motion by Mr. Brawley, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the LETRS Bonus Payments as presented.**

Approval of SBMS Media Center Book and Resource Collection Bid – Dr. Royal presented and requested board approval of the SBMS Media Center Book and Resource Collection bid from Follett Content Solutions. He reported MGSD received four bids for the project and made the recommendation that the SBMS Media Center Book and Resource Collection project be awarded to Follett Content Solutions. **On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the SBMS Media Center Book and Resource Collection Bid from Follett Content Solutions as presented.**

Approval of Budget Amendment – Mrs. Davis provided an overview and requested board approval of the budget amendments made to the Budget Resolution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. **On a motion by Mr. Whitfield, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the Budget Amendment as presented.**

Approval of School Zoning – Dr. Royal gave an overview and requested board approval of the school Rezoning proposal presented to the board for first reading at the November board meeting. He advised that the redistricting effort included opportunities for feedback from community & district stakeholders via surveys and community meetings. The presentation included the rezoning maps for the MGSD Elementary, Intermediate, and Middle Schools. The proposal also included four minor changes to the plan to create better efficiency in transportation. **On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Whitfield, the board voted unanimously to approve the School Rezoning plan as presented.**

Approval of the Overnight & Out of State School Trip – Dr. Royal presented and requested approval of the MHS ROTC out of state and overnight field trip to Patriots Point in Charleston, SC on March 22-24, 2023. **On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the MHS ROTC overnight & out of state trip as presented.**

Presentation of School Choice Options: First Reading – Dr. Smith provided the board with a presentation of the 2023-2024 school choice options for grades K-8 for first reading. Dr. Smith gave an overview of the three school choice options, highlighted the pros and cons for each option, and asked the board to review the options that will be brought for approval at the January board meeting: **Option 1: no school choice; Option 2: all K-8 students have school choice; and Option 3: Grandfathering.** The board members held a discussion on the options presented and will consider these options, which will be presented for approval at the January board meeting.

Presentation of the 2023-2024 School Calendar: First Reading – Dr. Royal provided the board with a presentation of the 2023-2024 school calendar draft for first reading. He gave an overview of the calendar development process that was created utilizing input from the MGSD Calendar Committee. This year’s committee was composed of school-level and district-level employees, parent representatives from each school, and student representatives from our secondary schools. Dr. Royal provided highlights of the calendar and advised that the draft calendar meets the 215 working days required by the state. Additional days have been included in the calendar in preparation for school closings due to increment weather. Lastly, he advised that the calendar draft received positive feedback from community and district stakeholders and asked the board to review the proposed calendar that will be presented for approval at the January 10, 2023 meeting.

Board Policies: First Reading – Mrs. Davis presented the following 30 NCSBA Fall board policies for first reading. They will be brought for board approval at the January meeting.

<u>Policy Number(s):</u>	<u>Name(s):</u>
a) 1510-4200-7270	School Safety
b) 2120	Code of Ethics for School Board Members
c) 2123	Board Member Opportunities for Development
d) 2130	Board Member Compensation for Development
e) 3102	Online Instruction
f) 3220	Technology in the Educational Program
g) 3420	Student Promotion and Accountability
h) 3460	Graduation Requirements
i) 3620	Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations
j) 4050	Children of Military Families
k) 4100	Age Requirements for Initial Entry
l) 4110	Immunization and Health Requirements for School Admission
m) 4130	Discretionary Admission
n) 4155	Assignment to Classes
o) 4220	Student Insurance Program
p) 4240/7312	Child Abuse and Related Threats to Child Safety
q) 4270/6145	Concussion and Head Injury
r) 4300	Student Behavior Policies
s) 4334/5035/7345	Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones)
t) 4400	Attendance
u) 4700	Student Records
v) 6125	Administering Medicines to Students
w) 6140	Student Wellness
x) 6220	Operation of School Nutrition Services
y) 6230	School Meal and Competitive Food Standards
z) 6305	Safety and Student Transportation Services
aa) 6430	Purchasing Requirements for Equipment, Materials, and Supplies
bb) 7130	Licensure
cc) 7360/8225	Crowdfunding on Behalf of the School System

dd) 7425 School Administrator Contracts

Public Comment: Mr. Kevin Donaldson, Board Attorney, provided the MGSD public comment guidelines and introduced the following individuals listed on the public comment sign-up sheet: Theresa Knight, 156 Fellspoint Rd, Mooresville, NC 28115 - shared her concerns regarding the Public Comment placement on the board meeting agenda; Kelli Harris, 127 Corona Circle, Mooresville, NC 28117, discussed community partnership with MGSD.

Election of Board Chairperson for Board of Education: As per the MGSD Board Policy 2200, the School Board is required to elect a School Board Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson to serve for a year or until his or her successor is elected at a regular December board meeting. **Mr. Hyatt announced he was withdrawing himself as Board Chairman and nominated Mr. Greg Whitfield as Board Chairman of the MGSD Board of Education. Mr. Brawley seconded the nomination, and with no other nominations, the board unanimously voted to appoint Mr. Greg Whitfield as the Board Chairman for the MGSD Board of Education.**

Election of Vice Chairperson for Board of Education: Dr. Gardner requested nominations from the School Board members to elect a Vice Chairperson for the MGSD Board of Education, as required each year by the MGSD Board Policy 2200. **Dr. Debbie Marsh nominated Mrs. Kerry Pennell as Vice Chairperson of the MGSD Board of Education. Mr. Rakeem Brawley seconded the nomination, and with no other nominations, the board unanimously voted to appoint Mrs. Kerry Pennell as Vice Chairperson of the MGSD Board of Education.**

Closed Session: Newly elected Board Chair, Mr. Whitfield, under G.S. §143-318.11 (a)(6) & (a)(3), announced the board would go into a closed session to review personnel and to consult with the board attorney. On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board unanimously voted to go into closed session.

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

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

New Employees:

Dakota Curtis, English Teacher, MHS, 01/02/2023

Christopher Eyer, Social Studies Teacher, MMS, 01/02/2023

Matthew Fazio, Math Teacher, MHS, 01/02/2023

Mark Howell, EC Teacher, MIS, 11/29/2022

Ashley Lanning, Math Teacher, MHS, 01/02/2023

Danielle McPhill, Alternative Learning Classroom Teacher, MMS, New Position, 12/01/2022

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Debra Miller, Health and PE Teacher, MMS, New Position, 01/02/2023
Angela Myers, 3rd Grade Teacher, SES, 11/21/2022,
Melanie Taylor, Interim Assistant Principal, SES, 01/02/2023 - 05/30/2023
Jordan Caldwell, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 12/09/2022
Lindsay Collinsworth, Substitute School Nurse, MGSD, 11/28/2022
Bonnie Dunn, Small Group Instructor, RRES, 11/15/2022 - 05/10/2023
Bevin Fink, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 12/08/2022
Casee Footman, Bus Driver, Transportation, 11/09/2022
Anita Hurst, Substitute, School Nutrition, 11/10/2022
Taren Mangual, EC Teacher Assistant, RRES, New Position, 11/07/2022
Sarah Russell, Full Time Dedicated Substitute Teacher, MMS, 11/28/2022 - 05/30/2023
Carolyn Sanchez, Teacher Assistant/Bus Driver, PVES, 12/12/2022
Jermaine Shelton, Custodian, MHS, 11/28/2022
Shewana Underwood, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 11/10/2022

Rehire:

Daniel Miller, Principal, SBMS, New Position, 01/09/2023, Previously an English Teacher at MHS
Rhonda Carnes, Custodian, MHS, 12/05/2022, Previously an Assistant for School Nutrition
Kay Johnson, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 11/10/2022, Previously a Teacher for MGSD
Timothy Smith, Small Group Instructor, SES, 01/03/2022, 05/23/2022, Retired Teacher from MHS

Promotions/Changes:

Jordan Caldwell, 4th Grade Teacher, MIS, 01/13/2023
Jemma Conley, Director of Elementary Education, MGSD, Title Change Only, 01/02/2023, Transferred from Elementary Curriculum/Instruction Coordinator
Mark Cottone, Principal, MIS, 01/02/2023, Transferred from Principal at SES
Michelle Demers, Reading Specialist, SES, 02/01/2023, Transferring from 3rd Grade Teacher at SES
Cheryl Dortch, Interim Principal, SES, 01/02/2023 - 06/02/2023, Transferred from Assistant Principal SES
Megan Foran, School Psychologist, SES, 11/21/2022, Change in employment from 50% to 60%
Kesha Hesse, Math Teacher, MHS, 01/02/2023, Transferred from Full Time Dedicated Substitute Teacher
Hayley Johnson, Instructional Coach, SES, 11/14/2022, Transferred from Reading Specialist at MIS
Patrick Kosal, Principal, MMS, 12/14/2022, Transferred from Interim Principal at MMS
Michael Royal, Chief of Schools, MGSD, Title Change Only, 01/02/2023, Transferred from Assistant Superintendent Secondary Education
Ayana Smith, Principal, SES, 06/05/2023, Transferred from Principal at MMS
Tracey Waid, Director of Secondary Instruction, MGSD, Title Change Only, 01/02/2023, Transferred from Secondary Curriculum/Instruction Coordinator
Christianne Wanner, 2nd Grade Teacher, PVES, New Position, 01/02/2023, Transferred from Small Group Instructor at PVES
Michael York, Interim 1st Grade Teacher, SES, 01/02/2023 - 05/30/2023, Additional Assignment: Substitute Teacher
Sophia Adams, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 11/17/2022, Additional Assignment: BASP employee
Patricia Avina, School Nutrition Assistant--6 hours a day, EMIS, 11/14/2022, Transferred from Part Time School Nutrition Assistant at PVES
Jennifer Cavanagh, EC Teacher Assistant, MMS, 01/04/2023, Transferred from BASP employee

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Darlene Gilmore, Full Time Dedicated Substitute Teacher, RRES, 11/28/2022, Additional Assignment: Substitute Teacher

Ramisi Hare, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 11/10/2022, Additional Assignment: BASP employee, MMS

Anita Hurst, School Nutrition Assistant, MMS, 12/14/2022, Transferred from Substitute School Nutrition Assistant

Jessica King, Crosswalk/Custodian, MHS, 11/29/2022, Transferred from Custodian at MHS

Jennifer Pawley, Small Group Instructor, RRES, 12/06/2022 - 05/23/2023, Additional Assignment: Substitute Teacher

Catherine Peterkin, Full Time Dedicated Substitute Teacher, MHS, 01/02/2023, 05/30/2023, Transferred from English Teacher at MHS

Retirement:

Rebecca Miller, Speech Language Pathologist, SES, 1/31/2023, 27 Years of Service to NC and the State of NC

Adjournment: With no further business, on a motion by Mr. Hyatt, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Mr. Greg Whitfield, Chairman
Board of Education

Dr. Jason D. Gardner, Secretary
Board of Education