

MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION  
**Regular Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, January 10, 2023, 6:00 p.m.**

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met during a regular monthly session on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at the Performing Arts Center at Mooresville High School, 659 E. Center Avenue, Mooresville, NC 28115.

**Board Members Present:** Mr. Greg Whitfield, Chair; Mrs. Kerry Pennell, Vice-Chair; Mr. Rakeem Brawley; Mr. Roger Hyatt; and Dr. Debbie Marsh were present.

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

Dr. Michael Royal, Chief of Schools; Dr. Scott Smith, Assistant Superintendent for Auxiliary Services; Dr. Sandra Albert, Chief Student Services Officer; Mrs. Angie Davis, Chief Finance 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 also present.

Mr. Whitfield, the Board Chairman, called the meeting to order and shared the quote, "The time is always right to do what is right." by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He held a moment of silence and introduced South Elementary student Aiden Simms, who led the pledge of allegiance.

**Approval of the Agenda: On a motion by Mr. Hyatt, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as presented.**

**Approval of Minutes: On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2022, regular meeting as presented.**

**Student of the Month:** The School Board recognized & presented the Student of the Month Award to Aiden Simms, a 3rd grader at South Elementary, who was nominated by his teacher, Mrs. Demers. Dr. Gardner shared the reasons he was chosen, as listed in the nomination forms.

**Artists of the Month:** The School Board recognized & presented the Artists of the Month Award to Emma Brown and Anna Brown, 2nd graders at South Elementary. Classroom teachers, Mrs. Heineman (Emma), Mrs. Wally (Anna), and Ms. Tucker, the art teacher, nominated them. Dr. Gardner shared the reasons they were chosen, as listed on their nomination forms.

**Spotlight on People (a): MMS Red Imps - Wrestling Team - Conference Champions**

The Board recognized & awarded certificates to the MMS Red Imps Wrestling Team for finishing the regular season with a 12-1 record and sharing the title as Conference Champions. 11 of our Wrestlers participated in the Conference Tournament, and 9 finished as conference champions.

**Spotlight on People (b): MMS Red Imps - Boys Varsity Basketball Team - Conference Champions**

The Board recognized and awarded certificates to the MMS Red Imps Boys Varsity Basketball Team for winning the Conference Championship & finishing the season undefeated.

**Spotlight on People (c): Board of Education - Board Appreciation Month**

In honor of Board Appreciation Month, the MGSD school board was recognized. Ms. Julie Blocker, CTE Assistant Director/Career Development Coordinator, thanked the MGSD school board for their dedication to our students and staff, and presented each member with a token of appreciation designed by Senior MIWAYE Students.

**Spotlight on People (d): Mr. Roger Hyatt - MGSD Board Chair, 2017-2022**

Dr. Gardner, on behalf of the MGSD board, administration team, and the district, recognized and awarded Mr. Roger Hyatt a personalized plaque in appreciation for his five years of service as MGSD board chair. Dr. Gardner thanked Mr. Hyatt for his expertise and dedication to our staff, students, and community. Each board member expressed appreciation for Mr. Hyatt's leadership, knowledge, and guidance. Mr. Hyatt thanked the school board members and his family for all their years of support.

**ABCD Award:** The board recognized and presented the January 2023, Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award to Mrs. Angela Poirier, Data Manager at EMIS. EMIS principal, Mrs. Pratt-Dixon, nominated Mrs. Poirier, and Dr. Gardner shared the reasons she was chosen, as written on her nomination form.

**Instructional Highlights: "South Clubs" - South Elementary**

Mrs. Dortch, Interim Principal, and staff from South Elementary gave a presentation and an overview of the "South Clubs" available to students at South Elementary. She shared that South Elementary began this program last Spring, that offers students various clubs that they can choose to participate in. The clubs meet every Wednesday for one hour, and during that time teachers meet for their PLC's. Mrs. McCrorey, Media Coordinator, shared that South recently held a "South Club" Showcase to provide students with information on the various clubs. Lastly, students participating in the South "Singing Club" performed a song for the school board.

**Schedule Next Regular Board Meeting:** The next regular school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 14, 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 that the renovation projects at South Elementary and Park View Elementary are almost complete, with a few small items that need to be worked on. The South & Park View students and staff are enjoying using their new gymnasiums, and the official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at both schools will be held on January 24, 2023. Dr. Royal reported that the Selma Burke Middle School construction project continues to progress well, and the project remains on schedule and on budget. Lastly, Dr. Royal advised that the new Selma Burke Middle School principal, Mr. Dan Miller, has officially started his tenure

with the district. Mr. Miller recently did a walk-through of the SBMS facility and made a video update to share with parents.

- B. Auxiliary Report:** Dr. Smith provided an updated auxiliary report and shared that the transportation department continues to work on the new MGSD school boundary lines. The technology department continues to install the “Softphones” throughout the district, which will allow teachers to receive calls in their classrooms via their laptops. Dr. Smith reported that the Before and After School Programs at South & Park View Elementary reopened on January 1, 2023. He shared that several safety projects funded by our safety grant are underway, and he is working closely with the Mooresville Police Department to get an additional School Resource officer for the district. Dr. Smith shared that he would present to the board the 2023-2024 School Choice Plans for approval. Once the plan is finalized, he will work with Transportation and Student Services to provide families with the 2023-2024 school assignments, school choice options if eligible, and grandfathering eligibility.
- C. Instructional Reports:** Dr. Royal provided the following updated instructional reports for the Elementary & Secondary grade levels. **Elementary update:** K-5 teachers have completed the LETRS training; the DIBELS MOY window will close on January 13, 2023, and K-3 schools will hold data wall meetings to review student data; MGSD will host an AIG night to provide 3rd grade families with information on the AIG student identification process, on January 30, 2023, and a virtual session will be held on February 2, 2023; and the 2023-2024 Kindergarten registration window will open on February 20, 2023. **Secondary update:** Secondary MTSS teams are working on maximizing intervention times during the school day; MMS has implemented a new Imp time schedule and an online learning program; MHS staff has been training on new literacy academic interventions, and small group interventions will begin at the end of the month. Dr. Royal shared that the K-12 Assistant Principal Leadership Academy was held in December & January and provided an overview of the K-5 AP Leadership Academy & the 6-12 Leadership Academy. He provided an MMS & MHS athletic update and advised that the MHS Athletic Hall of Fame banquet and induction will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2023.
- D. Student Services Report:** Dr. Albert presented an updated EC and student services report and shared that the STARS preschool at Rocky River Elementary added a fourth class. The STARS preschool is inclusive for students with or without disabilities, and currently serves 27 staff children and 37 students with disabilities. She shared that MGSD will host the annual Transition Fair for EC students and their families on March 28, 2023, and vendors, outside agencies, and colleges will be in attendance to provide resources. Dr. Albert thanked the MGSD community partners Rainbow Kids and Lifestance for all the support they provide our students and families. Rainbow Kids is currently providing grief support

groups for 73 students, and Lifestance is currently providing in-school therapy to 288 students.

- E. **Business Services Report:** Mrs. Davis presented an updated business report and shared that the state mandated performance bonuses for qualifying teachers, and the board approved K-5 LETRS bonuses, will be included in the January paychecks of qualifying teachers. She advised that state mandated performance bonuses will be given to qualifying teachers who teach 3rd - 5th grade reading, 4th - 8th grade math, advanced placement exams, and CTE credentials and certifications. The LETRS bonus will be given to K-5 teachers who have completed the LETRS training, unit 1 & 2. Mrs. Davis advised that the district-wide open enrollment cafeteria benefits will run from February 6 - March 3, 2023, and that Pierce Group Benefits representatives will visit each school to present benefit options and assist with enrollment. Lastly, Mrs. Davis reported that she will present the 2023-2024 Budget proposal to the board for approval at the February meeting.
- F. **Human Resources Report:** Dr. Medlock presented an updated Human Resource Report and shared that Mr. Roncolon Bost, CTE business teacher at MHS, has been selected to participate in the next Principal Fellowship Program at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte. The cohort begins this Fall, and he will complete a year-long administrative internship during the 2024-25 school year at one of our schools. Dr. Medlock reported that mid-year Teacher Mentor training will be held on January 23, 2023, the Beginning Teacher meetings will be held on January 30-31, 2023, and the next substitute teacher training will be held on February 2, 2023. She advised that the MGSD Professional Intent Form for the 2023-2024 school year has been sent out district-wide to all staff and due by February 10, 2023. Lastly, Dr. Medlock shared that spring recruitment will begin soon, and MGSD will be recruiting at the following universities: West Virginia State University, UNC-Asheville, UNC-Greensboro, PERC Fair (Pittsburgh Education Recruitment Consortium), Appalachian State University, UNC-Charlotte, and UNC-Wilmington.
- G. **Public Communications Report:** Mrs. McLean provided an updated Communications Report and reported that the annual MGSD legislative breakfast recently held went well. She thanked the MGSD School Board, Senator Sawyer, County & Town representatives, staff, and parents for their participation. Mrs. McLean shared the following upcoming MGSD community events: Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Walk and Breakfast event will be held on January 16, 2023; district and school administrators will participate in their first Brownicity training on Thursday, January 19, 2023; and the Selma Burke Community Center will hold one of our MGSD pop-up STEAM events on January 23, 2023, at 5:00pm.

- H. **Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Gardner reported that the MGSD Legislative Breakfast included representation from parents, school staff, district staff, board members, Mitchell Community College, town officials, county government officials, and state representatives. He shared that the discussions held at the breakfast included the current challenges MGSD faces, and he is inspired by the collaboration and teamwork centered on the success of our students. Dr. Gardner shared that at the upcoming Strategic Plan Steering Committee meeting, stakeholder feedback from the fall survey will be reviewed to determine areas of priority for MGSD moving forward. He advised that a board-called work session will be held on February 2, 2023, to examine the feedback of the Steering Committee on vision, mission, and core values. Dr. Gardner shared that the state has identified 7 competencies that all students should possess before graduating. Next week, he will participate in a state-level Steering Committee, which will focus on the Portrait of a Graduate Implementation.
- I. **Board Events and Announcements:** Mr. Whitfield reviewed and highlighted the upcoming events listed on the calendars included in the January board packet. He advised the community will hold a Martin Luther King Jr. event on Monday, January 16, 2023, and the board will have a Called Work Session for Strategic Planning on Thursday, February 2, 2023.

**Public Comment: No Public Comments**

**Approval of the 2023-2024 School Calendar:** Dr. Royal presented and requested board approval of the draft proposed 2023-2024 school calendar presented to the board for first read at the December board meeting. The proposed draft calendar was created using input from the MGSD Calendar Committee and the NCDPI calendar creation guidelines. **On a motion by Mr. Hyatt, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the 2023-2024 School Calendar as presented.**

**Approval of the Selma Burke Middle School Change Order:** Dr. Royal presented and requested board approval of the Selma Burke Middle School Change Order #1, which contains four change items that total \$1,194,168.17. These final numbers are included in the current Selma Burke Middle School budget. **On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the Selma Burke Change Order as presented.**

**Approval of the 2023-2024 School Choice Plan:** Dr. Smith presented and requested board approval of the 2023-2024 school choice plan options presented to the board for first read at the December board meeting. After reviewing the projected enrollment for each school, the following options were presented to the board: **Option A.** allows students to “grandfather” in and finish at their current location for students entering 1st grade, 2nd grade, and 5th grade, as space allows; **Option B.** allows students to “grandfather” in and finish at their current location for students entering 1st grade, 2nd grade, and 5th grade, as space allows, and up to 20% of 8th grade students

assigned to the Selma Burke Middle School, using a lottery process. Dr. Gardner recommended the board approve **Option B. On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Hyatt, the board voted unanimously to approve the 2023-2024 School Choice Plan, Option B, with the understanding that siblings enrolling in MGSD will not be grandfathered and as presented.**

**Approval of the Comprehensive Safety and Security Control Bid** - Dr. Smith presented and requested board approval of the contract for Sage Security Solutions, LLC to complete the comprehensive safety and security control bid at a total cost of \$381,545. The State and Safety and Security grant that MGSD received (PRC 039) will provide 100% funding for this project. **On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the Comprehensive Safety and Security Control Bid from Sage Security Solutions, LLC as presented.**

**Audit Contract Approval** - Mrs. Davis presented and requested board approval of the audit contract with Anderson, Smith & Wike PLLC to perform the annual MGSD audit over the summer to ensure compliance with the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act, the Local Government Commission, and all federal regulations per NC General Statute. **On a motion by Mr. Hyatt, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the Audit Contract with Anderson, Smith & Wike PLLC.**

**Board Policies: First Reading** – Mrs. Davis presented and requested board approval of the following 30 NCSBA Fall board policies presented to the board for first read at the December board meeting. **On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mrs. Kerry Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the board policies as presented.**

<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

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- 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

**Closed Session: Mr. Whitfield, Board Chair,** announced under G.S. §143-318.11 (a)(6) & (a)(3), the board would go into a closed session to review personnel and consult with the board attorney.

**On a motion by Mr. Brawley, seconded by Mr. Hyatt, the board unanimously voted to go into closed session.**

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

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

**New Employee:**

Mikel Faasii, English Teacher, MHS, 01/02/2022  
Nicole Graves, 7th Grade ELA Teacher, MMS, 01/02/2023  
Jason Kraftchick, 8th Grade Math Teacher, MMS, 01/02/2023  
Joanna Tan, 3rd Grade Teacher, PVES, 01/02/2023  
Teresa Troy, Kindergarten Teacher, PVES, New Position, 01/12/2023  
Dustin Beach, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 01/04/2023  
Melissa Butler, Substitute, School Nutrition, 12/19/2022  
Nicole Caruso, Full Time Dedicated Substitute Teacher, MIS, 01/04/2023  
Alexa Franklin, BASP Lead Teacher, MIS, 01/05/2023  
Jennifer Knox, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 01/02/2023  
Sejalben Patel, Substitute, School Nutrition, 01/09/2023  
Marina Roman, Substitute, School Nutrition, 12/16/2022  
Takeara Smith, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 01/04/2023  
Logan Ward, Teacher Assistant, PVES, 01/02/2023-05/30/2023, No driving requirement  
Julia Vero, Teacher Assistant, PVES, 01/04/2023, 05/30/2023, No driving requirement

**Rehire:**

Courtney Dusharm, 6th Grade Teacher, EMIS, 01/02/2023  
Laura Rette, 3rd Grade Teacher, PVES, 01/04/2023

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Jennifer McNeely, Small Group Instructor, PVES, 01/09/2023, 05/23/2023, Previously a Teacher at PVES-retired in June

Debra Poole-Ryan, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 01/09/2023, Previously an ISS Teacher at MMS-retired 2022

Ronni Volta, Substitute Bus Driver, Transportation, 12/15/2022, Previously a Bus Driver/Custodian at SES

**Promotion/Change:**

Lisa Giffin, Assistant (30 hours School Nutrition), MHS, 12/12/2022, Transferred from Assistant in School Nutrition 15 hours a week

Elisa Greene, Full Time Dedicated Substitute Teacher, N F Woods, 01/09/2023, 05/23/2023, Transferred from BASP Assistant at MIS

Megan Holloway, Assistant (25 hours School Nutrition), PVES, 12/19/2022, Transferred from Substitute in School Nutrition

Anita Hurst, Assistant (20 hours School Nutrition), MMS, 12/14/2022, Additional Assignment: Substitute School Nutrition

Carol Robertson, Substitute Teacher, RRES, 01/16/2023, Transferred from Pre-K Teacher Assistant RRES

Marina Roman, Sub Bus Driver, MGSD, 01/04/2023, Additional Assignment: Substitute School Nutrition

Alicia Stone, Substitute, School Nutrition, 01/04/2023, Transferred from Part Time School Nutrition Assistant at MIS

**Adjournment: With no further business, on a motion by Mr. Brawley, seconded by Mr. Hyatt, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted:

Mr. Greg Whitfield, Chairman  
Board of Education

Dr. Jason D. Gardner, Secretary  
Board of Education