

MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, June 6, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met during a regular monthly session on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at the Performing Arts Center at Mooresville High School, 659 E. Center Avenue, Mooresville, NC 28115.

Board Members Present: Mr. Greg Whitfield, Board 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 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; Mrs. April Kuhn, Chief Human Resource Officer; Mrs. Tanae McLean, Chief Communications Officer and Title IX Coordinator; and Mrs. Sylvia Martinez, Board Clerk, were also present.

Mr. Whitfield, the Board Chair, called the meeting to order and held a moment of silence dedicated to D-Day, on June 6, 1944. He shared a quote by Coach Dean Smith and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Media Present: *Ms. Debbie Page, Iredell Free News*

On a first motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Hyatt, the board voted unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried.

On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the May 9, 2023, called closed session, May 9, 2023, regular meeting, and May 26, 2023, called meeting as presented. Motion carried.

Schedule your next Regular Board Meeting: The End of Year board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, in the Professional Development Room at EMIS at 9:00 a.m. The next regular board meeting will be held on August 15, 2023.

ABCD Award: Dr. Gardner & the board recognized and presented the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award to Ms. Michelle Peña, Custodian at Park View Elementary. PVES administrators, Dr. Rogers, and Ms. Marshall, nominated Ms. Peña for the June ABCD award. Dr. Gardner shared the reasons she was chosen, as listed on her nomination form, and Mrs. Pennell, Vice Chair, presented her the award.

Spotlight on People (a): MMS Girls' Soccer Team – 2023 Tournament Champions

Dr. Gardner recognized and congratulated the Mooresville Middle School Girls' Soccer Team and

Coaches for their hard work and for ending the 2023 season as Tournament Champions. The team won the championship game 1-0 and ended the season with a 14-1 record. finishing the 2023 regular season as Co-Champions and Tournament Champions. They ended the season with a 14-1 record, 79 goals, and 6 goals against them. The team and coaches were presented with certificates.

Team Roster: Hadley Decker; Addison Fitzsimmons; Gwyneth Govern; Ruby Hauck; Hiliana Hernandez; Caroline Kaemba; Bailey Jo Lowman; Cassidy Martin; Mollie Moore; Riley Parker; Madelyn Ryley; Avery Sanders; Savannah Stone; Brooklynn Tomczak; Valerie Vazquez; Ava Ventura; Laura Villegas. **Head Coach:** Mitch Patro & **Assistant Coaches:** Dee Miller & Sara Alvord.

Spotlight on People (b): MMS JV Girls' Volleyball Team – 2023 Conference Tournament Champions

Dr. Gardner recognized and congratulated the MMS JV Girls' Volleyball Team, and Coaches, for their hard work and dedication and for finishing the 2023 regular season as Conference Tournament Champions. They ended the regular season with a 6-6 record, entered the tournament as the fifth seed, but came out on top. The team and coaches were presented with certificates. **Team Roster:** Morgan Brawley; Caroline Green; Madison Howell; Avery Ibach; Siena Kushner; Hayden Mattox; Jillian McAllister; La'Raya Nance; Brooklyn Pieczynski; Ava Rogers; Gabriela Salazar; Olivia Sentas; Raegan Stutts; Kinsley Young. **Head Coach:** Kari Major & **Assistant Coach:** Terri Fulton.

Spotlight on People (c): MHS JV Girls Softball Team – 2023 Undefeated Conference Champions

Dr. Gardner recognized and congratulated the MHS JV Girls' Softball Team and Coaches for the achievement of finishing the 2023 season as undefeated Conference Champions. These ladies achieved a lot throughout the season, and as team player Alexander Amon wrote, "the team drained the Lake three times," and ended the season with a 12-4 record. The team and coaches were presented with certificates. **Team Roster:** Alexandra Amon; Avery Diamond; Brooklynn Farthing; Chandler Filardi; Elizabeth Fitzpatrick; Kensley Ford; Lexi Giffin; Bianca Gilmore; Isabella Gregory; Rebecca Hasty; Emma Lee; Maddie Petit; Olivia Polson; Lilly Rumrill; Arilyn Schultz; Lauren Spencer. **Head Coach:** Tia Greene & **Assistant Coach:** Josh Schaen.

Spotlight on People (d): MHS Varsity Girls Softball Team – 2023 Conference Tournament

Champions Dr. Gardner recognized and congratulated the MHS Girls' Varsity Softball Team and Coaches for the accomplishment of finishing the 2023 season as Conference Tournament Champions. They went 21-7 on the season with many exciting games and "swept Lake Norman, cross town rivals," winning the first game 7-4, the second 5-1, and the third 6-2 in the conference tournament. The team and coaches were presented with certificates: **Team Roster:** Madison Altieri; Ally Bingham; Kami Bodine; Katelyn Brandon; Chloe Burkhouse; Madelyn Colby; Macy Crum; Emily Dudley; Avrelle Harrell; Cadence Lane; Bentli Meadows; Emily Murphy; Brooke Piper; Campbell Schaen; Lauren Vanderpool; Mia Wraight. **Team Managers:** Sam Freitas, Kathrine Lipe, & Nathan Schiller. **Varsity Head Coach:** Paul Kikta & **Coaching Staff:** Josh Schaen, Brandon Piper, Jon Vanderpool & Shane Morton.

Spotlight on People (e): 2022-2023 MGSD Retirees

Dr. Gardner expressed his gratitude and congratulated the 2022-2023 MGSD Retirees for their years of service, commitment, and dedication to education. He shared that the 22 retirees have a combined 406 years of service to Mooresville Graded Schools, and 456 years of service to North Carolina. He wished them all happiness, health, and fulfillment in their well-deserved retirements. Mrs. Kuhn announced each retiree, who was presented with Certificates of Appreciation and a crystal vase.

2022-2023 MGSD Retirees

Nancy Mangan, Administrative Assistant/Curriculum Support, CO, 9/1/2022, 14.5 Service to MGSD and the State of NC; Susan Brown, Title One Reading Specialist, SES, 01/31/2023, 18 Years of Service to MGSD and 29 Years of Service to the State of NC; Sarah Khan, Teacher Assistant, RRES, 12/30/2022, 20 Years of Service to MGSD and the State of NC; Jeanne Kouwe, Media Assistant, RRES, 12/30/2022, 15 Years of Service to MGSD and the State of NC; Lisa Oliver, Math Teacher, MHS, 12/31/2022, 25 Years of Service to MGSD and 28 years of service to the State of NC; Donna Brown, Bus Driver, Transportation, 10/01/2022, 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; Rebecca Miller, Speech Language Pathologist, SES, 1/31/2023, 27 Years of Service to NC and the State of NC; Paula Attanucci, Teacher, RRES, 2/10/2023, 16.5 years of service to MGSD and 22.5 years of service to the State of NC; Amy Martin, Media Assistant, PVES, 6/1/2023; 25.5 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC; Michael Moore, Head Custodian, MIS, 6/1/2023, 5.5 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC; Berry Williams, Mac Systems Administrator, Technology, 6/1/2023, 20 years to MGSD and the State of NC; Carol Elliott, Teacher, RRES, 5/30/2023, 18 years of service to MGSD and 28 years of service to the State of NC; Amy Brown, Teacher, RRES, 5/30/2023, 18 years of service to MGSD and 30 years of service to the State of NC; Lisa Feller, Teacher Assistant, SES, 5/30/2023, 17 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC; Sandra Brown, Teacher, SES, 4/13/2023, 13 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC; Mary Goodson, English Teacher, MHS, 5/30/2023, 4 years of service to MGSD and 26 years of service to the State of NC; Charles LaRusso, Principal, RRES, 6/30/2023, 27.5 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC; Rob Bertucci, Head Custodian, EMIS, 5/31/2023, 15.7 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC; Tonya Mays, Assistant Principal, EMIS, 8/31/2022, 29 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC; Karen Mazza, PowerSchool Data Manager, EMIS, 7/1/2022, 19 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC; Linda Moore, Head Custodian, SES, 09/02/2022, 23 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC.

Staff Reports:

- A. **Construction Report:** Dr. Royal presented an updated construction report and advised that the Selma Burke Middle School construction continues to progress well, remains on budget and on schedule for completion. He shared that 70 workers are on-site daily to finalize work on the campus, and the ribbon cutting ceremony is tentatively scheduled for July 27, 2023. Finally, Dr. Royal reported that construction crews installed projector screens in the Gymnatoriums at Park View and South Elementary the week of May 30, 2023.

- B. **Instructional Reports:** Dr. Royal shared that the MHS 2023 graduation ceremony was held on May 27, 2023 and the district and community observed 492 seniors receive their diplomas. He reported that the MHS summer graduation will be held on July 12, 2023. Dr. Royal advised that the MGSD summer programs are underway and thanked the staff working this summer to provide students remediation, reteaching, and enrichment over the summer weeks.
- C. **Auxiliary Report:** Dr. Smith reported that the Maintenance Department is working on summer projects throughout the district. They will also be busy getting staff members moved to different campuses with a team of movers. Dr. Smith advised the School Nutrition Department is providing the meals for students attending the MGSD summer school programs, and the BASP Department has 90 students attending the BASP summer camp. The Transportation Department has 16 buses running the summer school bus routes, and plans for the fall bus routes are underway. He reported that the Technology Department is currently installing Interactive Panel Displays and the new WIFI Infrastructure. Finally, Dr. Smith reported that the Town of Mooresville will post the SRO position this week, and the district-wide security camera upgrades will be completed by the end of June.
- D. **Student Services Report:** Dr. Albert shared that EC staff have begun their summer work as they and are providing extended school year services to students as per their IEP plans. She shared that two evaluation teams are working this summer to meet the EC Federal & State timelines. Dr. Albert reported that MGSD currently has 5 EC vacancies and will continue to recruit to fill those vacancies in the coming weeks. Lastly, she reported that the EC team has begun planning the training for the next school year and will focus on new EC staff, and instructional & behavioral strategies for Students with Disabilities in the general education classroom.
- E. **Business Services Report:** Mrs. Davis shared that the Finance Department staff has been focused on fiscal year closeouts to meet all local, state, and federal closeout requirements. She shared that the finance team has been finalizing invoices and final payroll for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Mrs. Davis reported that the General Assembly is still in session, but a state budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year is expected by the end of June. Finally, she shared that the finance and human resources departments will work on pay tables and placements for the upcoming school year and will later present the board for approval additional information regarding classified salary placements.
- F. **Human Resources Report:** Mrs. Kuhn provided an updated Human Resources Report and shared that the hiring season went well, and Principals have recruited and selected great candidates. She reported that MGSD still has some vacancies in the following areas: EC Teachers, Elementary Education Teachers, and Bus Drivers. Mrs. Kuhn shared that she was honored to recognize the 2022-2023 MGSD Retirees during the Spotlight on People, and thanked them for their dedication to the children, staff, and families of Mooresville. She advised that the Teacher Licensure Renewal and Update deadline is on June 30, 2023 and shared that many of the MGSD licensed staff have done a great job completing their paperwork before the deadline.

- G. Public Communications Report:** Mrs. McLean provided an updated public communication report and shared that the 2023 Title IX Regulation updates have been pushed back to October. She advised that the Mooresville Spinners Baseball League will hold a Teachers Appreciation Night on June 9, 2023, and MGSD employees and their families will get free admission to the game. Finally, Mrs. McLean shared that she would later present to the board the Student Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Presentation.
- H. Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Gardner shared that the MHS 2023 graduation went well and expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the MGSD staff members who worked so hard in ensuring a successful graduation. He thanked everyone that went above and beyond to prepare to hold an indoor or outdoor graduation dependent on the weather. Dr. Gardner recognized and thanked the following community partners for their recent and very generous donations to MGSD, and for their continued support: Williamson Chapel United Methodist Church, donated \$27,359 dollars to cover the unpaid school charges of any 2023 graduating senior; and The Dale Earnhardt Jr. Foundation donated \$25,000 to South Elementary to accelerate the Parent-Teacher Association's fundraising efforts for a new playground at South.
- I. Board Events/Announcements:** Mr. Whitfield shared highlights of the upcoming events listed in the June - August calendars included in the June board packet. He advised that the school board will attend the NCSBA Summer School Leadership Conference at Wrightsville Beach, NC the week of June 12-16, 2023.

Public Comment: *None*

Approval of Salary Study Recommendations: Mrs. Davis shared a presentation and an overview of the MGSD Salary Study Recommendations. She advised that MGSD partnered with HIL Consultants to conduct a salary study for classified employees to help the district better understand market rates to ensure competitive compensation for MGSD employees. Full implementation of the salary study recommendations will require an annual investment of approximately \$1,500,000. Mrs. Davis requested board approval of the salary study recommendations to move forward with the new classified salary placements effective July 1, 2023. On a first motion by Mr. Hyatt, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the Salary Study Recommendations as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Student Fees for 2023-2024: Mrs. Davis presented and requested board approval of the required Student Fees for the 2023-2024 school year. She advised the district laptop usage fee will be reinstated for the 2023-2024 school year and shared that the 2023-2024 out of district annual tuition has increased to \$2,223. **On a first motion by Mr. Brawley, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the Student Fees for the 2023-2024 School Year. Motion carried.**

Approval of School Nutrition Bids - Mrs. Davis presented and requested board approval of the School Nutrition Bids for the 2023-2024 school year. **On a first motion by Mr. Hyatt, seconded by Dr. Marsh The board voted unanimously to approve the School Nutrition Bids as presented. Motion Carried**

Spring Board Policy Revisions: For Approval - Mrs. Davis presented and requested board approval of the following 22 revised policies that were presented to the board for first read at the May board meeting. **On a first motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the board revised policies as presented. Motion carried.**

<u>Policy Number(s):</u>	<u>Name(s):</u>
a) 1610/7800	Professional and Staff Development
b) 3101	Dual Enrollment
c) 4023/7233	Pregnant and Parenting Students and Employees
d) 4130	Discretionary Admission
e) 4155	Assignment to Classes
f) 4310	Integrity and Civility
g) 4326	Random Suspicionless Student Drug Testing
h) 4334/5035/7345	Use of Unmanned Aircraft (Drones)
i) 5008	Automated Phone and Text Messaging
j) 5028/6130/7267	Automated External Defibrillator
k) 5040	News Media Relations
l) 6315	Drivers
m) 6330	Insurance for Student Transportation Services
n) 6402	Participation by Historically Underutilized Businesses
o) 6410	Organization of the Purchasing Function
p) 6430	Purchasing Requirements for Equipment, Materials, and Supplies
q) 7340	Employee Dress and Appearance
r) 7503	Remote Work
s) 7650	Employee Travel and Other Expense Reimbursement
t) 7810	Evaluation of Licensed Employees
u) 7815	Evaluation of Non-Licensed Employees
v) 9300	Naming Facilities

Approval of MGSD Strategic Plan: Ms. McLean presented and requested board approval of the MGSD Strategic Plan presented to the board for first read at the May board meeting. She advised that district and school leaders worked in partnership with Insight Education over the past six months to draft a new strategic plan. The MGSD District Steering Committee, composed of various community stakeholders, MGSD staff, parents, community members, and board members, met monthly to work on

drafting the new strategic plan. The MGSD Strategic Plan outlines the following: core values; vision; mission; key priority areas; measurements; and strategies. **On a first motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the MGSD Strategic Plan as presented. Motion carried.**

Approval of MHS, MMS, and SBMS Overnight/Out of State Field Trips: Dr. Royal presented and requested board approval of the following field trips: Mooresville High School is requesting approval for a trip to Atlanta, GA for the National SkillsUSA Leadership Competition on June 19-24, 2023; Mooresville Middle School and Selma Burke Middle School is requesting approval for their 6th grade students to attend an overnight field trip to Camp Thunderbird. Mooresville Middle School plans to attend February 5-7, 2024, and Selma Burke Middle School plans to attend February 19-21, 2024. **On a first motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Hyatt, the board voted unanimously to approve the MHS, MMS, and SBMS Field Trips as presented. Motion carried.** **Approval of School Board Meeting Schedule for 2023-2024:** Mr. Whitfield requested board approval of the proposed School Board Meeting Schedule for 2023-2024. **On a first motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Hyatt, the board voted unanimously to approve the School Board Meeting Schedule for the 2023-2024 year as presented, and with an addendum changing the November board meeting date to Monday, November 6, 2023, in lieu of November 7, 2023, (Election Day).** Motion carried.

Random, Suspicionless Drug Testing Policy Report - Dr. Smith presented to the board the 2022-2023 MGSD Random, Suspicionless, Drug Testing Policy Report and Data Summary Presentation. He provided an overview of the program and shared the MHS and MMS student & sub-group testing data for the 2022-2023 school year. Dr. Smith indicated that 206 students underwent testing during the 2022-2023 school year: 162 from MHS, 44 from MMS; and among the tested students, 9 students tested positive for an illegal drug. Finally, he advised that MGSD spent \$5,684 implementing this policy for the 2022-2023 school year.

Board Policy Revision - FMLA 7520: First Reading: Mrs. Kuhn presented and requested board approval of the revised FMLA board policy 7520 for first reading. This revised policy will be brought for board approval at the August 15, 2023, board meeting.

Student Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment: Ms. McLean presented the board the MGSD Student Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment presentation and provided overview of the MGSD Student Wellness Policies. She advised that federal and state mandates that school districts assess their Student Wellness Policies at least every three years and must share the Triennial Assessment with the board and the community. The assessment measures and reports the following: 1) the extent to which individual schools are in compliance with the policy; 2) the extent to which the board's wellness policy compares to model local school wellness policies and meets state and federal requirements; and 3) a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the Student Wellness Policy. Mrs. McLean reported that the MGSD School Health Advisory Council

(SHAC), plans, promotes, carries out, and monitors any matters related to health and nutrition in our school district.

Closed Session: According to NC G.S. §143-318.11 subsections (a)(6) & (a)(3), Mr. Whitfield, Board Chair, requested the board go into a closed session to review personnel and consult with the board attorney. **On a motion by Mrs. Kerry Pennell, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session. Motion carried.**

On a motion by Mr. Hyatt, seconded by Dr. Marsh, the board voted unanimously to adjourn from the closed session. Motion carried.

On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Hyatt, the board voted unanimously to approve the personnel report as presented and recommended by the superintendent. Motion carried.

New Employees:

Katherine Hall, Art Teacher, MHS, 08/01/2023
Bradley Mabe, Physical Education Teacher, MIS, 08/01/2023
Marcela Puentes, World Language/Spanish Teacher, MMS, 08/01/2023
Brooke Sorce, EC Teacher, MHS, 08/01/2023
Jose Beza, Technology Technician II, Technology, 05/25/2023 Karen Davis, Substitute, School Nutrition, 08/01/2023 Anthony Harrell, Network Engineer, Technology, 05/11/2023 Chet Thomas, Help Desk Manager, SBMS, 08/01/2023

Rehire:

Lauren Bustle, Kindergarten Teacher, SES, New Position, 08/01/2023
Monica Kendrick, Substitute, School Nutrition, 08/01/2023

Promotions/Changes:

Carli Nathan, 3rd Grade Teacher, EMIS, 08/01/2023 Gracie Davis, Visual Arts Teacher, MMS, 08/01/2023
Laura Rette, K-2 Teacher, PVES, 08/01/2023
Joanna Tan, 3rd Grade Teachers, MIS, 08/01/2023
Jacinta Cartee, Head Custodian, EMIS, 06/01/2023
Kimberly Diggs, EC Teacher Assistant, RRES, 08/01/2023
Billy Ferrante, ISS Coordinator, MMS, 08/01/2023
Megan Holloway, School Nutrition Assistant (6 hours a day), SBMS, 08/01/2023
Kristin James, School Nutrition Assistant, MHS, 08/01/2023
Jennifer Kepley, STARS EC Pre-School Teacher Assistant, RRES, 08/01/2023
Rosa Sellan Bajana, Custodian (5 hours), SES, 05/11/2023
Rosa Sellan Bajana, Custodian, SES, 05/24/2023
Jennifer Starnes, Lead Technician, Technology, 06/01/2023
Brittany Wardrip, Teacher Assistant/Substitute Bus Driver, SES, 08/01/2023

Retirement:

Robert Bertucci, Head Custodian, EMIS, 5/31/2023, 15.5 years of service to MGSD and 20 years of service to the State of NC

Dr. Charles LaRusso, Principal, RRES, 6/30/2023, 28.7 years of service to MGSD and the State of NC

With no further business on a motion by Mr. Brawley, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Dr. Jason D. Gardner, Secretary
Board of Education