

MGSD Board of Education
October 17, 2023, Regular Meeting

**MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 6:00 p.m.**

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met during a regular monthly session on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 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. 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.

Mr. Whitfield, Board Chair, called the meeting to order. In honor of National Bullying Prevention Month Mr. Whitfield shared the following Quote: “We explain when somebody is cruel or acts like a bully you do not stoop to their level. Our motto is when they go low you go high.” He shared a moment of silence and Imani Sturgis led the pledge of allegiance.

On a motion by Mr. Hyatt, seconded by Rakeem Brawley, the board voted unanimously to approve the meeting agenda as presented.

On a motion by Mrs. Pennell, seconded by Debbie Marsh, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2023 special called meeting, September 19, 2023, special called meeting and work session, September 28, 2023, special called meeting as presented.

Student of the Month: The School Board recognized & presented the Student of the Month award to Imani Sturgis, 8th grader at MMS. Ms. Theresa Fulton, MMS math teacher, nominated the student. Dr. Gardner shared the reasons the student was selected, as written on the nomination form.

Artist of the Month: The School Board recognized & presented the Artist of the Month award to Mia Zinaty, 8th grader at MMS. Ms. Marla Young, chorus teacher and Ms. Gracie Davis, art teacher, nominated the student. Dr Gardner shared the reasons the student was selected, as written on the nomination form.

ABCD Award(s): Dr. Gardner and Mr. Pennell presented the monthly Above and Beyond Call of Duty employee award to Ms. Jacquie McGrath, Front Office Receptionist at MMS. Mr. Patrick Kosal, Principal of MMS, nominated Ms. McGrath. Dr. Gardner shared the reasons the employee was selected as written on the nomination form.

School Highlights: Mooresville Middle School – “Capturing Kids Hearts”

Mr. Patrick Kosal, MMS Principal, presented and provided an overview of the MMS – “Capturing Kids Hearts” program. The CKH is a whole school training designed to equip teachers, coaches, administrators, and district leaders with transformational processes focused on: strengthening trust between teachers and students, cultivation relational capacity, improving school culture, creating accountability, improving academic performance, and fostering trauma-informed care. MMS and Selma Burke attended two days of training in July, 2023. Mr. Kosal highlighted the various methods, strategies and impact on MMS. Mr. Michael Fulton, 7th grade teacher and Mrs. Stephanie Roseman, 6th grade teacher presented how CKH has impacted their classrooms.

Schedule Next Meeting: The next regular school board meeting will be held on Monday, November 6, 2023, in the Performing Arts Center at Mooresville High School at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comments: No public comments.

Staff Reports: There were no staff reports at this meeting.

Board Policy Revisions: Mrs. Tanae McLean presented and requested board approval of revisions to the board policies affected by the passage of SB 49 that was presented to the board for first read at the September board meeting. The policies revised included were Policy 1310/4002: Parental Involvement, Policy 4720: Student Surveys, Policy 4335: Criminal Behavior, Policy 3540: Health Education Program, Policy 7300: Staff Responsibilities, Policy 6120: Student Health Services, Policy 3210: Parental Inspection of and Objection to Instructional Materials.

On a first motion by Mr. Hyatt, second by Dr. Marsh the board voted unanimously to approve the revisions to the board policies as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Overnight Field Trip: MHS / Wrestling Team: Dr. Royal presented and requested board approval of the Mooresville High School Wrestling Team to attend the annual Tiger Classic Tournament. This is an overnight field trip to Chapel Hill High School. Thirty students and 3 staff members will be traveling to Chapel Hill on December 20-22, 2023.

On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Hyatt, the board voted unanimously to approve the Mooresville High School – Overnight field trip to Chapel Hill on December 20-22, 2023.

Instructional Highlights – 2023-2024 School Improvement Plans: Dr. Royal began the 2023-24 School Improvement Plan presentation by reviewing the 5-year strategic plan. These are guiding principles for our schools individual SIP plans. Dr. Royal thanked Principals and School Improvement teams for their hard work on developing their SIP. Dr. Royal also thanked Ms. Conley and Dr. Waid, for leading the School Improvement process with the schools. Dr. Royal began by presenting a district-wide end of year data review for the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 school years. Ms. Conley reflected on the data results, shared positive district standings in North Carolina, highlighted areas of growth and areas in need of improvement. Dr. Waid explained the structure of the new School Improvement Plan.

Each school has one goal aligned with the Strategic Plan Priority Areas: Maximize opportunity and achievement; Safe, Happy and Healthy Environment; Recruit, Grow and Retain; Culture of Relationships. Each of the district principals presented and explained their 2023-2024 School Improvement Plans and explained how they chose their goals and what will be their lead and lag measures. Principals also shared detailed plans on how to achieve these goals. School Improvement Plans (SIPs) can be found on the MGSD website using the link and school credentials found on the website.

Approval of 2023-2024 School Improvement Plans: Mr. Whitfield asked for a board motion to approve the district 2023-2024 School Improvement Plans. Dr. Gardner explained that the motion should be modified to include all schools except Mooresville Middle School since they have to present a second time due to their low performing school designation.

On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve all the 2023-2024 School Improvement Plans as presented with the exception of Mooresville Middle School.

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

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

On a motion by Dr. Marsh, seconded by Mrs. Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the personnel list and the Director Salary Scale as recommended by the superintendent.

New Employees:

Danielle Edelson, EC Teacher Assistant 1:1, MMS, 10/16/2023

Robert Petit Sr. Assistant Wrestling Coach, MMS, 10/23/2023

Morgan Williams, Director of Maintenance, 12/21/2023

Rehire:

Anulus Beatty Jr., ISS Coordinator, NF Woods, 10/23/2023, Previously a Custodian at PVES

Promotions/Changes:

Courtney Ferrell, School Nutrition Manager Trainee, SBMS, 10/16/2023, Transfer from School Nutrition Assistant at SBMS

Holly Lawrence White, JV Basketball Coach, MMS, Additional Assignment: Teacher at MMS

Debra Miller, Assistant Coach, MMS, 10/17/2023, Additional Assignment: Teacher at MMS

Robert Nemeth, Custodian, MMS, 9/26/2023, Temp Custodian at MMS

Gerisa Rodriguez, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 10/11/2023, Previously a BASP employee at SES

Billy Ferrante, Social Studies Teacher, MHS, 10/30/2023

Ashley Omspach, Media Coordinator, SES, 10/09/2023

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Retirement

Lynne Mauney, Transportation Director, 12/29/2023, 23.5 years of Service to MGSD and 29 years of service to the State of NC.

There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. Hyatt, seconded by Mr. Brawley, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Dr. Jason D. Gardner, Secretary
Board of Education