

MGSD Board of Education
February 13, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

**MOORESVILLE GRADED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 6:00 p.m.**

The Board of Education of the Mooresville Graded School District met during a regular monthly session on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, 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; Dr. Debbie Marsh; Rakeem Brawley; Mrs. Monica Bender.

Also Present: Dr. Jason Gardner, Superintendent, and Kevin Donaldson, Board Attorney. Dr. Michael Royal, Chief of Schools; Dr. Scott Smith, Chief Operations Officer; Dr. Sandra Albert, Chief Student Services Officer; Mrs. April Kuhn, Chief Human Resource Officer; Mrs. Angie Davis, Chief Finance Officer, Mrs. Tanae McLean, Chief Communications Officer and Title IX Coordinator. Mrs. Cindy Teague, Interim Board Clerk, were also present.

Mr. Whitfield, Board Chair, called the meeting to order, and held a moment of silence. Mr. Whitfield shared two quotes. Mr. Whitfield recognized special guest Senator Vickie Sawyer, Mayor Chris Carney, and Commissioner Eddie Karriker. Emma Devore and Kady Harrington led the pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda: On a motion by Mrs. Kerry Pennell to amend the agenda, seconded by Monica Bender, the board voted unanimously to remove item XIV-B from the agenda for later consideration after a meeting with town officials.

On a motion to approve the amended agenda by Rakeem Brawley, seconded by Monica Bender, the board unanimously approved the amended agenda.

Approval of the Minutes: On a motion by Kerry Pennell, seconded by Monica Bender, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from January 16, 2024, regular meeting as presented.

Student of the Month: The School Board recognized & presented the Student of the Month Award to Emma Devore and Kady Harrington 12th grade students at Mooresville High School. Students were nominated by Meghan Black and the MHS administrative staff. Dr. Gardner shared the reasons the students was selected as listed on the nomination form.

Artist of the Month: The School Board recognized & presented the Artist of the Month to Ben Moore a 12th grade student at Mooresville High School. Ben was nominated by Ms. Debbie Hauff, classroom teacher. Dr. Gardner shared the reasons the students was selected as listed on the nomination form.

ABCD Award: The board recognized and presented the monthly Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award to Ms. Leslie Byers, Athletic Assistant at Mooresville High School. Coach Hopkins nominated Ms. Byers. Dr. Gardner shared the reasons she was chosen, as written on her nomination form.

Spotlight on People: (a): We proudly recognize and congratulate 10 MGSD educators who attained their National Board Certification. As part of the certification process, candidates build a portfolio that

includes student work samples, assignments, video samples, and a thorough analysis of their classroom teaching. Certification by the National Board is the highest credential in the teaching profession and participation is voluntary. **Renewals: Ashley Ericson-MHS; Rebecca Howard-SES; Hayley Johnson-SES; Misty Loden-SES; Karen Martin-MHS; Dayna Rietman-MIS; Stephen Stith-MHS; Dr. Tracey Waid-C&I; Erin Trahan-MHS**
New: Gina Ockers-SES

Spotlight on People (b): Special Recognition- - Dr. Gardner introduced Senator Vickie Sawyer who presented Roger Hyatt with the distinguished North Carolina Order of the Long Leaf Pine award. North Carolina governors have reserved this highest honor for persons who have made significant contributions to the state and their communities through their exemplary service and exceptional accomplishments. Mr. Hyatt thanked everyone for this prestigious award.

Instructional Highlights: “Math I Growth” – Mooresville High School
Mrs. Samone Graham, Principal, along with Mrs. Ashley Lanning, Mrs. Erin Trahan, and Mrs. Erika Akelman presented the success MHS Math I students have achieved through strategic scheduling, PLC’s and implementing math interventions. The 22-23 school year overall proficiency improved in 12 out of 14 MGSD state tested areas, with math being one of those areas.

Schedule next meeting: The next regular school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at the Mooresville Town Hall, at 6:00 pm.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Items for Information:

- A. **Summer Testing Plan:** Mrs. Jemma Conley and Dr. Traci Waid presented the Summer Testing Plan. The state of North Carolina allows districts to offer summer testing opportunities for EOG/EOC testing outside the traditional school calendar with district board approval. This opportunity allows students who were close to proficiency to take the EOG/EOC again after remediation has been provided. Mrs. Conley presented the following summer programs that will be offered: Summer Career Accelerator, Summer Testing, Read to Achieve, YReaders, HS Summer School, and Jump Start. Programs will be offered at PVES, MIS, MMS, and Jump Start will be offered at home schools. Transportation and meals will be provided. Parents of eligible students are notified of the program dates in March and individual invitations are sent out in May. This plan will be brought back to the board, with any suggested modifications, for approval at the March BOE meeting.
- B. **Board Policy 320:** Mrs. Tanae McLean presented Board Policy 3620, for the first read. The policy needs a technical correction due to the change of our grade span configuration in MGSD. The revised policy will align with current practice for middle school sports. The revised policy will be brought for board approval at the March 2024 board meeting.

Policy Number:
3620

Name:
Extracurricular Activities and Student Organizations

- C. **School Improvement Plan Update:** Dr. Gardner advised that the 2023-2024 Mid-Year School Improvement Plans update would provide the board with a mid-year high level SIP review and progress from each school. He shared that our schools have been hard at work implementing the strategies as listed in the 2023-2024 School Improvement Plans, which were presented to the board at the October board meeting. Dr. Royal, Chief of Schools, thanked administrators,

school SIP teams, Mrs. Conley, Director of Elementary Education, and Dr. Waid, Director of Secondary Education, for all their hard work. Mrs. Conley and Dr. Waid provided the board with an overview of the K-12 core initiatives for improvement implemented at the Elementary and Secondary grade levels, and each Principal presented a recap of their school goals, accomplishments, and next step plans. MGSD School Improvement Plans are a living document that can be accessed on the MGSD website.

Items for Approval:

- A. **Budget Amendments:** Mrs. Angie Davis presented and requested approval of the budget amendments to budget for additional allocations received in our state public school fund, federal grant fund and other local current expense for the year ending June 30, 2024. **On a motion by Debbie Marsh, seconded by Kerry Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the budget amendments as presented.**
- B. **Technology E-Rate Bid:** Dr. Scott Smith presented a request for approval a purchase order for network equipment with 140 access points and associated license from DSI Corporate IT Solutions in the amount of \$98,039.20. **On a motion by Rakeem Brawley, seconded by Monica Bender, the board voted unanimously to approve the Technology E-Rate MiniBid.**
- C. **Field Trip Approval:** Dr. Royal. Presented the following field trips for approval.
 - 1. The Mooresville High School JROTC is requesting permission to attend a “Drone Meet and Brain Brawl” event on February 17, 2024 in York, South Carolina. This event will involve 14 students and there is no cost for students. Four Adult chaperones will attend the event with students.
 - 2. The Mooresville High School SkillsUSA team is requesting permission to travel to Greensboro, NC on April 23-25, 2024. This event will involve 14 students and will cost \$60 per student. Four adult chaperones will attend the event with students.
 - 3. Selma Burke Middle School History Club is requesting permission to travel to Atlanta, Georgia on April 22-23, 2024. This trip will focus on connections to the social studies and ELS standards and include a visit to the MLK Center, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, as well as the Aquarium. Approximately 45 students will attend with a cost of \$360 per student. Four adult chaperones will attend this event with students. Fundraising and financial support will be available as needed.

On a motion by Monica Bender, seconded by Kerry Pennell, the board voted unanimously to approve the field trips outlined as presented. Motion carried.

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

New Employees:

Jedidiah-Gis-Anderson, Assistant Principal, MHS, 04/15/2024
Brittany Carson, Head Volleyball Coach, SBMS, 02/16/2024
Benjamin Crowley, Head Soccer Coach, SBMS, 02/16/2024
Megan Handy, 8th Grade ELA/SS, SBMS, 02/19/24
John Howard, 8th Grade ELS/SS, SBMS, 02/19/2024
Kelly Pewitt, 3rd Grade Teacher, MIS, 01/29/2024
Lyndsie Cottone, Title One Tutor, EMIS/MIS, 02/01/2024
Lucas Miller, Custodian, EMIS, 02/12/2024
Andrew Quintero, Head Soccer Coach, MMS, 02/01/2024
Carrington Wise-Smith, Assistant Coach, MMS, 02/06/2024

Carrington-Wise-Smith, Substitute Teacher, MGSD, 02/12/2024

Rehire:

Kiersten Burns, 5th Grade ELA, EMIS, 01/29/2024

Jacinta Cartee, Technology Assistant, SBMS, 02/08/2024

Promotions/Changes:

Rachel Bustle, Beginning Teacher Coordinator & Recruiter, Central Office, 03/15/2024

Hope Smith, School Counselor, SBMS, 02/12/2024

Kailyn Behrens, Head Girls Soccer Coach, SBMS, 01/29/2024

Chris Church, Head Basketball Coach, SBMS, 01/23/2024

Shana Knox, Bus Monitor-11:45-2:00, Transportation, 02/05/2024

Robert Lackey, Head Girls Track Coach, SBMS, 02/06/2024

Sadie McCarter, Head Custodian, EMIS, 01/25/2024

Brian Todd Neel, Director of Maintenance, Maintenance, 02/19/2024

Monica Van Pelt Johnson, ISS Coordinator, MMS, 01/29/2024

Kathryn Wilson, Bus Monitor, Transportation, 01/30/2024

Retirement:

Margaret "Remel" Waters, Kindergarten Teacher, RRES, 05/29/2024

Non-Continuing:

Harley Hill, Custodian, SBMS, 02/02/2024

Michael Lanzi, Bus Driver, Transportation, 02/08/2024

On a motion by Debbie Marsh, seconded by Monica Bender, the board voted unanimously to approve the personnel list as recommended by the Superintendent.

On a motion by Kerry Pennell, seconded by Monica Bender, the board voted unanimously to adjourn from closed session.

There being no further business, on a motion by Kerry Pennell, seconded by Rakeem Brawley, the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Jason D. Gardner, Secretary
Board of Education