



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Board Vote Paves Way for CMS Educator Community

Charlotte, N.C. – The Charlotte–Mecklenburg Board of Education approved an option to lease a dedicated educator community on seven acres of board-owned land adjacent to East Charlotte’s Garinger High School at tonight’s regularly scheduled board meeting. The decision marks an important step in the next phase of the district’s multi-year *At Home in CMS* initiative, designed to recruit and retain quality educators.

This dedicated housing opportunity builds off the *At Home in CMS* momentum and further addresses the expressed need by CMS educators. When surveyed, 43% said housing may impact whether they remain with CMS. Of those, 97% said housing costs were their most important consideration.

“Our CMS educators have cited lack of attainable housing as one of the top challenges they face in staying with CMS,” said Board Chair Stephanie Sneed. “Addressing the educator housing challenge has been and will continue to be a board priority as every student deserves to be guided by an exceptional teacher who can live in the community they serve and can help our young scholars realize the promise of an exceptional education.”

CMS is committed to recruiting and retaining talented educators and supporting them throughout their careers. Housing solutions are a key part of a broader strategy to address and retention and recruitment of high-quality educators in CMS. Working with community partners, the district has expanded housing opportunities by connecting educators with available rental discounts, homeownership options and financial literacy resources, including at CMS-hosted housing fairs and webinars.

With the addition of the educator community, CMS educators will now have a new rental option at below-market rates.

For more information about the board's decision at tonight's meeting, please email Executive Director of Board Communications Sheri Costa at sheria.costa@cms.k12.nc.us. To learn more about the "At Home with CMS" initiative, please email Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Assistant Communications Officer Tom Miner at media@cms.k12.nc.us.